

***A HARD DAY'S NIGHT FROM SONG TO MOVIE***

A GRADUATING PAPER

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for Gaining  
the Bachelor Degree in English Literature



By:

**YUDI HARTONO**

11150031

**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT**

**FACULTY OF ADAB AND CULTURAL SCIENCES**

**STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY SUNAN KALI JAGA**

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Yogyakarta, 14 September 2015

The Writer,



Yudi Hartono  
Student Number : 11150031



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UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI SUNAN KALIJAGA  
**FAKULTAS ADAB DAN ILMU BUDAYA**

Jl. Marsda Adisucipto Yogyakarta 55281 Telp./Fak. (0274) 513949  
Web : <http://adab.uin-suka.ac.id> E-mail : [adab@uin-suka.ac.id](mailto:adab@uin-suka.ac.id)

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Yang dipersiapkan dan disusun oleh :

**Nama** : Yudi Hartono  
**NIM** : 11150031  
Telah dimunaqosyahkan pada : **Jum'at, 18 September 2015**  
Nilai Munaqosyah : **A-**

Dan telah dinyatakan diterima oleh **Fakultas Adab dan Ilmu Budaya UIN Sunan Kalijaga**.

TIM MUNAQOSYAH

Ketua Sidang

**Danial Hidayatullah, M.Hum**  
NIP 19760405 200901 1 016

Penguji I

**Fuad Arif Fudiyartanto, M.Ed**  
NIP 19720928 199903 1 002

Penguji II

**Witriani, M.Hum**  
NIP 197208012006042002



Yogyakarta, 5 Oktober 2015  
Dekan Fakultas Adab dan Ilmu Budaya

**Dr. Zamzani Afandi, M.Ag**  
NIP 19631111 199403 1 002



**KEMENTERIAN AGAMA REPUBLIK INDONESIA  
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI SUNAN KALIJAGA  
FAKULTAS ADAB DAN ILMU BUDAYA**

Jl. MarsdaAdiSucipto Yogyakarta 55281 Telp./fak. (0274) 513949 Web:  
http/adab.uin-suka.ac.id E-mail: adab@uinsuka.ac.id

---

**NOTA DINAS**

Hal : Skripsi  
a.n. Yudi Hartono

Yth.  
DekanFakultasAdabdanIlmuBudaya  
UIN SunanKalijaga  
Di Yogyakarta

*Assalamu'alaikumWr. Wb*

Setelahmemeriksa, meneliti,  
danmemberikanarahanuntukperbaikandataskripsisaudara:

Nama : Yudi Hartono  
NIM : 11150031  
Prodi : SastraInggris  
Fakultas : AdabdanIlmuBudaya  
Judul : *A Hard Day's Night* from Song to Movie

Sayamenyatakanbahwaskripsitersebut sudah dapat diajukan padasidangMuna  
qosyah untuk memenuhi sebagian syarat memperoleh gelar Sarjana Sastra Inggris.  
Atas perhatian yang diberikan, saya ucapkan terimakasih

Yogyakarta, 14 September 2015  
Pembimbing

**Danial Hidayatullah, S.S, M.Hum.**  
NIP. 19760405 200901 1 016

## ***A HARD DAY'S NIGHT FROM SONG TO MOVIE***

### **ABSTRACT**

*A Hard Day's Night* is a song which has been created and popularized by legendary musical band from England, The Beatles. This song lyric is about a person who works hard making money for someone that he loves in his life. This popular song was then made into a movie entitled *Hard Day's Night* by a producer named Richard Lester. There is the adaptation from song to movie which becomes the main analysis of this research. The research finds what the similar events and the alternations occurred in the movie by Richard Lester. So, this research aims to find out the continuities and the changes happen in the movie by using the theory analysis of Ecranisation from Bluestone and cinematography. Ecranisation is the process of transforming the texts into film. The theory of cinematography used to analyze the scenes of continuities and the changes which happen in the movie. The continuities and changes found in the movie are the setting of time, the setting of place, the addition of the characters, moral values, and point of view. The continuities and the changes found in the movie still not far from the story in the song lyric of *A Hard Day's Night*.

Keywords: adaptation, continuities, changes, ecranisation, cinematography

## ***A HARD DAY'S NIGHT FROM SONG TO MOVIE***

### **ABSTRAK**

*A Hard Day's Night* adalah sebuah lagu yang diciptakan dan dipopulerkan oleh grup musik asal Inggris, The Beatles. Dalam lagunya terdapat makna bahwa bekerja keras siang dan malam untuk seseorang yang dicintai. Kesuksesan lagu tersebut kemudian dibuat menjadi film yang berjudul *A Hard Day's Night* oleh sutradara Richard Lester. Tujuan penulis melakukan analisis ini adalah untuk menemukan hal-hal yang berkelanjutan dan perubahan ketika proses pengubahan jalan cerita lagu yang kemudian diangkat ke dalam sebuah film serta mengamati kesuksesan maupun kekurangan yang terjadi atas film adaptasi karya Richard Lester menggunakan analisis Ekranisasi teori dari Bluestone. Ekranisasi yaitu proses pengubahan bentuk dari sebuah novel ke dalam film. Untuk lebih mendalami tanda-tanda perubahan maupun proses kelanjutan antara lagu dan film, penulis mengamatinya dengan teori cinematografi. Analisis mencakup dua genre yang berbeda yaitu lagu dan film. Terdapat dua perumusan masalah dalam analisis ini, yaitu apa saja keberlanjutan dan apa saja perubahan yang terdapat dalam film. Tentunya terdapat banyak hal yang dimunculkan atau ditambahkan dalam film adaptasi dari sebuah lagu. Hasil yang didapat adalah adanya penambahan karakter, penempatan waktu, penempatan tempat, pesan moral, dan sisi sudut pandangan. Namun dalam film tetap mempertahankan keaslian jalan cerita maupun tanda-tanda agar tetap selaras dengan lagu *A Hard Day's Night*.

Kata kunci : adaptasi, kelanjutan, perubahan, ekranisasi, cinematografi

**MOTTO**

*YOU ONLY LIVE ONCE*



## DEDICATION

*Teruntuk Orang Tua, Kakak, dan Seluruh Keluarga*





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*Assalamu'alaikum Wr. Wb*

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The Writer



Yudi Hartono

Student Number: 11150031

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# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of Study

In modern society, the media has a significant role as a part of people daily basic. Every aspect of people activities, whether done individually or together relates with mass communication. Individuals are all connected to high communication through mass media such as newspapers, magazines, radio, television, film, and internet which those make individuals in society can not be separated from the mass media. In this case, the writer focuses on music and movie as the part of mass media of entertainment program.

Music is one of entertainment which is well liked by people. People like to listen to the music since music can create a nuance, a relaxation, a mood booster, and many others. However, music is created based on human's creativity with passion. Music and song are two different things. The music is a unitary composition rhythm, harmony arrangements, melody and sound texture, the person who creates the music is referred as the music composer. The song is a musical composition containing the rhythms and vocals. Therefore, an ordinary singer songwriter is also said to be a musician. The lyrics are an important element in the composition of the song, as a means to convey the meaning and message to the listener or audiences. A song combined with beautiful lyrics and the musical instrument could become a nice musical art. The lyrics itself is made

from a poetry since the language used is beautiful and contained messages of ideas and feelings.

The language used in the actualization of a literary work should be full of ideas and human experience, so it can be said that the emergence and development of language in a literary work is a sign of the emergence of a new culture. As we saw in the development of mainstream pop culture and indie culture affected the institutionalized language of nature into it. Similarly 'language' in a song lyric, that is pretending to draw the attention of the audience through the messages and ideas. Lyrics lined prose is a means of expression of one's inner nature, a manifestation of the author of expression through poetry, which further facilitated through the rhythm of the music and aims to give the impression of an emotional atmosphere to affect the feelings or thoughts of listeners.

Every songwriter has some motives and messages behind their songs that they created. Some of them created by sheer pleasure, based on the demands of the music industry, or with intent as a means to provide information and opinions on social issues that occurred within the community or within a particular country. Essentially every human process of communication was always contains important information for the community. In this case, The Beatles has many motives behind every song which has made

The Beatles is the one of the most influential musical band for all the time. Its popularity was not only in the 1960s but also it becomes a legendary band in England till this in post-modern times. Many musicians in the world still make



tribute to The Beatles. Some of The Beatles songs are considered very important inspirations for millions of people and certain groups, especially they are inspirations for the youngster in the 1960s. Identity rebellion brought by the Beatles through rock and roll music becomes youth identity to oppose the repression of the parental generation. As for other groups who are also in a marginal position in the UK, as the workers, the Beatles also be a voice of hope for those suffering and struggle in an attempt to obtain a better life.

The Beatles songs represent the young expressions. The creation of a type of music like The Beatles songs related to various processes in human social life, such as local identity, self-awareness, gender, ethnicity and various aspects of the economy. With a wide various genre in the songs of The Beatles went on to become a commodity that is effective to campaign for cultural and social revolution of political struggle against a group of people. In Indonesia at the era 1960s, Sukarno imposed a very strict rule of anti-Beatles. Sukarno banned the Beatles songs being sung and also opposed to the style of The Beatles adopted by Indonesian youth. As he said in an interview on CBS television news late 1965, Sukarno said that banning the Beatles and Beatleism in Indonesia is because it will lead to Westernization and imperialism.

He further added that he was also commissioned special police to curb street the youngsters who found wearing similar styles of The Beatles ([www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com); President Soekarno on the Beatles). In Soekarno's presidency, young people in Indonesia who has hair styles and pants models similar to the Beatles', the police have the authority to cut their hair and to cut

their pants as well. Soekarno even insulted the Beatles as an untidy music.

Moreover, in Indonesia, the popular band Koes Plus also was jailed for 3 months because they cover "Money" and "I Want To Hold Your Hand" by The Beatles at the concert event held in Jakarta. The anxiety of Soekarno on the Beatles' popularity is based on seeing the influence of Rock and Roll music that brought by the Beatles. The Beatles actually only wants to tell the world that express their feeling through songs is best for them to convey the idea of revolution ([www.soekarnonkri.blogspot.co.id](http://www.soekarnonkri.blogspot.co.id)).

Adaptation of the story happens in the serials and movies as they are found in on the drama and musical stage performance, on the movies, in novels, and comic books. Thus, it is an interesting topic to be discussed in this research. The phenomena of adaptation from song to movie in the song *A Hard Day's Night* would be the object of the analysis. In fact, a lot of the screenplay writer constantly uses literature as a source of inspiration. It is not surprising, many screenplay writing techniques includes the process of re-creation plays like what has been done in any fictional story.

Adjustments in the adaptation process can be interpreted as a process of translation from the original language into the language of film media. English literature is a written language, therefore it is not possible throughout the written language is adapted into the form of visual language films. Obviously, both of these languages have their strengths and weaknesses. Thus, adapting a work of drama to the film will be easier to do since both uses visual language. Common

continuities at the movie adaptation are usually found in the characters, the story theme, settings and many others.

Ecranisation is transformation a literary work (novel) into film (Eneste, 1991:63). In this modern culture, literary work is dominated by audio and visual media (for example: movie, song, television program, and many more). Song is the one of media that has special attention from many people. Music can be found in everywhere and every time. The content of song is only audio without any visualization, but in the movie contains visualization and audio. The transformation that occurred in song into film needs some addition tools, in this case lyric in a song moved to dialogue and gestures.

According to the process of how to make those literary works, once song is written by one or more persons and recorded by musical instrument. While film requires many people's hands to make it as there are producer, director, script writer, camera men, sound men, actors, and many others. Ecranisation phenomena usually start from popular novel which is adapted into a film or movie. For example, American novel *Shawsank Redempdtion* by Stephen King has been successful being adapted into a movie and captured high attention of audiences.

All media, whether it is a song, a novel, or a drama, when it is being adapted into the film, it will be changed. Therefore, audiances want the original story of the film based on the novel, so when the work will be adapted into a movie many people are hoping that the film adaptation is true base on the original

novel. So, the film is expected to be able to deliver to the satisfaction at least equal to what has been provided by the work of its origin. This is aggravating at the same time is a challenge that must be faced by the film crew. They are required to be able to meet the expectations of the horizon fans of the original media so that it could make the audiences satisfied on the film. Therefore, reference works have got wide recognition from the people then surely there are certain standards are to be met by the film crew.

In the process of adaptation of the book or text into a movie or television, of course, there will be a variety of changes that can not be avoided or even deliberately done for specific purposes. For example, the exchanges of the figures of men to women, the changes at the structure of the story, end of story, the characters, settings, and others are possible to happen.

Bluestone (in Eneste, 1991:18) states, the film is a combination of a wide variety of arts, namely music, art, drama, literature coupled with photographic elements. Eneste (1991:60) states that the film is the result of a collective or mutual aid. Well and whether or not a film will depend on the harmony of work units in it (producer, screenwriter, director, cameraman, art director, voice recorders, players, etc.). Therefore, the film is an audio-visual medium, sound also took part in it.

This movie is a mockumentary movie of The Beatles. Mockumentary (also known as mock documentary) is a genre of film and television in which fictitious events are presented in documentary format; the term can also refer to an individual work within the genre. These productions are often used to analyze or

comment on current events and issues by using a fictitious setting, or to parody the documentary form itself. They may be either comedic or dramatic in form, although comedic mockumentaries are more common. A dramatic mockumentary should not be confused with docudrama, a genre in which documentary and dramatic techniques are combined to depict real events. (<http://chirpstory.com>). This research would not only use the ecranisation process to explain the story based on the song yet, it also uses the cinematography to analyze the story scenes in the movie.

The song of *Hard Day's Night* and its movie actually conveys some real experiences of the Beatles. The film of *Hard Day's Night* is actually made for the fans and audiences. This movie mostly is told about the groups' life for all their journey concert. The ecranisation theory that would be used on the analysis of the movie actually would give the reader understanding about the group's member experience about their fans and The Beatles itself. Related to the story in the movie of *A Hard Day's Night*, there are hard works and the passions of the members of The Beatles can be convinced as what is cited in the Qur'an surah Al Lail verse 1-4:

وَاللَّيْلِ إِذَا يَغْشَىٰ (١) وَالنَّهَارِ إِذَا تَجَلَّىٰ (٢) وَمَا خَلَقَ الذَّكَرَ وَالْأُنثَىٰ (٣) إِنَّ سَعْيَكُمْ لَشَتَّىٰ (٤)

"By the night enshrouding (1) And the day resplendent (2) And Him Who hath created male and female, (3) Lo! your effort is dispersed (toward divers ends). (4)"

Those Qur'an verses, Al Lail 1-4 tell that humans are created to do what they should do as they work to survive on their life. The Beatles is the group of singers and music instrument player. As this song and movie *A Hard Day's Night* tells about the journey of the Beatles members who entertained his fans and made them happy. They worked to please the fans, yet their job also made them survive. This research is interesting because not only an adaptation between literary works but also it is an transformation from one genre to another one.

## **1.2 Research Question**

There is a research question regarding to the main topic of this research.

1. What are the similar events/things and alternations/changes occurred in the movie based on the story of song?

## **1.3 Objectives of Study**

This research is to find out the continuities and the changes found in the movie entitled *A Hard Day's Night* directed by Richard Lester based on The Beatles song *A Hard Day's Night* and the cinematography analysis of the movie.

## **1.4 Significances of Study**

1. Theoretically, this research aims to make a contribution to developing English Department, particularly in comparative literature and more specifically to the analysis of adaptation song into movie.

2. Practically, this research aims to prove the changes that occur in the story after the adaptation process. Thus can be understood the benefits of its.

### 1.5 Literature Review

There are three previous researches which are using the ecranisation theory to analyze the data. The first previous research is entitled “Ekranisasi Novel ke Film *Surat Kecil untuk Tuhan*” by Prastika Aderia from Universitas Negeri Padang. In her paper, she writes the analysis of both novel *Surat Kecil untuk Tuhan* by Agnes Davenor and the film *Surat Kecil untuk Tuhan* by Harris Nizam. The main research finding are the description about the similarities, differences of the events in the novel and also the film *Surat Kecil untuk Tuhan*. The one of the differences is found as there are 112 episodes in the novel of *Surat Kecil untuk Tuhan* but only 69 episodes are told in the film. The similarity is that 32 episodes of the novel are told the same in the film.

The second previous research is entitled “Ekranisasi Novel Horor *The Ring* Karya Suzuki Koji Menjadi *Ringu* Karya Nakata Hideo” by Gita Felinda Primadasari from Universitas Brawijaya. She analyzes both of the novel and also the film using the theory of ecranisation. The findings of this research are there found many changes of the story as some reductions and additions towards the story also the characters of the film the *Ringu*.

The third previous research is by John Stevens. Berklee College of Music faculty member and professional musician and songwriter named John Stevens

who analyzes the mindset of John Lennon through his lyrics on his songwriting. In this paper analysis, he provides the depth analysis of "*A Hard Day's Night*" in its songwriting elements.

Thus, this research finds the changes and the continuities in the movie adaptation from the song of *A Hard Day's Night*. This research would provide detailed scene pictures of the continuities and the changes in the movie of *A Hard Day's Night*. This research analysis also uses the cinematography theory to explain the scene picture of continuities and the changes found in the movie and the camera technique.

### **1.6 Theoretical Approach**

Eneste (1991:60) mentions that ecranisation is a process gob-white or transfer assignment of a novel into a movie (*ecran* in the French language means the screen). He also mentioned that the removal of the novel to the silver screen inevitably lead to the emergence of a variety of changes. Therefore, ecranisation also be referred to as the process of change. Ecranisation aims to look at the process of change that is downsizing, additions, and changes that occur in the process of making novel into film. In connection with this, Damono (2005:96) has called over the vehicle. In his book, he explains that over rides is a change from one type of art in other types of art.

In other terms, Damono (2005: 96) called this media transformation. This term essentially has a broader scope than ecranization. Furthermore, Damono explained that media transformation is a change from one type of art into other



types of art. Media transformation for the purpose here of course is different from translation. Translation of a literary work is shifting from one language to another, while the media transformation is changing over literature or the arts into other types of art. Damono exemplifies fiction transformed into dance, drama, and film. Media transformation also is made from films to novels, poetry or a song and vice versa. Further mentioned that in the transfer media like in this research it would be song to movie will have some changes. In other words, it would seem that the difference between the work and the work proceeds over the media. Media transformation novel into a movie, for example, characters, setting, plot, dialogue, etc. should be changed such that in accordance with the requirements of other types of art (Damono, 2005: 98).

The process of adaptation of the book into a movie or television is not an easy process. However, from the past until now, a lot of films which are created into the forms of adaptations. Ideally, the script for the film should be created specifically for the film instead of using the literature. The same thing also expressed by Ingmar Bergman, director of Sweden, which confirms that the film is an original drama is absolutely necessary because in his opinion, the film has nothing to do with literature (Kernodle, 1967:520).

To notice any single element of *mise-en-scène* is also to notice an element of cinematography, since everything “put in” to a given shot is recorded by a camera. That camera, in turn, is placed to include some elements and to exclude others (to leave them off screen in off screen space or implied space). That decision involves the act of framing the profilmic event, or that which lies before the camera; even

films that exist independently of a profilmic event (such as those experimental films discussed in Chapter 1) rely upon inclusion and exclusion for every frame. The camera records the shot at a given camera distance from the setting and its action. The camera chronicles the action from a fixed or changing camera angle. Even a stationary camera establishes and may change focus, in order to emphasize a particular plane or planes within the camera's depth of field, the three-dimensional space the camera's lens is capable of recording in focus in two dimensions, according to the shot's role and logic. The camera's angle and distance may remain constant or change with the camera's movement during the shot. Anything to do with the camera, that is, belongs to the realm of cinematography (Villarejo, 2006:361).

### **1.7 Method of Research**

The writer uses descriptive qualitative method to analyze the data. Firstly, the writer does close reading on the lyric of song *A Hard Day's Night*. Then, the writer watches the movie *A Hard Day's Night* to understand the scenes and the dialogues before comparing the lyric and the movie in the analysis. According to Schwandt in his book entitled *Dictionary of Qualitative Inquiry* (2007), "to analyze means to break down a whole into its components or constituent parts through assembly of the parts, one comes to understand the integrity of the whole".

Qualitative data analysis techniques lend themselves well to analyzing literature because, as noted by Onwuegbuzie et al. (2010), every selected

literature—whether representing qualitative, quantitative, or mixed research—contains numerous sources of qualitative data (e.g., literature review of source article, conceptual/theoretical framework, author's interpretations, author's conclusion), thereby justifying within-case qualitative analyses.

Further, when two or more sources are compared and contrasted—again, even if representing qualitative, quantitative, or mixed research—then, cross-case qualitative analyses are justified. First, the writer conducted the research by watching *A Hard Day's Night* and maps the sequences of the scene. Then, the writer read the lyric *A Hard Day's Night* to observe the difference between the adaptation and the original work. Then, the writer analyzes the cinematography of the movie *A Hard Day's Night* as for the camera angles, gestures, camera movement..

Next, the writer searches for supporting materials from books, previous researches, and internet. After collecting them, the writer selects the fitting information from some scholar books and literature theories book or article on internet. The writer also looks for online journals regarding similar topics of this research. The last is the writer begins to analyze the problem based on ecranisation theory and also cinematography of the film entitled *A Hard Day's Night*. After analyzing, the writer makes a conclusion that answers to problem formulation.

### **1.8 Paper Organization**

This research consists of three chapters. The first chapter is the introduction. There are background of study, research questions, objectives of study, significances of study, literature review, theoretical approach, method of research, and paper organization. The second chapter is the discussion of the analysis. The third is the conclusion of the analysis and suggestion for the next researchers.



## CHAPTER III

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

#### 3.1 Conclusion

The writer founds that the ekranisation process occurred in a song and movie *A Hard Day's Night* has several continuities and changes in intrinsic elements of the movie and an analysis of cinematography. The continuities are found in the background of the story, point of view, moral value, and society in that era. The first continuities found is the background, there are the setting of the time which this movie is taken in 1960' and the scenes are taken in the morning, evening, and night, the setting of places are taken in Liverpool to London at the places like train station, hotel, pub and bar, TV show studio, and casting room, the setting of atmosphere like there is likely only happiness situation in the movie, and the characters which there are John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison, Ringo Starr, Paul's Grandfather, Norman, Shake, and the other helping figures.

The second continuities is in point of view which in the lyric of the song of *A Hard Day's Night*, it uses first person of point of view of "I". The third continuities is the moral value found in the movie. It is about do not judge people from it is cover. The fourth continuities is in the society in the era where The Beatles members were all still alive like they work all day all night to please the fans. Then, the changes are found in the Paul's grandfather characters, Work and Job, and the Beatles's hopes. The most significance continuity and change occurred in characterization.

The last is the analysis on cinematography which the writer finds the low angle technique of camera to take the picture scene. Low angle-technique is meant to highlight the members of The Beatle as the famous pop star. The writer also synchronizes the first, second, and third lyric stanza to match up with the scenes in the movie by providing the story of the scenes related to those stanzas.

### **3.2 Sugestion**

The Beatles is a legendary band. The Beatles members are not only musicians and composers but also they are actors. The writer hopes that the other researchers could do the analysis using other cinematography theory to synchronize the story to the lyrics.



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**APPENDIX I**  
**A Hard Day's Night Song Lyric**

**A Hard Day's Night**

It's been a hard day's night and I'd been working like a dog  
It's been a hard day's night, I should be sleeping like a log  
But when I get home to you I find the things that you do will make me feel alright

You know I work all day to get you money to buy you things and it's worth it just  
to hear you say you're going to give me everything  
So why on earth should I moan, cos when I get you alone  
You know I feel OK

When I'm home everything seems to be alright  
When I'am home feeling you holding me tight, tight, yeah

It's been a hard day's night and I'd been working like a dog  
It's been a hard day's night, I should be sleeping like a log  
But when I get home to you I find the things that you do will make me feel alright  
owww

So why on earth should I moan, cos when I get you alone  
You know I feel OK

When I'm home everything seems to be alright  
When I'am home feeling you holding me tight, tight, yeah

It's been a hard day's night and I'd been working like a dog  
It's been a hard day's night, I should be sleeping like a log

But when I get home to you I find the things that you do will make me feel alright  
You know I feel alright  
You know I feel alright

Song writers : John Lennon and Paul McCartney



**APPENDIX II**  
**CURRICULUM VITAE**

**PERSONAL DETAIL**

Name : Yudi Hartono  
Place, Date of Birth : Klaten, 30 Juni 1991  
Sex : Male  
Religion : Islam  
Nationality : Indonesian  
Address : Ketandan RT 01 RW 3, Klaten Utara, Klaten  
E-mail : 30yudi@gmail.com  
Hobby : music and sports  
Mobile Phone : 08975005838



**EDUCATION**

1997-2003: SD N 3 Ketandan, Klaten  
2003-2006: SMP Muhammadiyah 1, Klaten  
2006-2009: SMA N 1 Karangdowo, Klaten  
2011-2015: UIN Sunan Kalijaga, Sleman, Yogyakarta

**WORKING EXPERIENCE**

2008-2009: Radio announcer at Mentari fm, Klaten  
2010-2012: Radio announcer at Salma Radio, Klaten