# FEMALE MASCULINITY ON PRINCESS JASMINE AS SEEN IN *ALADDIN (2019)* A GRADUATING PAPER

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for Gaining the Bachelor



Degree in English Literature

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2022

### A FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT

I certify that this graduate paper is definitely my own work. I am completely responsible for the content of this graduating paper. Other researcher's opinion or finding included in this research is quoted or cited in accordance with ethical standards.

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Atas perhatiannya, kami mengucapkan terima kasih.

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### FEMALE MASCULINITY ON PRINCESS JASMINE AS SEEN IN

#### ALADDIN (2019)

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### ABSTRACT

Aladdin is a 2019 American fantasy musical film produced by Walt Disney Pictures and adapted from the popular animated film of the same name by Disney. This study focuses on the masculinity of Princess Jasmine. In this paper, the researcher uses a qualitative method and the theory of female masculinity written by Judith Halberstam. This study also uses film theory written by A.D Jameson to understand the scenes in the film. This research aims to find the side of masculinity in Princess Jasmine. Princess Jasmine's masculinity is formed since her mother died to make her father Sulthan very protective of her, and his love for his people enhances his sense of leadership. The masculinity of Princess Jasmine is not seen directly from her physique but her character and behavior. The masculinity shown by Princess Jasmine shows Disney audiences that leadership and courage are not only present in male roles.

Keywords: Masculinity, Female Masculinity, Film, Aladdin.

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# FEMALE MASCULINITY ON PRINCESS JASMINE AS SEEN IN ALADDIN (2019)

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### ABSTRAK

Aladdin adalah film musikal fantasi Amerika yang dirilis pada tahun 2019 diproduksi oleh Walt Disney Picture. Diadaptasi dari film animasi populer dengan judul yang sama oleh Disney. Penelitian ini berfokus pada sifat maskulinitas yang dimiliki oleh putri Jasmine. Dalam penelitian ini, peneliti menggunakan metode kualitatif dan menggunakan teori maskulinitas wanita yang ditulis oleh Judith Habelrstam. Penelitian ini juga menggunakan teori film yang ditulis oleh A.D Jameson untuk memahami adegan di dalam film. Tujuan dari penelitian ini yakni untuk menemukan sisi maskulinitas pada diri putri Jasmine. Maskulinitas putri Jasmine terbentuk sejak ibunya meninggal hingga membuat ayahnya yang Sulthan menjadi sangat protektif kepadanya. Serta kecintaanya pada rakyatnya yang meningkatkan rasa kepemimpinannya. Maskulinitas dari putri Jasmine tidak terlihat secara langsung dari fisiknya, namun dari sifat dan perilakunya. Maskulinitas yang ditunjukan putri Jasmine menunjukkan pada penonton Disney bahwa kepemimpinan dan keberanian tidak hanya hadir di peran laki laki saja.

Kata Kunci: Maskulinitas, Maskulinitas Wanita, Film, Aladdin

STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY SUNAN KALIJAGA Y O G Y A K A R T A ΜΟΤΤΟ

"If you don't take risks, you can't create a future!" -Monkey D Luffy (One piece)



### **DEDICATION**

This Graduating paper is dedicated to:

Almamater

**English Literature Department** 

Faculty of Adab and Cultural Sciences

State Islamic University Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta



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Yogyakarta, July 21<sup>st</sup> 2022

The Researcher

Muhammad Hafidz Firmansyah

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# CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

# 1.1 Background

In general, masculinity and femininity are always associated with males and women. The masculine always conjures up images of an attractive face, bravery, power, independence, leadership ability, courage, heroism, and a powerful body based on the traditional gender roles. On the other hand, the feminine is synonymous with the traits of a beautiful lady who is emotional, reliant, docile, respectful, and sensitive. According to Bartens (2001, p.95), In the late 1980s and early 1990s, literary and historical scientists gave the subject of masculinity much attention. Most studies, however, are solely interested in masculinity as men practice it.

According to Judith Halberstam's book Female Masculinity, academics have shown zero interest in masculinity without men (1998, p.13). However, in her book, she made the following statement: "What we call "masculinity" has also been developed by masculine women, gender deviants, and frequently homosexuals. It must not just belong to males, have been produced by men, and do not accurately portray male heterosexuality" (1998, p.241). In this day and age, movies and other kinds of entertainment frequently depict masculinity. One movie that displays feminine masculinity is Aladdin. Based on traditional Arabic folklore, Walt Disney released the American musical fantasy film Aladdin on May 8, 2019. This movie talks about Aladdin, the poor guy who lived with his monkey named Abu in Agrabah. Aladdin accidentally met the princess on the street and fell in love with her at first sight. However, kingdom rules did not let Aladdin make a relationship with Princess Jasmine, so Ja'far, a royal advisor, incited him to use a magic lamp to change his life. Ja'far betrayed Aladdin and wanted to take over Agrabah. As a princess, Jasmine does not wish that terrible thing to happen and wants to save her people. Many things happen in that chaotic situation and show Princess Jasmine's masculinity.

Princess Jasmine has an uncomfortable position as a princess. Her father's indifferences make the masculinity grows in princess Jasmine's character. According to Judith Halberstam (1998, p.2):

"Masculinity in this society inevitably conjures up notions of power and legitimacy, and privilege; it often symbolically refers to the power of the state and uneven distributions of wealth. Masculinity seems to extend outward into patriarchy and inward into the family; masculinity represents the power of inheritance, the consequences of the traffic in women, and the promise of social privilege."

Her family upbringing and her father indifferences made her uncomfortable, and she could not do anything she wanted. It is shown by Princess Jasmine's escape from her kingdom to take around Agrabah and meet her people. Her father said a woman could not be a sultan, and the princess must marry a prince from another kingdom. In princess Jasmine's personality, she is more king than a queen. When Princess Jasmine cares more about her people's welfare than expanded power areas, she knows well about her minister and how to lead them wisely. It shows her masculinity, and it makes the researcher interested in analyzing. There is also a song in the movie called 'speechless' sung by princess Jasmine twice. This song tells about princess Jasmine's breakthrough and development from her initial quiet character. She wants to show her power to Ja'far and show her father her qualifications to be a sultan of Agrabah.

Based on the explanation, her social environment pushes princess Jasmine to be a character that wants power control and leads Agrabah. Also, she will not be silent about any injustice in Agrabah. Princess Jasmine exercises masculine values (controlling, teaching, and heroism) according to Lehman (2001, p.7-24). These can be important things to research how masculinity can push a woman to be courageous, and some people's leaders and brave to step against the men's pressure under the kingdom system. Masculinity is part of men's characteristics, but surprisingly, women can also adopt that characteristic. So, it is explained that masculinity does not have the essence of a biological thing. It also explained why Judith Halberstam's theory is suitable for this research. Judith mentions that masculinity is not based on gender but on the character's behavior, and princess Jasmine can show us that masculine values can make a princess a sultan. Because of this, the researcher chooses "Female masculinity on Princess Jasmine as seen in the Aladdin Movie" as a research topic.

# **1.2 Research Question**

1. What kind of female masculinity is attached to princess Jasmine's character?

2. What causes Princess Jasmine's masculinity?

### **1.3 Objectives of studies**

- 1. To find out what kind of female masculinity is attached to princess Jasmine's character
- To find out any excuse that makes princess Jasmine classified as one of the female masculinity types

### 1.4 Significances of Study

The significance of this research is to show the variety of female masculinity in modern literature. So, people can explore another kind of female masculinity in their literature.

# **1.5 Literature Review**

The researcher discovered three pieces of research on the same subject, like Gilang Nur Alfi Jauhari (2019). Airlangga University Surabaya. This research speaks about the objectification of women in the Aladdin movie. The Objectification of Women in the Movie "Aladdin 2019": Approach Actential Structuralism A.J. Greimass (2019). Master's Program in Literary and Cultural Studies Universitas Airlangga Surabaya. The research aims to see the objectification of women in the Aladdin Movie. This research thought that Aladdin Movie from America wants to show that America objectifies women and Arab people by their movie.

Donna Taruli Agustia Silaban (2020). Muhammadiyah University Palembang. This research talks about the moral value of a character named Ritchie in Aladdin Movie. An Analysis of Moral Values in Guy Ritchie's "Aladdin Movie 2019" Based on Aladdin Disney (2020). Faculty of Teaching and Education Muhammadiyah University Palembang. This research wants to discover the types and meanings of moral values and the dominant moral values in Aladdin (2019).

Susilawati (2021). Islamic State University Sultan Thaha Saifuddin Jambi. This research talks about the social status in Aladdin Movie. The Role of Social Status as seen in Aladdin Movie (2021). Adab and humanity faculty Islamic State University Sultam Thaha Saifuddin Jambi. This research wants to find out what kinds of social status and describe the role of social status as seen in Aladdin (2019).

From all of the research above, the researcher can conclude that none of them focuses on the idea of Princess Jasmine's character, especially masculinity, in Aladdin (2019). They all use Aladdin as their object analysis, but none take Princess Jasmine's character and masculinity as their focus.

# 1.6 Theoretical Framework UNIVERSITY

In this study, the researcher draws on some theories there are; the concept of masculinity by Peter Lehman (2001), the female masculinity theory by Judith Halberstam (1998), and gender identity by Henri Tajfel (1978). Princess Jasmine's female masculinity is the research subject for the Aladdin movie. The researcher's primary interest in this study is the patriarchal system that restricts and regulates the independence of women. According to Bartens (2001, p.95), Feminism seeks to change the power relations between men and women that prevailed in the late 1960s and the 1970s. Men's (nearly) full dominance in Western civilization was commonly referred to as patriarchy (and beyond).

Men are superior to women in the patriarchal system. According to Tyson, "Gender and sex are different; sex refers to the biological constitution as female or a male, while gender refers to the cultural programming as feminine or masculine" (2006, p.85). That means not every sex shows their gender. For example, not all men are masculine, and women are feminine. However, society forces men to be men and women to be women. Judith Halberstam claims in her book, Female Masculinity, "Masculinity must not belong to men, has not produced only by men and does not properly express male heterosexuality... what we call 'masculinity has also been produced by masculine women, gender deviants, and often lesbians" (1998, p.241). She added as well:

"Tomboyism tends to be associated with a "natural" desire for the greater freedoms and mobilities enjoyed by boys. It is read as a sign of independence and self-motivation, and tomboyism may even be encouraged to the extent that it remains comfortably linked to a stable sense of a girl identity (1998, p.6)."

Then the researcher used movie theory from Timothy Heiderich (2009) about some types of film shots and their meaning to support the analysis. A movie serves as the research's main source of data. The usage of movie theory supports the examination of the data. Additionally, the researcher applies two theories in this investigation. Semiotics and mise-en-scene both exist. To examine the data, the researcher applies the mise-en-scene theory. The lighting, camera position, and figure behavior set up in front of the camera to be photographed are all considered part of the mise-en-scene, according to Jameson (2012). (their gestures and facial expressions).

### 1.7 Method of Research

The researcher will describe the sort of research, the data source, the data gathering process, and the data analysis approach in this research method.

### 1.7.1 Type of Research

The researcher's method in this study is descriptive and qualitative. The researcher will first gather certain information, such as behaviors, manifestations, and legends suggesting princess Jasmine's masculinity. To determine what form of masculinity best suits princess Jasmine, the researcher must determine the origin of her masculinity. To underline the analysis, the researcher will secondly interpret them using film theory.

### 1.7.2 Data Source

This study has two different types of data: primary and secondary. The conversation and scenes from the *Aladdin* (2019) movie serve as the major data source, and books and articles that support this research serve as the secondary data source.

#### 1.7.3 Data Collection Technique

The researcher should watch and understand the movie Aladdin (2019) in data collection. The researcher can collect and describe the intrinsic elements such as theme, settings, characterization, plot, and point of view. After that, the researcher needs to sort the data into some categories related to female masculinity. The supporting data of this research comes from some journals, books, and websites.

### 1.7.4 Data Analysis Technique

Before marking the sequences that discuss female masculinity, the researcher needs to watch the film to understand it. The researcher must view the movie Aladdin and then evaluate the characteristics and events that shape masculinity using Judith Halberstam's (1998) and Peter Lehman's (1998) masculinity theory (2001). Also included as a support theory are some movie theories from Timothy Heiderich (2009). To analyze the data, the researcher will take various steps. First, the researcher must identify certain behaviors, indicators, and dialogue that indicate masculinity. The researcher must evaluate the data and incorporate cinema theory to underline the explanation. The researcher must then examine and explain the findings in light of the above research topic. Finally, the researcher writes the analysis's conclusion.

# **STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY 1.8 Paper Organization**

There are four chapters in this study. Background of Study, Research Question, Objectives of Study, Significances of Study, Literature Review, Theoretical Framework, Method of Research, and Paper Organization are all included in the first chapter, which serves as an introduction. The second chapter discusses the fundamental components of the Aladdin film. In the third chapter, female masculinity is examined. The research's conclusion and recommendation are presented in the fourth chapter.

# CHAPTER IV CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

### 4.1 Conclusion

Masculinity is a characteristic often associated with men. It is still feasible if a woman possesses the same masculine traits as a male since, as Judith Halberstam noted, masculinity does not always belong to a man. Princess Jasmine's persona in the Aladdin movie reflects this; based on the data that have been evaluated, it can be concluded that Princess Jasmine demonstrates that she is a woman with three crucial of male nature. They are associated with heroism, leadership skill, and courage. This masculine behavior builds Princess Jasmine into the Sultan in a good way.

Princess Jasmine's masculinity results from her family's upbringing and concern about her father's indifference. Even Princess Jasmine is confident that she is capable enough to be a leader. She was ignored and rejected by her only family, the Sultan.

# 4.2 Suggestion ATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY

The researcher has numerous problems after doing this study, and the next researcher can discuss the phenomenon of female masculinity more deeply in other movies by Disney and use any other analytical methods to increase the diversity of research. Also, suppose the next researcher uses the same film. In that case, I hope they research with different theories, methods, and analyses and continue to use additional literature to make the study more complete, detailed, and perfect. Moreover, I hope that further research will not only research related on films or movies, but similar research can also be carried out using other mass media products such as songs, soap operas, posters, and advertisements.



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