

**REPRESENTATION OF SPIRITUALITY IN PARENT-CHILD
RELATIONSHIP: CINEMATIC ELEMENTS IN *RAYA AND THE LAST
DRAGON***

An Undergraduate Thesis

Submitted to Fulfill One of the Requirements for Obtaining Sarjana Humaniora
Degree (S.Hum) in English Literature Department of Adab and Humanities
Faculty



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APPROVAL PAGE

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LEGALIZATION PAGE

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DECLARATION OF OWNERSHIP

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I declare that the undergraduate thesis “Representation of Spirituality in Parent-Child Relationship: Cinematic Elements in *Raya and the Last Dragon*” is entirely original, my own work, and has never before been submitted for a bachelor's degree. The present undergraduate thesis is an independent work, consisting of original ideas, formulation, and research, with the exception of guidance and supervision provided by the supervisors. The present undergraduate thesis strictly adheres to the principle of excluding any external works or opinions, unless explicitly acknowledged as a reference with the author's name specified and included in the references. I am solely responsible for the contents of my undergraduate thesis. If there are future deviations and untruths from this statement, I am willing to accept academic punishment commensurate with the college's requirements.



Bandung, March 5th 2026

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MOTTO

Allah said: *“For indeed with hardship (will be) ease. Indeed, with hardship (will be) ease.”*

(Q.S. Al-Insyira: 4-5)

“Keep trying and praying, surely Allah will show the way.”

(My Mom)

“Whatever happens, keep moving forward and achieve your dreams”.

(Myself)



ABSTRACT

Ercika Fitria Suandi. 1225030056. *Representation of Spirituality in Parent-Child Relationship: Cinematic Elements in Raya and the Last Dragon*. An Undergraduate Thesis. English Literature. Faculty of Adab and Humanities, State Islamic University of Sunan Gunung Djati. Advisor 1. Prof. Dr. H. Dadan Rusmana, M.A.G. 2. Yoga Sudarisman, M.A.

Key words: Representation, spirituality, parent-child relationship, *Raya and the Last Dragon*, cinematic elements.

This study aims to analyze the representation of spirituality in parent-child relationships as depicted in the film *Raya and the Last Dragon*. In this context, spirituality extends beyond mere religious practice to encompass inner awareness, human values, and meaningful emotional bonds that form the foundation of family life. In the modern era, characterized by busyness and the pervasive influence of technology, spiritual values such as love, sacrifice, and hope are increasingly diminished within family relationships. As a popular medium, films play a crucial role in revitalizing these values. This research employs a descriptive qualitative method through visual analysis, examining how Raya's relationship with her father, Chief Benja, reflects spiritual values such as love, sacrifice, and hope, as well as how cinematic elements, including color, lighting, facial expressions, camera movements, camera angle, and framing, reinforce these interpretations. The findings are expected to enrich perspectives on film not only as a form of entertainment but also as a medium for spiritual reflection and character development, particularly in strengthening the relationship between parents and children.

ABSTRAK

Ercika Fitria Suandi. 1225030056. *Representation of Spirituality in Parent-Child Relationship: Cinematic Elements in Raya and the Last Dragon*. Skripsi. Sastra Inggris. Fakultas Adab dan Humaniora, Universitas Islam Negeri Sunan Gunung Djati. Pembimbing 1. . Prof. Dr. H. Dadan Rusmana, M.Ag. 2. Yoga Sudarisman, M.A.

Kata kunci: Representasi, spiritualitas, hubungan orang tua-anak, *Raya and the Last Dragon*, sinematik elemen.

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis representasi spiritualitas dalam relasi orang tua-anak yang digambarkan lewat film *Raya and the Last Dragon*. Spiritualitas di sini melampaui praktik agama semata, mencakup kesadaran batin, nilai kemanusiaan, serta ikatan emosional bermakna yang mendasai keluarga. Di era modern yang penuh kesibukan dan pengaruh teknologi, nilai spiritual seperti kasih sayang, pengorbanan, dan harapan sering pudar dalam hubungan keluarga. Film sebagai media populer berperan krusial merevitalisasi nilai-nilai itu. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif deskriptif melalui analisis visual, meneliti bagaimana ikatan Raya dengan ayahnya, Chief Benja, mencerminkan nilai spiritual seperti kasih sayang, pengorbanan, dan harapan sekaligus bagaimana elemen sinematik seperti warna, pencahayaan, ekspresi wajah, gerakan kamera, sudut kamera, dan memasang objek dalam layar dapat menguatkan interpretasi tersebut. Hasilnya diharapkan memperkaya wawasan tentang film sebagai alat refleksi spiritual dan pembentukan karakter, terutama untuk mempererat hubungan antara orang tua dan anak.

PREFACE

This thesis serves as the culmination of my graduate journey in the English Literature Department at the Sunan Gunung Djati State Islamic University, Bandung. It fulfills the requirement for obtaining a S.Hum degree and showcases my analysis of representation of spirituality in parent-child relationship: cinematic elements in *Raya and the Last Dragon*.

Titled “REPRESENTATION OF SPIRITUALITY IN PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP: CINEMATIC ELEMENTS IN *RAYA AND THE LAST DRAGON*” this research delves into the examination of the relationship between children and parents in the film *Raya and the Last Dragon*. This study examines representation with a specific focus on Stuart Hall’s theory. The spiritual meaning of the relationship between parents and children will be examined using Annete Mahoney’s theory. This study also examines how cinematic elements can convey spiritual meaning using Thompson & Bordwell’s theory. The research presented here serves as a valuable resource for academic purposes and as reference material in the field of literature, particularly in the field of film studies.



Bandung, March 5th 2026

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