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Universitas Muhammadiyah Surabaya

SKRIPSI

**AN INTERSECTIONAL ANALYSIS OF THE
CHARACTER OF MULAN IN DISNEY'S LIVE-
ACTION MULAN (2020) SCRIPT**

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**An Intersectional Analysis of the Character of Mulan in
Disney's Live-Action Mulan (2020) Script**

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**Presented for Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for
Undergraduate in English Education Department of
Education, Communication and Science Faculty**

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2026

MOTTO AND DEDICATION

Motto :

“There is nothing to prove. Live your life, and do whatever makes you happy”

“O you who have believed, seek help through patience and prayer. Indeed, Allah is with the patient.” (The Qur’an 02:153 Surah Al-Baqarah)”

Dedication

I dedicate this thesis as an expression of my deepest gratitude and thanks.

1. To my beloved parents, Mom and Dad, thank you for all your prayers, sincere love, sacrifices, support, and hard work. Sometimes I wonder how many times my parents' prayers have saved me in ways I never realized. Thank you for always being a source of strength and encouragement in every step of my life's journey. May this work be a form of devotion and pride for Mom and Dad.
2. To my little sister, thank you for being an encouragement in completing every process until this work was completed.
3. To my supervisor and all the lecturers who have provided knowledge, direction, guidance, and motivation throughout my studies. Thank you for your patience and dedication in guiding me through the completion of this work.

- 
4. To the beautiful woman who has been by my side, thank you for being the best listener, a source of encouragement every step of the way, and a reminder to never give up. May all your kindness, sincerity, and support always be a blessing and be rewarded with happiness and success.
 5. Finally, I would like to thank my idol, Cristiano Ronaldo, who has taught me the importance of discipline and hard work in achieving big dreams. His dedication to football will be an irreplaceable legacy and an example for future generations. "Cristiano Ronaldo will always be my GOAT, no matter what."

LEMBAR PERSETUJUAN PEMBIMBING

Skripsi yang ditulis oleh Fauzan Muhammad Styawan NIM 20211111019 dengan judul "An Intersectional Analysis of the Character of Mulan in Disney's Live-Action Mulan (2020) Script" ini telah disetujui oleh dosen pembimbing untuk diujikan dalam UJIAN SKRIPSI pada tanggal 27 Juli 2026.

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24 September 2026

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LEMBAR PENGESAHAN PANITIA UJIAN

Skripsi yang ditulis oleh **Fauzan Muhammad Styawan** NIM 2021111019 dengan judul **"An Intersectional Analysis of the Character of Mulan in Disney's Live-Action Mulan (2020) Script"** ini telah diuji dan dinyatakan sah oleh Panitia Ujian Tingkat Sarjana (SI) Fakultas Pendidikan Komunikasi dan Sains Universitas Muhammadiyah Surabaya sebagai salah satu syarat memperoleh gelar Sarjana Pendidikan pada tanggal 28 Juli 2026.

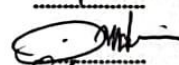
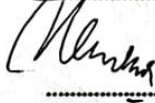
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Surabaya, 25 Juli 2026

Yang membuat pernyataan



Fauzan Muhammad Styawan
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ABSTRACT

Styawan, Fauzan M. (2026). *An Intersectional Analysis of the Character of Mulan in Disney's Live-Action Mulan (2020) Script*. Undergraduated Thesis. English Education Department, Education, Communication, and Science Faculty, Universitas Muhammadiyah Surabaya. Supervisors: (1) Dr. Dra. Mas'ulah, MA, (2) Armeria Wijaya, S.S., M.Pd.

This study examines the character of Mulan in Disney's 2020 live-action Mulan script, using Kimberle Crenshaw's intersectional feminist theory as the main framework. Unlike earlier studies that treat the film only as an audiovisual text, this study reads the movie script, primarily its dialogue, as a literary work, while also drawing on Mulan's gestures and physical actions in the movie itself as supplementary data whenever the written script does not record those actions in words. Two research questions guide this study: first, how the script and film show Mulan's empowerment through the interaction of gender roles and social class pressures; second, how patriarchal structures and cultural norms simultaneously influence Mulan's experiences and choices. This study uses a qualitative descriptive design with textual analysis. Fifteen data extracts, ten drawn from script dialogue and five drawn from supplementary gestures in the movie, were classified and interpreted through an intersectional lens, then compared with previous studies on Mulan (2020). The findings show that Mulan's empowerment does not appear all at once; it grows step by step, from restriction, to disguise, to self-redefinition, and finally to a free choice based on her own meaning of honor. The findings also show that patriarchal structures and cultural norms do not act separately; they work together, sometimes limiting Mulan and at other times becoming a resource for her, before finally shifting to accept her as an equal. This study concludes that gender, class, and culture must be read together, not apart, to fully understand Mulan's identity in the script.

Keywords: *gender roles; intersectional feminism; women's empowerment.*

ABSTRAK

Styawan, Fauzan M. 2026. *An Intersectional Analysis of the Character of Mulan in Disney's Live-Action Mulan (2020) Script*. Skripsi, Fakultas Pendidikan, Komunikasi, dan Sains. Universitas Muhammadiyah Surabaya. Pembimbing: (1) Dr. Dra. Mas'ulah, MA, (2) Armeria Wijaya, S.S., M.Pd.

Penelitian ini membahas karakter Mulan dalam naskah film live-action *Mulan* (2020) produksi Disney, dengan menggunakan teori feminisme interseksional Kimberle Crenshaw sebagai kerangka utama. Berbeda dari penelitian sebelumnya yang menganalisis film hanya sebagai teks audiovisual, penelitian ini membaca naskah film, terutama dialognya, sebagai karya sastra, sekaligus menggunakan adegan-adegan relevan dari film itu sendiri, termasuk gestur dan tindakan visual Mulan, sebagai data tambahan setiap kali naskah tertulis tidak mencantumkan arahan panggung atau deskripsi adegan. Penelitian ini dipandu oleh dua rumusan masalah: pertama, bagaimana naskah dan film menunjukkan pemberdayaan Mulan melalui interaksi antara peran gender dan tekanan kelas sosial; kedua, bagaimana struktur patriarki dan norma budaya memengaruhi pengalaman dan pilihan Mulan secara bersamaan. Penelitian ini menggunakan desain deskriptif kualitatif dengan teknik analisis teks. Lima belas data digunakan, sepuluh di antaranya diambil dari dialog naskah dan lima dari adegan serta gestur tambahan dalam film, yang kemudian dikelompokkan dan ditafsirkan melalui sudut pandang interseksional, lalu dibandingkan dengan penelitian terdahulu tentang *Mulan* (2020). Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa pemberdayaan Mulan tidak muncul secara tiba-tiba, melainkan berkembang secara bertahap, mulai dari pembatasan, penyamaran, penemuan jati diri, hingga akhirnya kebebasan memilih makna kehormatan menurut dirinya sendiri. Hasil penelitian juga menunjukkan bahwa struktur patriarki dan norma budaya tidak bekerja secara terpisah, melainkan saling berkaitan, kadang membatasi Mulan namun di saat lain menjadi sumber kekuatan baginya, sebelum akhirnya berubah dan menerimanya sebagai sosok yang setara. Penelitian ini menyimpulkan bahwa gender, kelas sosial, dan budaya harus dibaca secara bersamaan, bukan terpisah, untuk memahami identitas Mulan dalam naskah secara utuh.

Kata Kunci: *feminisme interseksional, pemberdayaan perempuan, peran gender.*

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Peace and blessings to our Prophet Muhammad SAW, who has granted us passage from the era of ignorance to the age of enlightenment. Furthermore, the researcher has a lot of individuals by his side who help and inspire him to accomplish this thesis by offering advice, information, and motivation. The researcher so wishes to express gratitude to the following individuals:

To my parents, thank you for every prayer you have offered and for all the effort and support that have encouraged me throughout this journey. Although you did not have the opportunity to attend university yourselves, your son has now realized the dream of becoming a university graduate. No words or actions could ever fully repay the kindness you have shown me.

To all the lecturers in the English Language and Literature Education program especially my esteemed supervisors, Dr. Dra. Masulah, MA and Armeria Wijaya, S.S., M.Pd. I extend my deepest gratitude for your guidance, assistance, and patience in reviewing this work. You have been mentors who guided and directed every word and sentence, helping to shape this into a well-structured thesis.

To my fellow students who shared this journey, thank you for striving alongside me to make this beautiful dream a reality. Wherever life takes you after graduation, may happiness and success always accompany you.

I fully acknowledge that this thesis has its shortcomings and is far from perfect. Therefore, I welcome constructive criticism and suggestions to help improve this work in the future. I hope this work proves beneficial and inspires its readers.

The researcher acknowledges that this thesis is still far from flawless. Consequently, the researcher will be thrilled to embrace any helpful critiques and recommendations. Besides that, the researcher also hopes that this thesis will be useful for upcoming studies

Surabaya, July 25th 2026

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fauzan', with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Fauzan Muhammad Styawan
NIM. 20211111019

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