

**FLUID MASCULINITY AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF IDENTITY
IN *AFTERSUN* (2022)**



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THESIS

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ABSTRACT

Pradana, Faldi Rizky. 2026. Fluid Masculinity and the Construction of Identity in Aftersun (2022). A Thesis. Jakarta: English Literature Study Programme, Faculty of Languages and Arts, Universitas Negeri Jakarta.

This study examines the representation of masculinity in Charlotte Wells' *Aftersun* (2022) through the character of Calum. It aims to analyze how masculinity is represented through verbal aspects and how visual and symbolic aspects contribute to the interpretation of Calum's masculinity. This study employs a qualitative descriptive method using textual and visual analysis. The primary data consist of selected dialogues and scene captures from *Aftersun* (2022). The dialogues are analyzed using Sarah Kozloff's dialogue analysis and R. W. Connell's theory of multiple masculinities, while the visual elements are analyzed using Roland Barthes' concepts of denotation, connotation, and myth. Bridges and Pascoe's concept of hybrid masculinities serve as a supporting perspective to interpret the overall findings. The findings reveal that Calum reflects characteristics associated with hegemonic, complicit, subordinated, and marginalized masculinities across different interpersonal and emotional contexts. The visual analysis further demonstrates that cinematic elements, including lighting, framing, body language, spatial composition, and symbolic imagery, communicate emotional vulnerability and psychological complexity while reflecting and challenging broader cultural beliefs about masculinity and fatherhood. Overall, the integration of textual and visual analyses supports the interpretation that Calum's masculinity is fluid and negotiated, rather than fixed within a single masculine identity.

Keywords: *Aftersun* (2022), masculinity, multiple masculinities, R. W. Connell, Roland Barthes, semiotics.

ABSTRAK

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Penelitian ini menganalisis representasi maskulinitas dalam film Aftersun (2022) karya Charlotte Wells melalui karakter Calum. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis bagaimana maskulinitas direpresentasikan melalui unsur verbal serta bagaimana unsur visual dan simbolik berkontribusi terhadap interpretasi maskulinitas Calum. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif dengan pendekatan analisis tekstual dan visual. Data penelitian berupa dialog dan tangkapan adegan yang dipilih dari film Aftersun (2022). Dialog dianalisis menggunakan analisis dialog Sarah Kozloff dan teori multiple masculinities dari R. W. Connell, sedangkan unsur visual dianalisis menggunakan konsep denotasi, konotasi, dan mitos dari Roland Barthes. Konsep hybrid masculinities dari Bridges dan Pascoe digunakan sebagai pandangan pendukung dalam menginterpretasikan keseluruhan temuan. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa Calum merefleksikan karakteristik yang berkaitan dengan maskulinitas hegemonik, komplit, subordinat, dan termarginalisasi dalam berbagai konteks interpersonal dan emosional. Analisis visual juga menunjukkan bahwa unsur-unsur sinematik, seperti pencahayaan, bahasa tubuh, komposisi ruang, dan citra simbolik, merepresentasikan kerentanan emosional dan kompleksitas psikologis sekaligus merefleksikan serta mempertanyakan keyakinan budaya yang lebih luas mengenai maskulinitas dan peran ayah. Secara keseluruhan, integrasi analisis tekstual dan visual mendukung interpretasi bahwa maskulinitas Calum bersifat cair (fluid) dan dinegosiasikan, alih-alih bersifat tetap dalam satu identitas maskulin.

Kata Kunci: *Aftersun* (2022), maskulinitas, *multiple masculinities*, R. W. Connell, Roland Barthes, semiotika.

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