

FINAL REPORT

AN ANALYSIS OF MORAL MESSAGE IN THE SHORT STORY "A JOURNEY" BY EDITH WHARTON



**To fulfill one of the graduation requirements for the D-III English Study Program
Politeknik Negeri Sriwijaya**

Prepared By:

Ririn Tarina
NIM 062330901793

Advisors:

Drs. Zakaria, M.Pd.
NIP 196408122000031002

Dian Heriani, S.Pd., M.Hum.
NIPPPK 199107102023212063

**D-III ENGLISH STUDY PROGRAM
POLITEKNIK NEGERI SRIWIJAYA
2026**

APPROVAL PAGE

The Final Report titled:

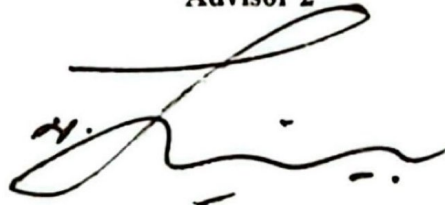
AN ANALYSIS OF MORAL MESSAGE IN THE SHORT STORY "A JOURNEY" BY EDITH WHARTON prepared by Ririn Tarina (NIM 062330901793) has been approved by the advisors for defense in the **Final Report Examination**.

Advisor 1



Drs. Zakaria, M.Pd.
NIP 196408122000031002

Advisor 2

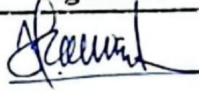
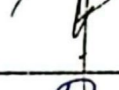
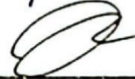


Dian Heriani, S.Pd., M.Hum.
NIPPPK 199107102023212063

VALIDATION PAGE

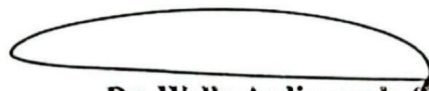
The Final Report titled:

AN ANALYSIS OF MORAL MESSAGE IN THE SHORT STORY "A JOURNEY" BY EDITH WHARTON prepared by Ririn Tarina (NIM 062330901793) has been defended in the Final Report Examination before the Examination Committee on Monday, 29th June 2026.

	Examination Committee	Signature
Chairperson	Darmaliana, S.Pd., M.Pd. NIP 197301032005012002	
Member 1	Ahmad Iman Mulyadi, M.I.Kom. NIP 199007082022031005	
Member 2	Munaja Rahma, S.Pd., M.Pd. NIP 197405162002122001	
Member 3	Sulistyaningrum, S.S., M.App.Ling. NIP 199007102022032011	
Member 4	Rahmadila Eka Putri, S.Pd., Gr., M.App.Ling. NIPPPK 199208172023212088	

Acknowledged By:

Head of the Department of Language and Tourism
Politeknik Negeri Sriwijaya



Dr. Welly Ardiansyah, S.S., M.Pd.
NIP 197408172006041001

PLAGIARISM-FREE DECLARATION

I the undersigned,

Name : Ririn Tarina

NIM : 062330901793

Year of Enrollment : 2023

Study Program : DIII English Study Program

Declare that this scientific document Final Report does not contain any parts of other scientific works that have been submitted to obtain an academic degree at any Higher Education Institution. Additionally, there are no works or opinions written or published by others/institutions, except those properly cited and listed in the references.

I hereby declare that this scientific document is free from any elements of plagiarism. Should this Final Report later be proven to be plagiarism of another author's work and/or deliberately submit others' work or opinions as my own, I am willing to accept academic and/or legal sanctions in accordance with applicable regulations.

Palembang, 22nd June 2026



Ririn Tarina

NPM 062330901793

PREFACE

First of all, the writer would like to express sincere gratitude to Allah SWT. for the countless blessings, guidance, and strength that made it possible to complete this final report entitled “An Analysis of Moral Message in the Short Story ‘A Journey’ by Edith Wharton.” The writer would also like to convey deep appreciation to the advisors for their continuous support, valuable suggestions, and constructive feedback throughout the process of completing this study.

The writer realizes that this report is still far from perfect and may contain some limitations. Therefore, any constructive criticism and suggestions from readers are highly appreciated for the improvement of this work in the future. It is also hoped that this final report can provide useful insights and contribute to the development of knowledge, especially in the field of literary studies in the English Language Study Program of the Language and Tourism Department.

Ririn Tarina

ABSTRACT

This final report examines the moral messages contained in Edith Wharton's short story "A Journey." This study focuses on identifying and interpreting the moral values conveyed through the characters, plot, and narrative situations in the story. As a work of literature, "A Journey" reflects human experiences, particularly those related to suffering, responsibility, and emotional struggles, which can be analyzed to reveal deeper moral meanings. This study employs a qualitative descriptive method using a moral criticism approach. Data were obtained through an in-depth reading of the short story, followed by the identification of key sections related to moral values. The analysis involved interpreting the characters actions, conflicts, and decisions to uncover the implied moral messages. The results of this study indicate that the story contains several important moral values, such as patience, sacrifice, responsibility, and acceptance of reality. These values are conveyed indirectly through the narrative, thus requiring careful interpretation by the reader. It is hoped that this study will contribute to a better understanding of literary works and help readers appreciate the moral aspects embedded in the short story.

Keywords: *a journey, literary analysis, moral message, short story*

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

On this opportunity, the writer would like to express sincere gratitude to everyone who has provided advice, guidance, and support throughout the process of writing this job final report.

The writer would like to thank to:

1. Mr. Ir. Irawan Rusnadi, M.T., as the Director of Politeknik Negeri Sriwijaya, for providing the opportunity and facilities to complete this final report.
2. Mr. Dr. Welly Ardiansyah, as the Head of the Language and Tourism Department, and Mr. Ahmad Iman Mulyadi, M.I.Kom., as the Secretary of the Language and Tourism Department, for their guidance and encouragement throughout the writer's academic journey.
3. Mrs. Wirda Ningsih, S.Pd., M.A., as the Head of the English Study Program, for her guidance, encouragement, and continuous support during the writer's study.
4. Mr. Drs. Zakaria, M.Pd. and Mrs. Dian Heriani, S.Pd., M.Hum., as the advisors of this final report, for their patience, valuable guidance, constructive suggestions, and continuous support throughout the process of writing and completing this final report.
5. All examiners of this final report, for their valuable suggestions, constructive feedback, and insightful comments, which have greatly contributed to the improvement and completion of this final report.
6. All lecturers of the Language and Tourism Department and the administrative staff of Politeknik Negeri Sriwijaya, for their knowledge, guidance, assistance, and valuable experiences throughout the writer's study.
7. My beloved parents, Mr. Sani and Mrs. Yenni, for their endless love, prayers, encouragement, and unwavering support throughout my academic journey.
8. My beloved older brother, Aldi, and my younger sister, Yolan, thank you for your constant support, motivation, and for always cheering me up during difficult times. Your love and presence mean so much to me.

9. My beloved friends, Zalfa and Kayin, thank you for your friendship, kindness, encouragement, and for always supporting each other throughout the completion of this final report. Your support has made this journey more meaningful and memorable.
10. My girls, Aden, Nicu, Abel, and Uga, thank you for the laughter, motivation, and all the wonderful moments we shared that made this journey more enjoyable.
11. Class BB, thank you for the teamwork, cooperation, and the valuable experiences we shared throughout this academic journey.
12. Lastly, the writer would like to thank herself for staying strong, being patient, believing in the process, and never giving up despite the challenges faced until this final report was finally completed.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

COVER	i
APPROVAL PAGE	ii
VALIDATION PAGE.....	iii
PLAGIARISM-FREE DECLARATION.....	iv
PREFACE	v
ABSTRACT	vi
ACKNOWLEDGMENT.....	vii
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	ix
LIST OF TABLES	xi
LIST OF APPENDICES.....	xii

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research	1
1.2 Focus of the Research	4
1.3 Research Question	4
1.4 Research Objective	4
1.5 Research Significances	4

CHAPTER II LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 The Concept Under Investigation.....	6
2.1.1 Moral Message in the Short Stories.....	6
2.1.2 The Importance of Moral Messages in Short Stories ..	7
2.1.3 Short Stories as Literary Works.....	8
2.1.4 The Short Story "A Journey" by Edith Wharton.....	9
2.1.5 Theory in Analyzing the Moral Message.	11
2.2 Review of Previous Research Literature	12

CHAPTER III RESEACRH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research Location and Time	14
3.2 Source of the Data.....	15
3.3 Data Collection Techniques.....	15

3.4 Data Validity and Reliability	16
3.5 Data Processing Techniques	16
CHAPTER IV RESULTS & DISCUSSIONS	
4.1 Results.....	17
4.1.1 Functionalist Perspective	17
4.1.2 Conflict Perspective.....	19
4.1.3 Symbolic Interaction Perspective	21
4.1.4 Frequency and Percentage of Moral Messages Based on Sociological Perspectives	23
4.2 Discussions	23
CHAPTER V CONCLUSION	
5.1 Conclusion	28
5.2 Implications	29
5.3 Research Limitations	29
5.4 Recommendation for Future Research	29
REFERENCES	

LIST OF TABLES

Table 4.1 Functionalist Perspective	17
Table 4.2 Conflict Perspective	19
Table 4.3 Symbolic Interaction Perspective.....	21
Table 4.4 Frequency and Percentage of Moral Messages Based on Sociological Perspectives	23

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1	Final Report Supervision Agreement (Advisor 1)
Appendix 2	Final Report Supervision Agreement (Advisor 2)
Appendix 3	Final Report Supervision Form
Appendix 4	Recommendation for Final Report Examination
Appendix 5	Final Report Exam Revision
Appendix 6	Implementation of Final Report Revision