

**FROM SURVIVOR TO SAVIOR: A CRITICAL STUDY ON NORAH  
PRICE CHARACTER IN *UNDERWATER* (2020) MOVIE**



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IR – PERPUSTAKAAN UNIVERSITAS AIRLANGGA

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i

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**UNDERGRADUATE THESIS**

**Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements  
for the Sarjana Degree of English Department  
Faculty of Humanities Universitas Airlangga**

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ii

### DECLARATION

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Surabaya, 11 July 2022



Hilda Avista Praxisca Kinara

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This thesis is dedicated to Mama, Dra. Farikha,  
and Papa, Prof. Dr. Agus Sukristyanto, MS.

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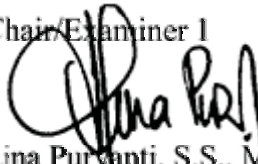
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“No misfortune ever befalls except by permission of Allah. And whoever has faith in Allah – He guides aright his heart; and Allah is Cognizant of all things.”

**Quran 64:11 – Surah At-Taghaabun**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Inside Cover Page .....	i
Degree Requirement.....	ii
Declaration .....	iii
Dedication Page .....	iv
Approval Page.....	v
Acknowledgements .....	vi
Epigraph .....	viii
Table of Contents .....	ix
List of Figures .....	xii
Abstract .....	xiv
Abstrak .....	xv
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION .....	1
1.1 Background of the Study.....	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem.....	8
1.3 Objective of the Study.....	8
1.4 Significance of the Study .....	9
1.5 Definition of Key Terms .....	9
CHAPTER II LITERATURE REVIEW.....	11
2.1 Theoretical Framework .....	11
2.1.1 Judith Halberstam’s Female Masculinity .....	11

2.1.1.1 Tomboys.....	12
2.2 Review of Related Studies .....	14
CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHOD .....	17
3.1 Research Approach .....	17
3.2 Data Sources .....	17
3.3 Scope and Limitation .....	18
3.4 Techniques of Data Collection.....	19
3.5 Techniques of Data Analysis .....	19
3.5.1 Narrative Analysis .....	20
3.5.2 Non-Narrative .....	20
3.5.3 Intertextuality.....	20
CHAPTER IV RESULTS AND DISCUSSION.....	21
4.1 Norah Price Masculine Physical Characteristic .....	22
4.2 Norah Price Masculine Mental Characteristic .....	28
4.2.1 Norah Price as an Ambitious Survivor .....	29
4.2.2 Norah Price as a Dominant Survivor .....	38
4.2.3 Norah Price as a Decisive Survivor .....	48
4.2.4 Norah Price as an Independent Survivor .....	57
4.3 Interpretation of the Findings.....	61
CHAPTER V CONCLUSION .....	75

REFERENCES.....	77
APPENDIX.....	82
Synopsis of Underwater (2020).....	82

**LIST OF FIGURES**

**Figure 4. 1** Norah Price’s physical appearance ..... 22

**Figure 4. 2** Norah Price’s facial appearance ..... 23

**Figure 4. 3** Norah in the lavatory ..... 25

**Figure 4. 4** Norah Price’s foot got injured ..... 30

**Figure 4. 5** Norah Price injured feet are covered by bandage plaster ..... 33

**Figure 4. 6** Norah’s body is partially swallowed by Clinger ..... 35

**Figure 4. 7** Norah’s body is partially swallowed by Clinger ..... 36

**Figure 4. 8** Norah Price leads Rodrigo to the pod bays..... 39

**Figure 4. 9** Norah Price force Emily to get in the pod ..... 43

**Figure 4. 10** Emily refuses to leave Norah..... 43

**Figure 4. 11** Norah close the bulkhead door ..... 48

**Figure 4. 12** Norah presses the button of bulkhead door ..... 49

**Figure 4. 13** Norah decides to volunteers herself to check the tunnel ..... 52

**Figure 4. 14** Norah decides to explode Roebuck drilling facility ..... 54

**Figure 4. 15** Norah finds the old pressure suit in the Shepard station..... 57

**Figure 4. 16** Norah draws route from the Shepard station to the Roebuck station .... 58

**Figure 4. 17** Norah goes to the Roebuck Station by herself..... 60

**Figure 4. 18** Tian Industries logo ..... 64

**Figure 4. 19** The Cult of Cthulhu logo..... 65

**Figure 4. 20** Norah Price’s Jacket ..... 65

<b>Figure 4. 21</b> Painting of the Old Ones in pressure suit changing room .....	67
<b>Figure 4. 22</b> Cthulhu sketch by H. P. Lovecraft in Captain Lucien’s old locker .....	68
<b>Figure 4. 23</b> Cthulhu sketch by H. P. Lovecraft .....	69
<b>Figure 4. 24</b> Tian Industries announce to resume drilling the Mariana Trench .....	70

## ABSTRACT

Female masculinity appears as a resistance to the gender norms where females must represent femininity's values and ways of life. Released on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020, an American science-fiction horror movie, *Underwater* (2020), directed by William Eubank, appears to carry several female masculinity values. The story follows Norah Price and the oceanic research crew trying to survive after *Cthulhu* and *Clingers* destroyed their underwater drilling facility, the Roebuck. Judith Halberstam's female masculinity theory is utilized as the main theory to frame the masculinity traits of the female heroine, Norah Price. Throughout Norah's survival journey, several movie elements are represented through Norah's masculine character. In analyzing and evaluating the data collected from the movie, researcher applies the qualitative method using female masculinity theory and narrative and non-narrative aspects to help the writer identify and investigate the problem and issue. This study shows that through Norah Price masculine physical characteristics and mental characteristics, which are ambitious, dominant, decisive, and independent, the movie breaks the typical women representation in the film. It constitutes a significant milestone from a survivor to a savior.

**Keywords:** *Female Masculinity, Female Heroine, Masculinity, Savior*

## ABSTRAK

Maskulinitas perempuan muncul sebagai bentuk perlawanan terhadap norma-norma gender di masyarakat dimana perempuan harus merepresentasikan nilai-nilai hidup dan bersikap berdasarkan nilai-nilai femininitas sebagai jalan hidup. Dirilis pada 10 Januari 2020, sebuah film horror fiksi ilmiah Amerika berjudul *Underwater* (2020) yang disutradarai oleh William Eubank menampilkan beberapa nilai maskulinitas wanita. Film ini menceritakan Norah Price dan kru peneliti bawah laut yang mencoba bertahan hidup setelah *Cthulhu* dan *Clingers* menghancurkan fasilitas pengeboran bawah laut mereka, stasiun Roebuck. Teori maskulinitas perempuan oleh Judith Halberstam digunakan sebagai teori utama untuk menganalisa maskulinitas Norah Price sebagai pahlawan wanita dalam film *Underwater* (2020). Sepanjang perjalanan bertahan hidup Norah, beberapa elemen film menandakan maskulinitas Norah Price. Dalam menganalisis dan mengevaluasi data yang telah dikumpulkan dari film, penelitian ini menerapkan metode kualitatif dengan menggunakan teori maskulinitas perempuan dan aspek naratif serta non-naratif untuk membantu penulis mengidentifikasi dan persoalan dan isu dalam film. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa melalui karakteristik fisik dan mental maskulin Norah Price yang ambisius, dominan, tegas, dan mandiri, film ini mematahkan stereotip representasi perempuan dalam film yang menjadi tonggak pencapaian representasi perempuan dari penyintas menjadi penyelamat.

**Kata kunci:** *Maskulinitas Perempuan, Pahlawan Wanita, Maskulinitas, Penyelamat*