



**AN ANALYSIS OF POLITENESS STRATEGIES IN
ASSERTIVE SPEECH ACTS TO REVEAL POWER
RELATIONS IN *LEGALLY BLONDE* (2001)**

A THESIS

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement
for S-1 Degree Majoring in Linguistics in the English Department
Faculty of Humanities Diponegoro University

Submitted by:

VERONICA NIKEN PUSPITA DWI HAPSARI

NIM 13020122130070

**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DIPONEGORO UNIVERSITY**

SEMARANG

2026

PRONOUNCEMENT

I declare my thesis is original, free from plagiarism, and not generated from AI text. If plagiarism or other fraud is found in my work, I am willing to accept any sanctions.

Semarang, 26 February 2026

Veronica Niken Puspita Dwi Hapsari

MOTTO AND DEDICATION

“You must always have faith in people. And, most importantly, you must always have faith in yourself.”

– **Elle Woods**

*This thesis is dedicated to
those who support and expect great things out of me
and most importantly, me*

APPROVAL

**AN ANALYSIS OF POLITENESS STRATEGIES IN ASSERTIVE SPEECH
ACTS TO REVEAL POWER RELATIONS IN *LEGALLY BLONDE* (2001)**

Written by:

Veronica Niken Puspita Dwi Hapsari

NIM 13020122130070

Is approved by the thesis advisor

on March 2, 2026

Thesis Advisor

Ayu Ida Savitri, S.S., M.Hum.

NIP. 197908222008012013

The Head of the English Department

Dr. Drs. Oktiva Herry Chandra, M.Hum.

NIP. 196710041993031003

VALIDATION

**AN ANALYSIS OF POLITENESS STRATEGIES IN ASSERTIVE SPEECH
ACTS TO REVEAL POWER RELATIONS IN *LEGALLY BLONDE* (2001)**

Submitted by:

Veronica Niken Puspita Dwi Hapsari

13020122130070

Approved by

Strata I Thesis Examination Committee

Faculty of Humanities Diponegoro University

On April , 2026

Chairman,

Dr. Drs. Oktiva Herry Chandra, M.Hum.

NIP. 196710041993031003

Member,

Dr. Mualimin, M. Hum.

NIP. 196111101987101001

Thesis Advisor,

Ayu Ida Savitri, S.S., M.Hum.

NIP. 197908222008012013

Accepted and declared in Semarang on April , 2026

The Dean of the Faculty of Humanities

Prof. Dr. Alamsyah, S.S., M.Hum.

NIP. 197211191998021002

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Praise be to Jesus Christ for all His blessings and grace, through which I have been able to finish my thesis entitled “*An Analysis of Politeness Strategies in Assertive Speech Acts to Reveal Power Relations in Legally Blonde (2001)*.” I would like to express my deepest gratitude to my thesis advisor, Ayu Ida Savitri, S.S., M.Hum., who has always guided, motivated, and encouraged me throughout the writing process. All the comments and suggestions she gave also greatly influenced me in building the ideas for this thesis. I would also like to express my gratitude to:

1. Prof. Dr. Alamsyah, S.S., M.Hum., as the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, Diponegoro University.
2. Dr. Drs. Oktiva Herry Chandra, M.Hum., as the Head of the English Department of the Faculty of Humanities, Diponegoro University.
3. All the lecturers and academic officers of the English Department at Diponegoro University.
4. My parents, Bapak Petrus Eko Nugroho and Ibu Katarina Claudia Srimurni, for all their prayers and support—both material and non-material, which helped me to finish my studies.
5. My grandmother, Mbah Pon, for always kept me in her prayers every single day, no matter what.
6. My three siblings, Mas Niko, Konita, and Kevin, for their prayers and support.

7. My support system, Abrar, whom I always call Abi, for always praying for me, believing in me, and supporting me during my two years of study in Semarang—a place that was actually far from home, but always felt close because of his presence.
8. My fellow classmates from B Class: Vania, Amalia, Farah, Fira, Gaby, and Aya, who made my days at university so much more enjoyable.
9. My Finance and Governance (FG) friends: Teges, Thita, and Jesslin, who helped me carry out my duties in EDSA and later became a true sisterhood to me.
10. FG 2021 and 2023, who were not only friends but also like older and younger sisters to me.
11. All my friends that I have not mentioned yet, who also supported me through my journey.

I am well aware that my thesis is far from perfect and still needs a lot of improvement. Therefore, any suggestions and criticism will be very helpful in the development of this study. Finally, I hope my study can be useful for those of you who want to learn or simply use it as a reference in conducting a study on the same topic.

Semarang, 26 February 2026

Veronica Niken Puspita Dwi Hapsari

TABLE OF CONTENT

PRONOUNCEMENT.....	ii
MOTTO AND DEDICATION.....	iii
APPROVAL.....	iv
VALIDATION.....	v
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....	vi
TABLE OF CONTENT.....	viii
ABSTRACT.....	ix
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Background of the Study.....	1
1.2 Research Problems.....	3
1.3 Purpose of the Study.....	3
1.4 Objectives of the Study.....	3
1.5 Review of Previous Studies.....	4
1.6 Scope of the Study.....	8
1.7 Significance of the Study.....	8
1.8 Writing Organization.....	9
CHAPTER II THEORY AND METHODS.....	10
2.1 Theoretical Frameworks.....	10
2.1.1 Face-Threatening Acts (FTAs).....	10
2.1.2 Politeness Strategies.....	11
2.1.2.1 Bald-on-Record.....	11
2.1.2.2 Positive Politeness.....	12
2.1.2.3 Negative Politeness.....	12
2.1.2.4 Off-Record.....	13
2.1.3 Sociological Factors.....	14
2.1.4 Speech Acts.....	15
2.1.5 Assertive Speech Acts.....	15
2.1.5.1 Assert and Claim.....	16
2.1.5.2 State.....	16
2.1.5.3 Argue.....	16
2.1.5.4 Accuse.....	17
2.1.5.5 Criticize and Praise.....	17
2.2 Research Methods.....	17
2.2.1 Data and Data Source.....	18
2.2.2 Population and Sample.....	18

2.2.3 Method of Collecting Data.....	18
2.2.4 Method of Analysing Data.....	19
CHAPTER III FINDING AND DISCUSSION.....	20
3.1 Finding.....	20
3.2 Discussion.....	21
3.2.1 Bald-on-Record.....	21
3.2.2 Positive Politeness.....	25
3.2.3 Negative Politeness.....	28
3.2.4 Off-record.....	33
3.2.5 Power Relation Analysis.....	37
CHAPTER IV CONCLUSION.....	41
REFERENCES.....	43
APPENDICES.....	45

PERPUSTAKAAN
FAKULTAS ILMU
UNIVERSITAS
BUDAYA
DIPONEGORO