

**DECONSTRUCTING AMERICAN STEREOTYPES IN
THE WHITE LOTUS SEASON 2**



FINAL ASSIGNMENT

A Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Applied Foreign
Language Bachelor Degree

by

Nadira Febiela Rosyadi

40020519650030

**BACHELOR OF APPLIED FOREIGN LANGUAGE
VOCATIONAL COLLEGE
DIPONEGORO UNIVERSITY
2023**

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Name : Nadira Febiela Rosyadi

Student's ID : 40020519650030

Signature : 

Dates : 4 August 2023

APPROVAL SHEET

A FINAL ASSIGNMENT

Deconstructing American Stereotypes in The White Lotus Season 2

by

Nadira Febiela Rosyadi

Student Number: 40020519650030

Semarang, 4 August 2023

Approved by

Supervisor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fitri', with a stylized flourish to the right.

Fitri Alfarisy, S.Pd., M.Hum.

NIP 199101302019031009

ACCEPTANCE


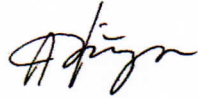

Name : Nadira Febiela Rosyadi
Student's ID Number : 40020519650030
Study Program : Applied Foreign Language
Final Project/Bachelor Thesis Title : Deconstructing American Stereotypes in The
White Lotus Season 2

Accepted by

Board of Examiners

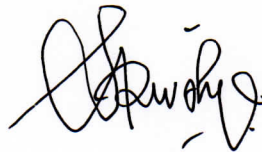
Applied Foreign Language Bachelor Program

Vocational College Diponegoro University

1. Fitri Alfariy, S.Pd., M.Hum. (Chairman) ()
2. Aditya Nur Patria, S.Hum., M.App.Ling. (Member) ()
3. Lenggahing Asri Dwi Eko Saputri, M.Pd. (Member) ()

Semarang, 18 August 2023

Head of Applied Foreign Language Study Program,



Sriwahyu Istana Trahutami, S.S., M.Hum

NIP 197401032000122001

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ABSTRACT

This study employs Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) to examine American stereotypes portrayed in American media. Characters from the second season of the acclaimed television series *The White Lotus* are analyzed, with a focus on their physical appearance, personalities and sociocultural aspects. The primary objective is to determine if American media still perpetuates common stereotypes of its own people in a recent TV show. The research employs a qualitative descriptive methodology to provide a thorough analysis. The characters' physical appearance is analyzed based on ethnicity, fashion choices and physical characteristics, while their personalities and sociocultural contexts are analyzed using Norman Fairclough's CDA. The findings reveal a diverse representation of American ethnicity among the characters, although a large proportion of them are portrayed as white. The series' textual analysis shows Americans as sociable, arrogant, open and straightforward while also perpetuating the stereotype of Asian Americans as boring. The accurate representation of white characters as wealthy aligns with historical data; however, the increasing wealth among other racial groups highlights the need for broader representation. Furthermore, Portia's Generation Z identity has a significant influence on her style preferences, as evidenced by an analysis of her fashion choices and statements from a sociocultural perspective. In conclusion, this research sheds light on the persistence of American stereotypes in American media and highlights the significance of critically analyzing media portrayals in order to promote more accurate and inclusive portrayals of diverse communities.

Keywords: American Stereotypes, Critical Discourse Analysis, *The White Lotus* Season

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