



**THE INFLUENCE OF HEARERS ON FLETCHER'S  
DIRECTIVE SPEECH ACTS IN *WHIPLASH* (2014)  
MOVIE**

**A THESIS**

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

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2023

## **PRONOUNCEMENT**

I honestly state that this thesis is written by myself without taking any work from other researchers in any university, in diploma degrees, S-1, S-2, and S-3 degree. I also ascertain that I do not take any material from other works except from the references mentioned.

Semarang, August 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ria Sumanti', written in a cursive style.

Ria Sumanti

## **MOTTO AND DEDICATION**

*There are no two words in the English language more harmful than “good job”*

**Terence Fletcher**

*This thesis is dedicated to  
my mother for her ongoing love and support,  
and to my father, who could not see this thesis completed.*

## **APPROVAL**

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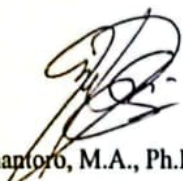
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This thesis obviously is far from perfect since it still contains weaknesses and errors due to my competence. Hence, any comment and suggestion would always be welcomed and appreciated.

At last, I hope that this thesis would be helpful for those who want to research about directive speech acts or any related field in general.

Semarang, August 2023



Ria Sumanti



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## ABSTRACT

“Whiplash” is a movie which tells about the intense relationship between an ambitious young music student, Andrew Neiman, and his strict and abusive music teacher, Terence Fletcher, who always demands him to be a perfectionist drummer. This research aims to analyze directive speech acts uttered by Fletcher and to explore the influence of hearers on directive variation. There are 222 directives categorized into seven types including commanding, asking, forbidding, requesting, advising, challenging, and warning. Commanding is the dominant type of directive speech act performed by Fletcher which appears 115 times consists of 84 direct and 31 indirect commands. In contrast, direct challenge and indirect warning are the low-frequency directive speech acts that appear only once each type. The result shows no significant difference in directive speech acts between two types of hearers regarding the number of hearers, and the hierarchical relationship between the speaker and the hearers. Comparative-wise, only certain directives have distinct patterns between these types of hearers.

**Keywords:** *directive speech act, audience design, social dimensions, whiplash.*