



**ELIZABETH GILBERT'S ENDEAVOUR TO BECOME AN  
EMANCIPATORY FEMINIST IN RYAN MURPHY'S *EAT PRAY LOVE*  
MOVIE**

**A THESIS**

**In Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements  
for S-1 Degree Majoring English Literature in the English Department,  
Faculty of Humanities Diponegoro University**

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**2024**

## **PRONOUNCEMENT**

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

Semarang, 8 June 2022



Intan Binafsihi Batas Kota Martapura

## MOTTO AND DEDICATION

*“The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of strength, not a lack of knowledge, but rather a lack of will.” – Vince Lombardi*

*“Take up one idea. Make that one idea your life – think of it, dream of it, live on that idea. Let the brain, muscles, nerves, and every part of your body be full of that idea, and just leave every other idea alone. This is the way to success.”*

**Swami Vivekananda**

*“Success is often achieved by those who don’t know that failure is inevitable.” –*

**Coco Chanel**

*This thesis is dedicated to*

*My beloved dad, mom,*

*and those who I cherish the most*

**APPROVAL**

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Any constructive suggestion would be welcomed and appreciated. Finally, I hope that this thesis will be helpful for those who want to learn more about feminist literary theory or any related field in general.

Semarang, 8 June 2022

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

Intan Binafsihi Batas Kota Martapura

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## ABSTRACT

Elizabeth Gilbert, the main character in *Eat, Pray, Love*, endeavouring to survive her unhappiness in life. Elizabeth struggles for her own peacefulness, in which she attempts to seek her identity after her marriage failed. This study focuses on Elizabeth Gilbert's journey in *Eat, Pray, Love* through feminist film and literary theories. It concentrates on how Gilbert is portrayed in the film and her efforts to become a feminist. Using Kevin McDonald's feminist film theory, the study examines Gilbert's characterization in the movie. It also adopts K.M Newton's concept, as a part of feminist literary theory, to understand Gilbert's journey towards embracing feminism. The writer applies library research encompassing her interpretation of the movie. The analysis shows that her identity has undergone three phases: first, married life; second, single life; and third, a new life. The research results reveal how Liz Gilbert is characterised, portraying her as a multifaceted individual with a resilient spirit and a quest for self-discovery. Additionally, the investigation into Liz's endeavours as an emancipatory feminist showcases her determination to challenge societal norms and redefine her own path towards personal fulfilment. In brief, the movie features Elizabeth's efforts to become an emancipatory feminist.

*Keywords: character, conflict, marital status, feminist literary theory, Ryan Murphy*