



**A PRAGMATIC ANALYSIS OF GEORGE'S DIRECTIVE
SPEECH ACTS AS A REFLECTION OF HIS CARING
ATTITUDE IN “OF MICE AND MEN” (1939)**

A THESIS

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

Submitted by:

Gesit Oktaviani

13020122120034

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DIPONEGORO UNIVERSITY

SEMARANG

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PRONOUNCEMENT

I honestly state that this thesis is 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 do not take any material from other works except from the references mentioned.

Semarang, 14 April 2026



Gesit Oktaviani



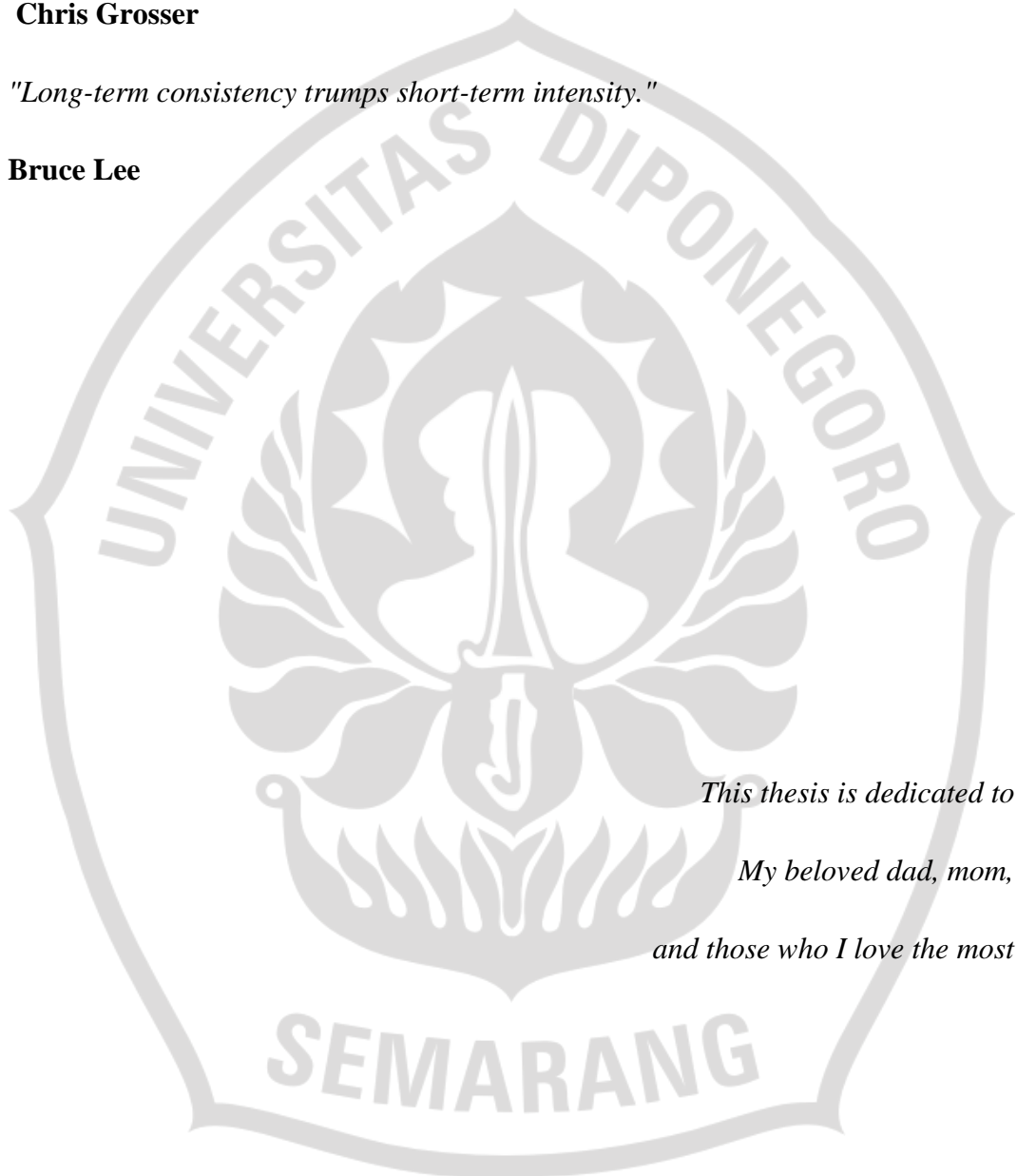
MOTTO AND DEDICATION

"Opportunities don't happen. You create them."

Chris Grosser

"Long-term consistency trumps short-term intensity."

Bruce Lee



*This thesis is dedicated to
My beloved dad, mom,
and those who I love the most*

APPROVAL

**A Pragmatic Analysis of George's Directive Speech Acts as a Reflection of His
Caring Attitude in "Of Mice and Men" (1939)**

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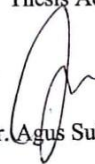
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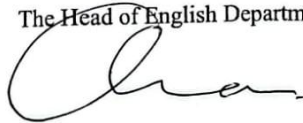
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VALIDATION

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needed. This journey could not have been finished easily without such great support from you.

I realize this thesis is still far from perfect and needs improvement. Therefore, I truly welcome any constructive suggestions and recommendations. Finally, I hope this study will be useful for anyone interested in speech acts or related fields in general.

Semarang, 12 April 2016



Gesit Oktaviani

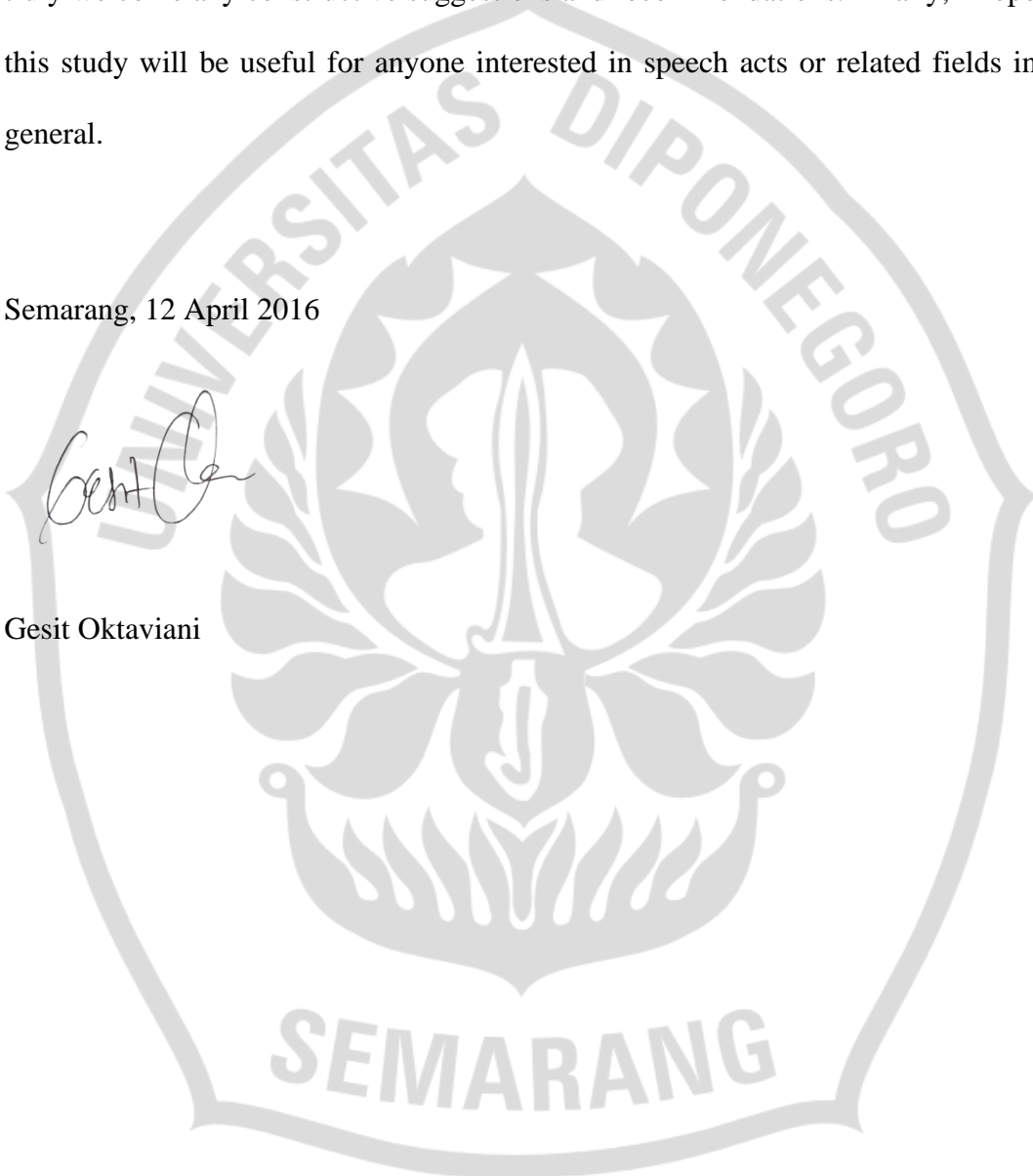


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ABSTRACT

In general, people express affection towards others gently. However, George Milton in the movie *Of Mice and Men* (1939) shows a completely different way of caring. Instead of being gentle, he expresses his care towards his intellectually disabled friend through a harsh manner of speaking. This study aims to illustrate that even bossy instructions can be a manifestation of care and responsibility. In the analytical process, George's directive speech acts are classified based on the taxonomy proposed by Bach and Harnish (1979). Furthermore, this study examines how George's quick-tempered characterization leads to these harsh directives, which are driven by his exhausting responsibility as a caregiver and the need to survive in a cruel world. The results indicate that although George's instructions sound harsh, they are actually his way of protecting Lennie. This study proves that his angry reactions are not signs of hatred but rather a manifestation of his deep caring attitude.

Keywords: *Of Mice and Men Movie, Directive Speech Acts, Characterization, George Milton, Pragmatics*

