



**PHONOLOGICAL INTERFERENCE FROM KOREAN TO  
ENGLISH IN THE UTTERANCES OF THE YI FAMILY IN  
*MINARI* (2020)**

**A THESIS**

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

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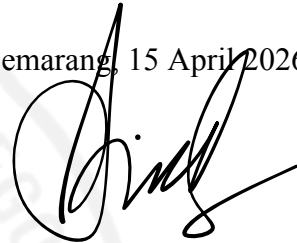
**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES  
DIPONEGORO UNIVERSITY  
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**2026**

## 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, 15 April 2026



Arina Assya Layla Al Afifah



## MOTTO AND DEDICATION

*Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving.*

**Albert Einstein**

*I find that the harder I work, the more luck I seem to have.*

**Thomas Jefferson**



*This thesis is dedicated to*

*My beloved dad, mom,*

*and to the one who carried it all—myself.*

**APPROVAL**

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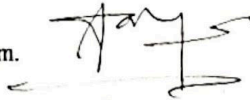
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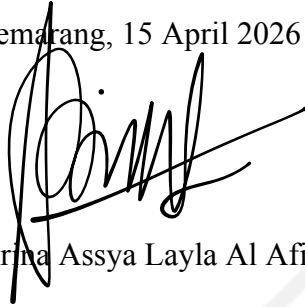
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This thesis of course still needs to be improved since I realize that this is far from being perfect. Thus, any recommendation and constructive suggestion would always be welcomed and appreciated.

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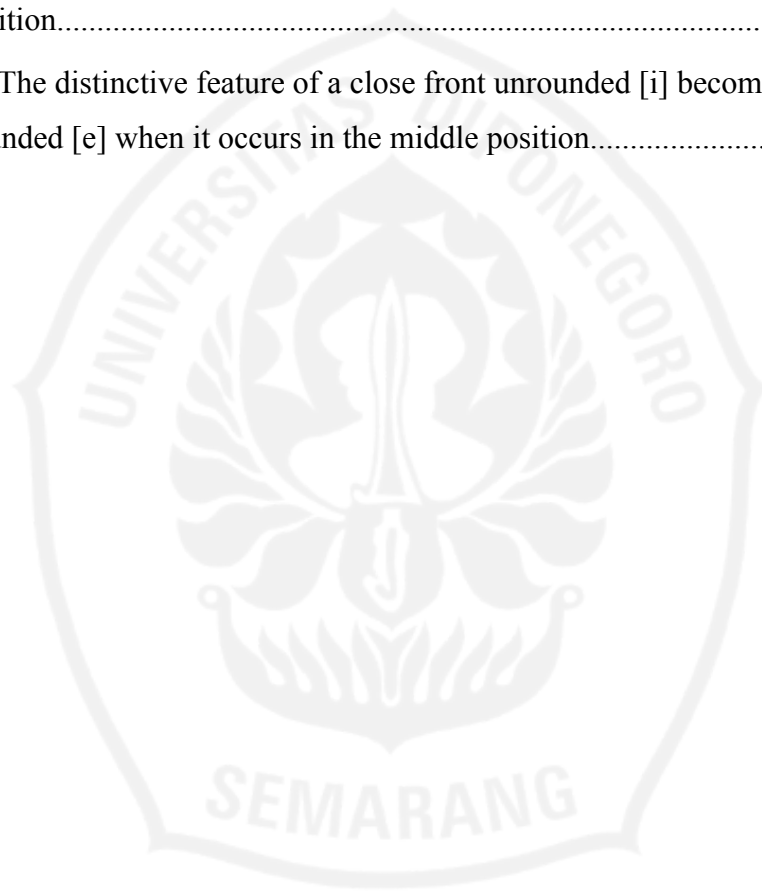
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## ABSTRACT

Behind the ambition to reach the 'American Dream' for almost two million Korean immigrants in 2020, there is an intense interaction between the Korean and English languages. This phenomenon is clearly shown in the film *Minari* (2020) through the struggle of the Yi family facing many adaptations, including the influence of the Korean phonological system on their English speech production. This study analyzes the phenomenon of interference and phonological processes in the dialogue of the Yi family characters in the film. Using a descriptive-explanatory qualitative method, this study aims to identify patterns of sound differences from the standards of the Cambridge Dictionary (AmE). Uriel Weinreich's (1979) theoretical framework of interference was applied to classify types of interference, while Chomsky and Halle's (1968) concept of distinctive features was used to analyze phonological processes in depth. The results of the study revealed 74 data of pronunciation variation, with under-differentiation emerging as the most dominant type (70.67%). Further analysis of this dominant type identified seven phonological processes: plosivization (the most prominent), devoicing, vowel substitution, monophthongization, vowel epenthesis, rhotic deletion, and vowel lowering. These findings show that the different phonological systems of the two languages lead to various sound changes.

Keywords: *Minari* (2020), Phonological Interference, Phonological Processes, Under-Differentiation, Distinctive Features.