

**VALUE-BASED CHARACTER EDUCATION
IN ANDREA HIRATA'S NOVEL *AYAH***

A THESIS

BY

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**MASTER'S PROGRAM
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LITERATURE
FACULTY OF LITERATURE
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM SUMATERA UTARA
MEDAN
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STATEMENT OF AUTHORSHIP

I, the undersigned, certify that this thesis is the result of my own work and has never been submitted for any other degrees, professional qualifications or other purposes beyond the Master's Degree at the Department of English Literature, Faculty of Literature, Islamic University of North Sumatera, Medan. No part of this thesis was quoted without specifying the sources. Anything pertaining to quotation or computer software application in writing this thesis or any other things tied to *Hak Atas Kekayaan Intelektual* (HAKI) 'Intellectual Property Rights' together with its legal consequences likely resulted, is upon my own responsibility.

Medan, 29 February 2023

Dwi Desiyanti

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The Writer,

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APPENDIX

ANDREA HIRATA'S BIOGRAPHY, AND SUMMARY AND CHARACTERS OF THE NOVEL, *AYAH*

Andrea Hirata's Biography

Andrea Hirata is a renowned Indonesian author, best known for his critically acclaimed novel *Laskar Pelangi* (*The Rainbow Troops*). Born on October 24, 1967, in Gantong, Belitung, Indonesia, Hirata's upbringing was marked by humble beginnings. Growing up in a small village, he faced numerous challenges, including limited access to education and resources. Despite these obstacles, his passion for learning and storytelling flourished from a young age.

Hirata's literary journey began when he pursued a degree in economics at the University of Indonesia. During his time at university, he discovered his love for writing and began crafting stories inspired by his own experiences and observations of Indonesian society. However, it was his return to Belitung after completing his studies that served as the catalyst for his most celebrated work.

Laskar Pelangi, published in 2005, catapulted Hirata to literary fame both in Indonesia and internationally. The novel tells the inspiring story of a group of underprivileged children and their dedicated teacher as they strive to receive a quality education against all odds. Drawing heavily from his own upbringing in Belitung, Hirata's poignant narrative resonated deeply with readers, sparking discussions about education, social inequality, and the resilience of the human spirit. The success of *Laskar Pelangi* led to its adaptation into a highly successful film and stage play, further solidifying its place as a modern Indonesian classic.

In addition to *Laskar Pelangi*, Hirata has authored several other novels and works of fiction, each offering unique insights into Indonesian culture and society. His writing often explores themes of friendship, perseverance, and the pursuit of dreams amidst adversity. With his vivid storytelling and heartfelt narratives, Hirata has established himself as one of Indonesia's most beloved contemporary authors.

Here is a list of Andrea Hirata's notable literary works:

1. *Laskar Pelangi* (*The Rainbow Troops*) - 2005

2. *Sang Pemimpi (The Dreamer)* - 2006
3. *Edensor* - 2007
4. *Maryamah Karpov* - 2008
5. *Padang Bulan (The Dreamer Trilogy, Book 2)* - 2009
6. *Cahaya di Atas Cahaya (The Dreamer Trilogy, Book 3)* - 2013
7. *Ayah (Father)* - 2014
8. *Tentang Rindu (About Longing)* - 2015
9. *Sebelas Patriot (Eleven Patriots)* - 2016
10. *Aroma Karsa (Scent of Love)* - 2019

Andrea Hirata's literary contributions have not only earned him widespread acclaim but have also inspired generations of readers to reflect on the power of education, hope, and perseverance in the face of adversity. His works continue to resonate with audiences worldwide, solidifying his legacy as one of Indonesia's most influential contemporary authors.

Summary of the Novel *Ayah*

Ayah is a fictional novel written by Andrea Hirata and published by Bentang Pustaka in 2015. The story revolves around the struggles and deep affection of a father for his child, transcending blood ties.

The protagonist, Sabari, has three close friends: Ukun, Tamat, and Toharun. Their camaraderie is marked by their shared eccentricities. Initially uninterested in love, Sabari's life takes a turn when Marlana gifts him a pencil after accidentally taking his answer sheet. Sabari, who inherits poetic talent from his father, begins composing love poems for Lena. However, Lena rejects him, considering him far from her ideal type.

Determined to win Lena's heart, Sabari takes a job at Markoni's brick company, Lena's father. Despite his efforts, Lena remains fickle in her relationships and often returns home late. When Lena's father discovers her involvement in free-spirited living, Sabari sacrifices himself by marrying her. They have a child named Zorro, whose gentle heart and noble spirit mirror Sabari's.

Tragedy strikes when Lena forcibly takes Zorro away from Sabari, leaving him

devastated. Sabari's life unravels, and he writes messages on turtle shells and kites, hoping someone will read them and reunite him with his son. His friends, Ukun and Tamat, embark on a journey to find Zorro and Lena in Sumatra, armed with determination and letters Lena sent to her friend Zuraida.

The novel delves into the social and psychological aspects of Belitong, portraying a different side of the island compared to the picturesque landscapes depicted in *Laskar Pelangi*. Through Ayah's poignant narrative, Andrea Hirata explores the complexities of human interactions in this heartfelt tale.

Characters of the Novel, *Ayah*

Sabari:

Sabari is a complex character who experiences deep emotions and unwavering love for his child, Zorro. Initially uninterested in love, Sabari's life takes a turn when he meets Marlina. She gifts him a pencil, and Sabari's heart transforms. Sabari is a talented poet, inheriting this gift from his father. He writes love poems for Lena, but she consistently rejects him. Despite Lena's fickle behavior and multiple partners, Sabari sacrifices himself by marrying her. They have a child, Zorro. Tragedy strikes when Lena forcibly takes Zorro away from Sabari, leaving him devastated. Sabari's resilience and love for Zorro lead him to write messages on turtle shells and kites, hoping someone will reunite him with his son. His friends, Ukun and Tamat, embark on a journey to find Zorro and Lena, armed with determination and Lena's letters to her friend Zuraida.

Lena:

Lena is Sabari's love interest and later his wife. She is fickle in her relationships and often returns home late. Lena's actions lead to the separation of Zorro from Sabari, causing immense pain for Sabari. Despite her flaws, Lena remains a central figure in Sabari's life.

Zorro:

Zorro is Sabari and Lena's child. He embodies gentleness and nobility, traits inherited from Sabari. Lena takes Zorro away from Sabari, leaving him heartbroken. Sabari's unwavering love

for Zorro drives the emotional core of the story.

Ukun and Tamat:

Sabari's loyal friends who embark on a quest to find Zorro and Lena in Sumatra. Their determination and friendship play a crucial role in the novel's plot.