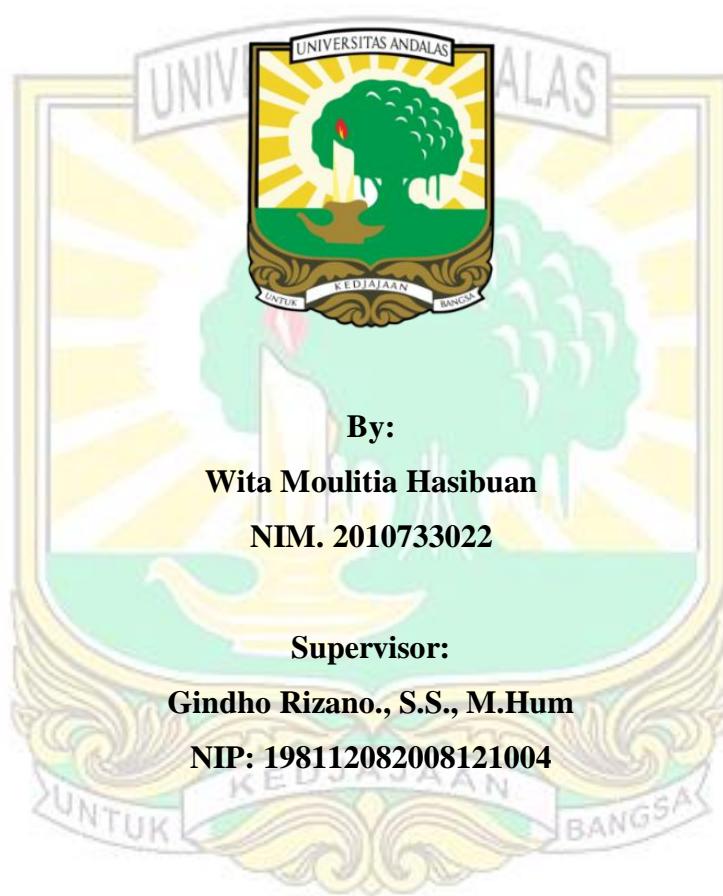


**Adaptation and Deception: A Darwinian Examination of Amy and Nick's
Mate-Keeping Strategies in *Gone Girl***

A Thesis

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Abstract

This thesis examines the mate-keeping strategies between spouses Nick and Amy Dunne from the novel *Gone Girl* written by Gillian Flynn. This thesis applies the Darwinian Literary approach to Human Basic Motives in Life by Joseph Carroll with Evolutionary Psychology by David M. Buss discusses the strategies of human mating. Through this research, the analysis follows the motives, mate-keeping tactics, and the effectiveness of the strategies in keeping a mate. Through the research, it can be concluded that the strategies are created by spouses using their own versions of mate-keeping. Accordingly, Amy Dunne as a wife in mate-keeping strategies including punishment, deception, lowering Nick's self-esteem, and making herself pregnant. However, Nick Dunne as husband in mate-keeping strategies such as showing love, asking forgiveness, and adaptation. Their mate-keeping strategies were seen as an extreme way beyond morality however proved effective by the production of advantages and the outcome of their marriage relationship.

Keywords: *Keeping a Mate, Mate-keeping Strategies, Human Mating*

Abstrak

Tesis ini mengkaji strategi mempertahankan pasangan dalam hubungan pasangan suami istri antara Nick dan Amy Dunne berdasarkan novel *Gone Girl* karya Gillian Flynn. Tesis ini mengaplikasikan pendekatan Sastra Darwin yaitu motif manusia dalam hidup oleh Joseph Caroll dan Psikologi Evolusioner oleh David M. Buss yang mendiskusikan tentang strategi dalam perkawinan manusia. Dalam pendekatan tersebut, analisis ini akan membahas motif, taktik mempertahankan pasangan, dan keefektifan strategi dalam mempertahankan pasangan. Berdasarkan penelitian tersebut dapat dihasilkan bahwa tiap-tiap pasangan dapat menciptakan strategi dalam mempertahankan pasangan dengan versi mereka sendiri. Dengan demikian, jenis mempertahankan pasangan oleh Amy Dunne sebagai istri antara lain pemberian hukuman, tipuan, merendahkan harga diri Nick Dunne, dan hamil. Namun disisi lain, Nick Dunne sebagai suami punya teknik lain dalam mempertahankan pasangan yaitu menunjukkan cinta kasih kepada Amy, meminta maaf, dan adaptasi terhadap situasi. Teknik mempertahankan pasangan oleh Nick dan Amy Dunne sebagai suami istri terbukti efektif dari adanya keuntungan dan manfaat untuk hubungan pernikahan mereka.

Kata kunci: *Mempertahankan Pasangan, Strategi Mempertahankan Pasangan, Perkawinan Manusia*