

**CULTURAL INDENTITY CONFLICT EXPERIENCED
BY JENNY IN LIAN GOUW'S *ONLY A GIRL***

A THESIS

Presented in a Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for Completing the
Sarjana Degree in Department of English Literature



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2024

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This is to certify that the Sarjana Thesis of ALLYNKA FIRST AURORA entitled "CULTURAL IDENTITY CONFLICT EXPERINCED BY JENNY IN LIAN GOUW'S *ONLY A GIRL*" has been approved by the thesis advisor for further approval by the Examining Committee.

Surabaya, January 5th, 2024

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This is to certify that the Undergraduate Thesis of ALLYNKA FIRST AURORA entitled "Cultural Identity Conflict Experienced by Jenny in Lian Gouw's *Only a Girl*" has been approved by the thesis examining committee as the requirement for Undergraduate Degree in English Literature.

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ABSTRACT

This study is entitled “Cultural Identity Conflict Experienced by Jenny in Lian Gouw’s Only a Girl. This study aims to explore and find the conflicts that happen in Jenny’s life due to her cultural identity and how these conflicts influence her life decisions and world view in general. It uses a qualitative method as the research design and sociological approach as a literary approach. The result shows there are several conflicts related to cultural identity that Jenny experienced coming from family, language, change of political situation, and also from school and her friends. Jenny comes from a Chinese family but was raised with a Dutch culture, facing difficulties in socializing with Indonesian friends, especially during the post-independence period. Unaccustomed to the use of the Malay language, Jenny encounters many challenges at school. These challenges originate from both friends and teachers who consider her as a foreigner. These conflicts later influence Jenny's perspective on the world and the choices she makes in life. From the results of this study, the findings indicate that the conflicts coming from her family, the unfamiliar language, the change of political situation, and the treatment given by her teachers and friends have significant impact and direct influence on Jenny's life. Therefore, the cultural identity is socially constructed through several conflicts.

Keyword: cultural identity, cultural identity conflicts, impact, social life.