

**PO'S PURSUIT OF PERSONAL TRANSFORMATION IN
TRACEY WEST'S *KUNG FU PANDA 3***

A THESIS

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



By:

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**FAKULTAS ILMU BUDAYA
UNIVERSITAS 17 AGUSTUS 1945 SURABAYA**

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This is to certify that the Sarjana Thesis of **SATRIO WICAKSONO** entitled **"PO'S PURSUIT OF PERSONAL TRANSFORMATION IN TRACEY WEST'S KUNG FU PANDA 3"** has been approved by the thesis advisor for further approval by the Examining Committee.

Surabaya, 25 June 2025

Advisor,



Drs. Danu Wahyono, M.Hum

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This is to certify that the Sarjana Thesis of **SATRIO WICAKSONO** entitled **"PO'S PURSUIT OF PERSONAL TRANSFORMATION IN TRACEY WEST'S KUNG FU PANDA 3"** has been examined and approved by the thesis Examining Committee as the requirement for the Sarjana Degree in English Literature.

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MOTTO

"Stay true to your purpose, even when the path is unclear. Let challenges shape your strength, not break your spirit. Value growth over perfection, consistency over speed, and kindness over ego. Every step forward, no matter how small, brings you closer to becoming the person you are meant to be."

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ABSTRACT

This research explores the multidimensional process of personal transformation experienced by the protagonist, Po, in *Kung Fu Panda 3* by Tracey West. The study aims to examine Po's internal development by focusing on his identity struggle, emotional maturation, and spiritual awakening as he transitions from a self-doubting warrior to a fully realised leader. Employing a qualitative research method, this study conducts a close reading and thematic analysis of the novel to uncover the psychological layers of Po's transformation. The research highlights that Po's evolution is not merely defined by physical prowess or heroic feats, but is deeply rooted in his internal reconciliation and personal growth. The findings reveal that Po's personal transformation unfolds through three primary dimensions: psychological, emotional, and spiritual. Psychologically, Po confronts an identity crisis sparked by his sudden role as a teacher and the discovery of his biological father. His internal struggle between who he thinks he should be and who he authentically is forms the core of his psychological fragmentation. Emotionally, Po grapples with loyalty and guilt as he navigates his relationships with both his adoptive father, Mr. Ping, and his biological father, Li Shan. These emotional challenges push Po toward a deeper sense of empathy, emotional regulation, and maturity. Spiritually, Po's journey culminates in his mastery of chi, a symbolic act of inner harmony and self-acceptance, reflecting his attainment of a fully integrated self.

Keywords: *Emotional Growth, Identity Crisis, Personal Transformation, Self-Acceptance, Spiritual Awakening,*