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## IFLIX BEGINS PRODUCTION ON 'OMBAK RINDU' MINI-SERIES TO COMPLETE TRILOGY

**KUALA LUMPUR – June 27, 2019** – [iflix](#), Southeast Asia's largest digital entertainment service, today confirmed that production has begun on a new four-part miniseries of *Ombak Rindu*, Malaysia's biggest romantic drama adapted from Fauziah Ansari's best-selling trilogy.

In 2011, a movie adapted from the first book, told the story of Izzah, a naïve woman sold into prostitution by her uncle, only to be raped by Hariz who then takes her on as a mistress. In the movie, the two fall in love and end up married. On release, the film was a breakout hit, marking the first time a romantic drama would exceed RM10 million at the local box office and still ranks in the top 15 of the country's highest grossing films. The movie's popularity garnered industry recognition for its cast and director, as well as collected awards for cinematography and theme song, cementing its status as an iconic romantic drama. The film, however, was not without controversy, with some critics accusing it of glorifying rape.

Eight years later, together with production partners Infinitus Entertainment, iflix has committed to completing the dramatization of the trilogy with the serialised adaptation of *Cinta Tiada Akhirnya* (*Ombak Rindu 2*) and *Rindu Cintaku* (*Ombak Rindu 3*), to round out the story of Izzah and Hariz as they face near-unsurmountable trials of their love when dark secrets from the past surface.

iflix confirms the new cast features some of Malaysia's biggest stars, including Remy Ishak who plays Hariz, Izara Aishah who plays Izzah, Datin Diana Danielle who plays Mila, Hanna Aqeela who plays Elin, and Uqasha Senrose who plays Hazirah. Industry veteran, Osman Ali, who spearheaded the 2011 movie, returns to direct the series.

**Mark Francis, iflix Global Director of Original Programming**, said: "When the first movie adaption of *Ombak Rindu* was released in 2011, it earned itself a reputation as one of Malaysia's most popular and talked-about romantic sagas. Today, it is still a name you instantly associate with Malay romance. But I did not realise that it was only one part of the story, and that there were two more books that make up the trilogy that had never been dramatized."

"I am confident that iflix's mini-series will not only delight original fans, but also introduce the *Ombak Rindu* series to a new generation of fans. We are rebooting a classic Malaysian romance film, but also adding a fresh look and feel to the story," said Francis.

**Gayatri Su-Lin Pillai, Executive Producer at Infinitus Entertainment**, said: "When we first conceptualised the visualisation of the bestselling novels, we wanted to deliver a product which is not only visually pleasing but also featured a stellar cast and a visionary director. The novels by Fauziah were a big hit and are the foundation of the story that we want to tell, though we also acknowledge the fact that this many years on, we had to be cognizant of the fact that we had to showcase the modern Malay woman on screen; without losing the soul of the novels. What we hope to offer the audience is a series of films inspired by the novels which will take the audience through a roller coaster ride of feelings - from romance, thrills, drama and most importantly, fate."

**Fauziah Ansari, author of the the *Ombak Rindu* trilogy**, added: "I believe there will be differences between the novel and the adaptation to screen based on current needs and audience requirements. However, I hope the readers of *Cinta Tiada Akhirnya (Ombak Rindu 2)* and *Rindu Cintaku (Ombak Rindu 3)* will get the same or a similar feel from either watching the special features or reading the novels. To those who have not read the novels, we hope that you will like this new presentation of the novel and will then feel inspired to follow my works which are available in the market."

The *Ombak Rindu* mini-series is slated for release at the end of 2019.

## ABOUT IFLIX

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