

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION

This chapter contains the results of analyzing Rebecca F. Kuang's *The Poppy War* Novel (2018) through the intrinsic approach and the extrinsic approach. The intrinsic approach includes characterization, which uses third person point of view; plot, which includes exposition, complication, crisis, falling action, and resolution; and setting, which includes setting as background, setting as a means of revealing character, and setting as a means of reinforcing theme.

For the extrinsic approach, I used Rosemarie Tong's theory of feminism. She mentioned that there are three major waves of feminism, and the theory of feminism that is most related to this novel is the theory of liberal feminism. In the theory of liberal feminism, I have focused on two important elements that have triggered the movement of liberal feminism, which are gender inequality and, gender and restriction of freedom. Mansour Fakih mentions five forms of gender inequality in social life in his theory of gender inequality. Of the five forms of gender inequality, the ones most relevant to this novel are subordination, stereotyping, violence, and double burden. In the theory gender and restriction of freedom, I focus on freedom in liberal feminism, which is related to the argument of Marry Wollstonecraft, a feminist figure who has influenced the movement of liberal feminism.

Based on the analysis of the novel *The Poppy War* by Rebecca F. Kuang, I found that the main character in this novel, Fang Runin or Rin, faces gender inequality and seeks freedom, which can be seen through characterization, plot, and setting. I see how Rin is trying to escape from the social life in Tikany that makes women look weak and only doing domestic work. Rin wants to gain freedom by entering the military academy in Sinegard. Here she could gain freedom and the right to education. She has right to study and make her own decisions. Nevertheless, even at the academy, Rin faced constant humiliation from Nezha, who hailed from a different background. Nezha openly disparaged Rin. However, Rin did not remain silent and demonstrated to herself that she deserved her own freedom.

After proving herself to those who look down on her, Rin begins her journey to understanding her own rights. Rin's eventual decision to connect with the Phoenix and use her powers to save her people is one of Rin's forms of freedom. Rin can make decisions for her own life without coercion and pressure.

I assume that Rin might be fighting against the injustice done to her. She fought against Nezha to prove herself capable, and she disobeyed Aunt Fang's request to send her to a military academy. Rin may be doing all of this to show that women are not weak, even though they are physically different from men. Women should be able to make their own decisions without pressure from others because their thoughts are their own. Women can do other jobs outside the home. Women are free to study and acquire knowledge. At the end of the story, Rin's assertiveness is a sign that women can make their own choices and are ready to bear the consequences of their choices.

This research has a moral story that as women we should not feel weak and must fight the injustice that happens to us. Women have the same opportunities and rights as men. Women can make decisions for themselves without pressure from others. Women have the freedom to choose their own path and how they want to live their lives.

This study can be used by future researchers, namely students of English Language and Culture Department about liberal feminism, gender inequality and freedom in feminism. This study can also be used to improve analysis.