

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

This study aimed to analyze the portrayal of emotions in the immigrant characters of Lee Isaac Chung's *Minari* using James-Lange's theory of emotion. The research utilized intrinsic approaches, focusing on characterization, plot, and setting, alongside an extrinsic approach examining the psychological aspects of the characters. By exploring emotions such as happiness, sadness, and anger, the study highlights the emotional complexity faced by immigrants.

The analysis revealed that emotions play a crucial role in shaping the characters and their experiences. Through characterization, Jacob's happiness is evident in his determination to build a better life for his family, while Monica's sadness reflects her struggles with cultural adjustment. These emotions are intricately portrayed through dialogue and internal actions, emphasizing their influence on the characters' decisions and relationships. This study shows that Jacob and Monica experience strong emotions, which are depicted through physiological changes such as heavy breathing, trembling hands, and facial expressions, in line with the James-Lange theory. Characterization through dialogue, internal action, external action, and reaction of other characters demonstrates how their emotions evolve in various situations.

The plot of *Minari* effectively demonstrates the emotional highs and lows of the immigrant experience. From moments of optimism and hope to times of frustration and despair, the narrative captures the reality of balancing personal aspirations with familial responsibilities. These emotional shifts create a compelling storyline that resonates with audiences, especially those familiar with the challenges of cultural integration. The film's plot gradually builds emotions through various conflicts faced by the characters. The increasing tension in the story affects the characters' physiological states, ultimately leading to strong emotional responses, such as Jacob's trembling hands when he realizes his farm is failing. This aligns with the James-Lange theory, which states that physiological changes precede emotional experiences.

The setting in *Minari* acts as a significant element in reflecting the emotions of the characters. The rural environment symbolizes both hope and hardship, mirroring the family's internal struggles and their pursuit of the American Dream. The contrast between the serene landscape and the characters' emotional turmoil further enhances the depth of the narrative. The setting in *Minari* contributes to the portrayal of character emotions, particularly in illustrating the pressures of immigration and the uncertainty of the future. For instance, scenes set in dry fields and the barn fire intensify Jacob's feelings of despair and fear, as evidenced by his physiological changes such as hurried movements and rapid breathing.

This research contributes to the understanding of emotional dynamics within immigrant narratives, offering insights into the psychological and cultural challenges faced by those adapting to a new environment. By applying James-Lange's theory of emotion, the study demonstrates how literary and cinematic works can effectively portray the emotional dimensions of immigrant experiences. This approach also shows the relevance of psychological theories in understanding human experiences depicted in art.

The findings of this study also provide a valuable reference for future researchers, particularly those interested in exploring the intersection of psychology and literature. Analyzing emotions through intrinsic and extrinsic approaches offers a comprehensive perspective on the complexities of immigrant stories and their broader implications. Furthermore, the study emphasizes the importance of cultural and emotional representation in films, which can foster empathy and understanding among diverse audiences.

Further research is recommended to examine other immigrant-themed films and to explore different theoretical approaches to emotional analysis. By doing so, scholars can continue to deepen their understanding of the intricate relationship between emotions, culture, and identity in literary and cinematic works. Such research could also explore how these portrayals influence public perception and policy regarding immigrants, further bridging the gap between art and real-life societal issues.