

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter will discuss some subchapters, which consists of background of study, statements of problem, objectives of study, significances of study, scope and limitation of study.

1.1 Background of Study

Women's life is interesting topic to be discussed, because women always struggle to get their right. In past time, women just only stayed at home, protected their children and obeyed their husband's request. Today, women always try to explore their skills and increase to better life. They can get a job, education, relation and the other. There is a chance to women showing their existence and they are not always regarded inferior in their position. Women can prove their ability to compete with men. Relate to information previously, *Take Me Home* novel tells about woman's struggle in her life, she faces some difficulties to get a job, make relation with men and she cannot get much affection and love from her husband. In addition, the novel also gets many appreciations from some authors which makes curious to be analyzed.

Take Me Home is a novel which gets some praises, such as from Louisville Magazine, Dallas Morning News and Website. This novel is written by Brian Leung. He is a novelist and Associate Professor at the University of Louisville. *Take Me*

Home is his second novel, which is published in 2010 by HarperCollins Publisher, New York. One of the authors of *Burning Bright and Serena*, Ron Rash says that *Take Me Home* is a riveting novel of two heroic people attempting to transcend the prejudices of their time and place (Leung, 2010). Leung gets praise in his novel which makes people interested to know and analyze his novel. This novel is chosen as a source of data in this study and can give new information about some characters that are described by Leung.

Take Me Home has many episodes, which consists of twenty-seven episodes. This novel is started with Adele Maine or Addie who remembers about her life forty years ago. When she is a teenager, she comes to Wyoming to visit her brother, Tommy. In her trip she meets kind of people that she never meets before. They tell some stories about Wyoming and some people there. Tommy shows a homestead where he and Addie will live, he also tells about the hard life in his place. Tommy invites Addie to work in Dire and introduces Atso Muukkonen to her, besides that Tommy also introduces with some Chinese miners who will work with her when they meet in Dire. Because of her coming to her brother, she finds and faces some difficulties. For example, her relation with some men in her job, they do not receive her well in Dire because Dire is not a place for a woman and some men still think that they have a higher position than a woman.

As the main character, Addie also struggles in her life, Tommy asks her to get married with a miner Atso Muukkonen whom she never recognizes before, but she

follows her brother's request. Addie faces difficult situation about that, she does not have plan to get married, but she should decide what she does in her problems. In addition, Addie also feels less affection and love from her husband, he never cares and pays attention to her, but Addie struggles to reach happiness in her marriage.

From the previous explanation, Addie tries to be a strong woman to get happiness in her life. She needs to create and explore what she wants, thinks and acts, for example she should look for some ideas to equal with some men worker in her job and find happiness in her marriage. Addie's struggles are not only to herself but to the people who are beside her, she helps her friends in Dire when they have many problems. Addie realizes that she is just a woman, but she can prove with her struggles and she tries to fight difficult situation with her ways. This study will analyze Addie's struggle to reach happiness of marriage and relationship as a woman, a wife and a friend in Brian Leung's ***Take Me Home***.

Since this study focuses on Addie's struggle to reach happiness of marriage and relationship, this study uses feminism, especially feminism by Mary Wollstonecraft, who is one of the feminist intellectuals and an author of *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*. She is the first feminist when she publishes the book in which she advocated for the social and moral equality of sexes. In *Vindication* Mary Wollstonecraft says to let woman share the rights and she will emulate the virtues of man for she must grow more perfect when emancipated (2000: 218). The quotation means that Wollstonecraft gives large perception about woman.

Woman must grow in her emancipation and must be given opportunity in her life to share about the woman right. This theory is chosen in this study, when some readers understand about feminism, it does not only tell about a weak woman who must change her life to be better, but she also explores some abilities and shows that a man and a woman support each other. Woman and man can make good relationship to increase their skills, there is no differences between them and they get same position in their activities.

1.2 Statements of Problem

Based on the background of the study, this study will analyze Addie's struggle to reach happiness of marriage and relationship in Brian Leung's *Take Me Home*. The statement of research problem can be formulated as follow:

1. What are the causes of Addie's struggle to reach happiness of marriage and relationship in Brian Leung's *Take Me Home*?
2. How does Addie struggle to reach happiness of marriage and relationship in Brian Leung's *Take Me Home*?

1.3. Objective of Study

Related to the Research Problems, the objectives of the study are:

1. Explain the causes of Addie's struggle to reach happiness of marriage and relationship in Brian Leung's *Take Me Home*.

2. Explain the ways of Addie's struggle to reach happiness of marriage and relationship in Brian Leung's *Take Me Home*.

1.4 Significances of Study

This study is expected to provide some significances and contributions. Theoretically, this study is expected to give significant contribution to the development of feminism theory by Mary Wollstonecraft. Practically, this study can support women's activities to increase their skills and gives better understanding about women's struggle to get their right.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this study is using feminism theory which relates to Addie's struggles to reach her happiness. The limitations of this study are the words, the utterances of characters and the author narrations that relate to Addie's struggle to reach happiness of marriage and relationship in Brian Leung's *Take Me Home*.