

**SEARCHING FOR WOMAN EXISTENCE AS SEEN IN
INGE'S CHARACTER: A FEMINIST READING ON
FREMD'S *HEARTLAND***

AN UNDERGRADUATE THESIS

Presented as Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for the Degree of *Sarjana Sastra*
in English Letters



By

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**ENGLISH LETTERS STUDY PROGRAM
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LETTERS
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SANATA DHARMA UNIVERSITY
YOGYAKARTA**

2005

A Sarjana Sastra Undergraduate Thesis

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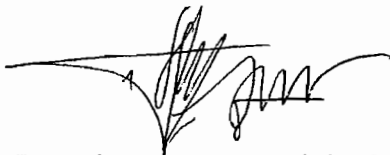
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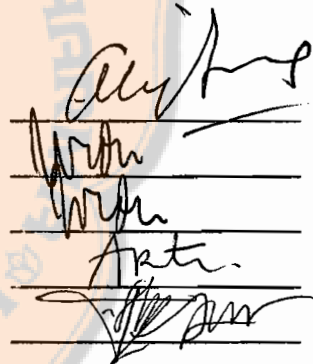
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Choice is power. You can choose to act, react, change, and adapt. And any time you choose you can choose to re-invent yourself. All it takes is time, willpower, and self-discipline. Re-invention is a powerful choice. It's the active, creative, and dynamic process of owning your desires and acting in accordance with their ebb and flow. When you act on your desires you are truly free. Free to make choices. Free to change. And free to be.

Anthea Paul "Girlosophy"

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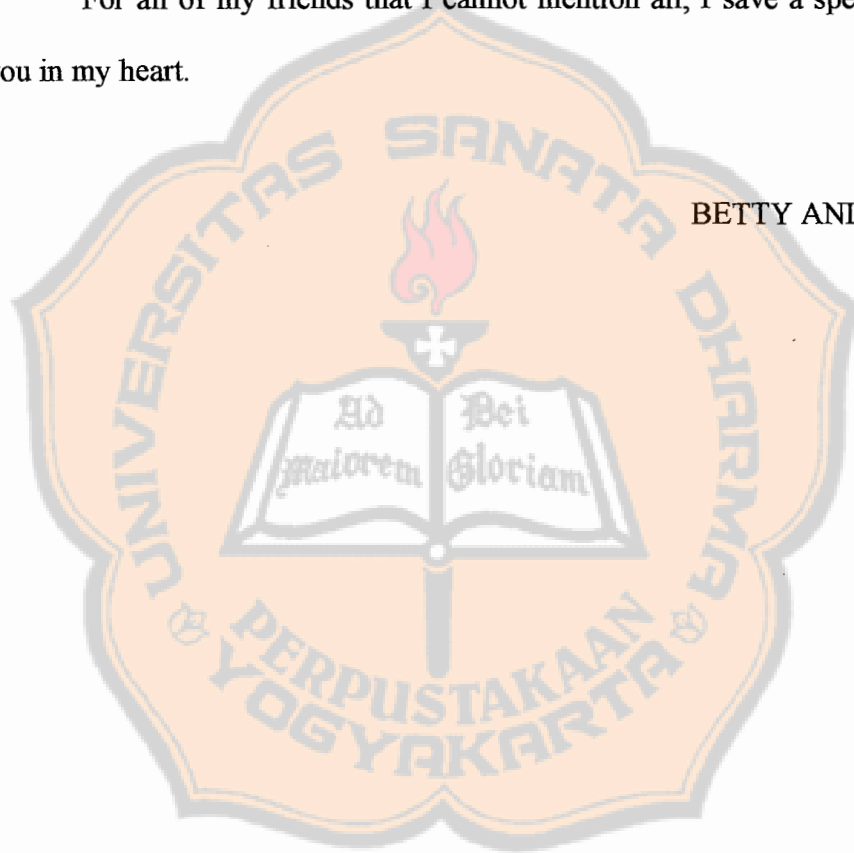


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ABSTRACT

BETTY ANDRIYANI (2005). **Searching for Woman Existence as Seen in Inge's Character: A Feminist Reading on Fremd's *Heartland***. Yogyakarta: Department of English Letters, Faculty of Letters, Sanata Dharma University.

Feminism is an ideology that speaks and struggles for women's voice to get an equality of rights as men. Eventhough feminism is not a new topic, analyzing and discussing about it, still becomes an interesting topic to talk, considering women's struggle for achieving equal rights in social institutions has not reached its goal entirely, and gender discrimination which discredits women's position has yet not ended. Women are still placed as secondary class citizen in patriarchal system. This is the background in writing the thesis. Angelika Fremd's *Heartland* contains the idea of feminism by analyzing the woman main character in the story. It argues that women have capability to compete in patriarchal society, if they have opportunity to explore and choose freely the pattern of life for themselves. Therefore the existence of women is no longer as secondary class citizen. They are able to stand equal with men.

There are three problems which are formulated to guide the study in this research. First is the main character's characteristics in the story. Second is how the idea of feminism is reflected in the main character in order to get her existence as a woman in the society. And the last is observing what kind of feminism is portrayed by the main character to get her existence.

To answer those problems, library research is the method used. The data is gathered through written sources. The first problem is answered by seeing the character and characterization. In addition, the theory of feminism and liberal feminism are used to respond the second and third questions, then find out the characteristics which reflect the idea of feminism or liberal feminism.

In her novel *Heartland*, Angelika Fremd presents the struggle of a woman, Inge, who is a German immigrant, against the discrimination and other obstacles in the new environment, Australia. Freedom to speak, and autonomy in controlling her own self are the ways she uses in order to struggle and survive. There are many obstacles which Inge has to face in her life. The pressure not only comes from the society in which she lives, but also from her mother, Lisl who is jealous at her, and the negative attitudes from her step-father, Karl. The story portrays the strength of a woman in facing several problems in her life which breaks the negative stereotype on women. She is brave, strong, independent, and intelligent, therefore woman is no longer assumed as weak and receptive figure in dealing with the hard condition and situation. But woman can also be a survivor and able to compete in patriarchal society, and note her own existence as a woman with her qualities in social life.

ABSTRAK

BETTY ANDRIYANI (2005). **Searching for Woman Existence as Seen in Inge's Character: A Feminist Reading on Fremd's *Heartland***. Yogyakarta: Jurusan Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Sastra, Universitas Sanata Dharma.

Feminisme adalah suatu ideologi yang menyuarkan dan memperjuangkan hak-hak perempuan agar setara dengan laki-laki. Walaupun feminisme bukanlah suatu pembahasan yang baru, tetapi meneliti dan membicarakan topik ini, masih menjadi suatu diskusi yang menarik, karena, perjuangan kaum perempuan dalam memperoleh kesetaraan hak di dalam kehidupan sosial belum tercapai sepenuhnya, dan juga diskriminasi jender yang mendiskreditkan posisi wanita masih belum berakhir. Perempuan ditempatkan sebagai masyarakat kelas dua dalam masyarakat patriarkal. Inilah latar belakang penulisan skripsi. Dalam *Heartland* karya Angelika Fremd ditemukan ide tentang feminisme, dengan mengamati tokoh utama wanita dalam cerita tersebut. Skripsi ini mengemukakan bahwa perempuan memiliki kemampuan untuk berkompetisi di dalam masyarakat patriarkal jika diberikan kesempatan untuk mengembangkan diri dan memilih dengan bebas jalan kehidupan mereka, sehingga eksistensi perempuan tidak lagi sebagai masyarakat kelas kedua. Mereka mampu berdiri setara dengan laki-laki.

Dalam penelitian ini, tiga masalah dirumuskan untuk memandu analisis dalam skripsi. Pertama adalah menggambarkan karakter tokoh utama wanita dalam cerita tersebut. Kedua adalah bagaimana ide feminisme direfleksikan dalam tokoh tersebut dalam usahanya mendapatkan eksistensinya sebagai wanita di dalam masyarakat. Dan yang terakhir, mengamati gerakan feminisme yang dicerminkan tokoh utamanya untuk mendapatkan eksistensinya tersebut.

Studi pustaka adalah pendekatan yang digunakan dalam menjawab pertanyaan-pertanyaan tersebut. Data dikumpulkan dari sumber-sumber tertulis. Pertanyaan pertama dijawab lewat analisis teori karakter dan pengkarakteran. Sebagai tambahan, teori feminisme dan liberal feminisme digunakan untuk menjawab permasalahan kedua dan ketiga, dengan melihat karakteristik yang merefleksikan ide tentang feminisme, atau liberal feminisme.

Dalam novelnya *Heartland*, Angelika Fremd mengemukakan perjuangan seorang perempuan yang merupakan imigran yang berasal dari Jerman melawan diskriminasi dan permasalahan-permasalahan di lingkungan baru, yaitu Australia. Kemerdekaan berbicara, dan autonomi terhadap pengontrolan diri sendiri adalah cara-cara yang digunakan dalam berjuang dan bertahan. Banyak permasalahan yang harus dihadapi Inge, tokoh utama dalam cerita ini. Tekanan tidak hanya berasal dari masyarakat di lingkungannya, tetapi juga berasal dari kecemburuan Lisl, ibunya dan sikap negatif Karl, bapak tirinya. Cerita ini berusaha memaparkan kekuatan seorang perempuan dalam menghadapi berbagai

rintangan berat dalam hidupnya, yang akhirnya dapat menghapuskan stereotipe negatif pada perempuan. Inge adalah perempuan yang berani, kuat, mandiri, dan pintar, sehingga perempuan tidak lagi dianggap sebagai makhluk lemah dan hanya menerima segala kondisi dan situasi yang menimpanya, tetapi perempuan juga mampu bertahan dan berkompetisi di masyarakat patriarkal, dan mampu mencatat eksistensi tersendiri di kehidupan sosial.



CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

It is not a new topic to discuss about feminism recently, but it still becomes an interesting topic to deal with, because women's struggle to get an equality of rights has not ended yet. Although feminist movement has already existed for some decades, and there have been many feminist movements for women's rights, the problem of gender, classification of human beings into men and women still cannot be ignored, especially in patriarchal system. Many cases of women's oppression are found, because women are always in some sense placed as the second sex or as inferior than men. Therefore, women's movement in order to get an equality of rights should be continued.

One of the media which is used to speak about women's struggle to get an equality with men is literary works, because works of literature are mostly recording of social life which can be functioned as a medium to raise up the readers' awareness toward a social issue. By reading a literary work, readers can learn about the values of social life that probably have been ignored, and also through a literary work, readers can experience how the others live and are expected to become aware of and learn about moral values of life. As Forster states in *Aspect of the Novel and Related Writing*, a good novel, as one genre of literary works, is to include the life by values as well, and functioned as a device

to be examined (1977: 19). In other words, feminists use literature to awaken readers' or public's awareness about women's rights in society, how women from time to time have to undergo mistreatment from patriarchal society. Therefore, people will consider more about women's rights, and it is expected the discrimination of sexes which causes women's oppression does not exist anymore.

The works of feminists represent the voice of women, taking stands for women's need to be heard, to have an equality, and how they see the surrounding world they are living in. Feminist wants to break the conventional conception in society who prescribes women as weak, passive, dependent, receptive, and subordinate to male. Feminist views that women are socially conditioned to develop these qualities. As stated in *The Natural Superiority of Women*, there is a belief in almost all societies that men are superior than women, and tragically women think that the perspective is true, because it is believed as what really happens (Montagu, 1953: 23). The society, especially people who live in patriarchal system, assume that women are inferior compared to men because people believe it and do not want to break the assumption. It becomes then such a kind of stereotyping labeling on women that they are weak, dependent, passive and subordinate to men. Then feminists use literary works as a medium to change the conventional conception by giving description of new women as human. According to one of the American contemporary writer and critic, Adrienne Rich in Djajanegara, *Kritik Sastra Feminis* :

A radical critique of literature, feminist in its impulse, would take the work first of all as a clue to how we live, how we have been living, how we have been led to imagine ourselves, how our language has trapped as well as liberated us, how the very act of naming has been still now a male prerogative, and how we can begin to see and name—and therefore live –afresh.” (2000: 29).

Feminist tries to develop a new perspective toward women and awaken women’s awareness that they have the equal rights with men, and there is no right of men to underestimate women’s existence.

There have been many works presenting female heroine, and one of the writers is Angelika Fremd. *Heartland* is one of her best novels which presents female character as the central of the story. It was published in 1989 by University of Queensland Press, Australia. It is the first part of a trilogy of novels dealing with the life of German immigrants, who moved to Australia after World War II. (<http://www.projectroom.com/joystick/cross2000/5/angelikafremd.htm>)

The novel tells about The Heinrich, the Germans family who have to adapt to the new environment, Australia. The author who is also a German immigrant describes many conflicts in the story, internal and external conflicts. The internal conflicts are the problems which appear in the family that are created by uneasy relationship between a mother and a daughter and the hyper-sexual father who eventually directs his desire toward his daughter after his wife turns frigid. The external conflicts are about the way each member of the family struggles as immigrants in new country, to understand and make an adaptation to

the new culture and customs which are much far different from their own country in order to be accepted in the new society.

Through the story, the readers may find interesting characters that the author successfully described, how they solve the problems in the family and also the problems from outside the family, how they position themselves as the immigrants. But a character who attracts the attention most is Inge, the central character. It is interesting to discuss her character, considering there is a development that the readers can see in her character, where she is described from being a child then eventually turns into a beautiful girl who distracts the attention of men and tragically makes her own mother jealous.

In a certain way, Inge is a representation of feminism. Brave, active, independent, intelligent are completely described in Inge's character. Inge breaks the stereotyping of women that are weak, passive, dependent and subordinate to men. Her struggle as a woman who lives in a difficult condition makes her convey the idea that a woman also can be as strong as a man. She is a figure of a woman who preserves self pride and dignity to show her existence in the society.

Seen in depth through the story, hopefully feminism as an ideology or women's perspective can change the stereotyping of women in patriarchal society. Women's struggle to obtain an equality between women and men stems from the premises that both sexes have the same human right. They should have the same opportunities to advance themselves in many aspects of life. There should not have been any limitation for women to choose what they want,

because they are free to decide everything based on their own will to stand equal with men. Furthermore, this thesis argues that every woman has an ability to compete in men's world called patriarchal society in order to get equal rights and have freedom to choose their own path, therefore no men could underestimate women's existence.

B. Problem Formulation

This study is aimed to analyze three questions presented in the problem formulation. They are:

1. How is Inge's character depicted in the story?
2. How do Inge's struggles describe the idea of feminism as an effort to get her existence as a woman?
3. What kind of feminism does Inge's action show to get her existence as a woman?

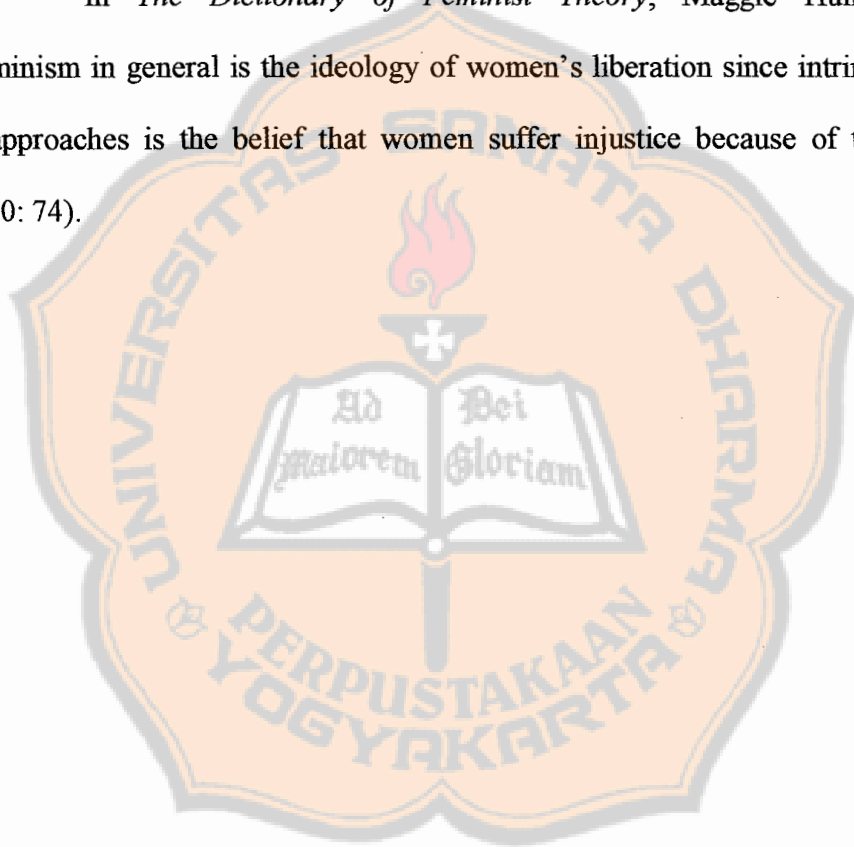
C. Objectives of the Study

The first objective of the analysis is to find out how the figure of Inge is depicted in the story by examining her as a daughter, a woman in the patriarchal society, and opinion of other characters toward her. The second is to see how Inge brings the idea of feminism in the story, as can be seen in her struggle to have more freedom in choosing her own will, and her efforts to get her

existence as a woman as human in the society. The last is to know what kind of feminist action conducted by Inge to get her existence.

D. Definition of Term

In *The Dictionary of Feminist Theory*, Maggie Humm says, “Feminism in general is the ideology of women’s liberation since intrinsic in all its approaches is the belief that women suffer injustice because of their sex” (1990: 74).



CHAPTER II

THEORETICAL REVIEW

A. Review of Related Studies

There have been many comments or critiques on literary works by American and British feminist writers, whether classic or contemporary ones, but it will be a different case if the literary work is produced outside the two countries mentioned. “If you're an author from the USA (or possibly the UK) writing horror or fantasy then you are well-covered on the Web. If you are Australian and writing what might loosely be termed serious modern fiction then you might as well not exist”.

(Perry Middlemass, <http://www.middlemiss.org/lit/lit.html>)

Since the novel under study is an Australian novel, the writer found that there are limited information or sources related to the work available on books or internet, but two comments based on the novel are finally covered. Sneja Gunew once commented on Inge's character. Angelika describes Inge as a survivor who successfully involved in a war time black market. Like a chameleon, Inge adapts the outside world, the real politic of the school classroom and playground. She overcomes the challenge offered by “white sandwiches (a recurrent theme in migrant writing), knows how to get the odd teacher interested by means of her precocious essays”.

Furthermore, there are many sexual action that appear in the story. “The men are physically brutal and sexually rapacious, while the women here becomes the subjects, the victims who need to learn survival: bartering sex for materials leading to alienation from their own bodies”. (Sneja Gunew, <http://www.projectroom.com/joystick/cross2000/5/angelikafremdreview.htm>)

Sue Walton from the same source states a comment about Inge, the main character. According to her, women’s quest for identity has become a recurrent theme in literature. As the main character, Inge represents the same idea. Her struggle in searching for self-knowledge and self-understanding are sort of realization for her curiosity about identity, and not realizing that her refusal to choose any specific course of action is in itself a kind of selection. (<http://www.projectroom.com/joystick/cross2000/5/afremdheartreview.htm>)

Inge, in a certain way, reflects the idea of feminism by seeing her struggle to survive in life.

This thesis supports the statements which describes Inge as a figure of woman who can struggle in facing the problems in her life which breaks the women stereotyping, such as weak, dependent, submissive, receptive and subordinate to man. Moreover, this thesis develops the idea of a woman struggle and survival in patriarchal society in order to get an equality with men to choose and act freely based on self-determination, and to have equality in social and public’s institution, therefore women’s existence and issues can no longer be ignored.

B. Review of Related Theories

1. Theories on Character and Characterization

Character is one of the main intrinsic elements in a literary work. Since this study analyzes and focuses on the major character, good understanding of the theory of characters is needed. Furthermore, these theories are applied to see how the character is presented and to analyze what kind of feminism the major character describes.

There have been many opinions about characters, but this study only takes several of them which are appropriate to the analysis. Abrams in *A Glossary of Literary Terms* says that:

Character is the person in a dramatic or narrative work, who are interpreted by the reader as being endowed with moral and dispositional qualities that are expressed in what they say, e.g. the dialogue and what they do, e.g. the action. The ground in the character's temperament and moral nature for his speech and action constitutes his motivation (1981: 20).

Character represents the moral and dispositional values which can be seen from the action and dialogue within the story. Therefore, the appearance of the character is to reveal the consequences or motivation of the action.

Roger B. Henkle classifies characters into major and minor characters. Major character is the character that is often observed and always becomes the central of the story. It gets a good deal of attention and placed into the background as the attention turns elsewhere (1977: 90). The major character performs as the key structural function of the story. The other character is minor

character which perform more limited functions than major one. The function can be in various ways; as element of society that makes up the human context, as average or normal points of reference, as foils to the major character or they can be symbols of aspects of the governing state of being (1977: 100).

According to Baldick in *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Literary Terms*, characterization is a representation of a person in narrative and dramatic works which can be seen from the action, speech and appearance of the character, therefore the readers will consider the character as person who might really exist (1991: 34). To describe a character in a story, it can be seen from what the character does, says, feels and what other characters say about the character (Barnet *et al*, 1988: 712).

Meanwhile, there are two principle ways by which an author can characterize a character. The first is **direct** way which describes physical appearance of the character. Another one is **dramatic** which means placing the character in certain conditions to show what the character is by seeing the way she or he behaves or speaks (Rohrberger, 1971: 20). Each of the principles shows the readers the qualities of the character both physically or psychologically. An image of a character in a story which has been created by the author can be concluded perfectly by seeing those qualities. Thus, the reader will have a figure of a character based on the author creation.

The aim of an author characterizing a character in a story is in order to be understood by the reader. Underscoring on this notes, in *Understanding*

Unseen, M.J Murphy classifies nine ways how to get a character personalities (1972: 161-173). They are: first, personal description meaning that a character can be seen from the physical appearance, for example, how the character wears the clothes in the story. Secondly, character as seen by another meaning that how another characters in the story give their opinion toward the character because their opinions influence the readers' impression. Thirdly, speech from what the character says, the reader will be able to understand the character personalities. The fourth is past life. The author gives a clue to the readers by describing the character past life. Then through conversation of others means that the conversation between the character and another characters involved in the story can give brief description about the character. The fifth is by the reaction which the author shows how the character reacts to certain situation. The sixth one is direct comments that the author gives his or her comments to the character he or she has created. Next, thought means that the character's personalities can be read through his or her thoughts and feeling. Mannerism is the last way to identify characterization of the character. The character's mannerism, habits, and idiosyncrasies are described by the author in order to know in more depth about the character.

To sum up, both character and characterization have an important role in making a story interesting and more understandable by presenting person or people in it.

2. Theories on Feminism

Many books have been written on feminist critical approaches, but there is a difficulty in finding a universal definition of feminism. As a British author and critic, Rebecca West once stated, "I myself have never been able to find out precisely what feminism is" (Guerin et al, 1999: 196). Meanwhile, there is a general concern which can be seen from feminist movement. They concern with the marginalization of all women, whom in patriarchal society stand as a secondary class (Guerin *et al*, 1999: 196).

For many centuries, women were silenced by the circumstances. They were not allowed to speak out what they feel, to protest about their pain. They have no effort to protest about their condition because they were considered as an inferior class. Fortunately, the conception as an inferior class starts to change, because women realize that they receive the unfair treatment as being considered as a secondary class. The women start to realize that they also have the same opportunities and equal rights as men do. Women try to fight against this condition and strive to get their rights. The ideology to get the same rights and opportunities then is called feminism. Therefore, after the birth of feminism which appeared for the first time in English to describe women campaigning for the vote in 1890s, slowly women's voice as a protest of the injustice treatment started to be heard. Their movement finally includes in literary fields.

Eventhough feminism is not a new topic to be discussed in literary works nowadays, it is still interesting to talk about it due to discrimination which

still exists, especially in a country in which patriarchal system is pervasive. Literature is a medium which many feminist critics use to speak out their mind, and to protest about the injustice found between men and women, with their aim to get equality between men and women, and also breaking the women stereotyping as weak, emotional, dependent, and subordinate to men.

Guerin *et al* in *A Handbook of Critical Approaches* notes that, “feminist critics generally agree that their goals are to expose patriarchal premises and resulting prejudices, to promote discovery and reevaluation of literature by women, and to examine social, cultural, psychosexual contexts of literature and literary criticism” (1999: 197). Feminist critics starts to study several fields that once were banned for them, for example: study of sexual, political, and social issues. It is through a literary works that feminist critique is applicable to end women discrimination.

Meanwhile, according to Maggie Humm, in her *The Dictionary of Feminist Theory*, feminism is an ideology of women’s liberation to release from the fetter of the injustice treatment regarding to sex discrimination (1990: 74). This argument of sex discrimination which makes the oppression upon women has been emphasized by Ashley Montagu, in *The Natural Superiority of Women*. She argues that women’s biological facts are used as the justification that they are inferior to men. In almost all cultures, women have been made to feel that their biological functions, such as: pregnancy, birth, and nursing as handicapping experiences. For example, women who get pregnant are considered unable to do

anything. This interpretation makes people, including women, believe that women biological functions lead them as a secondary class citizen (1953: 31).

Moreover, an opinion about sex discrimination comes from a popular feminist critic, Joe Freeman in *Women: A Feminist Perspective* marks:

The Traditional view looks at the many ways in which women differ from men and concludes that these differences reflect some basic intrinsic difference that far transcends reproductive capacities. The traditionalist notes that historically women have always had less power, less influence, and fewer resources than men, and assumes this must accord with some natural order (1984: xiii).

From ancient time until now, women have to believe the traditional thought that has been constructed for a long time by the society that women are weaker, and less power than men. Men are decision maker in all aspects of life, and they have to follow what the society wants them to do as women. They have to obey the men, and it makes a depression toward women. Through feminist movement, women starts to change the misconception of women stereotyping, therefore they have freedom to choose the pattern of their own lives and individual autonomy for themselves.

In addition, in *Thinking About Women: Sociological and Feminist Perspective*, Andersen writes that the oppression towards women is not basically because of natural factors, but it has been constructed as the result of social opinions. The definition of feminism has been developed and understood in different ways, but it begins with the explanation that social institutions and attitudes are the basis of women's position. Thus far, feminism takes women

interests and perspectives as being not inferior to men, then liberating social changes on their behalf can and should be made. So, feminism is not only a way of thinking, but it is also followed by way of action, and the union of thought and action is the central program as an effort due to gain the changes in social opinion about women and men (1997: 8-9).

Feminism tries to change the social misconception about women and men relationship, considering there is a labor division which has been constructed by the society in common, with the note that women are as the oppressed race. Many different societies create such a conception to what women and men should or not do. The society makes characteristics for men and women which they should follow as a belief. They also treat both sexes differently. Men are considered as superior, where the society will label them as having more privileges than women. Based on the notes, it is important to change the social conception about women and men relationships, particularly in regard to the constructed opinions which cause oppression upon women that women are inferior. In other words, feminism offers a new way of thinking and action for both women and men in order to make a progress in women's life which will give impact to men.

Since there are many kinds of feminism, this study specifies on one specific ideology that is liberal feminism. The goal of liberal feminism is equality of opportunity in all political and social life. Equal civil rights, equal access to education, to health, and equal payment for women (Humm, *A Reader*, 1994:

181). According to Zillah Eisenstein in Humm, *A Reader*, liberal feminism promises “individual autonomy and independence, freedom of choice, and equality in all aspects of life”. She emphasizes that liberal feminist tries to put women to have liberal demands for self-determination, freedom of choice, and equality in political life to indict patriarchal society. This ideology will permit to lead the public consciousness toward women’s position to a critique of patriarchal system and eradicate gender stereotyping which characterizes women as weak, dependent, and subordinate to man, then places them as secondary citizen (1994: 189-191). Therefore, by applying this liberal feminism approach, it is expected, can be revealed the liberal feminism idea which is found in the story to support the aim of the ideology, to be a path for supporting women to have the same liberties and equality of rights as well as men in all social life.

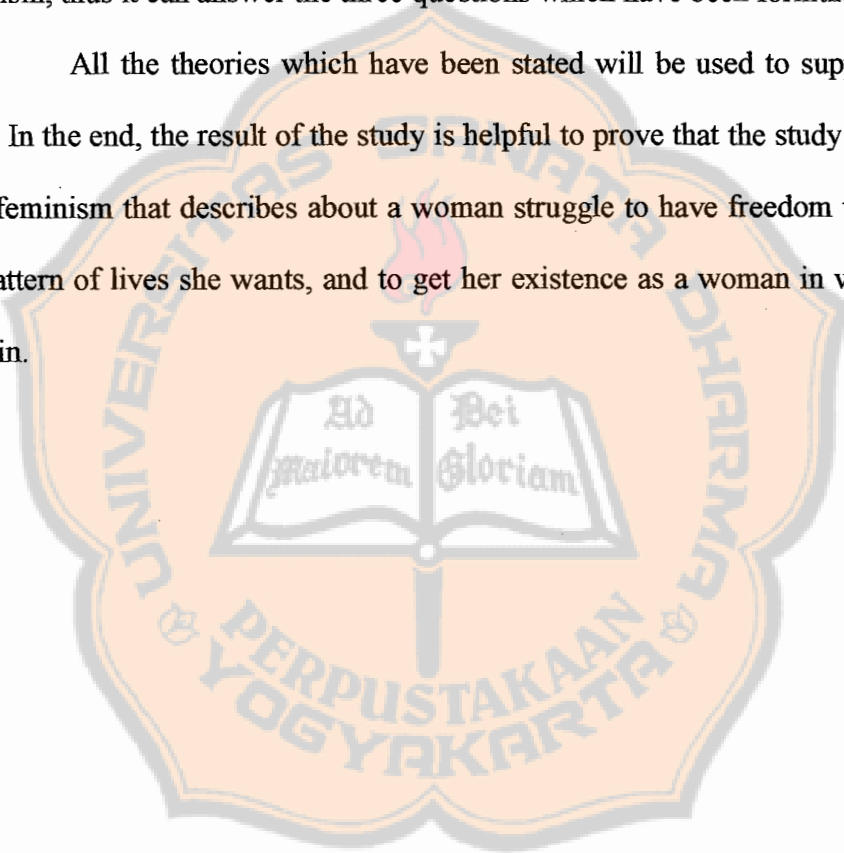
C. Theoretical Framework

In analyzing the study, the theory of character and characterization is used to know in more depth about the personalities of the major character and her motivation of her action in certain conditions. The theories on character and characterization that have been stated before are very beneficial to help in analyzing the character in the story.

The review of related studies on *Heartland* written by Sneja Gunew and Sue Walton are used as the background that the story of *Heartland* brings the idea of feminism. Here the study wants to emphasize and develop the analysis

through feminism perspective in further explanation, therefore the idea of feminism can be seen clearly from the story by applying the theory of feminism, particularly liberal feminism through the study, considering feminism is the main point which the thesis wants to discuss to reveal the acts that illustrate the idea of feminism, thus it can answer the three questions which have been formulated.

All the theories which have been stated will be used to support each other. In the end, the result of the study is helpful to prove that the study concerns with feminism that describes about a woman struggle to have freedom to choose the pattern of lives she wants, and to get her existence as a woman in where she lives in.



CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

A. Object of the Study

Heartland, written by Angelika Fremd, an Australian novelist, is the first part of a trilogy; *The Glass Inferno* and *The Dance of Kali Ma*. The novel, first published in 1989 by University of Queensland, Australia, deals with the life of a German immigrant, Inge Heinrich. The novel has 159 pages with 44 sub-titles to indicate where the story takes place. For example, the first sub-title is “*Arrival*” where it describes the time Inge’s family first arrived to Australia. This undergraduate thesis uses the first printed novel which was published in Queensland, Australia.

The novel deals with an experience of German immigrants in Australia. Inge and her family have to adapt and undergo the pain as an immigrant family where different language and culture become an obstacle to face on. Within this, many conflicts appear as a result of those differences. Furthermore, it can be seen how they struggle to overcome the problems, and Inge’s survival in order to be accepted in the new environment reflects her as a strong, intelligent, and brave girl. Based on some consideration, Inge as the major character in the story can be seen as a woman who brings the idea of feminism.

B. Approach of the Study

Feminist approach is used to analyze the story of *Heartland* due to the idea of feminism which can be seen through the major character, Inge. In particular, the study uses liberal feminist approach in which speaks about the ideology of feminism that is struggling for women's right to stand equal with men, and to have freedom in choosing the pattern of their own lives or careers (Humm, *A Reader*, 1994: 181). In short, the aim is to stop the unfair treatments that women get since ancient time until now. Through a work of literature, feminists use it as a medium to awake women's awareness about their own rights, considering there are still many women who unfortunately do not know exactly what they should deserve as women, because they only accept the misconception that has been constructed by society in patriarchal system. Feminists bring many issues in all aspects of life, such as politic, sexual, economic aspects, and so forth. Then, they try to show the effect of patriarchal system which places women as secondary position and causes women's oppression (Guerin *et al*, 1999: 197).

Feminist approach is used to analyze the condition of women which is usually differentiated with men and considered as inferior, then eventually this condition discriminates and places them as secondary class citizen in the society. But through the story we can see that a woman's awareness of her own right results in an effort to have the same rights with men. Furthermore, liberal feminism is used to analyze their struggle to escape from sex discrimination or marginalization and eradicate gender stereotyping. It promises to individual self-

determination, freedom of choice, and individual autonomy. The approach sees how women can stand equally with men and breaks the stereotyping which has been labeling on women.

C. Method of the Study

The method used in analyzing the study is a library research. All the data which are important to the analysis are gathered together through books, journals, web sites and other written sources.

The novel *Heartland* by Angelika Fremd is used as a primary source, while the secondary sources are taken from several related books, such as Maggie Humm's *A Reader's Guide to Contemporary Feminist Literary Criticism* and *Feminism; A Reader*, Ashley Montagu's *The Natural Superiority of Women*, Guerin's *A Handbook of Critical Approaches to Literature*, and others.

There were several steps taken to do the research. The first step was collecting any related data on the story, a literary analysis and on feminism by doing the library research. The second step was read and re-read the novel, *Heartland* to get a better understanding about it, and identify the main character's characteristics which contain some action that had the ideology of feminism. The third step was observing how the main character's struggle which describe the idea of feminism to get her existence as a woman. The fourth was finding the kind of feminism that Inge's action and thought show, and the last step was drawing a conclusion.

CHAPTER IV

ANALYSIS

The main point of the discussion is that a woman has an ability to compete in men's world which is called patriarchal society, to get her freedom in choosing the pattern of her own life without being entrapped by the system that has been created by a society which results in such a stereotyping labeling on women of what they should or not do as women. A woman's strength to show her existence in a society becomes the ground of the analysis. Meanwhile, this analysis focuses only to the textual, regarding to the limitation of the analysis. Therefore, in order to get the study more understandable, this analysis starts with the description of the main character of the story, Inge, because Inge is the focus which the study wants to analyze in depth. Inge's character is observed by applying theory of characters, and this point is to answer the first problem formulation of the analysis. After observing the main character, it is continued with observing what kind of action she does that shows feminist ideology. The second step is done to answer the second problem formulation. The last problem is answered by observing what kind of feminism is conducted by the main character in an effort to get her existence as a woman in the society.

A. Inge's Characteristics

The Heinrich is a German family who have to immigrate to Australia because of the difficult economic condition they face after the postwar in German. There are six people in The Heinrich. First is Inge as the major character, then Karl (Inge's step-father), Lisl (Inge's mother), Monika (Inge's little sister), Mami (Inge's grandmother, comes after the family settles in Australia), and Bubi (Inge's youngest brother who is born in Australia). The intention to immigrate is to find a better life in other country; in fact things are not easy in the new country. There are many conflicts appearing as being immigrants. Nevertheless, the problems in the family also become obstacles of each member of the family that they should deal with. From this point, it can be seen how Inge, as the main character, struggles to adapt to the new environment, and also the way she faces the conflicts within her family. From the way she determines to acts and thinks, it can be revealed several her characteristics. To see more deeply how Inge is depicted in the story, the analysis is divided into each description of her characteristics; therefore, Inge's character can be seen clearly.

1. Brave

The strong impression after reading *Heartland* that the readers can get about Inge is that she is a brave girl. This quality can be seen from the action she has done, such as brave to make decision for herself, to speak out her mind, and also her bravery leads her to be a protector. Inge's bravery is shaped by her

environment, a condition which demands herself to take such a decision. For more specific, she has a complicated mother, Lisl, who is jealous at her that makes her relationship with her mother uneasy. It is weird to know that her real mother is jealous with her own daughter, but this is what truly happens in the family. Her mother's jealousy appears because she feels she has no opportunity of good life that Inge has; beauty, youth, and more opportunities to betterment in life, considering young Lisl lived in a war time which was very difficult for her. Furthermore, Inge is Lisl's daughter because of her affair with a man from her past time which makes Inge always remind her of the pain which leads her dislike to Inge. In addition, Inge is one of the reasons why Lisl married Karl, her husband now, because she wants an improvement in her family life which was very difficult at the time.

“When you are alone with an illegitimate child and a mother to support and a man comes who is handsome enough, who says he will love you and support you, you have no choice. All you have to do is give him your body in exchange. It is a simple bargain. You lie there and count the panels on the ceiling and then before you have had time to think it all out, you are pregnant and it is too late. War makes us women into merchandise” (p.130).

The feeling of jealousy and dislike becomes greater after Inge reaches her adolescence. Inge grows into a beautiful young woman, and succeeds to attract men's attention, including Karl, her husband. Lisl's jealousy then not only appears inside herself, but starts to become an action.

Next Morning Inge found that Lisl had taken the full length mirror from the bathroom into her own room. She said nothing to Inge, looking past her (p.70).

This action is taken because Lisl realizes that Inge starts to dress up and make up herself when she wants to go to Mr.Koch (their neighbour), in order to assist him to clean the house, because he is a loner widower after the death of his wife, and this is based on Lisl's instruction to help him. Lisl does not like Inge's appearance that according to her, Inge looks like a prostitute. "Well it serves you right. I told you not to go out looking like a prostitute. You give men ideas, the way you behave and dress" (p.72). But this is only a realization of her dislike. This action leads to Inge's protest. She says that Lisl is jealous and hates her (p.70), which is her first open act of defiance. A very brave action for Inge, considering she used to be an obedient daughter since child who never protests about her mother unfair treatment toward her, and it is not easy to talk with her mother in such a way, because she knows it will raise her anger.

"The weapons were artfully and effectively slammed doors, sighs, wounded looks, the brave, silent swallowing of an insult... (p.100).

Almost everyday Inge has to face Lisl' anger reaction, eventhough at the moment she does not do any mistake at all. The anger will become more intense when Inge accidentally makes something which raises Lisl's disapproval, and it turns into physical torture. For example, when Inge tries to imitate the way Renate Gerhard's dress up, her friend in school who is also her neighbour, Lisl finds it as an insulting behaviour, because according to her, it is a disgrace to the name of Heinrich. She considers Inge has no pride to do such a way. As a reaction of her disapproval, she slaps her, and Inge was only in her twelve which indicates

she has been treated badly since her childhood. A hard condition which is created by her own mother demands Inge's struggle to face it. Inge's determination to speak out her protest because she finds unfair treatment from Lisl, then portrays her as a brave person.

Furthermore, Inge's bravery is used as a protection by her little sister, Monika. Monika adores her sister much, because of her bravery, beauty, and magnanimity which she finds different from their mother. Inge also shows her responsibility as a big sister, and protects Monika every time she needs her.

Monika had tagged along behind Inge, a shadow, using Inge's bulk and adventurous spirit as protection... (p.11).

Monika is very different if compared with Inge in the way they socialize to others. Monika is anti-social, while Inge always tries many ways in order to be accepted. This habit leads Monika into difficulty in making friends and needs Inge's protection to defend her. Monika tends to live under Inge's shadow as her protection, because she cannot compromise with her surrounding. She chooses to sink rather than swim (p. 43). At her first time entering her school, she needs Inge's watch to take after her, because she cannot mingle with her new friends, and it becomes a problem for her. They start to tease her when Inge is not there.

Other children discovered in Monika the ideal victim, a bully's dream. Left in the playground without the protection of Inge, she was quickly surrounded by a group of tormentors who pulled her hair, took her lunch, and yelled "snake" or "magpie", knowing only too well where Monika's weakness lay (p.43).



Knowing the feeling of being neglected by their own mother, Inge realizes that she should give her love and care to Monika, and becomes more protective, because Monika cannot protect herself and creates her own problem by not making a good socialization with other. For Monika, Inge is the only person in the family in whom she can find love and protection, because their mother does not really care about them, which makes Monika hates her mother too.

“Mutti is a witch,” she said with absolute conviction and stroked Inge’s hair. “You’ll grow up and you’ll be able to leave and get your own home. Take me with you, please” (p.73).

Meanwhile, a brave decision Inge makes in her life is that she has to choose between staying in her house or leaving the house and getting her total freedom. This happens when her step-father, Karl, asks Inge to replace the position of Lisl, after her death, because of committing suicide. Lisl decides to end her life at the time she knows that Karl tries to seduce Inge, her own daughter. She thinks that she has no pride anymore, neither as being a wife or mother as well.

“...I missed my chance years ago and now it is too late. It seemed as if everyone and everything was determined to take you away from me. The war, Emma, Karl. Emma has replaced as your mother. You are educated. I don’t know how to talk to you. I don’t know what a mother should be. Have I left it too late?” (p.153).

But Lisl’s death, indeed makes Karl’s will to possess Inge become more open. He thinks that he has a reason to take Inge as his wife to replace the absent position of her mother, and it is not harmful to take her daughter as a wife.

There was no harm at all in wanting to make love to her, he maintained. The Greeks and Romans had also initiated their sons and daughters. It had been a part of the social custom, and a very beautiful custom at that, which eased the adolescent boy or girl into sexual maturity without the usual traumas (p.147).

As a result, Inge decides to leave the house, even though it is hard for her to leave her little sister, Monika, who always hides herself under Inge's protection. Also, she realizes that it is hard and big challenge to live in outside world without her family to accompany her, and it means she has to support her life by herself. Also, living in outside, she does not know what obstacles she might find later. But Inge chooses to leave the house, because she knows if she stays, it means her life will be controlled by her step-father, Karl, a sick hyper-sexual man, and she cannot explore herself based on her own will. Therefore, Inge prefers to leave at the time she gets an opportunity to escape with David Rooney, her boyfriend, a man who can give her freedom (p.159). In short, from the actions above, it can be seen that Inge depicts the idea of a brave woman who is brave to make decision, speak out her mind, and this bravery leads her to be a protector.

2. Intelligent

Observed in more depth through Inge's behaviour, in certain ways she reflects the intelligence of a woman. This idea is emphasized by seeing the way she thinks and acts. It is seen from the way she adapts for being an immigrant in her school world. Living in a country with different language and culture, for an immigrant like Inge is a hard condition to fit in. The situation becomes more

difficult at the time she enters her school world, because of not understanding the language firstly, and the culture secondly. A language as a tool which people use to communicate then gives limitation to Inge in absorbing the lesson in school.

“She is old enough to go into the senior classes, but she can’t speak English yet, so we’ll have to keep her in grade three until she can catch up with the language” (p.15).

As a result, Inge is being placed in the grade for children under her age. Moreover, the problem becomes bigger, because the people underestimate her with her foreigner. She becomes the victim of humiliation. Fortunately, Inge has a good will to make an improvement in her life. She learns about English immediately. She has no wish to be out of harmony, no wish to be identified as alien from the new environment as her mother does or Monika (p.53). Therefore, Inge finally succeeds to raise her grade into a normal class, not in the class where she finds herself like a “Gulliver in the land of the Lilliputians”, because she becomes the biggest pupil in the grade under her (p.15).

In depth, she does not only succeed in rising her grade into a normal class, Inge also succeeds to become an outstanding student in her school because of her cleverness. It is her effort to be accepted in the class that is by shaping her intelligence.

Inge was a model student. A little quiet perhaps, some of her teachers commented, but catching up fast. She moved with her class to half a dozen different classrooms and teachers each day. In each room she met a different set of rules and expectations. Artful at adjusting, chameleon-like in her outward expression, she absorbed into herself the shapes, colours and sounds of her surroundings (p.59).

Eventhough she is a foreign student with her hard German accent, she instantly tries hard to fit into the new place which is very different from her origin and becomes one of popular students with her cleverness.

In addition, Inge is addicted to books and education which illustrates to the readers how she concerns much about knowledge. She loves reading books which can give her inspiration.

“Oh, yes, of course. I want to go to university. Look,” she took a book from the shelves, hoping he could enter her world as she had done his, “I’ve finished this book recently. Reading it was just like living in Australia last century...about a girl who goes to a strict, posh girls’ school. Her family is very poor and she has a hard time trying to fit in. I love the ending. She says that for each square peg, meaning herself, a suitable hole will ultimately be found.” (p.80).

Inge believes that books are very important and by reading books she will get knowledge that she can use in her life. Therefore, Inge’s awareness of the importance to get knowledge, leads her in deciding to take higher education where she can find more knowledge, because it makes her know what is the best for herself, and know what things to decide for her own lives. She does not want to become like her mother and grandmother who are entrapped in domestic lives, because they are uneducated.

Furthermore, Inge’s intelligence can be seen from the way she adores someone else. She once meets Mrs. Schmidt, a sixty year old German immigrant. Mrs. Schmidt is popular for her wise thought and knowledge. To Mrs. Schmidt, Inge can tell all her intimate stories which she knows it will be safe, and which she cannot share it with her mother (p.91). Mrs. Schmidt becomes Inge’s idol,

because Inge loves her vision of life where Inge finds she is a smart woman. Inge wants to learn the meaning of life from this type of person. She loves Mrs. Schmidt more from the way she struggles in finding her identity which seems identical with Inge. Mrs. Schmidt teaches Inge about life and existence of human being. Inge learns much from her. Meanwhile, another person who becomes Inge's idol is Mr. Loanes, a new history teacher at her school. Barry Loanes is known as witty and intelligent and his figure inspires Inge, and also because Inge loves history lesson which makes her adore Mr. Loanes much. The way Inge chooses her idol can be interpreted as an indication how another intelligent woman and man inspiring her life, and this is only a person with her intelligence too who makes such people to be her idol. After seeing several ways of Inge's thought and action, it can be seen obviously that Inge stores a figure of an intelligent woman.

3. Independent

Another of Inge's interesting characteristic is her independence. To see how Inge can be said as an independent woman, it has to be done by comparing the condition of women who live surrounding her. The meaning of independence itself based on *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* is not influenced by others, self-governing, and not relying on others. Here, we can see that Inge is not influenced by others, even by people who live closely to her, such as her mother and grandmother. Inge stands differently from both, either from the

way she thinks and acts. First, we have to understand about her mother, Lisl's characteristics. Lisl is a complicated mother who acts as a queen in the family, because everything is based on her own mood which is unpredictable, and everyone should follow with the flow of her mood. Furthermore, Lisl never behaves like a common mother who should care about her children. Inge and Monika are the victim of her negligence. Her caring is only for her youngest son, Bubi. Eventhough she gets less attention from her real mother, it does not make Inge turn into a negative child. Her mother attitude changes her to be independent. She is quite independent to choose her own pattern to live. Her dislike of her own mother attitude, precisely makes her to do the opposite way from her mother.

...that she had somehow like her mother. No, it echoed in her mind, I am not my mother. She put down the tray and followed him (p.81).

Inge never follows way of Lisl thinking about life. For example, Lisl always gives a judgement to other people by seeing their social status. On the contrary, Inge makes friends that according to Lisl are under the level.

Lisl switched to English. "My mother would never allowed me to bring a farmhand" (p.81).

The quotation above happens at the time Dan, a farmhand, joins the family gathering at dinner. Seeing Dan's social status creates Lisl's dislike, but Inge does not want to be like her mother. Inge does not want to follow any single way her mother thinking or acting, therefore she prefers do the opposite way, to be different from her mother. She gives her virginity to Dan as a debt of her mother treatment toward him, and a sign of her rebellion toward her mother.

Other woman character who can be taken out to compare with Inge is Mami, Inge's grandmother. Mami is a type of traditional women, weak, passive, and submissive. Since her first arrival to Australia, she establishes herself doing all the domestic affair, such as washing, cleaning the house, and cooking which will satisfy herself that she is needed (p.97). It can be understood why Mami acts in such a way, considering she lives in a conservative society. Inge once finds Mami's diary, where in one letter Mami wrote that "young women of good family usually stayed at home and worked in their dowries until they married" (p.134). She has no effort to protest, although sometimes the family do not appreciate her work. What she can do is only crying.

...she did not mention that she had cried for an hour after lunch when Bubi had gone to sleep. She did not know why she cried. It happened often that the tears came when she was busy working (p.103).

The present of her grandmother in Inge's life also does not lead Inge to act that way, to be submissive. Inge determines her self to be brave to protest of the unfair treatment. Inge's determination to act emphasizes the idea of being independent, for she is not influenced by female characters who live near her.

4. Curious

Being a person with a high curiosity makes Inge explores her adventurous spirit. She always feels curious about something new, and wants to know about mystery of life. Her adventurous spirit can be seen since her

childhood. For example, at the first arrival to Australia, it is not easy for her family to fit in the new environment. Most of them are dissatisfied and complained, especially Lisl, but Inge faces it in the opposite way.

...and when the rains came she would go down and explore it. She was filled with excitement and anticipation, for everything was now new and within her reach (p.10).

Inge enjoys the new place without any complain like others do, because entering a new place means knowing a new thing which will fulfill her curiosity.

Moreover, Inge's initiation to womanhood by getting her first menstruation is responded by a feeling of pride and challenge. She is proud becoming a real woman.

...Inge woke up one morning to find her bed sheets discoloured by blood. It seemed fitting somehow; a kind of initiation. She showed the sheets to Lisl with a mixture of pride and challenge. I too am a woman now, her tone of voice intimated (p.34).

This is a reflection of her adventurous spirit; having a chance to feel a new thing in life, because for other girls at the age, it will be such a difficult situation to face their first menstruation for it is not a thing they used to deal. On the contrary, Inge is proud and absolutely ready getting her first menstruation which symbolizes her entrance a real woman.

In addition, reaching her adolescence, Inge's curiosity toward life becomes greater which leads her to do such a brave decision. It is signified by giving her virginity to Dan. Surrounded by housewives who like to gossip about their sexual lives, makes Inge feel curious about it. She used to hear they are not

happy with the men, but have no choice about it, or the men will go to another women. Inge always wants to be different from those women. She wants to be a women who becomes a source of comfort to the men she loves and lives happily with him (p.33). She wonders that if it is true about what the feeling of those women of their sexual lives. To fulfill this curiosity, her adventurous spirit leads her to taste it. Then, for the first time, Inge gives her virginity to Dan.

So this is the mystery, Inge thought; so this is the smell and sound of life (p.82).

Inge feels proud that she has an opportunity to know another experience in life, because she gets something new for this. She can learn one more thing in life. In short, from several actions that are done, Inge symbolizes of a character with a spirit of an adventurous who always feels curious about mystery of life.

5. Strong

Inge is a survivor that gives an idea of a strong woman. Her strength is shaped by hard condition: first, the internal conflict in the family of uneasy relationship with her mother which she has undergone since childhood, and also with her hyper-sexual step father who directs his sexual desire to Inge when Lisl ignores him. Second, the external conflict for being an immigrant in a place where different language and culture are encountered.

As have been mentioned before that Inge has a complicated mother, Lisl, with her unpredictable mood which makes difficult to Inge to understand about her mother. Furthermore, it seems Lisl not care much about Inge, even her attitude toward Inge indicates her jealousy and dislike at her, Inge's beauty and attractiveness which attract men's attention are the reason of her jealousy.

For a moment Inge saw in Lisl's eyes a look which she found hard to define... It was look of envy, anger, tinged with hatred. Inge felt darkly that she and her mother were not of the same flesh as she had assumed, and that the loyalties she expected to be hers by birthright were being alienated by the dictates of that flesh. They had become rivals in the world of women. Inge found it unfair. She had not bid her body shape itself (p.54 & 55).

Eventhough Inge has to face this unfair treatment from her own mother, it does not make Inge depressed. She can pass the obstacle created by her mother, and her struggle in survive within such a condition leads her to be a strong woman. This can be seen from the way she faces life, for the hard condition does not make her turn to be negative, and not limit herself to explore her other qualities. For example, she still becomes one of an outstanding student in her school.

Lisl is not the only temptation for Inge, but it also comes from her step father, Karl. Karl, who notices Inge's beauty, turns to give more attention which results into Lisl's anger. The problem becomes more complicated when Lisl knows that Karl turns his desire object toward Inge. Inge confesses to Lisl that Karl tries to seduce her.

"Karl tries to make love to me. I try to avoid him because I don't want to hurt you and it's wrong. Now he is angry with me"(p.153).

Knowing this, Lisl decides to end her life by committing suicide. "Lisl had been found dead on the disused railway line" (p.154). The problem has not ended here, because the death of her mother gives Karl more opportunity in approaching Inge. It gives burden to Inge remembering the death of Lisl is because of her, and now she has to face a new problem from Karl who wants Inge replaces the position of Lisl, to be his wife. Inge succeeds to escape from Karl by leaving the house, and becomes a survivor in outside world. Inge's struggle to survive in her life outside the family which have been stated in the analysis previously also indicates a figure of a survivor.

B. The Idea of Feminism as an Effort to Get an Existence as a Woman as Seen in Inge's Struggles.

Feminism is an ideology to get the same rights and opportunity as well as men. It protests to the patriarchal system which places women as a secondary class, and to the limitation it gives to women to explore themselves, because women are considered to do only the domestic affairs which then exclude them from outside world. Here, Inge, as the main character in *Heartland* gives a new picture of woman as human. The writer tries to give her description which reflects the spirit of feminism, and in order to search her existence as a woman as human in the society.

In the previous analysis, it has been discussed that Inge is portrayed as a brave person. She bravely makes decision for herself, speaks out her mind and her bravery leads her as a protector then. A hard condition where Inge lives demands herself to be such a brave woman. Her mother's attitude who is jealous at her, and her anti-social little sister who needs her protection, and also the way her step-father treats her which oppresses her by doing sexual abuse are sort of conditions which create Inge to be brave.

If it is seen from stereotyping of women who are commonly described as a weak creature, Inge precisely breaks the women's negative stereotyping from the way she faces all the problems. She depicts an idea that brave is not only for men who can do it, but Inge as a woman can also be brave. Furthermore, seeing from condition where Inge lives, where we can find her father's statement about being a man, "If you are not a man who can survive, you are weakling" (p.105), this seems only for men who can be said as a weak person if they could not survive. But for women, it seems such a common perception if they could not survive, they would not considered to be weak, because they are already considered as weak people, whether or not they can survive.

Another goal of feminism is equality of education (knowledge). From this point, Inge is in a way to reach the goal. Her intellectuality brings her closer to the spirit of feminism. Inge, in her school world, succeeds to become one of an outstanding student because of her cleverness, eventhough she does not get full support from her mother and father about her school, she still considers that it is

important to get higher education. Furthermore, she once won the Camilla Wedgewood prize for literature (p.138). It shows how a woman who at first found difficulty to fit in the new culture, especially in the language, now can compete by showing her capability in the art of using language that is literature. Also, an opportunity to enter a school world indicates that a woman can shape their brain, if they have a chance to explore it. Here, we can see Inge who has an opportunity to study use this occasion to get as much knowledge that she can get from school and notes herself as a smart woman.

Moreover, Inge loves to read books, which she believes can give inspiration and vision to her how to determine her life, and she always wants higher education than other women in her family, because she does not want to be entrapped only in domestic arts, like her mother and grandmother do, for they have no skill which they can apply to work in outside world. Inge realizes knowledge that she gets either from books or by studying at school can bring her to reach her will. Her spirit to get more knowledge which makes her as an intelligent person shows how Inge can be a model of feminist action. Her choices to get higher education brings her up to the goal of feminism, equality of education, so she can find the way of life based on her intelligence. In other words, Inge's activeness to study and get knowledge in life can be a symbol how she breaks the stereotype of women, such as passive and receptive. Her struggle in life describes women's strength and efforts to survive in society which is dominated by men.

Meanwhile, living in a condition where the women around her, such as her mother and grandmother with a complicated and traditional ways of thinking does not make Inge to follow them. Realizing that Lisl is not a good model of a mother, makes into Inge's dislike toward her. She does not want to be like her mother. Indeed, her mother's complicated attitude results into Inge's independency. This can be explained by seeing into Inge's action in facing her problems. For example, the way Inge chooses her boyfriends. Once, she dates with Dan, a farmhand, and next she chooses David Rooney as her boyfriend, a student who comes from a family which according to Lisl is low status people (p.76).

“...for unlike her mother, she took all creatures whether one-legged or two-legged under her wing, and could think of nothing more delightful than to come home with a mangy, dejected puppy, a broken-winged bird or child that had lost its way. But Lisl had no sympathy for Inge's adolescent conscience and culled her friends at a phenomenal rate (p.6)”

The quotation above clearly explain that since her adolescence, Inge acts based on her own determination, whether or not her mother will agree with her. For Inge, as long as what she has done is true, she will not be afraid to do it, although as the consequence, she will get Lisl's anger as a reaction of her disapproval. In specific, since Inge's childhood, Lisl likes to tell Inge to select her friends, because friends according to Lisl can show her social status in life. But Inge knows that it is wrong to judge other people based on their social status. As a rebellion toward her mother's behaviour, Inge starts to choose her own way in

facing life and she usually choose the opposite way from her mother's view of life. As one example which has been stated above that she never picks her friends based on their social status. A decision that is taken by Inge is based on her own will which is not influenced from the people who live near her, and it reflects an independency which can be seen as a spirit of feminism; has an independency and freedom of choice.

Another woman character which can give an idea Inge has an independency of choice in facing her life also can be compared with the characteristics of her grandmother, Mami. Inge views Mami as a representative of a traditional woman who is oppressed by the situation. She is weak, passive and submissive. Mami thinks the only way she can do for being considered as an important person in the family is by doing all the domestic affair, such as washing, cleaning the house, and cooking (p.97). She even does not brave enough to speak out her protest to the family who seem not to appreciate her work in the house. She only cries in facing the hard situation. (p.145). Unlike her grandmother, Inge determines herself to be brave to protest if she finds an unfair treatment toward her. This can be emphasized when her step-father, Karl at one time wants to paint her in naked pose. She knows that it is not true, therefore she loudly protests and rejects her father's desire (p.148). In short, Inge's way of acts and thinks can be considered as a reflection of an independency without being influenced by other characters, especially women characters who live around her.

From this state of idea, Inge shows the spirit of feminism where woman should be brave to decide what is good for her own life based on a freedom of choice.

In addition, little Inge is a girl with a high curiosity toward life. This is illustrated from the time the family first arrival to Australia. While most of the member of her family are dissatisfied with the new environment, Inge is the only person who can accept the new place with excitement, because for her knowing a new thing is such a pleasure which fulfill her curiosity of life. Even her father as the head of the family also finds difficulty to fit to the new environment at first which then makes him hard to find a good job to support his family. In the opposite way, Inge seems as a model to her family to adapt the new things in their life. Furthermore, it is because of Inge too that her father finally can get a job as a history teacher in Inge's school which eventually raise their social status in the society. "...a teacher, that they would have status and a much better income,..." (p.77). Indirectly, Inge helps their family in survive at a new place. The way she assists the family to raise their status in social life gives an indication that a woman also can be a person who can give income to the household, although the way Inge helps her family is not directly.

Analyzed in depth into Inge's character, the writer can see clearly how Inge presents a woman heroine, and how she brings the idea of feminism. Her survival in facing a hard condition reflects her being a strong woman. It is shaped from the way she faces the conflicts in her life. The internal conflicts which are created by uneasy relationship between Inge and her mother, and her relationship

with her hyper-sexual father who directs his desire toward Inge after her mother turns frigid does not make Inge feel depressed. The way she struggles in facing the conflict with her mother can be said as a spirit of feminism, where woman can be strong, and does not merely make Inge depressed in social life. Even she can be an outstanding model student in her school.

The other internal conflict within her family comes from her step-father, Karl who directs his sexual desire to Inge after her mother turns frigid, and also because he notices Inge's perfection as a woman, beautiful and smart. The problem becomes more complicated after Lisl knows that Karl always tries to seduce Inge, for Inge finally confesses to Lisl (p.153). Therefore, after knowing the reality, Lisl decides to end her life by committing suicide (p.154). Inge's temptation has not ended yet, considering she is the main reason why her mother committed suicide, because Karl becomes more intense in approaching Inge, and he proposes Inge to replace her mother position after her death "... You are so much like your mother. You must take her place now" (p.156). It is obviously not easy for common people to face such a difficult situation. Inge decides then to leave the house, an act which symbolizes her strength, because living in outside world means a challenge for a girl at her age where she should support herself in economics' need, considering she also has a will to take higher education which demands for big financial. It is also an indication that she does not want to be controlled by male superiority. Here, Karl presents a figure of male's dominance as he is the breadwinner which makes himself superior and has the biggest control

in family's system. She insists to take the consequences, because if she still lives in the house, she will be entrapped by her step-father's authority. The action which is taken by Inge, shows her independency and brave decision, and her self determination in survive in her life portrays Inge as a strong woman. In other words, Inge successfully breaks women's stereotyping, dependent, weak, and receptive.

The second conflict which Inge has to face is the external conflict that is by being an immigrant family where different culture and language are encountered. Being trained by hard condition within conflicts in her family, it seems help Inge to be stronger to survive in a situation where she finds a discrimination for being an immigrant family. Fortunately, Inge adapts fast into the new environment, because she does not want to be noticed as an alien or foreigner. She wants the society accept her as a woman with her positive qualities. She wants the society no longer underestimate her existence as an immigrant. To reach the goal, Inge does some efforts in order to be accepted by the society. She then succeeds to become a popular student in her school because of her intelligence and beauty which increase her status value and notes her existence in school and society around her, whether at first the people underestimate her existence. Considering it is not easy for a foreigner to fit into a new place and succeeds to show her existence in the society, prescribes Inge as a survivor. Inge's struggles to be accepted in the new society which preserves her self pride and

dignity has a side of feminism, where Inge as a woman also can be strong in survive as well as men.

C. Liberal Feminism as a Mode of Inge's Thought and Action to Get Her Existence as a Woman.

Liberal feminism aims to achieve equal rights, political access, access to education and health, and social rights for women. It wishes to bring women equally into all public institutions and to extend women's knowledge, so women's issues can no longer be ignored (Humm, 1994: 181). Liberal feminism appears as a result to review the patriarchy which controls ideology by extending male power to further limit women's option in the family and employment. It seeks changes in the way individuals are treated in social system that are constructed by patriarchal society (Andersen, 1997: 337). Liberal feminism gives a new vision to affect women's consciousness of herself as a person with certain rights. It also convinces them that women have the potential to transform the society and for liberating social changes by using their power of thought, behaviour, and self-concept. Therefore, it could eradicate gender stereotyping which results into negative stereotypes of women.

According to Zillah Eisenstein, liberal feminism starts from the ideology of liberalism which demands for individual autonomy and independence, freedom of choice, equality of opportunity, and equality before the law (Humm, 1994:189). In the analysis, the writer uses the ideology of liberal

feminism, because Inge with her characteristics, in certain ways reflects its ideology. Her struggle to search and actualize her existence as a woman in the society conducts the idea of liberal feminism. To be more specific, it will be explained by seeing each of the goal of liberal feminism which is portrayed in Inge's character in searching her existence.

Inge's self-determination in choosing the pattern of her life and facing all the problems shows her freedom of choice. She has individual autonomy in controlling her life. Eventhough she lives in an environment as has been discussed in depth previously, such as living in a family with a complicated relationship with Lisl, and Mami, a picture of a traditional woman with her conservative thought, cannot make Inge to turn her way to be similar with them. She always wants to be a different woman, in a positive way, because in her view, Lisl is not a good model to be followed as a mother. In other way, Mami is a typical of woman who is very submissive to the condition, whether she finds some unfair treatment toward her. On the contrary, Inge determines to speak out her mind if she finds the same treatments. Her determination to make a decision based on her own thought, which is not influenced by the women's characters who live around her for she knows both of them cannot be models of good women as women, states her autonomy and independency to choose.

Another point which gives an idea of liberalism is emphasized by seeing Inge's will to take higher education. It is in purpose to shape her brain to be an intellectual person. If it is observed from the point of the goal of liberal

feminism, Inge presents as a woman to reach it. She wants equality access of education, even though her family do not really support her in educational needs. It is all based on Inge's initiative to take higher education. For she realizes, it will be able to transform the social opinion about women that they only can do the domestic affairs by doing the household necessity, such as: washing and cooking for their husband and children. Women with her intellectual will have more access or opportunity in employment or to make her career in outside world. From the story, we can see the figure of Lisl and Mami who are entrapped in domestic life, because they have no skill or ability which they can apply to work outside the family. Therefore, liberal feminism struggles for the voice of women that they should have the same access in education as well as men in order to give them more knowledge and vision, so they can decide what is the best for their own careers, and finding their existence in the society.

Furthermore, freedom of choice as one of the aim of liberal feminism can be analyzed by seeing the way Inge decides to leave the house after Karl asks her to be his wife, because she does not want to be entrapped in the domestic life, and it shows that she is not under the control of male superiority where it is known that Karl is as the head of the family and the breadwinner who used to have a dominant control to play a role in the family's system. The significance of her leaving symbolizes that as a woman, she has an ability to support herself in economics' necessity, because no one will subsidy her, and also she is liberating herself from men's control. As a woman, she does not want to be the victim of

sexual abuse because of male's dominance, in this case, Karl. If she has to have the sexual need, it is not because she is in forced or oppressed, but for the reason she wants to do it. For example, at the time she gives her virginity to Dan.

She then decides to leave the house and choose to live in outside world although she knows already it is not an easy decision because living outside will mean a big challenge for her, as a woman especially in which she does not know what obstacles she might find later. But being trained by difficult situation from inside the family, indeed turns Inge to be a survivor. The hard condition eventually creates herself to be brave, strong, and independent, and she is certainly prepared to face the challenge in outside world with her intellectual as a woman. Her characteristics reveal an effort of liberal feminism that women have a progress in thinking to determine their lives. They no longer can be said as women who only receive and passive to the condition which they have to face.

Meanwhile, we can take look back at, or at the present situation. It can be found that the women's position are mostly under the men's domination or namely as secondary class citizen, and the women are perpetually pictured as weak, submissive, dependent, and passive, and in the opposite way, the men are categorized as strong, active, and independent figures. Obviously yet, Inge here is presented as a representative of a woman heroine. As has been mentioned clearly, she portrays and breaks the negative stereotyping of women. Inge's characteristics bring the spirit of feminism for she is brave, strong, intelligent, active, and independent.

In addition, although the feminist movement has been started for some decades ago, until now women are still portrayed as secondary class citizen. The movement has not reached entirely in all places yet, such as political and social life. For this reason, after giving an analysis into Inge's character, her characteristics finally prescribe the idea of liberal feminism in which she, as a woman can stand equal, not as secondary person.. This can be taken out from the way she acts and thinks which shows the spirit of liberalism with the aims to achieve equal legal, political, and social rights for women. It struggles for equality in all public's life between men and women, and liberal feminism tries to give vision to women, so that women can get more knowledge of being women as human, not as secondary class citizen, and it is hoped the society cannot ignore women's problem.

As the idea of liberal feminism demands for individual self-determination, freedom of choice, individual autonomy, and equality of law, it is in the same path with Inge's characteristics. As a woman, she can be a model and inspire other women who are receptive to the condition and who only act and think based on what the patriarchal society has prescribed what women have to become and do. Most women even do not know that they have a capability in exploring more things in their life, just because they are entrapped in the thought of patriarchal society which describes women are subordinate to men. As Mary Wollstonecraft in Andersen, *Thinking About Women* states, "what appeared to be the natural weakness of women was the result of their lack of liberty and their

dependence on men” (1997: 326). Therefore, liberal feminism tries to free women from the condition which discredit them, and gives liberty for liberating social changes for women. Meanwhile, Inge’s character is recorded in the novel to awake other women that they also have a capability to transform the negative stereotype about women by using the power of thought, behaviour, and self-concept.

In specific, liberal feminism as a mode of thought and action that is conducted by Inge, tries to give a new vision of life to women, as it gives a chance to women to have freedom of choice in choosing the pattern of their lives. Liberal feminism also gives a new picture of women as human by eradicate the gender stereotypes, so women can have more opportunities in life without any limitation which make them entrapped to live under men’s domination. Furthermore, by seeing the idea and aims of liberal feminism, it seems Inge here is presented as a representative of a model who prescribes the spirit of liberal feminism to get self pride and dignity, and all the efforts she has done is to actualize her existence in the society as woman as human.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

After analyzing *Heartland* by applying liberal feminism approach, it can be revealed the idea of liberal feminism action in the story. Inge, as the main character becomes a woman heroine, one of general characteristics of feminists' works. Inge's struggle to be accepted in the new society in order to get her existence, portrays the ideology of liberal feminism where women want and should have equality of rights to act freely and have individual autonomy for themselves. To come to that point, there are three subjects which have been analyzed. The first is seeing through Inge's character in depth by applying theory of character, therefore the description of Inge can be seen vividly. Then, it is continued with analyzing her characteristics which bring the ideology of feminism to get her existence as a woman, with emphasizing how Inge's character breaks women stereotyping, a characteristic of being feminine which is constructed by the patriarchal society. Moreover, the discussion leads to the next subject, where it discusses about what kind of feminism which Inge's portrays to get her existence as a woman as human in the society.

Inge, the woman heroine in *Heartland* is described as a brave, intelligent, active, and independent. Her character stores a new picture of women, considering there have been general characteristics for women which are created by patriarchal society how women should be feminine, or otherwise how men



should be masculine. The general characteristics which then become a system effects to gender discrimination, because commonly women are classified differently from men where they are portrayed as weak, dependent, passive, submissive, and subordinate to men, while men's pictures are in the opposite ways. The system which becomes such a stereotype leads to construct the women's thought. Most women with conservative ways of thinking can agree or accept it as a rule that they should follow which makes them stand as secondary class citizen, because they have no ability to act freely as men can do in choosing the pattern of their own lives. Analyzing in more depth through her character, it can give more values how Inge's character reflects an idea of feminism. It can be seen obviously by comparing her character to the stereotyping labeling on women. She is successfully breaks those general characteristics of being feminine which women should follow. Inge's self-determination in choosing the path of life and has a freedom of choice to act based on her individual autonomy without any system which will give boundaries for her, portrays the goal of feminism. In short, Inge evokes a picture of feminism in the way she behaves and struggles for her life.

Then the discussion comes to the last subject which is observing what kind of feminism that the main character is conducted to note her existence as a tough young woman in the society. The ways in which Inge choose in her life are an effort to survive in a society where Inge as a German immigrant finds it difficult to fit at first, because she lives in a country that is Australia, which

different language and culture are encountered. But with her intellectuality, she succeeds to adapt to the new society which then she becomes an outstanding young woman who can show her pride and dignity in the society. Meanwhile, it is not only from the society where it can be found Inge's struggle in facing the problems in her life which shows the idea of feminism, but her struggle to face the conflicts within her family who has to live with a complicated mother, and a hyper-sexual father makes Inge's character emphasize her as a woman heroine, for she is not only surviving from the pressure of man, but also from her own mother. Inge's self-determination to choose the pattern of life which is good for her evokes the spirit of feminism, because she has the control to construct herself, not by the people or the society.

Furthermore, seeing the spirit to have a freedom of choice, to have an individual autonomy, and Inge's self-determination, she can be represented as a young woman who depicts the idea of liberal feminism who is recorded in a literary work for liberating social changes for women. Liberal feminism aims to eradicate gender stereotyping labeling on women which discriminates them in social and public's life, and promises of equality in political and social rights for women. Therefore, it is through a literary work as a medium to present Inge as a model to be a representative to give an inspiration for all women and awaken readers' consciousness that a woman also can stand equal with men in the way she acts and thinks, and women's existence can no longer be ignored. From this point, it is expected through a literary work which brings the idea of liberal

feminism with represents a figure of women, the stereotyping which labeling on women cannot give limitation anymore for women to explore their intellectuality and capability in social institution.

In conclusion, this analysis portrays a life of a young woman who has to live in difficult condition that are internal and external conflicts. First, the internal conflict within her family, the second is from the society as well, but she has to survive in both conditions. Inge's self-determination to struggle in facing the problems of her life can be seen as a picture of feminist action, because Inge evokes different characteristics from stereotyping on women. In a different way, Inge stores a figure of a woman who is brave, independent, active, and very intellectual. For more specific, Inge's support the idea of liberal feminism, where she eradicates women's stereotyping, and also have freedom of choice and individual autonomy to manage herself in which in the same path with the goal of liberal feminism. The liberal feminism actions which are conducted by Inge show her pride and dignity as a woman to get an existence in a society where she lives in.

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APPENDIX

Summary of Fremd's *Heartland*

The Heinrich is a German family who immigrates to Australia after the second World War which effects to the economics' crisis in the family. They move to Australia in order to gain a better life. Karl, as the head of the family brings his wife, Lisl, Inge (his step-daughter), and Monika (his own daughter). As immigrants, they find many difficulties, considering the new country in which they live has a different language and culture. Inge becomes the one who can show her survival in the new place. She succeeds to note her existence in the society by the way she acts and thinks. As a young woman who has to undergo the conflicts in her family, and the society as well, Inge does not let the oppression toward her to become an obstacle to be accepted as an outstanding person.

Inge deals with the internal conflicts successfully which can be seen from the way she overcomes the problem of uneasy relationship with her own mother who is jealous of her beauty and youth, also her hyper-sexual father who asks Inge to replace the position of her mother as his wife, after the death of her mother. Indeed, the way she overcomes the problems in her family, leads her to be more prepared in facing the problems in the society. In school, Inge is a popular student because of her cleverness. In fact, as a German, at first she found difficulty in absorbing the lesson because she has not mastered the English. Inge

has a good will in making an improvement in her life. Therefore, she studies English and the lessons fast. As a result, she becomes a model student in her school.

Furthermore, at the end of the story, Inge takes a significant decision by leaving the house to escape from Karl's authority, considering he is the breadwinner of the family which makes him has the biggest control in the family. She does not want to be entrapped in domestic life in which she should live with her step-father. The significance of her leaving is to get her freedom to manage her own self, because she knows her life will be controlled by Karl, should she stay.. Meanwhile, she does not want to replace her mother's position, to be Karl's new wife. Therefore, Inge decides to leave her house with her boyfriend, David Rooney, in whom she can make her free will as a realization.

