

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

5.1 Conclusion

After analyzing *Zami: A New Spelling of My Name*, the writer concludes that Lorde portrays the process of how Lorde becomes a black lesbian woman. I conclude that Lorde's implicity presents the readers with the self-representation, sisterhood, and power of black women through the main character of the book.

In this research, there are two types of self-representation, and the writer focuses on the two types that are most highlighted. There are self-representation as black female and self-representation as a lesbian. Self-representation is represented through the main character, Audre Lorde. Lorde vividly describes how a black woman goes through hard experiences since she was a child because of discrimination and racism. Moreover, Lorde shows the struggle of the main character as a black lesbian woman who lives in American racist society. This book interestingly illustrates the self-representation of the black woman as a strong and self-assured woman through the main character. Regarding self-representation as a black lesbian, the author displays the change in the main character's sexual desire blatantly. The author describes Lorde does not know how to express her sexuality, but she loves women since her earlier days. The researcher concludes that Lorde also shows black feminist and queer issues and she fully supports them. Lorde also

shows that lesbian women, especially black lesbians also have the same rights as humans in general.

The author represents two types of sisterhood as a result of friendship as fellow black women and black lesbians. Sisterhood with black women can be seen in Lorde's friendship with Gennie, her black friend in high school. Meanwhile, sisterhood with black lesbians can be seen through the relationship between Lorde and Felicia. The author also portrays that black lesbian women do not even feel comfortable in the lesbian village because most are white. Lorde explains that they are trying to create a community where they can share mutual support. Lorde wants to tell readers everywhere that as a black lesbian, she survived and there will be someone who understands us. The writer claims the author tries to represent sisterhood because black women can build their own community to support each other and fight against discrimination toward black women.

The writer believes that in this book, power is represented as a source of strength for the main character to support her in achieving her self-representation. This can be seen through the relationship between Lorde and her mother and her lovers, Eudora and Afrekete. The author explains that because of her mother she can survive in a racist society as a black. Also, Lorde shows that she learns so much about loving women and being herself from Eudora and Afrekete. The writer believes Lorde would remember all the women who become her source of strength and power and thank them. Also, the author tries to show the reader that we should not forget people that become our source of power.

5.2 Suggestion

Zami: A New Spelling of My Name by Audre Lorde is one of the interesting black women's autobiographies. Unfortunately, there is not much research about this book yet. The writer personally suggests that other researchers discuss self-portraits as a lesbian poet in the novel *Zami: A New Spelling of My name* because it is interesting to discuss. For the readers, the writer hopes this research can help readers to give useful references to enrich the understanding of self-representation, sisterhood, and women's power.

