

CHAPTER V CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This chapter contains the conclusion and suggestion for further study of rural identity in short story collection by Barbara Baynton *Bush Studies*. The first sub-chapter is the conclusion about the analysis. Then, I will suggest a study based on my limitation that leads into future study.

5.1 Conclusion

After analyzing *Bush Studies*, the writer of this thesis concludes that the depiction of rural identity of female characters in bush Australia throughout the short story collections by Barbara Baynton *Bush Studies* is authentic only in this country. The findings of this thesis will be explained in several points below:

The female characters are married, and most of them have lack knowledge about what marriage is. It causes many women to suffer from marriage. Female characters in *Bush Studies* are respectful and obedient wives toward their mates. They are also good mothers. The relationship between mother and daughter in this book is the only reciprocal relationship that is very positive and illustrates romanticism.

They are such independent and hard-working women. Their profession as farmers and woodcutters who live in the isolated rural without gender-based of works is the evidence of it. Instead, the female characters are enslaved by their partners. The woman does all the work that requires a muscular physique and energy, from lifting

equipment, chopping wood, herding cattle, and etc. With this hard work, the females seemed more dexterous in completing their tasks. In addition, how the author describes the physique and ability of the female characters also proves that the women in the bush are survivors.

Female characters in *Bush Studies* are lonely but brave and tough women. It is because the 'bush' in this short story, known as an isolated place in the middle of a forest, is dangerous for females. Baynton also mentions that the female character in *Bush Studies* is a pipe smoker. Through this novel, Baynton successfully conveys her feminist idea that women are not left behind and deserve to be the main characters in a story and be included in what is viewed as a heroic figure.

Baynton also delivered her feminist idea through the characterization of women that she described in the story. When women are portrayed with bodies that become objects for men, Baynton instead depict female characters in *Bush Studies* as physically burly, strong, and tough. Baynton also shows a gender reversal through her short story. She also explains about the cruelty of rural in bush Australia. She also makes the female characters in the story as protagonist and primary roles.

5.2 Suggestion

Many other topics could be analyzed in *Bush Studies* Barbara Baynton. In this case, the specific topic that is still related to identity will be my suggestion due to another finding that just could not being studied by me because of the limitation of my objective. The short story collection requires further studies in the object of postcolonial literary criticism. It is because *Bush Studies* presents the dominance of white cultural domination in Australian culture and ethnicities. Therefore, it will be much more varied if the next research on postcolonial involving the six short stories by Barbara Baynton *Bush Studies*.

