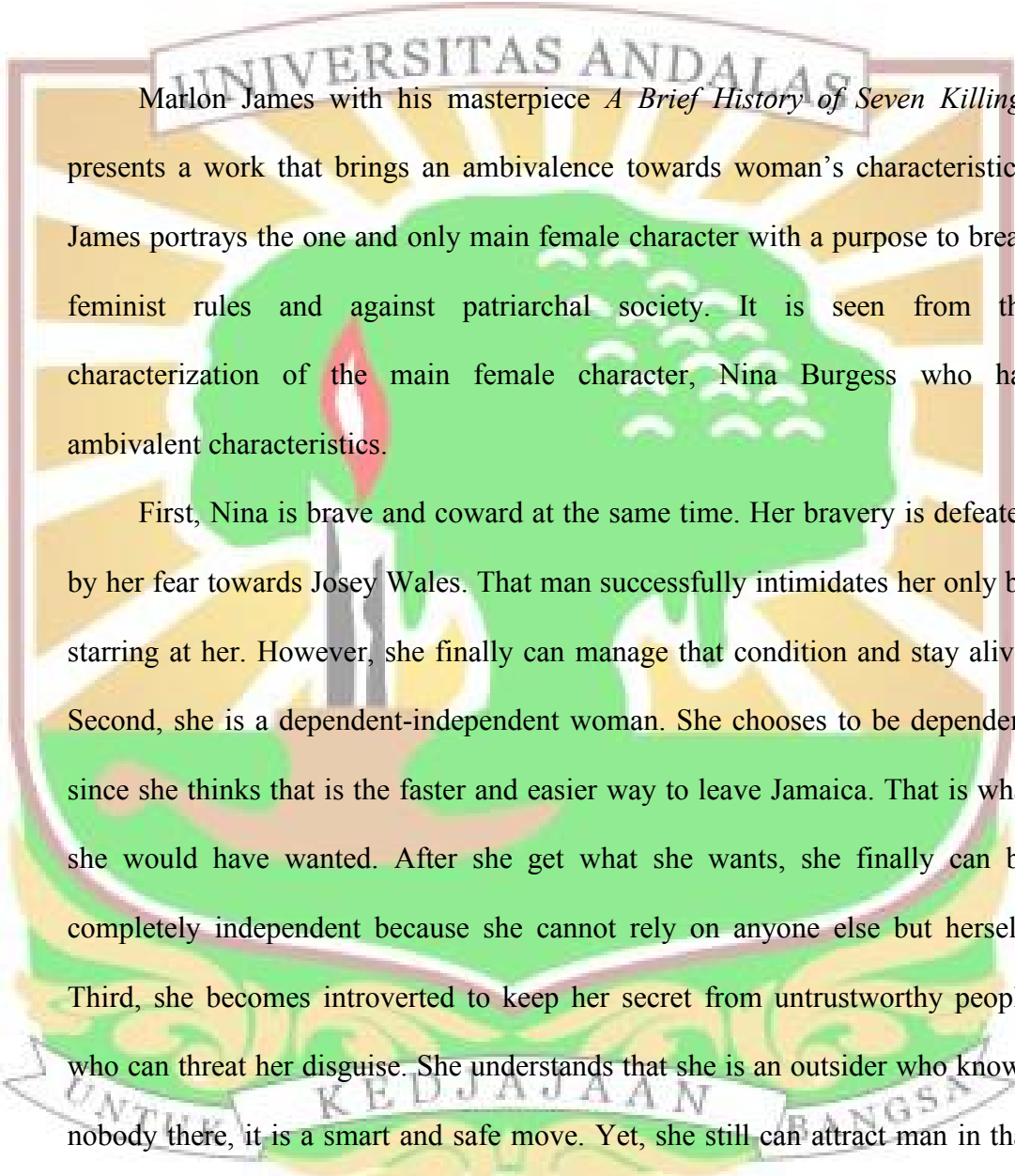


CHAPTER 4

CONCLUSION



Marlon James with his masterpiece *A Brief History of Seven Killings* presents a work that brings an ambivalence towards woman's characteristics. James portrays the one and only main female character with a purpose to break feminist rules and against patriarchal society. It is seen from the characterization of the main female character, Nina Burgess who has ambivalent characteristics.

First, Nina is brave and coward at the same time. Her bravery is defeated by her fear towards Josey Wales. That man successfully intimidates her only by starring at her. However, she finally can manage that condition and stay alive. Second, she is a dependent-independent woman. She chooses to be dependent since she thinks that is the faster and easier way to leave Jamaica. That is what she would have wanted. After she get what she wants, she finally can be completely independent because she cannot rely on anyone else but herself. Third, she becomes introverted to keep her secret from untrustworthy people who can threat her disguise. She understands that she is an outsider who knows nobody there, it is a smart and safe move. Yet, she still can attract man in that way. That means, she is interesting and also good-looking. Last, she is a very clever woman. She knows how to act in difficult situations and can arrange a good plan to escape and stay alive. However, woman is still a woman who tend

to follow her feeling. In fact, Josey Wales never chases her, she is the one who feels like being chased. She has an ambivalent characteristic; combination of both masculine and feminine qualities.

In addition, Register's "Prescriptive Criticism" also performs the same thing to point out this ambivalent woman's characteristics. First, this novel *serves a forum for women* since the main female character can manage her difficult situation and balance men's qualities. She desires many things and accomplishes them although it takes time longer than men. Second, although the society in the novel cannot *help to achieve cultural androgyny*, yet the one and only main female character is way significant to achieve androgyny characteristics. That is because she has both masculine and feminine characteristic. She is neither super-hyper masculine nor feminine, she is in between. Third, she can *provide role model* for the reason she never complains and face her problem bravely. She can live alone and rely on herself. Her problem does not weaken her, it even strengthens her. Fourth, it is not like she cannot *promote sisterhood*, but she has her own way to show it. It is true that she has an uneasy relationship with her sister, but actually she loves her (sibling's love). She understands her sister and cares about her, either she realizes it or not. That is just to protect Kimmy from the cruel world. She acts toughly yet shows some kind of generosity towards her sister. Last, this novel tells more about the social issue like job discrimination, whereas, in order to augment *consciousness-raising*, literary work should offer the internal values of

sexism. Nevertheless, this novel also contains “female personality development” which is needed to augment consciousness-raising. Nina Burgess, from someone who just uses her body and beauty to get what she wants, becomes someone who uses her intellect and skill; she undergoes the change or personality development. This thing indirectly helps to show her ambivalent characteristics.

From the previous explanations, I conclude that the ambivalent woman’s characteristics are exist in this *A Brief History of Seven Killings* novel by Marlon James through the one and only main female character, Nina Burgess. Nina Burgess neither has feminine nor masculine qualities, she has both. She not only embodies feminine qualities but also possesses the masculine ones at the same time. Her complex personalities break the rules of feminist and challenge patriarchal society. She presents the positive impacts toward her ambivalent characteristics. Also, through this novel, the idea of ambivalence is somehow shows James’s desire to promote androgyny characteristics, because it is better than being either super-hyper masculine or feminine.

