

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

After reading and analyzing *The Danish Girl* by David Ebershoff, the writer concludes that Einar Wegener's journey exemplifies a profoundly introspective and emotionally charged interpretation of Joseph Campbell's Hero's Journey. The challenges he faces, ranging from internal conflict and psychological rejection to internal conflict, misdiagnosis and physical suffering, highlight the complex nature of transformation when the goal is to find one's true self rather than achieve external conquest. These challenges are part of his transformation into Lili Elbe, which reflects a different kind of heroism. Thus, the writer found twelve out of seventeen of the Hero's Journey stages proposed by Joseph Campbell. While certain stages of Campbell's monomyth, such as the Refusal of the Call, Road of Trials, and Apotheosis, are clearly fulfilled, others, particularly the Return and Mastery of Two Worlds, does not fit neatly. Einar does not return as the same self, he disappears so that Lili may fully exist. In this case, the conclusion of the journey is not defined by the traditional heroic return but by the existential fulfillment of living, however briefly, as one's true self. Thus, Lili's story offers an essential insight into the costs and meaning of honesty in a society that rejects it, interpreting heroism as the bravery to accept truth despite loss.

Furthermore, the writers suggest that future research should explore other aspects, such as filling the gap or comparing *The Danish Girl* with other novels or memoirs featuring transgender protagonists. Also, analyze how Campbell's hero's journey can be interpreted or challenged by gender transition narratives in literature.