

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

The novel *Enter Ghost* (2023), which is political at its core from the outset, presents perspectives on art as resistance and as a form of protest, and raises other issues worth highlighting. Isabella Hammad's *Enter Ghost* (2023) is female-centred, particularly in its main character and narrator, Sonia. Hence, through Sonia's point of view, *Enter Ghost* (2023) also forms Palestinian women's independence. This can be inferred from a gynocritical reading, which further suggests that Hammad constructs her writing to encourage the body, psyche, language, and culture as an expression of how women voice their perspectives on traditions regarding women, making them independent, as well as their resistance to political issues.

Isabella Hammad clearly illustrates the differences among all her female characters in their respective identities. Sonia strengthens herself after experiencing numerous struggles during her youth, including insecurity about her body image, divorce, abortion, and miscarriage, by becoming an actress. After her divorce, Mariam empowers herself to be a working parent with artistic authority. Haneen supports her awareness of her Palestinian roots while continuing to work as a lecturer. Each of the female characters is portrayed as an independent Palestinian woman on her career journey, struggling with her self-image, expectations, love life, and political instability. Thus, among the three of them, Hammad shows how their identities coalesce into a collective identity that creates female agency through their life journeys, careers, and roots as Palestinian women amid political instability.

Moreover, the issues Hammad explores from Sonia's perspective offer insights into the connections among the female characters, thereby underscoring the bonds of womanhood. The concept of womanhood in this analysis breaks down into sisterhood and motherhood-relatedness, which are inseparable and mutually supportive. Drawing on Nancy F. Cott, Barbara Welter, and bell hooks' ideas of womanhood, sisterhood among female characters also underscores solidarity and emotional support that shape their female agency. The female characters here later connect and bond, shaping a collective identity and cultivating solidarity. Regardless of past events, they build solidarity to portray modern women who resist societal norms that have become stereotypes and demean women. Moreover, motherhood is women's instinct for nurturing; this also unites Sonia and Mariam, enabling them to play nurturing roles and support women, whether in the context of politics or humanity, in their domestic matters. Hammad shows that sisterhood and motherhood strengthen the sense of womanhood in *Enter Ghost*, as embraced by Sonia, Mariam, and Haneen. Hence, Hammad represents the voice of womanhood in *Enter Ghost* through female agency, political resistance, solidarity, women's nurturing, and art performance.

