CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGESSIONS

At the end of this study, the writer will present some conclusions and suggestions based on the research findings. This study analyzes the reader's response to Maya Angelou's poems by using the reader-response criticism theory. The poems used are Woman Work, Still I Rise, Caged Bird, Phenomenal Woman, and When I Think About My Self. This research aims to find out how readers respond to the five Maya Angelou poems given, whether the readers feel that these poems represent women's voices. Respondents of this study were female students of Andalas University, English Department 2016. The writer managed to collect 32 responses from the questionnaires that had been distributed. By gathering responses from readers, the writer makes the following conclusions.

First, the poems used in this study are easy to understand. More than half of the readers can understand these poems easily. However, several readers admitted that the given poems were difficult to understand. They have a little difficulty understanding the symbols used by Maya Angelou in her poetry, but they can understand the poet's themes. Although not all readers have read poems with this theme before, they all like these poems' themes. Almost all readers have even recommended these poems to others and are interested in reading other poems by Maya Angelou.

Second, all respondents agree that these poems represent women's voices. They think that these poems aimed at women. Readers believe that the writer wrote these poems to motivate women to be brave to fight for their rights and to love themselves more. The readers also claim that these poems changed the way they thought. They feel more excited and motivated after reading these poems.

Furthermore, the writer found interesting facts from this study. Firstly, after collecting responses from readers, the writer found that each question's answers were related when linked. It means that the answers given by respondents to each question are correlated. It turns out that their personal experiences influence the answers given by respondents. Almost all respondents have experienced discrimination in their life. This fact proves that the respondents managed to become active readers in this study by providing responses and criticism. Second, the writer finds that it is the reader who makes literary texts come alive. When the reader interacts with the text, they bring what is in their head, such as her experiences, feelings, hopes, and identities. The reader then gives meaning to the text she is reading, thereby successfully filling in the gaps or blank spaces.

After conducting this study, the writer hopes that the department creates a new class for Maya Angelou's poetry. The reason is that the discussion of poetry by black writers on this theme is still scarce. These poems deserve to be discussed in class because readers believe that Maya Angelou managed to become a role model worthy of emulation as a woman. She never gave up on achieving equality and freedom. The

readers are also sure that students' reading interest in poetry will increase with this particular class.

Overall, this study is far from perfect. The writer experienced several obstacles in conducting this research. This research is taking place when Covid-19 is attacking the entire country and limiting physical interactions. This pandemic led to the imposition of physical restriction. It is undeniable that this policy is quite difficult for the writer to carry out research and cannot conduct direct thesis guidance. Therefore the writer finally decided to use an online questionnaire to collect data from respondents. So that this thesis, which was supposed completed in August, was delayed. These obstacles prove that this study is not perfect and requires further research. However, the writer is very grateful to the supervisor who is always willing to take the time to provide online guidance so that finally, the writer can complete research during this pandemic.

Finally, the writer hopes that this research will provide readers with knowledge and information about Maya Angelou's poetry. It is expected that the readers can take these poems' positive values in their daily lives. The writer also hopes that there will be further research on Maya Angelou's poetry and further research on this literary work. The next researcher expected to prepare themselves for data collection better and be supported by interviews to maximize the data.