

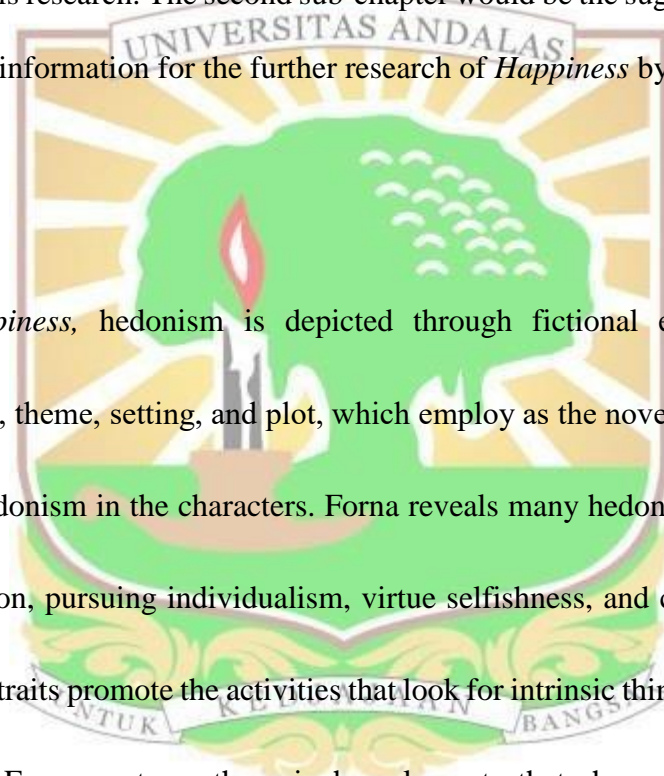
## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

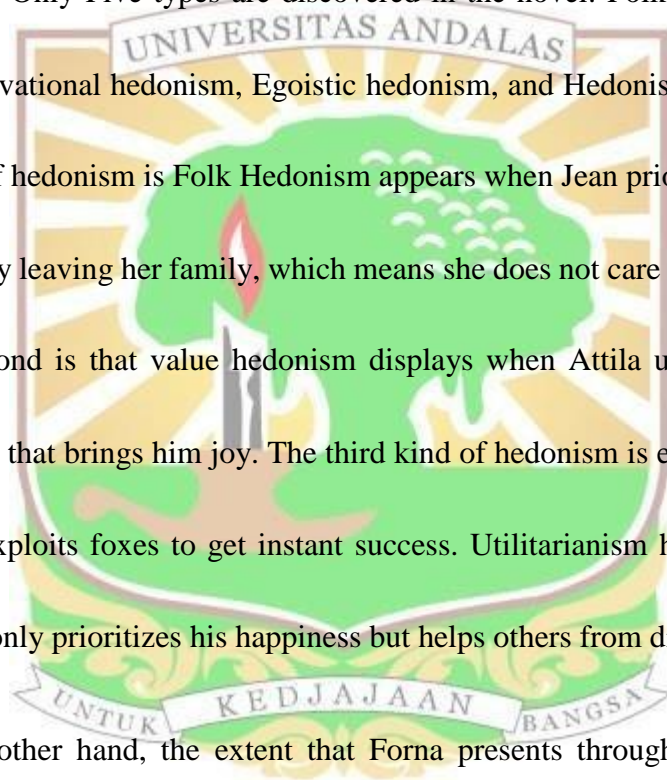
This chapter consists of two sub-chapters. The first sub-chapters will be the conclusion of this research. The second sub-chapter would be the suggestion that might provide helpful information for the further research of *Happiness* by Aminatta Forna's masterpiece.

#### 5.1 Conclusion

In *Happiness*, hedonism is depicted through fictional elements such as characterization, theme, setting, and plot, which employ as the novel's theme. I found that to show hedonism in the characters. Forna reveals many hedonistic traits such as high consumption, pursuing individualism, virtue selfishness, and curios. These four main hedonism traits promote the activities that look for intrinsic things for satisfaction and happiness. Forna portrays these in her elements that show the experience of pleasure from the pain and difficulties their face. However, the situation leads Attila, Jean, Wolfer, and Tano to expound their thought on pleasurable experience; food, enjoyment, money, and love as the ultimate goal in life. More simply, a hedonist strives for something good for them that could determine how they should act and what motives them to behave in that way.



However, Forna also describes how hedonism shaped humans into several types. Many differences of hedonism sometimes lead to the contradiction of seeking pleasure to avoid pain. Forna develops action, cause, and effect, which condense in Weijer's theory. Only Five types are discovered in the novel: Folk hedonism, Value hedonism, Motivational hedonism, Egoistic hedonism, and Hedonistic Utilitarianism. The first kind of hedonism is Folk Hedonism appears when Jean prioritizes her future, sexual desires by leaving her family, which means she does not care about her family's future. The second is that value hedonism displays when Attila uses his money to pursue anything that brings him joy. The third kind of hedonism is egoistic hedonism, when Wolfer exploits foxes to get instant success. Utilitarianism hedonism exhibits how Attila not only prioritizes his happiness but helps others from difficulties.



On the other hand, the extent that Forna presents through the behavior of hedonism in the story resulted in two impacts. The impact of hedonism through a character's behavior, such as becoming a sex addict and destroying nature to benefit oneself due to the bad impact of hedonism. On the other hand, Forna also shows hedonism's good impact, such as creating self-improvement and cultivating hobbies. These findings of this research show two differences of principles enunciated by

Sigmund Freud: each character's ability to balance his/her pleasure with the rules and expectation of solid external reality to find happiness.

The pleasure and reality principle governs human behavior. The pleasure principles encourage Jean and Wolfer to follow their desires and pleasure regardless of the social standards and moral restraints these depictions can observe from their characterization. Forna depicted the pleasure principle by showing how Jean dominantly emphasizes her sexual values, ignores the marriage policy, and leaves her husband and son. Her behavior represents the pleasure principle, and Wolfer kills foxes and other animals to get money. Jean and Wolfer feel it necessary to seek pleasure as the form of what pleases them. In *Happiness*, Forna presents the reality principle that postpones the immediate gratification, which can be shown through Attila and Tano's characterization in achieving the longer satisfaction they need to avoid future pain.

## 5.2. Suggestions

Finally, I want to suggest for those who are interested in observing and analyzing this novel. Aminatta Forna is one of the greatest contemporary authors that illustrate hedonism, demonstrating interconnected lives between human nature based on their needs and pleasure concept. This novel discusses that a good life should be pleasurable, making pleasure-seeking a proper aim motivating people to do what they

do. For those researchers who are willing to take *Happiness's* novel as one of their research objects, the writer would suggest applying the moral-philosophical or sociological approaches to implement this research.

