

THE INFLUENCE OF FA MU LAN AS A WOMAN WARRIOR
TOWARD KINGSTON'S PERCEPTION ON FEMINISM IN
MAXINE HONG KINGSTON'S *THE WOMAN WARRIOR*



A Thesis Presented to the English Department, the Faculty of Letters,
Widya Mandala University as Partial fulfillment of the Requirements
for the Sarjana
Degree in English

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FACULTY OF LETTERS
WIDYA MANDALA UNIVERSITY
MADIUN
2004

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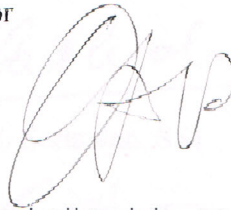
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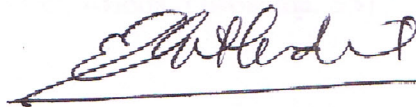
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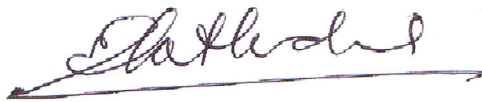
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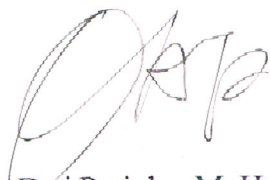
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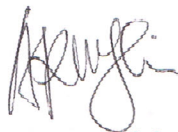
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Dean,



(Eko Budi Setiawan, SS)

This thesis dedicated to :

- ❖ My beloved God
- ❖ My beloved Parents
- ❖ My beloved Sister
- ❖ My beloved Brother
- ❖ My beloved Mrs. Risana
- ❖ My beloved Twin Sister and
Younger Brother
- ❖ My Special Friend
- ❖ My Almamater

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

My deepest gratitude is rendered to Jesus Christ. You seem far away, but I know exactly that you always lay beside me, loving and teaching me what the great loves is in all my life journey from day to day. Due to his blessing, the writer is able to finish composing the thesis.

On this occasion, I would like to address my sincerest gratitude to Eko Budi Setiawan, SS as Co. Advisor and the Dean of the Faculty of letters of Widya Mandala University Madiun. Furthermore, I would like to express my respect to my Advisor, Drs. Dwi Aji Prajoko, M. Hum.

I am Greatfull to all my lectures of Widya Mandala University Madiun, especially those of the English Department which have shared their valuable knowledge. I am also gratefull to the librarians of Widya Mandala University Madiun, for their kindness facilitating me with many important books and dictionaries.

My biggest respect and honor go to my parents who has been giving her unlimited loves for me. She has shown me the best way to keep struggling and to pass the difficulties of life. In this page, I only say, "Than's my parents, your love and care will always be carved in the bottom of my heart and I will remember it all my life. I am nothing without you".

Finally, I will also respect to my sister, my brother, twin sister, my younger brother and my special friends in my heart. Your finance and patience will never

forget in my life. In this occasion, I cannot say more to you. "Thank's all my sister, my brother and ny special friend for your love, may your life will always be in success. Your love and support make me much spirit to finish this thesis.

Linda Veranita

ABSTRAK

Membaca novel "*The Woman Warrior*", penulis tertarik untuk menganalisa unsur feminisme yang ada pada cerita tersebut. "*The Woman Warrior*" adalah sebuah novel karya Maxine Hong Kingston (USA) seorang penulis yang cukup mempunyai nama karena karya-karya beliau.

Novel ini berlatar belakang kebudayaan China, dimana masih terdapat anggapan-anggapan dan perlakuan-perlakuan yang kolot terhadap kaum wanita. Pelaku utamanya adalah Kingston, seorang gadis China, yang menjadi saksi terhadap perbedaan hak dan kesempatan bagi kaum wanita di China. Sekaligus ia sebagai tokoh pembicara, yang menceritakan seluruh isi cerita dalam novel ini.

Orang tua Kingston amat berharap bahwa anaknya dapat setegar Fa Mu Lan, yaitu seorang tokoh pahlawan wanita dari China yang berjuang dan bertarung segagah kaum pria. Tak seorang pun dapat merendahkan Fa Mu Lan karena ia tangguh dan mandiri. Fa Mu Lan bahkan dapat dikatakan melebihi laki-laki dalam hal-hal tertentu.

Feminisme dalam novel ini adalah perjuangan wanita agar dapat sejajar dengan kaum laki-laki dalam kehidupan. Banyak larangan dan pantangan bagi wanita yang membuat mereka tidak berkembang. Hal ini amat dibenci Kingston. Ia ingin seperti kaum lelaki, ia bahkan menganggap dirinya laki-laki. Dengan begitu Kingston berharap dapat memperoleh hak yang sama dengan kaum lelaki.

Lingkungan Kingston amat berpengaruh terhadap terciptanya feminisme dalam novel ini. Lingkungan China amat mengganggu laki-laki dan sebaliknya amat merendahkan wanita. Mendapat anak lelaki sama halnya dengan mendapat anugerah bagi keluarga. Sedangkan anak perempuan hanya sebagai beban. Mendidik anak perempuan setinggi dan seberhasil mungkin, hanya membuang-buang waktu. Sehingga, perempuan menjadi terbelakang dan tertindas. Lingkungan Kingston ini kemudian menjadikannya membenci dirinya terlahir sebagai perempuan.

Kebencian Kingston terhadap kebudayaan China semakin menjadi karena dimanapun orang China berada, ia selalu membawa dan menghidupkan budayanya. Termasuk orang tuanya sendiri. Ia tidak bisa mengerti kenapa di negara Amerika tempat mereka berimigrasi, di sebuah negara bebas, kebudayaan nenek moyang mereka tetap dihidupkan. Ia tak dapat menerima hal ini. Karena sedikit banyak ini berpengaruh terhadap kehidupan sosialnya. Membuat ia dianggap aneh oleh lingkungannya. Ia benci menjadi gadis China. Ia ingin menjadi perempuan/wanita kebanyakan pada umumnya. Seperti gadis-gadis lain yang tak terlalu banyak aturan yang harus dilakukan dan dianut.

Maxine Hong Kingston menceritakan kisah ini dengan amat menarik, dengan bahasa yang lugas, dengan alur cerita yang mudah dipahami. Novel ini amatlah penting sebagai bahan referensi feminisme. Dan penulis berharap dapat menyumbangkan pikiran dan analisa novel ini kepada semua pihak yang memerlukannya.

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