

Chapter V

Conclusion

This chapter consists of two sections. The first section is the summary of all the main points in the previous chapters and the second chapter is the suggestions.

5.1 Summary

The study here is centered on the internal conflict experienced by the main character in the novel. The internal conflict in the novel is the strongest element that makes the novel very interesting. Some related theories are also used to support this study.

After analyzing the data, the writer comes to the conclusion that Pilar's internal conflict is caused by her nature. According to Wikipedia (2008), a character can have an internal against his own will, confusion or fears. It can also be where a character tries to find out who he is. Although the struggle is internal, the character can be influenced by external forces. The basis of the conflict here is the struggle of the human being to come to a decision. The story of Pilar here is about the struggle between her fear of love and of dependence on other people and her need of love.

On one side, Pilar is afraid of falling in love, but on the other side; she is just a normal human being. According to Maslow (2006), every character has basic needs. One of the needs is the need for love. Pilar also needs love in her life but she lets her fear stand in the way and therefore she has to go through an internal conflict. She wants to live happily with the man she loves, but she is also afraid of losing that man. This fear is what causes her to deny the love she feels in her heart. As a result of that fear, Pilar forever wonders and worries what will happen to the love she has for her

friend and the love of her friend for her. Again and again, she has to battle with herself whether or not to leave the man she is in love with.

However, after spending some time in conflict she can resolve her internal conflict. She can come to a decision to open her heart to this childhood friend of hers. She realizes the root of her internal conflict. She realizes that although love can mean suffering or loneliness, it is worth accepting.

At the end of the story, we see Pilar as a different person. She can correct the flaw inside herself. It fits the theory of Hinze (2003) which says that when a character has been able to resolve all his conflicts, he fills the flaw which he has in the beginning. After her decision to accept the love she has for her childhood friend, Pilar seems to realize one more thing. She feels that her faith in God is getting stronger, too.

In conclusion, rather than being a simple love story, "*By the River Piedra, I Sat Down and Wept*" tells us how fear can prevent us from receiving many good things in life.

5.2 Suggestions

This study is still far from being perfect. There are actually many other aspects of the internal conflict which can be discussed more deeply. Therefore, the writer here would like to suggest the next researchers who are interested in this novel to have a further and more intense analysis of the internal conflict experienced by the main character in the novel.

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