

## **CHAPTER IV**

### **CONCLUSION**

This study concludes that Mara Stonebrook, the main character of Tawni Waters's *Beauty of the Broken*, is a richly complex character whose personality is shaped by a dynamic interplay of genetic, environmental, and cultural factors. Through intrinsic analysis, including characterisation, setting of places, and conflict, Mara's internal psychological struggles are revealed within the context of an abusive home and a conservative, patriarchal, and homophobic community. Applying Robert McCrae and Paul Costa's Five-Factor Model in the extrinsic analysis further elucidates Mara's personality traits and their origins. Mara's personality traits align with the Five-Factor Model, highlighting her high openness, agreeableness, and neuroticism, alongside her introverted tendencies and moderate conscientiousness. Genetically, her impulsivity and heightened neuroticism reflect inherited paternal temperamental traits. Environmentally, chronic exposure to familial violence and neglect exacerbates these traits, while her bond with her disabled brother and relationship with Xylia promote emotional openness and depth. Culturally, the oppressive religious and social norms of her rural New Mexican community intensify Mara's internal conflicts, increasing anxiety and social withdrawal. These personality dimensions critically shape Mara's relationship with Xylia, fostering a profound emotional connection

through openness and agreeableness, yet simultaneously undermining Mara's ability to assertively defend their love due to neuroticism and social fear. In *Beauty of the Broken*, Mara's character offers a detailed examination of how identity develops and resilience is maintained in a challenging environment, highlighting the complex interaction between personality, surroundings, and relationships in a marginalised community.