

## CHAPTER IV

### CONCLUSION

This research thesis discusses the character of Amy March from Greta Gerwig's *Little Women* (2019) movie. The movie is based on an original novel by Louisa May Alcott with the same title which was published in 1868 and 1869. Amy March is the youngest daughter of the March family, which is a middle-class family. Amy, who lives in the American nineteenth-century patriarchal society, realizes that she does not have many chances as a woman. Her role in society is to be an ornament; her only choices are to marry and build a family.

Throughout the story, Amy acknowledges that she is only a woman from a middle-class family that does not have privileges and only has limited choices in her life. to reach her dream and get the life she wants. Amy consciously decided to conform to society's expectations of women. She struggles to reach her dreams and to raise her family's condition. To reach her dream as a painter, Amy has to struggle with the fact that as a child and teenager, due to her family's economy condition, she could not have the privilege of having art class. Therefore, as an adult, when she is finally able to attend painting class as in Europe, she realizes that her ability is out of date when being compared to other students. Moreover, she has to face the fact that her painting skill is not being seen as a great value, as in other's eyes she is only a woman. To raise her family's condition, Amy has to marry well, and to do that she has to get acquainted with the upper-class society first. Amy has to face struggles to fit in the upper-class society because she came from a middle-class family that puts forth the children's freedom and does not

demand the children to act in accordance to society's expectations on women. To marry well, Amy also has to struggle with her own feelings. Amy wants to marry Fred because he is a wealthy gentleman but on the other hand, she realizes that she does not love Fred sincerely after she meet again with Laurie in Paris.

The struggles that Amy faces in the nineteenth-century American patriarchal society shows that women in that era have to constantly struggle to live. They have dreams and desires but it is limited because of their class and gender. Amy is brilliant to be able to take advantage of her position in society to achieve her dreams and help her family. Even though in the end she gave up on being the best painter and turned down Fred's proposal, she is still able to live and marry well with Laurie. She still got to experience her childhood dreams and lives happily in the end with her family.

The twenty-first-century American society may not be as patriarchal as it was anymore. Women got their freedom and rights after years of struggles. However, Greta Gerwig reminds us through *Little Women* (2019) movie that patriarchy still exists in other places and still limits women. But women are brilliant and brave. Anyone can be Amy who take advantage of the situation she is in. Women are strong and able to struggle in any kind of situation they are in.