JAMES'S IDEAL WOMAN AS SEEN IN BALLAD: A GATHERING OF FAERIE NOVEL

A GRADUATING PAPER

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A FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT

I certify that this thesis is definitely my own work. I am completely responsible for the content of this thesis. Other writer's opinion or findings included in the thesis are quoted or cited in accordance with ethical standards.

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JAMES'S IDEAL WOMAN AS SEEN IN

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By: Ayutya Kris Hartati

ABSTRACT

This research aims to know how James's preference on both women (Nuala) and (Dee) reflect the dichotomy between ideal and non ideal woman as seen in Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie novel by Maggie Stiefvater. The novel tells a story about two women who play a role as a lover. In the novel there are two women's characters who can be compared and contrasted. They show the central and marginal concept. This research has addressed the nature of ideal woman figures. This research is purposed to describe the contrasts of woman characters: Nuala and Dee in Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie novel. This research is a qualitative research. The analysis uses an objective approach and uses the binary opposition by Claude Levis-Strauss. Furthermore, the writer applies characterization theory to analyze the characterizations in the novel. The type of this research is library research. The result of this research is that binary oppositions that are found show relation about the ideal woman. Seen from James's side and this modern era, the ideal woman figure is Nuala. Besides, the non-ideal figure is Dee. On the other hand, Nuala represents man's fantasy (James) about ideal woman, but Dee represents the ordinary woman who is less able to attract men.

Keywords: binnary opposition, the contrast woman characters, human, faerie, the ideal woman figure

JAMES'S IDEAL WOMAN AS SEEN IN

BALLAD: A GATHERING OF FAERIE NOVEL

Oleh: Ayutya Kris Hartati

ABSTRAK

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui bagaimana preferensi James pada kedua perempuan (Nuala) dan (Dee) mencerminkan dikotomi antara perempuan ideal dan non ideal seperti yang digambarkan di dalam novel Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie karya Maggie Stiefvater. Novel ini menceritakan dua perempuan yang berperan sebagai kekasih. Dalam novel ini ada dua perempuan yang dapat dibandingkan dan dikontraskan. Mereka memperlihatkan konsep central dan konsep marginal. Penelitian ini berkontribusi dalam menyelesaikan masalah mengenai sosok perempuan yang ideal untuk dijadikan kekasih. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode deskriptif kualitatif. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan objektif dan teori oposisi biner dari Claude Levi-Strauss. Tipe dari penelitian ini adalah studi kepustakaan. Hasil dari penelitian ini adalah oposisi biner antara Nuala dan Dee yang ditemukan dalam novel Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie menunjukan adanya hubungan antara kedua karakter tersebut. Hubungan dari dua karakter adalah mengenai sosok perempuan yang ideal. Dilihat dari sisi laki-laki (James) pada era sekarang, dalam novel Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie karya Maggie Stiefvater, sosok perempuan yang ideal adalah Nuala, dan sosok perempuan yang kurang ideal adalah Dee. Nuala mereprentasikan fantasi laki-laki (James) tentang perempuan ideal, sedangkan Dee merepresentasikan perempuan biasa yang kurang bisa menarik laki-laki.

Kata Kunci: oposisi biner, perbedaan karakter perempuan, manusia, peri, sosok perempuan yang ideal.

"Then which of the favours of your

ford will you deny?"

(Qs. Ar-Rahman: 47)

DEDICATION

English Department of State Islamic University Sunan Kalijaga

The honorable my father and mother

My beloved sister

All of the readers

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of Study

Literary is an art form that is expressed by human thought and feeling with beautiful language, originality of ideas, and the depth of the message (Najid, 2003:7). In the other hand, Wellek & Warren (Najid, 2003:9) explain that literary is a social institution use language as the medium.

Literary genre or type of literature can be classified into 2 groups: imaginative and non-imaginative literature. In practice, non-imaginative literature consists of works in the form of essays, criticism, biography, autobiography, and history. Imaginative literatures are prose fiction (short story, novella, novel or romance), poetry (epic poetry, lyric poetry, and dramatic poetry), and drama (comedy, tragedy, melodrama, and drama tragic comedy), (Najid, 2003:12). Novel as a work of fiction offers a world that contains an idealized model of life, imaginative world, which was built through a variety of intrinsic elements such as events, plot, character, setting, point of view, and others.

Novel is a fictional story with a certain length, describing the characters and the scenes of real-life representative in a groove or a rather chaotic life or tangled. Novel is one of the most popular literary forms in the world. This literary form most widely circulate because it has vast power of communication to the public. According to Sumarjo that cited by Nurul in her thesis provides an understanding of novel as a prose story in a larger size, here related to the physics

of novel as well as the elements in the novel, such as complex plot, diverse characters and stories.

Novel is one of fictional literay work. Works of fiction are primarly invented or imaginary. Fiction refers to literature created from the imagination. Fictional novel is a novel that tells an imaginative story and never happened in the real world. The story, characters, plot, and background are only an imagination of the author. Based on the story genres, novel is divided into several kinds: romantic, horror, mystery, comedy, and inspirational. Here, the writer will analyze a romantic fictional novel entitled *Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie* written by Maggie Stiefvater that is published in 2009.

Romantic novel is a novel that tells about love and affection. From beginning to end, the reader will be treated to a romance problem. Novel by Maggie Stiefvater is one of popular literary works. Popular literature in Western tends to the new literary work that is innovative and experimental, although it is possible for a commercial purpose (Kayam, 1981: 85-7). Popular novel is a novel that popular in its time (certain time) and has a lot of fans, especially reader of teenagers. Popular novel shows the actual problems and always up to date. Popular novel in general is artificial and does not force people to read it many times. Popular novel is more readable and enjoyable than a serious novel, since the novel is merely telling a story (Stanton, 1995: 2). Hudson said "literature is a vital record of what man seen in life, what they experienced of it, what they have thought and felt about those aspects of it which have the most immediate and enduring interest for all of us. It is this fundamentally an expression of life

through the medium of language (1965:10)". Based on the understanding, it can concluded that literary works are a reflection of society in certain time.

Popular novel does not aim to pursue the aesthetic effect, but rather provides live entertainment from the action of the story. The problems that told are light, simple, but actual and interesting. This kind novel is interesting to be analyzed because it is still relatively new.

The writer of this research is very interested in comparing and contrasting the characterization between human and faerie since their characterizations in this novel are described quite unpredictably and differently in general. As the readers know usually faerie or fairy is described as a bad creature and human as a good one. Unpredictably, in this novel the author describes them as the opposite of it. This novel is very interesting to be analyzed because of the main characters, human and faerie, are represented differently from their nature and what people think and hope. On people's mind set, faerie usually is judged as the bad creature, evil and cruel, while human usually the good one, victim and weak. But in this novel the readers can see the opposite of it. Human can be as evil as faerie and faerie as fragile as human. The author is brave to give something new to the readers, especially about the characterization, which is quite different from the others novels generally at that time. The characterization of faerie and human in this novel can draw what a man really wants when he is falling in love. By comparing and contrasting the characterization between faerie and human as the conflicting characters, we can know how a man chooses his ideal partner. There must be something hidden that wants to be shown by the author through the characterization.

M. H. Abrams (1999;32) states that:

"Characters are the persons represented in a dramatic or narrative work, who are interpreted by the reader as being endowed with particular moral, intellectual, and emotional qualities by inferences from what the persons say and their distinctive ways of saying it-the dialogue-and from what they do-the action. The grounds in the characters' temperament, desires, and moral nature for their speech and actions are called their motivation."

Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie novel tells about James Antioch Morgan who is the best bagpiper in the state. When music prodigy James and his best friend, Dee or Deidre Monaghan, join a private conservatory for musicians, James's talent attracts Nuala, a faerie muse who fosters and feeds on creative energies of exceptional humans until they die. James is a great musician, plus he is young and good-looking: just Nuala type. But egotistically, James becomes the first who ever rejected Nuala. Since childhood, James has fallen in love with Dee. Dee is a cloverhand, a human who can see faeries, so wherever she goes always followed by them. Even, James is willing to sacrifice his life for Dee when they were attacked by some faeries in the summer of last year. So, James and Dee have plenty of reasons to fear the faeries after what they have done to them. However, when James meets and knows Nuala, all things changed. When he and Nuala collaborate on a very beautiful musical composition, James finds his feeling towards Nuala to be deepening. As Halloween, the day of the dead, draws near, James has to battle the Faerie Queen and the horned king of the death for saving Nuala and Dee's life, but he can only save one.

In this research, the writers analyzes the characterization of human and faerie as the binnary opposition in fictional romance popular novel: *Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie* written by an American author, Maggie Stiefvater. This novel

is published in 2009. The writer focuses only on love or romance since romance is part of people life which naturally appears somehow. Studying novel means studying people's life because novel is a reflection of people's life. The characterization of human and faerie, as the conflicting characters in the novel is very interesting to be analyzed because the author describes them differently from their nature and from the others novels in general. The characterization of them in romance novel is assumed representing romance in the real life especially romantic life of American teens. By comparing and contrasting the characterization between faerie and human in the *Ballad* novel, the readers can know the reasons why James prefers to choose Nuala (faerie) than Dee (human) as his ideal woman. James certainly has some strong reasons in choosing a beloved. The comparison of characterizations will be analyzed by the writer using theory of characterization by M. H. Abrams and the contrasting will be analyzed and discussed using theory of binnary opposition by Levi-Strauss.

In this research, the writer compares the characterization between human and faerie as the binary opposition characters in the novel: *Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie*. This analysis aims to understand the romance, especially the romantic lives of American teenagers in this novel and how a man chooses his ideal woman. Ultimately, hopefully the research novel: *Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie* can describe what American teenagers dream about romance.

1.2. Problem Statements

How does James's preference on both women (Nuala) and (Dee) reflect the dichotomy between ideal and non ideal woman?

1.3. Objectives of Study

The research of *Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie* novel aims to know James's preference on both women (Nuala) and (Dee) reflect the dichotomy between ideal and non ideal woman.

1.4. Significances of Study

The research of *Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie* novel is very significant to development of social science both theoretically and practically. Theoretically, this study is important for:

- 1. As the objective of this study is to understand the characterization of faerie and human as the symbols of American teenagers's romantic life as told in *Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie*, this study is firstly significant to draw the real romantic life of American teenagers.
- 2. Theoretically, as language always develops, so does the literature, hence the research of *Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie* is needed in order to understand the characterization in the novel, especially fiction fantasy as one of the newest genre of popular literary works. Another significance of this research related to the literature as the product of culture is that by understanding the characterization of the *Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie* novel, it guides the audiences to understand easily about the moral value of the novel which reflects the culture where the novel is written.
- 3. Practically, this research is important for:

- a. Students, this research is significant to help them understand about characterization in romance fantasy novel.
- b. Lectures, this research can be used as a reference to give an overview about characterization in romance fantasy novel.
- c. Literati, this research can stimulate them to do more researchers relate to characterization and romance fantasy novel.
- d. Common people, this research hopefully can attract their interest to learn about characterization and it's relation to romance fantasy novel.

1.5. Literature Review

The writer has found some researches which have the same material object and theory as this research. Seen from the theory, the binary opposition theory is also discussed in a book entitled *The Raw and the Cooked: Introduction to a Science of Mythology I* by Claude Levi-Strauss that is translated from the French by John and Doreen Weightman. Levi-Strauss stated that "the aim of this book is to show how empirical categories —such as the categories of the raw and the cooked, the fresh and the decayed, the moistened and the burned, etc ..." (1986: 1). This book applies the qualitative method. The book discussed several songs from North America such as Bororo Song and Ge Variations. The songs that have been analyzed represent the structure of other myths in the world.

Second paper, entitled "Fear and Anxiety Portrayed in Film Titled *Mama*" by Alensy Pujianita Purbaningrum (2014) from English Department of Language and Literature, Faculty of Cultural Studies, Brawijaya University. This research aims to describe the fear and anxiety that are suffered by girls and their family in

the movie titled *Mama*. This research applies a qualitative method and the psychoanalysis: fear and anxiety theory by Sigmund Freud to analyze the movie. The result of this research is the different reaction of characters in the movie to overcome their fear and anxiety.

The third paper, entitled "Contrasing Woman Characters in *Mama* Movie" by Romelah Isti Komah (2016) from English Department of Literature, Faculty of Adab and Cultural Sciences, Sunan Kalijaga Islamic State University of Yogyakarta. This research aims to contrast the woman characters of Annable and Edith in the movie titled *Mama*. This research applies a qualitative method and uses theory of film and theory of binnary opposition as the main theory. The result of this research is to find the ideal mother figures for the children, Victoria and Lily, by comparing the woman characters, Annabel and Edith.

Furthermore, there is no research about *Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie* novel. So, this is the first research ever made about the novel. Here, the writer will focuses only on the analysis of comparing the woman characters, human and faerie, as the binnary opposition. The contrasts of women characters aim to find out the ideal woman for James in *Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie* novel.

1.6. Theoretical Approach

1.6.1. Theory of Characterization

Since this research compares the characterization between two main characters, the first theory that used is theory of characterization. Based on understanding of M. H. Abrams about literature, Chatman argues that the elements of the characters in works literature should be analyzed into two aspects,

the appearance and personality. The appearance and personality can be broken down into actions, manners of thought and life, habits, emotions, desires, instincts (Noor, 1999: 55-56).

The definition of the novel according to Abrams (1999:190), "novel" is now applied to a great variety of writing that have in common only the attribute of being extended works of fiction written in prose. As an extended narrative, the novel is distinguished from the short story and from the work of middle length called the novelette; its magnitude permits a greater variety of characters, greater complication of plot (or plots), ampler development of milieu, and more sustained exploration of character and motives than do the shorter, more concentrated modes. Besides that, the novel usually focuses on a small number of characters, although in a novel the cast of secondary characters is often large and the number of incidents is multiplied (Roberts, 1988:4). There are some divisions of novel according to Peck and Coyle (1989:106-120), they are comic novel, education novel, realistic novel, reflexive novels, romance novel, and utopian novel.

Intrinsic value is one of theory which approach to analyze the novel based on the element of the novel (literary work). In this research, the writer used Abram's approach (1999:52)

.... (4) Objective criticism deals with a work of literature as something which stands free from what is often called "extrinsic" relations to the poet, or to the audience, or to the environing world. Instead it describes the literary product as a self-sufficient and autonomous object, or else as a world-in-itself, which is to be contemplated as its own end, and to be analyzed and judged solely by "intrinsic" criteria such as its complexity, coherence, equilibrium, integrity, and the interrelations of its component elements. The general viewpoint of the self-sufficciency of an aesthetic object was proposed in Kant's *Critique of Aesthetic Judgment* (1790)—see distance and involvement—was taken up by proponents of art for art's sake in the latter part of the nineteenth century, and has been elaborated in detailed modes of applied criticism by a number of important critics since

the 1920s, including the *New Critics*, the Chicago School, and proponents of European formalism.

According to Nurgiyantoro (2003:23), intrinsic elements are elements that build its literary work. The intrinsic elements in a novel are elements that directly contribute build the story. They are theme, character, setting, plot, style, and point of view.

a. Theme

The definition of the theme according to Abrams (1999:170) is sometimes used interchangeably with "motif", but the term is more usefully applied to a general concept or doctrine, whether implicit or asserted, which an imaginative work is designed to incorporate and make persuasive to the reader.

b. Characters and Characterization

Characters are the persons represented in a dramatic or narrative work, who are interpreted by the reader as being endowed with particular moral, intellectual, and emotional qualities by inferences from what the persons say and their distinctive ways of saying it-the dialogue-and from what they do-the action. The grounds in the characters temperament, desires, and moral nature for their speech and actions are called their motivation. Characterization is the means by which authors present and reveal character (Diyanni, 2004: 55).

c. Setting

Abrams (1999:284) explains that the overall setting of a narrative or dramatic work is the general locale, historical time, and social circumstances in which its action occurs; the setting of a single episode or scene within such a work is the particular physical location in which it takes place.

d. Plot

The plot (which Aristotle termed the myths) in a dramatic or narrative work is constituted by its events and actions, as these are rendered and ordered toward achieving particular artistic and emotional effects (Abrams, 1999:224). Plot can be divided into some types, they are:

- 1. Exposition (introduction).
- 2. Rising action (the problem encountered by the main character).
- 3. Climax (the most difficult problem encountered by the main character).
- 4. Falling action = pre solution.
- 5. Resolution = conclusions (the end of the story).

e. Style

Abrams (1999:303) states that style has traditionally been defined as the manner of linguistic expression in prose or verse-as how speakers or authors say whatever it is that they say.

f. Point of View

Abrams (1999:231-236) explains that point of view, signifies the way a story gets told the mode (or modes) established by an author by means of which the reader is presented with the characters, dialogue, actions, setting and events which constitute the narrative in a work of fiction. In a third-person narrartive, the narator is someone outside the story proper who refers to all the characters in the story by name, or as "he," "she," "they." In a first-person narrative, the narator speaks as "I," and is to a greater or lesser degree a participant in the story.

1.6.2. Theory of Binarry Opposition

In this research the writer applies two theories to analyze *Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie* novel. The theories are the binary opposition and the

theory. The paradigm that is applied in this research is chatacterization structuralism. There are several assumptions of structuralism. They are the death of the author, anti-humanist, deterministic, materialistic, unconscious or hidden structures, and binary oppositions. In addition, first, since this research analyzes the contrasts of two woman characters in Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie, the main theory that is used is the binary opposition that is formulated by Claude Levis-Strauss. The binary opposition theory by Levi-Strauss is affected by phoneme theory of Roman Jakobson. According to Carter, "In phoneme theory, it manifests itself in pairs which are, for example, nasalized/non-nasalized, voiced/unvoiced etc" (2006: 46). The binary opposition theory is started from myth. According to Abrams, "In classical Greek, "mythos" signified any story or plot, whether true or invented" (2009: 206). The Raw and the Cooked by Claude Levi-Strauss, it emphasizes to discuss myths in the North America. In the book, Levi-Strauss tries to give explanation about myths in science explanation. According to Levi-Strauss, he stated that:

It follows that as the nebula gradually spreads, its nucleus condenses and becomes more organized. Loose threads join up with one another, gaps are closed, connections are established, and something resembling order is to be seen emerging from chaos. Sequences arranged in transformation groups, as if around a germinal molecule, join up with the initial group and reproduce its structure and determinative tendencies. Thus is brought into being a multi-dimensional body, whose central parts disclose a structure, while uncertainty and confusion continue to prevail along its periphery (1986: 3).

From the quotation above it can be seen that, actually, myths that happen in the world have the same structure. The analogy is that a nebula has its own nucleus. It becomes the central part. In the myth, the central part is a structure that each myth has it. The structure is called mythemes, and it becomes the pattern of myths because it seems impossible if myths that appear in the world are analyzed one by one. The structure of one myth represents other myths. This is like an example that Levi-Strauss gives. He stated that "It merely implies that each myth taken separately exists as the limited application of a pattern, which is gradually revealed by the relations of reciprocal intelligibility discerned between several myths" (1986: 13).

Furthermore, *The Raw and the Cooked* also discusses that myth has relationship with music. Levi-Straus (1986) also said that "Therefore, when I suggested that the analysis of myths was comparable with that of a major musical score, I was drawing the conclusion from Wagner"s discovery that the structure of myths can be revealed through a musical score" (p.15). The relationship is about the similarity and contiguity. In reading myths, to get the meaning people have to read it totally. It is like when reading music or orchestral score, to know the meaning, it must be read the whole page. The myth cannot be known line after line, but totality. People have to read it from beginning until end. The basic meaning of myth depends on the bundle of relations or events. The bundle of relations happens in binary oppositions. According to Storey, "Like morphemes and phonemes, mythemes only take on meaning when combined in particular patterns" (2009: 114-115).

The binary opposition is two terms which are in opposite to each other. Storey (2009) also stated that "He (Levi-Strauss) also observes that myths are structured in terms of binary oppositions" (p.115). Units of systems have meanings in the relation of its opposites, for example, a thing can be named as good because another thing is bad. Anything in the world has contradictions and has a positive value to things and a negative value to things, for instance, beautiful/ugly, light/darkness, right/left, presence/absence, and so on. In the binary opposition theory there are privileged and marginalized. The positive value is the privileged one, and the negative value is the marginalized one. The privileged one is also called center, and the marginalized one is called marginal. According to *Literary Theory: The Basics*, "For Levi-Strauss, the structure of primitive thinking is binary" (Bartens, 2001: 62). Moreover, it becomes the basic of human signifying system and human cultures.

By referring to the explanation above, the binary opposition discusses the opposition of things. This research deals with comparing and contrasting the woman characters, so this research applies this theory. In *Mama*, Annabel and Edith Brennan are the binary opposition because they have opposite characteristics. The theory helps the writer in determining the contrast of woman characters in *Mama*. The result of analyzing the binary opposition between the two characters derives an ideal mother figure that can be used to determine what Mama in the title of the movie refers to.

1.7. Method of Research

1.7.1 Type of Research

The research of the paper uses qualitative method. Qualitative method is a method which is allowed greater spontaneity and adaption of the interaction between the researcher and the study participant (Mack 4). This method can also be described as the method of gathering data, in which the researcher does not do any observation or interviews to collect the data, but only gather the data from some referential books, website, and other data sources. In the research, the writer does library visit and web browsing to get the data.

1.7.2 Data Resources

There are two data resources: the main data and the secondary data. Main data is the data that is analyzed in the research. In this research, the main data is the fiction romance popular novel: *Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie*. Secondary data is the supporting data of the main one, for example from the extrinsic elements of the novel, another book of Maggie Stiefvater entitled *Lament*, dictionaries, books of Claude Levi-Strauss and M. H. Abrams, etc which are used as the companion to analyze the main data. Thus, in this research, the writer uses the text of the novel and also some critical woks about the novel as the secondary data

1.7.3. Data Collection Technique

In order to collect the data, the writer of this research uses the methods of documentations to collect the data from the library and website after doing library visit and web browsing. That way, the writer of this research easily rereads the main data and the supporting data after collecting it. The important data such as the novel text and the books related to human and faerie are read and summarized.

After collecting the data, the writer of this research intensively sorts out the data to find the proper data to be analyzed. As the focus of this research is to compare and contrast the characterization between human and faerie as two binary opposition characters which have to be chosen by James, the writer firstly classifying each dialogue and each action belong to Dee and Nuala. Then the data do not needed in the analysis are eliminated. After that, the data is classified based on the natures (appearance) and characters (attitude). In the end, the writer will get two classifications of data covering the appearance, and orientation of characters of Dee and Nuala, which then are analyzed to get the answer from the research objectives.

1.7.4. Data Analysis Technique

Data analysis in this research using the objective approach, in which the analysis is based on the factual data in the novel of *Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie*. The data were analyzed descriptively using the theory of characterization by M. H. Abrams and theory of binnary opposition by Claude Levi-Strauss. Analysis results will be displayed in a table to illustrate the analysis conclusions.

First, the writer has to analyze the novel by finding the narration or plot of the novel, and then identifies the relationship and the contribution of the two main characters Nuala and Dee toward the plot. Identifying uses the theory of characterization. After getting the accurate data for analysis, the writer continues to create a framework to conceptualize how the data is analyzed include: which data that must be analyzed first, what arguments should be given to support and strengthen the analysis, and how to start and finish the analysis. By using the conceptual framework, the writer begins to analyze their data using the theory of characterization and theory of binnary opposition.

After completing and finishing compare, the writer makes conclusions from the overall analysis using theory of love by Claude Levi-Strauss to answer the purpose of doing research.

1.8. Paper Organization

This paper is divided into four chapters. The first chapter describes the general information of the research including the background of the study, scope of study, problem statement, objectives of study, significances of study, prior research, theoretical approach, data analysis, and the thesis organization. The second chapter explains the intrinsic elements of the novel: *Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie*. The next chapter is the analysis that contains the data analysis, and the last chapter is the conclusion of the research.

CHAPTER II

INTRINSIC ASPECTS OF BALLAD: A GATHERING OF FAERIE NOVEL

2.1. BOOK TITLE

Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie

2.2. THEME

Stiefvater says her second book, Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie, has theme

about love, friendship, and magic. Further, she says this novel tells about love

story among Dee, James, and Nuala, friendship between Dee and James, and

magic of faerie (their power, life, and world).

2.3. SUMMARY

The story begins when James and his childhood best friend, Deirdre

Monaghan or Dee enter in Thornking-Ash Conservatory, a special high school for

the musically-gifted. It happens that those who are musically gifted are more

naturally predisposed to sense faeries. Dee plays the harp and sings like an angel,

and James plays the bagpipes so well. He cannot be taught anything by the

instructors at school. Actually the reason why James goes to Thornking-Ash

School of Music (TA) is not only because of the quality, but also because of Dee.

It has been long time ago James loves Dee, but he never has any courage to tell

her. Besides that, Dee loves another guy, Luke Dillon. Luke is a daoine sidhe, a

faerie that made of and called by music. Unfortunately, Luke is dead in summer of

last year for saving James's life.

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Since James in TA School, almost every night he hears a song about the death from the thorn king and he also meets Nuala for the first time. Nuala is a *Leanan Sidhe*, a faerie muse who fosters and feeds on creative energies of exceptional humans until they die. She is the lowest faerie of the low and nearly human. Nuala offers him the deal, promising him to make him the best piper ever live, but in charge, she will consume his creative energies until he dies. James ignores Nuala. Nuala feels heartache and angry for James's ignorance. She decides to get him, make him down on his knees begging her for the deal. Almost every night Nuala comes to James's dormitory to sends him a dream about music. After that, their story began.

Patrick Sullivan, an English teacher of TA School, gives James an extra piano lesson, because James is too expert playing bagpipe and he cannot be taught anything by the instructors at school. Nuala helps James in his extra piano lesson, but James still keeps ignore her. When Nuala sees James and Dee behind the dorm, she gets vey jealous. Nuala starts to think about her feeling towards James. She never felt it before with her victims.

Gregory Normandy, the president of TA School, tells James what TA school really is. It is not only ordinary music school, but it is a place for kids with outstanding musical talent that can attract faeries. Normandy actually has known about James and Dee's 'ability' and their 'accident' in summer last year.

One day Nuala tells James about her strange immortality, that unlike other faeries, every sixteen years on Halloween, she somehow gets the crap burnt out of her and then she magically reappears again, no memories, brand new, for another sixteen years, rinse and repeat. James also tells her about the accident car last

summer that caused by faeries to kill him. After that they are getting closer each other.

Someday TA students go to Washington D.C. for visiting Marion Theater. Something happens there that make James and Dee do not talk each other anymore. Dee asks James to kiss her. After they kissed each other, Dee starts to cry. She tells James when they were kissing she thinks of Luke. She thinks Luke is the one that kiss her not James. It is perfectly torture him. Dee starts to cry again, begging him for apologize. James leaves her alone. He does not care at all to her anymore.

One day a faerie, *daoine sidhe*, approaches Nuala. He wants to rape her. Nuala tries to against him, struggling. Suddenly, James appears. He is there for saving her. After James saved Nuala, they make a deal to write a play with music and Nuala as the director. They call it 'Ballad'.

Paul, James's roommate, tells him that every night he hears a song. The song is a list of names. It is a list of dead. He tells the names. Dee is on it.

Nuala is summoned by someone, a human. The human is known later as Delia, Dee's aunt. She helps Eleanor to kill some faeries. She summons Nuala to take care of the *banshee*'s body and make it gone, but Nuala rejects it. She has really bad feeling to help.

After the incident that happened in Washington D.C., for the first time James and De meet again. She apologizes and starts to cry because James ignores her. She asks for second chance to him.

Eleanor, the queen, realizes Nuala's feeling toward James. Nuala tries hard-die to cover it from her. When practicing, Nuala gives a gift to James, a stone. She calls it a worry stone. James can rub the stone when he gets anxious or

need to think. Nuala thinks it can keep him from writing on his hands as usual. Nuala tells James that she is so afraid of being burnt, because she knows she will forget anything. She says to him that she is falling in love with him and she does not want to forget him.

James and Paul are practicing their play together with Megan and Eric, their classmate. Nuala comes and helps them. Dee joins with them as well. She gets so jealous for seeing James and Nuala. James's feeling towards Dee has totally changed. He loves Nuala and he already moved on from Dee.

Brendan and Una, *daoine sidhe*, tells the new queen's plan to Nuala. They say the queen means to ally with the dead to break the cloverhand's power on Halloween. They ask Nuala to tell James that Dee is in danger, so James can keep her safe on Halloween.

One day Nuala is dying and unconscious. James is panic. Eleanor appears and tells him that Nuala needs human life to survive. If James wants Nuala to stay alive, he has to give his life to Nuala. Eleanor also tells James how to save Nuala's memories. He must watch her burn from beginning to end, and mention her real name seven times, uninterruptedly. James gives Nuala his two years by kissing her and breathing two years into her, but there is nothing happen. James desperately begs to Sullivan to help Nuala. Sullivan gives her a soda, human's drink. Then suddenly, Nuala awakes.

James tells Nuala about what Eleanor told to him, how to save her memories. For faeries, telling their real name is very dangerous. It can put them in a big danger. But Nuala believes James, so she tells him.

Sullivan tells James that Dee is gone. He asks him not to obsess about it. Sullivan tells Nuala and James to meet Cernunnos. Eleanor ever told him that there is a connection between Cernunnos and the *Leanan sidhe* sisters.

Nuala and James meet Cernunnos in his world, afterlife. Cernunnos takes them. He says that he is Nuala's father. He gives Nuala a choice. Nuala can be a human if she wants it. Cernunnos also tells James that he will called to make a hard choice. He should choose the right one, the one that hurts. They come back on Halloween day, October thirty first. James tells Sullivan what Cernunnos said to him, but Paul is not allowed to talk about it by Cernunnos.

Nuala tells James what faeries are going to do to Dee. Nuala tells James because she thinks he is still love Dee. Nuala knows there will be a ritual, something about linking the dead with faeries. Then slowly, they hear Cernunnos's song. It is also a sign to Nuala burnt. James watches Nuala burnt. James mentions her real names seven times, until someone calls him. It is Brendan. He tells James that faeries will kill Dee and make a new king of the dead from her heart. James does not believe him. But then, Brendan says *daoine sidhe* ever saved James's life once when Dee asked them. She traded Luke Dillon's life for James's. James is shocked for knowing this. Brendan explains it will be dangerous if the plan is success. The new king of the dead will control faeries and the dead with cloverhand's power. For faeries, it will be ignoble. For human, it will be hell. James has to decide. He decides to save Dee. Saving Dee means save the world. Even if she is not Dee, he has to save her. She is powerful and can make the fey powerful as well. He leaves Nuala reluctantly and looks for Dee. He looks for Sullivan first and goes with him.

Eleanor is shocked for seeing James and Sullivan. Delia shoots at Sullivan's stomach. James fights against faeries to save Dee. Suddenly the back door busts open and then the dead come pouring in. Cernunnos steps out from amongst the dead. He comes to choose a successor. Eleanor promises him a successor, but because on the circle, there are three persons, Cernunnos has to decide. Sullivan comes out to offer himself. Then, Cernunnos chooses him as his successor. Sullivan orders James to take Dee and go back to the bonfires.

James runs immediately toward Seward, toward the bonfire that Nuala has stood in. The place where Nuala has stood is just charred silt. Paul says to James what Cernunnos told to him that he needs to dig. They dig together and Dee helps them. Suddenly James feels fingertips. The hand is gripping James's hand. They pull her up together. It is Nuala. Nuala does not forget him and she becomes human. James rubs his eyes to fight the sudden urge to cry. They hug each other.

In the end of story, James and friends perform their play, *Ballad*, in Brigid Hall. Nuala is there as the director. Dee comes to see James's performance. James has convinced her not to go back home. James cannot let her go home by herself, when he knows that the faeries are still watching her. When the play is almost over, Sullivan comes out from the edge of door in the very back of hall to see James.

2.4. GRAPHIC PLOT

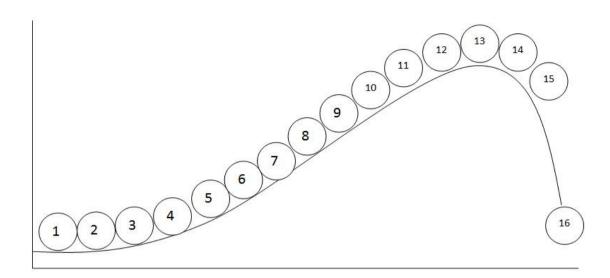


Chart explanations:

- 1. James and Dee entered Thornking-Ash school. Dee saw many faeries in Thornking-Ash school and every night James heard Cernunnos's song.
- 2. James met Nuala for the first time and rejected her deal. Then, she stalked him every day.
- 3. James, Dee, and other students of Thornking-Ash school had trip to Washington D.C. James and Dee kissed. Dee hurted James by saying that she imagined kiss Luke. James left her alone.
- 4. James saved Nuala from a *daoine sidhe* that tried to rape her. Their relationship got closer.
- 5. Paul told James & Sullivan that every night he heard the dead's song. The song was about a list of people's names that going to die.

- 6. Nuala was summoned by a human, Delia, to get rid of a faerie body. Delia was doing a favor for the queen to kill some faeries that had contact with human. It means Nuala too.
- 7. Dee killed Linnet. Faerie had trapped her to kill Linnet.
- 8. Nuala got unconscious because of 'hungry'. James saved her and Eleanor was there to tell him how to save Nuala's life and memories.
- 9. Dee is gone. Faeries kidnapped her.
- 10. James and Nuala met Cernunnos based on Sullivan's suggestion. Cernunnos took them to his realm. Paul followed them secretly. Cernunnos told them their future and what should they do on Halloween.
- 11. Nuala was burnt at the bonfire on Halloween day. James watched her burnt and mentioned her real name seven times.
- 12. James had to leave Nuala burnt alone to save Dee.
- 13. James and Sullivan saved Dee from Eleanor that wanted to killed her at Brigid Hall.
- 14. Cernunnos came to choose his successor and he chose Sullivan. He made Sullivan as the dead king to replace him.
- 15. James and Dee went out from Brigid Hall to look for Nuala's body in the bonfire. Paul joined. They dug out the bonfire.
- 16. James, Dee, and Paul found Nuala. She was reborn as a human just like what she wanted.

2.5. CHARACTERS AND CHARACTERIZATION

In a literary work, characters and characterization are important intrinsic elements in a literary work because it has a close relation with a plot. A plot will mean nothing without characters. Abrams distinguishes the terms of the character and characters.

The character is the name of a literary genre; it is a short, and usually witty, sketch in prose of a distinctive type of person. Whereas, characters are the persons represented in a dramatic or narrative work, who are interpreted by the reader as possessing particular moral, intellectual, and emotional qualities by inferences from what the persons say and their distinctive ways of saying it the dialogue and from what they do the action (2009: 42).

The writer classifies the characters in *Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie* novel into major and minor characters. Here, major characters are James, Nuala, Dee, Eleanor, Patrick Sullivan, Cernunnos, Paul Schleiermacher, and minor characters are Delia, Gregory Normandy, Eve Linnet, Karre, Luke Dillon, and Brendan.

2.5.1. Major Characters

2.5.1.1. James Antioch Morgan

James is one of student in Thornking-Ash School of Music. He has incredible musical talent. He is a bagpiper. He plays the bagpipes so well. It makes him cannot be taught anything by the instructors at school. The reason James joins in this school is not because of the quality but because Dee, his best friend and his first love, joins in this school too. James has short cropped auburn hair and a scar above his ear. The scar is caused by the accident that happened last

summer because faeries wanted to kill him. He has sixth sense, so he knows about faeries. Besides it, his musical skill has attracted a *leanan sidhe* faerie, Nuala. James has a weird habit that is writing on his hands when he gets anxious or needs to think. He is slovenly person. He rarely takes a bath and has untidy appearance, but he is a brave, cocky, rebellious, smart, sly and curious. It is seemed when he meets Cernunnos to ask his help and fights against faeries. He has courage to do it.

James is kind of heroic person. He sacrifices himself to save Dee and Nuala. At the first he only loves Dee, but when he knows Dee only plays him, he tries to move on and finally falls in love with Nuala deeply. He is a humorist, arrogant, confident, handsome, and talented person. That is why Nuala interested at him. He is also an ambitious but he can control it.

James never gives up when he gets trouble. He is an optimist and stubborn. He has strong personality. The first time James meets Nuala, he is so afraid of her and rejects her all the time. But by the time, they are getting closer and James starts to falls in love with her. He begs the deal that Nuala offers. It is not because James wants more, but it is because he wants to stay close with Nuala all the time. After nine years James loved Dee, finally he can move on from her because of Nuala. That girl saves him from Dee.

James is kind of rebellious, naughty, irresponsible, and undisciplined student. He often comes late to class, helps Paul to get drunk, and having argument with Linnet, one of his teacher. But as a friend, he is trustworthy and has high solidarity. He always helps and protects Dee when she gets trouble. James also helps Paul to get drunk when Paul wants it and he covers it from anyone. He is close enough with his mother and he loves her. When his mother

calls him, he always teases her with jokes. He is very annoying and mischievous. He always teases Dee or Nuala, even Paul and Mr. Sullivan too.

James is so panic and afraid, when he knows Nuala is dying. He is afraid of losing Nuala. When Eleanor tells James how to save Nuala's life and memories, he does it directly without thinking about his own life. He will do anything just to save Nuala. He accompanies Nuala to meet Cernunnos, because Cernunnos is the only one who can help Nuala. On Halloween, James has to make a choice whether he saves Nuala or Dee (world). He prefers to choose to save Dee, because saving Dee means saving the world. But in the end of the story after James saves Dee, he runs out to find Nuala's body in the bonfire. He almost cries for leaving Nuala and regrets it. Finally when James finds Nuala's body and knows she still remember him, he almost cries because he is too excited, relief, and grateful. He loves and cares her so much. Eventhough James prefers to choose Nuala, but he still cares to Dee as a best friend. He still protects her, because he knows faeries still want her.

2.5.1.2. Nuala (Amhrán-Liath-na-Méine)

She is a *leanan sidhe*, a faerie muse who fosters and feeds on creative energies of exceptional humans until they die. She comes from Virginia. She is achingly beautiful and sexy. She has very distinctive hair: sort of crumpled, or curly, blonde hair that is long in the front but cut short and edgy in the back and her hair scents with clover. Her eyes are incandescent blue and the smell of her breath drowsy nodding wildflowers, recent rain, and distant wood smoke. She has many freckles on her cheeks. That makes her very innocent and very human. The scent of her body is summer roses. Her appearance has to look like human to

catch her victim. She is solitary faerie, has no friend. She has magical power as a faerie and she can create music. Nuala kills human on purpose so she can stay alive. She is immortal like others faerie. Nuala knows James only for a month or so, but she loves him sincerely. She is willing to be his placeholder to move on from Dee. Nuala also saves James's life. She prefers to die than has to take James's life. Her love is bigger than her desire to take his life. She sacrifies her life for him. Nuala believes James by telling her real name to him, eventhough she knows it is very risky. Nuala says and shows her feeling towards James actively.

2.5.1.3. Deidre Monaghan

Dee is a human. She is a cloverhand, a human that can see faeries and has magical power to make them follow her whenever she is. She is an Irish. She is beautiful and sexy enough. She has big gray eyes dominating the slender shape of her pale face and dark hair. She is solitary girl, has no close friend except James. She has magical power as a cloverhand. She has very beautiful voice and plays harp. Dee kills Linnet accidentally because faerie trap her. She is mortal creature like others human, eventhough she is a cloverhand. Dee knows James for nine years, but she loves him only because she needs him as the placeholder to move on from Luke. Dee saves James's life. She trades Luke's life with James's. She sacrifices her love for him, but in the story it seems that she regrets for doing that. Dee does not believe James. She prefers to keep all her secrets by herself. Dee never says or shows her feeling towards James. She chooses to hide it.

2.5.1.4. Eleanor

She is the new queen of faerie. Eleanor always wears green according to the oldest tradition. Before she became the queen, she always wore white. She has pale gold long hair and long fingers. Unlike the previous queen, Eleanor does not wear a crown. She only wears a small circlet of pearls that shine dully like baby teeth. She is so beautiful that it aches, terrible, lovely, and scary. She is terribly beautiful in a sort of sweet. She is very cunning, sly, evil, and kind of an old, wild creature. She wants to be respected by her people. She wants power and makes an alliance with the daoine sidhe to get it. Sometimes she has sympathy for her people but only if it gives benefit to her. Eleanor tells James how to save Nuala's memories. She is a queen, so she cannot lie. Everything that she said is true. But behind it she has a hidden bad plan. Eleanor and her people have kidnapped Dee. They are going to kill Dee on Halloween. That is why she told James how to save Nuala's memories. She wants James at Nuala's bonfire instead of finding Dee. She loves her human consort, Karre. She wants make him as the dead king. This is why Eleanor needs to kill and cut out Dee's heart, because she needs it to make Karre as the dead king. Besides it, she does it for her people. She wants her people to be free. They should not have to follow wherever the cloverhand (Dee) goes. Eleanor is angry and disappointed because James prefers to save Dee than Nuala. She wants to kill him as well. But when she meets Sullivan, she changes her attitude into smoother. She talks with Sullivan like a lover. Actually, Eleanor still loves Sullivan. She cares to him and does not want to hurt him. She protects him from Delia and the dead. Eleanor summons her people to kill Delia, when Delia shoots Sullivan's stomach. At the end, she cannot do anything because Cernunnos chooses Sullivan as his successor instead of Karre.

2.5.1.5. Patrick Sullivan

Patrick Sullivan is an English teacher in TA School. He is a junior faculty member and doubles as dorm's resident advisor. He lives in campus. He is close

enough with his students because he cares to them. He is simple, kind, good, smart, and wise person. He loves coffee very much. He has very long fingers with knobby joints. He is kind of a very long person in general, with a rumpled appearance like he has been thrown in the drier and then worn without ironing. He is still quite young about 30 years old and he is handsome. He has dusty brown hair. His wife, rumor has it, has left him for CEO of a company that made crap like My Little Ponies or something. Like James, he has sixth sense and he wears iron to protect himself from faeries When he was young, he is like James; talented, handsome, and has affair with a faerie (Eleanor). But then, he chooses to leave Eleanor after seven years lived with her because he knows that faeries only take advantage from human. That is why he is the only teacher who can understand James and hard-die tries to protect students from faeries. At the first, he dislikes Nuala, but when he knows Nuala is different, he helps her. He knows about Nuala's sister and tells her. He says to James and Nuala if a faerie eats human's food, the faerie will be trapped in human's world and lose the magical power. Sullivan tells them to meet Cernunnos, because Eleanor ever told him there is any connection between Cernunnos and the leanan sidhe sisters. He tells them the safe way to meet Cernunnos. He cares to Nuala and James's safety. When Halloween comes, He helps James to save Dee from Eleanor. He asks Eleanor to spare James and Dee, but Delia shoots him at his stomach. When Cernunnos comes to choose his successor, he runs himself for it to save James. He sacrifices his soul and life for saving his students. In the end, Cernunnos chooses him as the successor. After he is officially crowned become the king of the dead, he summons all the dead not to attack James and Dee. He also protects them from

the faeries. In the end of the story, he still comes to watch 'Ballad' drama. He still cares to James and keeps in touch with him.

2.5.1.6. Cernunnos

He is Gwyn ap Nudd, Hades, Hermes, king of the dead. He is a dark, strange, and mysterious figure. He has great thorny antlers that grow from his head, spanning the sky like branches. Almost every night he sings the dead song from the hill behind the school. He sings it to rise the dead on Halloween. He is very charismatic and has deep thundering voice. He is the father of the Leanan sidhe sisters. He is a good creature. He helps Nuala and James. He loves his daughters. He will revenge for his daughter's death, Nuala's sister. He gives Nuala choices whether she wants to be a faerie or human after she rises from the burning. He tells James about his future that he will make a hard choice and he will choose the one that hurts because it is the right one. He orders Paul to stay and watch Nuala burnt no matter what happens, because Cernunnos knows no matter how much James wants to stay he will leave Nuala. He also tells Paul to dig after Nuala burnt. On Halloween, Cernunnos intends to look for a successor. He is tired and he wants to lay his position down after the centuries. He chooses Sullivan to be his successor. After making Sullivan as the dead king, Cernunnos goes. No one knows where he is going or where he has come from.

2.5.1.7. Paul Schleiermacher

Paul is roommate and classmate of James. He is an oboe player. He has round, ordinary, and smiling face. His eyes are round and sharp. He also wears glasses. He is an innocent, honest, and smart boy. He says to James that he needs to get drunk. He wants it because he thinks he may never get the chance. He wants to be a little naughty. He is kind of a good boy that never involved in any trouble.

It is very different with James. Paul has pure and sincere heart. He is a best friend of James. He speaks honestly when giving his opinion about James. Paul says that James is the coolest friend he ever had, because James is original. Like James, Paul also has sixth sense. Every night Paul hears Cernunnos's song, and it feels like he is dreaming. The song is in different language, but he can understand it. The song is just a list of names. He just knows when he hears the names. It is a list of dead, people who are going to die.

Paul does not really like Dee, because he knows Dee only hurts James. When James and Nuala meet Cernunnos, Paul quietly follows them to meet Cernunnos too. Paul does everything that Cernunnos tells to him. He stays and watches Nuala burnt from the beginning until the end. Paul tries to amuse James when James is desperate to find Nuala after burning. He tells James everything what Cernunnos says to him that they have to dig. Paul helps James to dig and helps him to pull Nuala from the ashes. He is very polite person. He turns around when seeing Nuala smeared with ash and naked. He is a good person and has high solidarity.

2.5.2. Minor Characters

2.5.2.1. Delia

Delia is Dee's aunt. She also knows James. She in an old, ugly, and about forty years old. She knows how to summon faeries by burning thyme and how to see them by wearing a four-leaf clover at her neck, its stem tied on a string. She is not afraid of faeries because she has connection with the queen. She helps Eleanor to kill some faeries that connected with human, such as *Bean Sidhe* and *Bauchan*. She ever summoned Nuala to get rid of a faerie body, *bean sidhe*, but Nuala rejected it. Faeries saved her life a long time ago, and she has been helping them

ever since. She is very evil. Sullivan ever saw her behind the dorm, she was doing favors for the new queen about their politics. Sullivan expelled and ordered her to stay away from his students, but Delia threatened him back. She is the one who shoots Sullivan on Halloween. She is very sly and greedy. She influences Eleanor to kill Dee soon before Cernunnos comes. She wants Dee's voice. That is why she wants Dee die, but at the end, she is dead. She is killed by Sullivan because Sullivan steals her ward.

2.5.2.2. Gregory Normandy

He is president of TA school. His head is shaved close and his arm and chest muscles. Even he wears a dress shirt and tie on, he does not look *presidential*, unless it is president of Fight Club. He is a good person. He also cares to his students, especially students who have the gift like James and Dee. He knows about faeries and tries to protect his students from them. He and a few of other staff members founded TA school after they realized that faeries are more likely to harass and kidnap teens with incredible musical talent like Normandy's son. His son is kidnapped by faeries and he killed himself.

2.5.2.3. Eve Linnet

She is James and Dee's dramatic literature teacher. She is small and looks like a pale ghost. She knows about faeries. She is unkind, fierce, and old-fashioned woman. She is more senior than Sullivan in TA School. For James and few students, she is annoying, not open minded teacher, always intervenes her students's problem. She is the one who has objection about James and Paul's assignment. She thinks Sullivan let his students interpret his assignment so loosely and it seems unfair. In the end of the story, she is dead. She is killed by Dee accidentally, because the faeries play trick on Dee. When the ghost of Linnet

appears in front of James and Sullivan on Halloween, she forbids them to save Dee.

2.5.2.4. Karre

Karre is a human. He is Eleanor's human consort. Even though he is Eleanor's consort, he actually is a good, kind, and polite person. He is handsome enough with his laugh-lined eyes and crooked nose. He always wears court clothing. He can dance like faeries, quite well for a human. He will be the king of death on Halloween. The queen has promised to him and he believes her. Nuala and others faeries cannot read his mind. He protects it as well as a faerie. It means he is smart. He is very human, fragile, stolen, and in love. Actually, he is afraid of Eleanor and has sympathy to Nuala. On Halloween, Eleanor cuts out his heart to trade it with Dee's heart, so Karre can be the dead king.

2.5.2.5. Luke Dillon

Luke is a *daoine sidhe*. In the first book of Stievfater entitled "Lament", he is Dee's lover. But after the summer accident that happened to James and Dee, faeries almost killed them, Luke is gone. From Brendan, we can know that Dee traded Luke's life for James's. In the second book, "Ballad", Luke is back with different character that later is known as the fake Luke Dillon. The real Luke Dillon has died. In this novel, he is the bad faerie. He makes Dee to kill Linnet and do bad things.

2.5.2.6. Brendan

He is a *daoine sidhe*, friend of Luke. He has face and hair brilliantly pale like the underside of a leaf. Actually, he is a good faerie, on human side. He is the one who asks Nuala to keep Dee safe on Halloween. When Halloween, he is the

faerie who calls James and asks him to save Dee. He tells James what Eleanor will do to Dee. He also tells him that Dee traded Luke Dillon's life for James's life. He ever saved James's life once when Dee asked him. He begs to James to save Dee.

2.6. SETTING

Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie novel takes setting in several places. The story begins in Thornking-Ash School, Virginia, America and around of it (the dorm, the jungle, the hill behind Thornking-Ash School, Bill's office, the theatre, the station, the town, etc) where James starts to school and meets Nuala and others faeries. The second place is in Washington D.C. where James, Dee, and other students of Thornking-Ash School visited the Marion Theatre to see The Raleigh-Botts Ensemble, a most excellent chamber group who will be performing a wide range of pieces. Here, the relationship between James and Dee starts to break, while the relationship between James and Nuala starts to grow. The last setting is in Cernunnos's realm (afterlife) where James and Nuala follow Cernunnos and ask his help. Here, James and Nuala see their death and Nuala decides to reborn as human. Cernunnos helps them by telling their future and what should they do. The whole of the story happens in autumn on October, especially on Halloween.

CHAPTER III

ANALYSIS

This chapter deals with the analysis of the contrasts of woman character in *Balad: A Gathering of Faerie* novel, since the aim of the research is to describe the contrasts of woman characters in *Balad: A Gathering of Faerie*. Here, the woman characters are Nuala and Dee. Yet, before the writer shows the contrasts of the woman characters, the writer shows the comparison between the two characters. The writer compares Nuala and Dee to get similarities between them before getting the contrasts. This analysis uses the objective approach that means the analysis of the woman characters is based on *Balad: A Gathering of Faerie* novel and regardless the extrinsic elements of the novel. Moreover, to analyze the contrasts of woman characters, the writer applies the binary opposition theory by Claude Levi-Strauss. In the binary opposition theory, there are privileged and marginalized binaries. Thus, this analysis results in several binary oppositions between Nuala and Dee.

3. 1 The Comparisons and Contrasts between Nuala and Dee

Before analyzing the contrasts of Nuala and Dee, the writer shows the similarities between both characters. The explanation of similarities aims to show that both of the characters not only have differences in their characteristics, but also have similarities in their characteristics. Since this research deals with the contrasts, it should show the comparison. There are several similarities between Nuala and Dee.

First, the similarity between Annabel and Edith is seen by sex. Things can be compared and contrasted, if they have the same degree. It means that in comparing and contrasting anything, it should have the same degree, for example the compare and contrast between male with male and female with female. Here, in *Ballad: A Gatherng of Ferie* novel, the comparison and contrast are between Nuala and Dee. They have same sex: female. Thus, the two woman characters can be compared and contrasted. Second, the similarity between Nuala and Dee is seen by powers. Both of them have magical powers. Nuala can creates music and Dee can make all faeries follow her. They have their own magical powers as their strength.

In addition, third, the similarity is seen by role. In the novel, Nuala and Dee play the same role as a lover for James. Their function is to love, save, make James happy and so forth. In the novel, Nuala as the woman faerie who loves James after Dee. She loves James very much. She wants to do anything to keep him alive even she has to sacrifice her life. Nuala saves James from others faerie and herself. She also gets jealous of Dee because she loves him. Besides, Dee as the woman also loves James before Nuala. Dee loves James even she has to sacrifices her boyfriend's life. She saves James's life by trading Luke's life with his life. She gets jealous when knowing James with Nuala. Last, the similarity between Nuala and Dee is seen by their personality. Nuala as a solitary faerie. She has no friend. She prefers to be alone than gathers with others faerie. Dee is also a solitary girl. She has no close friend, except James. She prefers to be alone all the day. The similarity between Nuala and Dee can be seen in the following table.

No ·	Aspects	Description
1.	Sex	Both Nuala and Dee are female
2.	Power	Both Nuala and Dee have magical power
3.	Role	Both Nuala and Dee have the same role as a lover for James
4.	Personality	Both Nuala and Dee have the same personality as a solitary girl

Table 1. Comparisons between Nuala and Dee

The table above shows the similarities between Nuala and Dee. After knowing the similarities between both characters, the writer explains the contrasts between the two characters because this research focuses on the contrasts between Nuala and Dee in which it will result in several binary oppositions of the two woman characters. The binary oppositions can be seen in the following explanation.

3.1.1 The Immortal Creature: Nuala vs. The Mortal Creature: Dee

3.1.1.1 The Immortal Creature: Nuala

In *Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie* novel, it shows that Nuala and Dee have the different natures. Nuala is the immortal creature and Dee is the mortal creature. According to Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, immortal means that lives or lasts for ever (www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com). In the novel can be seen that Nuala is described as a faerie. She is a *leanan sidhe*, a faerie muse who fosters and feeds on creative energies of exceptional humans until they die.

In the myth, faerie or fairy is a creature, human in form, who has magical powers and immortality.

As a faerie, Nuala definitely has magical power, achingly beauty, and immortality. Nuala's immortality is different with others faerie. Every sixteen years on Halloween, she has to get burnt out of her and then magically she reappears with no memories and brand new. But, still she will not die or getting older. She will be young forever. Nuala is stay alive by taking human's life. She attracts men by her apperance. She makes deal with them. She gives them creativities and sex, as the return she will take their life slowly. Nuala as an immortal creature influences her way to love James. During her life, every period of her life, she has been never rejected by any one of her victims, except James. James becomes the first man who ever rejected her. Nuala becomes obsessed to James after his rejection. Then, someday she finds out her feeling to be deepening towards James. Paradoxically, James is her first love. She falls in love with him deeply and intensively. Nuala tries to give him the best of her because this is the first time she falls in love. She totally loves him. It can be seen from her efforts to take care James's life and feeling carefully.

"I don't want to forget this—that because I fell in love with you, I didn't kill you," Nuala said. Her voice was funny; it was hard for her to say what she was saying. (Page 220)

"I like what I look like now. I like what I act like. Everyone thinks I'm going to jump you and suck out your life because I want you so bad, because you're such a great piper. They don't think I can resist. But I *can*. Here you are and you look *amazing* and I haven't taken anything from you. I don't even want to. I mean, I do, I mean, it's *killing* me not to, but I don't want you to

give up any of your life for me. I've never done that before. I'm—proud of myself. I'm not just a leech. I'm not just another faerie. I don't want to use you. I just want to be whoever it is that I am when I'm with you." (Page 220)

From the dialogue above, it can be seen that Nuala does not want to take James's life because she loves him. She prefers to die than taking his life. Her love is bigger than her desire to take his life. Even in the end of story Nuala decides to be reborn as human. She wants to stop killing men. She wants to change for James and has a future with him.

3.1.1.2 The Mortal Creature: Dee

The opposing character of immortal creature is mortal creature and here is Dee or Deidre Monaghan. According to Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, mortal means that cannot live for ever and die must (www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com). In the novel Dee is described as a cloverhand. Cloverhand is a human that can see faeries and has magical power to make them follow her whenever she is. Eventhough Dee has magical power to control faeries, but still she is a human. As a human definitely she still can die or getting older.

Love is part of human life which naturally appears somehow. As a human, Dee has fallen in love several times. James is not her first love. Dee has fallen in love with Luke Dillon, *a daoine sidhe*, before she loves James. In the novel, it can be seen that actually Dee is not totally love James. She loves James because she needs him to move on from Luke.

"Fine. I *loved* him. I didn't want to tell you. I felt guilty. Even though you and I were just friends." Dee hesitated for a long moment, but I didn't help her out. "And it's been really hard, since ... since he's been gone. I *know* I'll never see him again and I know I have to get over him and I feel like I'm climbing out of this big hole and I just grabbed onto the closest best thing I could find to get out, and it was you, and I was wrong to do that." (Page 179)

From the paragraph above, it can concluded that Dee only take advantages of James. She admits that she loves Luke and needs James as the placeholder to forget Luke.

3.1.2 The Daring Woman: Nuala vs. The Calm Woman: Dee

3.1.2.1 The Daring Woman: Nuala

The two woman characters: Nuala and Dee in the *Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie* novel are woman lovers for James. Both Nuala and Dee try to be with James. According to Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, daring means brave; willing to do dangerous or unusual things; involving danger or taking risks (www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com).

Here, Nuala as the daring woman insists to be with James with any way and any possibility. She is daring to decide to reborn as human so she can have a future with him. She is willing to do dangerous or unusual things in order to be with him. In the novel, Nuala is willing to meet Cernunnos, the death king, in his realm to ask his help. Nuala wants Cernunnos to change her into human. She knows the risks that maybe she will never can come back alive from Cernunnos's realm. She takes the risks for James.

"You can choose," Cernunnos said. "When you burn, you can choose to be born human. I made such an offer to your sister, but she scoffed. I looked into the future, and I saw that you would do the same."

"I wouldn't," I demanded. "What you saw was wrong." The antlered king walked slowly toward James. James' chin was lifted, unafraid. I was terrified of the fascination in James' expression. There was an unspoken choice James could make too. "This was before the piper......." (Page 286-287)

Nuala also takes a risk to against Eleanor to save James. Every faerie is afraid of Eleanor the queen, but for James, Nuala finds her courage. She is willing to put herself in danger. Even she sacrifices her life for James. She prefers to die than taking James's life. She knows she will die if she does not take any single life of human. She knows the risk, but still she let herself dying.

In her head I saw the memory of him, broken and gasping, so clearly that I knew she'd meant for me to. My voice was fierce. "I don't want to make a bargain with him. My bargains are my own business. You have your business and I have mine. I don't meddle in yours and you don't meddle in mine."

I'd gone way too far, but that image of him had ripped something open inside me. I turned my head, waiting for her wrath. (Page 184)

Eleanor sat back, her pale green dress spreading out around her like flower petals on the grass. "Well, she's a *leanan sidhe*, piper. Surely you know how it is she stays alive?"

She was right. I did. I just hadn't let myself think about it. "Life, right? Human life."

"Years, piper. She takes years off the life of those she graces with her inspiration. And she did not take any from you, did she?" (Page 254)

3.1.2.2 The Calm Woman: Dee

Dee is the opposite of Nuala. She is more calm than Nuala. According to *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary*, calm means not excited, nervous or troubled; quiet (1995: 159). Here, Dee is less ambitious than Nuala to be with James. She still considers about the roles logically. She never insists to be with James. Dee is not really obsessed to James, because she does not really want James. Dee has loved someone else actually. Dee loves Luke, but she needs James to help her to move on from Luke.

Then, in a rush, I knew what to say, and the words were exploding in my head with my desire to say them: but you hurt me. It hurts like hell. Standing here with you holding my hand is killing me. Are you using me? How could you do that? Don't I mean any more to you than that? I'm just a damn placeholder, is that it? (Page 178)

"Fine. I *loved* him. I didn't want to tell you. I felt guilty. Even though you and I were just friends." Dee hesitated for a long moment, but I didn't help her out. "And it's been really hard, since ... since he's been gone. I *know* I'll never see him again and I know I have to get over him and I feel like I'm climbing out of this big hole and I just grabbed onto the closest best thing I could find to get out, and it was you, and I was wrong to do that." (Page 179)

It can be seen from the paragraphs above that actually Dee only takes advantage of James. She uses him as her placeholder. She is not really want him, that is why she prefers to be calm. Dee does nothing to convince James. It is totally different with Nuala because Nuala really wants James. Nuala will do anything to be with James.

3.1.3 The Aggressive Woman: Nuala vs. The Passive Woman: Dee

3.1.3.1 The Agressive Woman: Nuala

In the novel, Nuala is described as an aggressive woman. Aggressive means acting with force and determination in order to succeed (www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com). Here, Nuala's aggressivesness can be seen in her efforts to approach James. She insists to get James's affection with any way and any possibility. She becomes very obsessed to James, since James keeps ignoring her. She makes him as her purpose. She starts to stalk him everyday and everywhere.

I was used to being the hunter. If I saw something I wanted, I stalked it, smelled it, made it mine.

By "it" I mean "him," of course. I liked them young, talented, male. The more handsome the better. Sweetened the deal. I had to look at them until they died, so they might as well be pretty. (Page 7)

Nuala does unusual things to force James. Almost every night she sends a dream about music to him. She will keep sending him a dream until he says yes to her. It seems like she insists him to accept her. She will do anything to make him becomes hers.

"Why hadn't he said yes? Was it only because he'd turned me down that I now wanted him so badly? I could make him incredible. He could make me warm, alive, awake. I'd give him a dream. That's what I'd do. I'd show him just a little of what I could do, and next time he saw me, he wouldn't be able to say no." (Page 42)

It can be seen from the novel that Nuala is kind of psycho. She cannot control her ambition of James. She will follow him wherever he goes and convince him in many ways to say yes to her. She will force James to accept her in any ways of hers.

3.1.3.2 The Passive Woman: Dee

Dee is the passive woman. Passive means accepting what happens or what people do without trying to change anything oppose them or (www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com). In this context, passive is an acting without forcing which is still consider as normal. Dee never forces or insists to approach James. Even actually she is the reason why James joins in Thornking-Ash School. She should not have to do much effort to approach James, because the one who comes closer is James. It makes Dee takes him for granted.

I read all the brochures for the Thornking-Ash School of Music before I applied. The brochures said the school would nurture our already promising musical abilities. They promised to challenge us academically. The brochures whispered tales of us emerging from high school as multitalented super-teens sporting academic skills, who would slay Ivy League applications with a single thrust of our extracurriculars.

At the time, I thought—cool. And plus, Deirdre was going, so I had to. (Page 9)

From the proofs above, it can be seen Dee is effortless to approach James. She is never trying to shows her interest to James. She prefers to be quiet and does a little effort. She wants James the one who does and makes efforts for her.

3.1.4 The Provocative Woman: Nuala vs. The Unprovocative Woman: Dee

3.1.4.1 The Provocative Woman: Nuala

Based on Urban Dictionary, faerie has meaning as the most beautiful girl in the world, there is only one (www.urbandictionary.com). Here, provocative woman means a woman who is intended to make someone sexually excited. Nuala as a faerie definitely has very achingly beauty and sexy appearance. She is always dressed in a highly provocative way. She does it on purpose to attract human especially her victims.

"His eyes took in my jean skirt with the ripped bottom, my lowcut peasant top, and my impossibly tall cork heels. His mouth made a shape as if he had tried a lemon and found it sort of appealing." (Page 45-46)

"You're the *leanan sidhe*," he said, surprising me because he knew and had asked me to dance anyway. His eyes roved over me. "And you're beautiful. Dance. We're stronger all the time and the dancing is better than ever. Come away with me and dance. It's what we're here for." (Page 123)

From the proof above, it can be concluded that Nuala's appearance is so attractive not only for human but also for faerie. She is so eye catching psychically. James as a man of course will be fascinated by Nuala's appearance. Every inch of Nuala is very provocative, her smile, hair, body, smell of her body, smell of her breath, and dress.

3.1.4.2 The Unprovocative Woman: Dee

As the opposite, Dee is as an provocative woman. Unprovocative means controlling emotions and desires and not allowing them to be expressed. Dee is more as she is than Nuala. She is more polite in dress than Nuala. As human, her beauty is only standards of human beauty. It is totally different with Nuala.

The door creaked and we all looked up guiltily, as if we'd been caught doing something worse than badly acting a play filled with metaphor. I saw Paul mouth the words "scary hot" at me a moment before I realized that it was Nuala, letting herself in the red door at the back of the building.

Nuala strode down the center aisle between the folding chairs, looking like an Amazon in tight bell-bottoms and seemingly unconcerned by everyone staring at her. She climbed onto the stage, walked up to me, and snatched my script from me. Her long-sleeved yellow T-shirt showed a tantalizing bit of her belly; there was dark black print down the sleeves that said inyourhandsinyourhands. (Page 229-230)

"You've got—there's just—" I gestured toward her mouth, reaching for a napkin and realizing Megan had them. Nuala could've knocked the rice off, but she leaned down right beside me instead, her hair smelling way too good as it hung down between us, and that was how I happened to be sucking Nuala's lower lip into my mouth very gently when Dee joined us on the patio.

"Hi, Dee," Paul said. His eyes were very wide and he had a look on his face like *whoa-someone-get-the-marshmallows-there's-gonnabe-a-barbecue-here*. (Page 235)

It can be seen from the paragraphs above the different reactions when Nuala comes and Dee comes. Nuala can distract almost every one who sees her included James. While Dee, almost no one realizes her attendance.

3.2 The Ideal Woman Figures in Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie novel

Binary oppositions that have found above represent the main binary. Here the main binary is the ideal woman figure versus the non ideal woman figure. The main binary is derived by several binary oppositions that have been explained.

3.2.1 The Ideal Woman Figure: Nuala

From several binary oppositions that have been found, the relation between Nuala and Dee is about the ideal woman figure. The binary oppositions above construct the nature of ideal woman. Seen from James's side and this modern era, the ideal woman figure in the *Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie* novel is Nuala because Nuala's natures and the ways she loves James is full of sincerity and struggle. In the novel, Nuala has several natures such as immortal, daring, aggressive, and provocative. Those natures make James choose her instead of Dee. In the modern era, it is almost impossible to find a woman like Nuala, a woman who never gives up and keeps giving the best of her sincerely. In the novel, Nuala's sincerity and struggle can be seen by her natures. As an immortal woman who plays a role as a lover, Nuala knows what a man really wants from a woman. She has many experinces with man. But here James is her first love, so Nuala takes care of his life and feeling carefully. She is afraid to hurt him. Then, she loves him deeply and intensively. Nuala gives the best of her to him. It makes James melt by her sincerity and struggle.

In the same way, Nuala is a daring woman. She is a woman who willing to do anything as long as she can be with James. She wants to sacrifice her life to James. She is willing to meet Cernunnos, the death king, and against Eleanot, the fey queen, for James. Even she dares to decide to reborn as human. She let herself

to lose her powers, achingly beauty, and immortality and becomes a human. This is only because she wants to have a future with James. The ideal woman should have sincerity in her love and make the man feeling appreciated as Nuala.

Furthermore, Nuala as the aggressive woman is included in the ideal woman criteria for James, because in this modern era a man needs a woman who can show her feeling actively and convince him about her feeling. In *Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie* novel, Nuala as a lover for James, she can show her feeling toward him actively and convince him about her feeling. When James starts to close with her and open his heart for her, she gives the more that she could give for him, even her life. According to Erich From in his book *The Art of Love*, the point of love is giving not receiving (Fromm, 1997:18). Here, Nuala is an aggressive to show her love to James in any way and possibility. In addition, in this modern era, women can declare their feeling first toward men. It has already became a common thing. Women should not wait for the men say their feeling, they can take first action of it.

The last, Nuala as the provocative woman is also the ideal woman for James because in this modern era women's appearance is really matter for men. Women wear make up is a need, even some say it is a must. Women also should be fashionable to attract men. In this modern era, fashionable means following a style that is popular at a particular time. The context of fashionable here is the way a woman dressed. Here, Nuala as a faerie definitely has very provocative appearance. She is achingly beautiful and very sexy. She is always dressed in a highly provocative way to attract human. She has ideal body and beautiful hair.

The smell of her breath and body are very addicted for James. James always be fascinated by her appearance. Nuala knows well what a man wants from a woman.

3.2.2 The Non-Ideal Woman Figure: Dee

From binary oppositions that have been found, they show that Dee is the non ideal woman for James. There are several natures of Dee that make her becomes the non ideal one such as mortal, calm, passive and unprovocative natures. Dee is a human, a mortal creature. As the mortal one, she has no experience about man. Further, James is not her first love, so she takes him for granted. She loves him, only because she needs him to move on from Luke. In the novel told that Dee loves Luke more than James. But after Luke died, she chases James to help her move on from Luke.

Dee is also too calm and passive to show her feeling toward James. She prefers to hide her feeling from him. Dee ever saved James's life from faeries in the summer of last year. She trades Luke's life with his life. But in the story told that it seems like Dee regrets for doing that. Dee keeps hoping that Luke is still alive and she only remembers James when she needs him. Dee is less effort to approach James. It shows that she does not really want him.

In addition, other nature of Dee that is less ideal for a woman in the modern era is unprovocative. As a woman, unprovocative nature is not interesting for James. James as a man must be interested with the girl that can distract him by her appearance. Man loves beauty. Appearance, especially in this modern era, is very important to woman to attract man. Physically, Dee is beautiful as common human. She never wears make up and the ways she dressed is very ordinary

casual. It is the opposite of Nuala, she is achingly beautiful, wears make up, and very sexy.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

4.1 Conclusion

In this chapter, the writer shows the result of discussion in the third chapter. Since the aim of the research is to describe James's ideal woman as seen in *Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie*, in this case, the contrasts between Nuala and Dee result in the ideal woman figures which are used to get the reason James's preference on both women (Nuala) and (Dee) reflect the dichotomy between ideal and non ideal woman. To analyze the contrasts of woman characters in *Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie* novel, the writer applies the binary opposition theory by Claude Levi-Strauss. According to Storey (2009), "He (Levi-Strauss) also observes that myths are structured in terms of binary oppositions" (p. 115). Units of systems have meanings in the relation of its opposites. The basic meanings can be understood by bundle of relations. In this research the writer discusses the contrasts of Nuala and Dee because they have relation. The relation between the two woman characters is the ideal woman for James.

Furthermore, by applying the binary opposition theory, the writer is able to find the contrasts of the woman characters: Nuala and Dee. By seeing their nature, performance, and appearance, the writer finds several contrasts between Nuala and Dee as the following table.

Privileged	Marginalized
Nuala	Dee
Immortal	Mortal
Daring	Calm
Aggressive	Passive
Provocative	Unprovocative
The Ideal Woman for James	The Non-ideal Woman for James

Table 2. Lists of Binary Oppositions of Woman Characters

The contrasts above show the ideal woman figure that is depicted in the *Ballad: Gatherong of Faerie* novel. The ideal woman is seen by James's side and the modern era. The ideal woman figure in *Ballad: Gatherong of Faerie* that is appropriate for James is Nuala. Dee is the non-ideal woman figure for James. Based on the contrasts of the woman characters above, the ideal woman is immortal, daring, aggressive, and provocative. The immortal creature will not die or getting older and she has many experience how to treat and spoil a man. The daring and aggressive woman will do any way and possibility to get man's heart. She will give the best of her and fight for her man. The provocative woman also will always look appealing, so she will not be boring. She will always find a way to make her man satisfied. Here, Nuala is more reflected as a bad woman and Dee as a good woman. But, in the modern era, bad woman is more interesting and challenging than a good woman. James prefers to choose Nuala as his ideal

woman than Dee because Nuala is more experience, interesting, and challenging. Nuala's nature, performance, and appearance will not make James get bored.

In *Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie* novel, the relation between faerie, privileged, and ideal woman can be seen from James. James who prefers to choose Nuala (faerie) as his ideal woman than Dee (human) has his own idealism and fantasy. Faerie is a mythical creature. It is not real, but here James represents his ideal woman as a faerie which means it is only his fantasy. James has his idealism and criteria about ideal woman. Nuala's nature, performance, and appearance are represented ideal woman for James based on his fantasy. Faerie is beautiful creature. Man loves beauty. Nuala's figure as faerie definitely has very appealing appearance. Faerie's charm is of course different with human's charm. For men, appearance is very important. It becomes one of their considerations in choosing a mate. Nuala's nature also represented James's fantasy about ideal woman. In the novel told that she is daring, aggressive, and provocative woman. It can be seen that actually James wants a woman who can show her feeling actively, fight for him, and can satisfied his desire. In conslussion, James's ideal woman based on his fantasy is reflected in Nuala's figure as a faerie.

4.2 Suggestion

Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie novel tells an interesting love story that is covered many issues such as gender, politic, and so forth. In this research, the writer analyzes the gender issue by applying the binary opposition theory. Thus, there are many issues that can be analyzed by other researches using different theories. The writer suggests to other researchers to apply feminist theories, psychoanalysis theories and the deconstruction theory. The feminist theories that

can be applied from the movie are the monstrous feminist theory and the liberal feminist theory. The movie has close relation with the struggle of women in getting the equality. The new researchers can use *Ballad: A Gathering of Faerie* novel as the material object. The deconstruction theory can be applied because this research applied the binary opposition theory.

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