Chapter IV
Finding and Discussion

Finding of research

This chapter discusses about the finding of the research and how the roles are described in the short stories. These short stories were created by Kate Chopin. They are, Beyond the Bayou, Desiree’s Baby, Respectable Woman, The Kiss, and Ma’ame Pelagie.

Mostly, these short stories took place in Louisiana. This study has found some roles based on the short stories. In other case, the roles are divided into two categories. There are positive and misogyny. Based on Case in Wilcox, he states:

“Reflect the perspective of the playwright or of the theatrical tradition on women” (132). There are (1) positive roles, which depict women as independent, intelligent, and even heroic and (2) a surplus of misogynistic roles commonly identified as the bitch, the witch, the vamp, or the virgin/goddess” (p.3)

It emphasizes that, the roles of women are reflected from the tradition of women. There are two categories of the women roles; they are positive and misogynistic. It appears in the stories, when plays are portrayed in acts.

Positive role

There are three parts of the positive role were found in these short stories. There are independent, intelligent, and heroic.

1. Independent role

There were four selected women characters in the short stories.

#Data 01 in Desiree’s Baby
This conversation occurred between Desiree and her husband. It happened in the afternoon and in home of them. The main point here is Desiree’s husband underlined statement. The second sentence is implicated to Desiree as independent woman.

- *In silence he ran his cold eyes over the written words.*
  He said nothing. “Shall I go, Armand?” she asked in tones sharp agonized suspense.
  “Yes, go.”
  “Do you want me to go?”
  “Yes, I want you to go.” (para. 29)

- She disappeared among the reeds and willow that grew thick along the banks of the deep, sluggish bayou; and she did not come back again. (para. 33)

#Data 02 in The Kiss

This is found in the implicit sentence in the story. It happened when Nathalie in dim corridor. The main point here was underlined sentences in the story.

   Well, _she had Brantain and his million let_. A person can’t have everything in this world. (para. 18)

#Data 03 in Ma’ame Pelagie

The independent role was found in the implicit sentence in the story. It played by Ma’ame Pelagie and Pauline who became protagonist. It was happened many years ago when their brother decided to leave them. The main point here is when their brother leaved the plantation to his older sister.

   _Their brother, Leandre, had known more of it all than Pauline, and not so much as Pelagie. He had left the management of the big plantation with all its memories and traditions to his older sister, and had gone away to dwell in cities._ (para. 7)

#Data 04 in Respectable Woman
The independent role was found in the underlined implicit sentence. It played by Mrs. Baroda and be a protagonist. The main point here is the awareness of Mrs. Baroda when woman should think to be an independent.

“Beside being a respectable woman she was a very sensible one; and she knew there are some battles in life which human being must fight alone”. (Kate Chopin, para 27)

2. Intelligent Role

There is one woman who is intelligent in these short stories.

#Data 01 in Ma’ame Pelagie

This conversation occurs between La Petite and Ma’ame Pelagie. It was night. The main point of La Petite intelligent role can be seen from underlined sentences.

She said: “What do you mean, Petite? Your father has sent you to us, and I am sure it is his wish that you remain.”
My father loves me, tante Pelagie, and such will not be his when he knows. Oh!” She continued with a restless, movement, “it is as a though a weight were pressing me backward here. I must live another life; the life I lived before. I want to know things that are happening from day to day over the world, and hear them talked about. I want my music, my books, my companion. If I had known no other life but this one of privation, I suppose it would be different. If I had to live this life, I should make the best of it. But, I do not have to; and you know, tante Pelagie, you do not need to. It seems to me,“ she added in a whisper, “that it is a sin against myself. Ah, Tan’tante!—what is the matter with Tan’tante?” (para. 18)

3. Heroic Role

There are three roles in these stories.

#Data 01 in Beyond the Bayou

The heroic role is implicit in the sentence and conversation between La Folle and Tante Lizette. It was taken place in the night at home. It happened when La Folle passed her
death. Tante Lizette companied her and treated her well. The main point of the implicit sentence here is the sentence about Tante Lizette who helps Desiree.

But death had passed her by. The voice was very clear and steady with which she spoke to Tante Lizette, brewing her tisane there in a corner.

“Ef, you will give me one good drink tisane, Tante Lizette, I b’lieve I’m goin’ sleep, me” (para. 17)

#Data 02 in Desiree’s Baby

The heroic role is implicit in the sentence of the story. It is implicit in the letter of Desiree to Madame Valmonde. The main point can be seen from the underlined sentence spoken by Madame Valmonde.

“My mother, they tell me I am not white. Armand has told me I am not white. For God’s sake tell them it is not true. You must know it is not true. I shall die. I must die. I cannot be so unhappy, and live.”

The answer that came was brief:

“My own Desiree: Come home to Valmonde; back to your mother who loves you. Come with your child.” (para. 26-27)

#Data 03 in Ma’ame Pelagie

The heroic is implicit in the sentences. It portrayed in the memory of Pauline when Ma’ame Pelagie saved her life. The main point is from the underlined sentence.

That meant the nearness of war, the revolt of slave; confusing ending in fire and flame through which she was borne safely in the strong arms of Pelagie, and carried to the log cabin which was still their home. (para. 7)

Misogynistic Role

1. Virgin

It was declared in story that Ma’ame Pelagie was a virgin. The main point of this can be seen from underlined sentence in the story.
“Ma’ame Pelagie,” they called her, though she was unmarried, as was her sister Pauline, a child in Ma’ame Pelagie’s eyes; a child of thirty-five”. (para. 2)

Slave

There were two roles that found in these stories.

#Data 01 in Beyond the Bayou

The role was found in implicit sentence. It was analyzed that the woman here has been a slave.

- She had more physical strength than most men, and her patch of cotton and corn and tobacco like the best of them. (para. 4)

-P’tit Maitre was now the owner of Bellisime. He was a middle-aged man, with family of beautiful daughters about him, and a little son whom La Folle loved as if he had been her own. She called him Cherri and so did everyone else because she did. (para. 6)

#Data 02 in Desiree Baby

The role was found in implicit sentence. It was identified as slave job.

One of La Blanche’s little quadron boys – half naked too — stod fanning the child slowly with a fan peacock feathers. (para. 16)

Discussion

Roles in the five selected short stories of Kate Chopin can be divided into traditional and modern role. Besides, the traditional role is dominant in these stories. The traditional roles in these short stories are divided into two kinds; they are positive and negative role of the woman in the story. Each of these roles is from each character and based on the social function in the story.

To link the feminism with Kate Chopin short stories, this study figure out the roles of female character in the short stories. How the role of female characters are portrayed in these stories. All these discussions could be explored by applying feminist literary criticism which had
function to be a forum for women in sharing their experiences and guide the readers to understand it.

The feminism theory showed the target of the movement of women and it was not only about a problem of woman in society but also about the humanity or efforts to fight for humanity rights. Besides, Feminism emphasized that woman had a human right to do everything to express their self in live even to get a job or expresses idea in writing.

**Positive Role**

1. Independent Role

   **#Data 01 in Desiree’s Baby**

   The story was written in eighteenth century about 1892 years old. This story told about the differences of race between Desiree and her husband. Kate’s critiques the class-based and racial prejudice in this story. It portrayed in this story.

   This conversation occurs between Desiree and her husband. It happens on the afternoon and in their home.

   *In silence he ran his cold eyes over the written words.*
   *He said nothing. “Shall I go, Armand?” she asked in tones sharp agonized suspense.*
   *“Yes, go.”*
   *“Do you want me to go?”*
   *“Yes, I want you to go.”* (para. 29)

   In this story, Desiree’s husband dominates in their family; it intimidated Desiree in her life. The underlined statement of Desiree’s husband is forced her to go out from her house. Her husband is not accepted that her baby became a Negrillon. Desiree’s husband not accepted their baby because Negrillon is judge as scamp. Desiree gets surprised. This is unexpected moment. She tried to convince her husband; instead her husband only ignored her. Her placed as
wife only ignored by her own husband. It was tortured her heart. Then, she decided to leave her husband. Although, Desiree always treated her husband well and gave him a baby, in fact, she accepted injustice of her husband.

*She disappeared among the reeds and willow that grew thick along the banks of the deep, sluggish bayou; and she did not come back again.* Desiree made decision to live by her own with her baby. After that, she was being a single parent. She has to rear her baby by herself, without her husband beside her. It made her become a stiff. It was not easy to rear a baby alone but she believed that she can do it. Even though the consequence was her baby will not accept love of a father, Desiree was ready to face it.

In this case, Desiree’s role as independent woman is important. She is portrayed as woman who always leaves by her husband alone at home. When Desiree faced it, the society life in this time is not really helped her, because the condition of the social condition at the time. When, everyone only think about how to survive for their own life, no one who cares about her life, then she decided to move to her mother in-law’s home. However, she accepted and faced it.

The social class and race differentiation between Desiree and her husband became the main factor when they separated. The judgment of Negrillon as great scamp made her husband not achieved their baby in their life. While, Desiree’s baby was became the victim. When talking about different race, it also has connection with feminism. It can also involve as the feminist literary which clarify that feminism is looked at the relation of gender in class and race. Feminism really noticed this condition. It hopes, the racial differences can remove from the society life in order that can make the pleasure of life. When, Kate treated her character into this situation, it really showed that she critiques these differences.
The broken relation between Desiree and her husband was explicitly made unacceptable balance of race. It was given injustice to Desiree. It portrayed in this story and Desiree. The intimidation of her husband to her was made Desiree had a depression and not confess by her husband. It clarified that she is woman who not dependent to her husband anymore. Desiree’s decision is wish can give her right to survive.

#Data 02 in The Kiss

This story was written in 1894 years old. The life before the civil war is portrayed in this story. However, this story is focused on Nathalie’s character in this story. This story also portrayed the woman life in her house hold at the time. Eventhough, it portrayed into disappointed role, but Nathalie’s role portrayed how woman to face the life without dependent to her husband.

This underlined statement below clarified that Nathalie was decided to leave everything that she was. It will be good for both of them, to her and her husband. Well, *she had Brantain and his million let. A person can’t have everything in this world. (para. 18)*

It happened because of personal factor. Her ego as a woman made her relation broken. In other opinion of Lorber (1978, p. 17), be supportive, occupy where woman only thought and act, when women want to reach for nonhierarchichal. It clarifies that men dominate in this case and give limitation where women should be. It can be seen how the role of Nathalie portrayed in this story.

When her husband gave her freedom without the tight guarding, then she can act free and ease till break the border over. It also occurred because there was no good communication between them and the solution to avoid it, need more communication between Nathalie and her
husband. It can also influenced by woman ego where the one perception of woman became. It claims by Donovan in Newton that feminist criticism was the main priori perception when women are base of awareness: are egos, not other. It means, when woman do something for her life, it also aware that woman also use ego. It happened to Nathalie, when ego already control her mind and desire, she does everything she likes to do, and forget that she still have another responsibility to her husband, but she was not carry it out. Lastly, her husband leaved her alone and had her own right.

Feminist literary viewed it into how woman life at the time and where men view to women placed at the time.

#Data 03 in Ma’ame Pelagie

This story was written in the death of civil war. This story became the transition of past history future and new era. It portrayed how the woman life after the civil-war in the society life.

It happened many years ago when their brother decided to leave them. The main point here is when their brother leaved the plantation to his older sister. Their brother, Leandre, had known more of it all than Pauline, and not so much as Pelagie. He had left the management of the big plantation with all its memories and traditions to his older sister, and had gone away to dwell in cities. (para. 7) When their brother left them, it means that they cannot dependent to other people anymore, and they have to manage the plantation by their own.

Her character as protagonist and made well with other people around her include the placed of Ma’ame Pelagie as the owner of the plantation, give the right to her for making the decision about her plantation and everyone who work with her is accepted it. As Pauline do, she
also work with her aunt, Ma’ame Pelagie. As a women who worked with her own ability, it is expected to the other women that they can also do the same thing with Ma’ame Pelagie. Means, women also be able to work as a man, besides work in the home. It is same with this opinion. Based on, Purwanto (2011, p.27) feminism claims that women movement had capable in every side and cannot be subjected by men. It means that, women movement became the sign that women are ready and be able in every side of life’s role. Ma’ame Pelagie become the business woman of the plantation. It proved that woman also can work as hard as man. The life of Ma’ame pelagie created her to be independent person.

Ma’ame Pelagie and Pauline proved that even as women they can survive for their life. It is proved that women need to move and already ready to face the world. Woman is suggested to have the confidence and special competent to do that.

Feminism given the good treated for women character in this story. When, men viewed change to the women it give the strength to women to be independent and proved to the men that women also can do the good work for her life without dependent to the other.

#Data 04 in Respectable Woman

This story was written in 1894 years old. Kate’s portrayed the society life before the civil war in this story. How the woman face the problem in life is portrayed in this story. The role of woman in household to be respected her place in household to her husband is occurred in this story.

The role is portrayed by Mrs. Baroda and be a protagonist. It was taken place at Mrs. Baroda’s home. The main point here is the awareness of Mrs. Baroda when woman should think to be an independent. The underlined statement of Mrs. Baroda proved that she be an
independent woman. The situation in the story really makes something for Mrs. Baroda who became an independent woman, although she lived with her husband’s plantation, but she also tried to develop and train her ability. Besides, she is a loyal woman for her husband.

As an independent woman and housewife who becomes an owner of her plantation, Mrs. Baroda has more things to responsible. In this case, Madam Valmonde had the freedom to work in the plantation from her husband. It means that Madam get the right like a male in generally. Not only to be a housewife who manage the house hold, but also she can do her husband work. As a housewife, she has to be unpaid worker for her family and to be dependent to her husband. In other side, her work as the owner of plantation made her to be fill her domestic obligation made her have twice duties and changed her been a hard worker as a man.

The study of feminist criticism endorser about this case, when women worked in the house and other job could accept the valuation from the other, in fact it can made women feel confidence and help them to less dependent on marriage, so they can survival in life. Feminism viewed it as the way of woman to survive her life, become the way of woman to more express their life and men cannot do the injustice to the woman because their weaknesses.

2. The Intelligent Role

#Data 01 in Ma’amé Pelagie

This story is portrayed the new era of woman at the time. The woman get the freely to work in outside of home and learn many things as men do. The woman got the right to study and got the appreciation of their role from the man and society around her because their ability.
This role is portrayed by La Petite. La Petite was woman who worked to Ma’ame Pelagie and Pauline. The underlined statement of La Petite proved that she was an intelligent woman. As the intelligent woman, La Petite was very useful for Ma’ame Pelagie. Her work in plantation was really useful for both of them. In this case, La Petite got the freedom to study in every side. It proved that feminism also give an attention to the development of woman, when she became an intelligent woman, means that women also can had more appreciation of other and cannot be defeated by men.

Women can stand on their own abilities, while keep the communication with other people especially to the men. It is expected that woman can get more appreciation from the other especially men, who thought always dominated and intimidated women. La Petite role portrayed that she got the right to accept the education; it will be the women movement when women were expected to had en education for survive their life.

3. The Heroic Role

#Data 01 in Beyond the Bayou

It occurred in the 18 century. The role of woman is developed in this story. This story was taken place in the night at home. It happened when La Folle passed her death. Tante Lizette companied her and treated her well. The main point of the implicit sentence here is the sentence about Tante Lizette who helps La Folle.

*But death had passed her by. The voice was very clear and steady with which she spoke to Tante Lizette, brewing her tisane there in a corner.*
*“Ef, you will give me one good drink tisane, Tante Lizette, I b’lieve I’m goin’ sleep, me”* (para. 17)

It happened when La Folle got an accident and Tante Lizette took care of her. It did by Tante Lizette because La Folle was a good woman and helped in the home also in plantation. Her
place as a wife of P’tit Maitre and become the owner of home where La Folle work, make Tante Lizette feel that she had a responsibility to La Folle. Eventhough, the position of La Folle as a slave in her home but, Tante Lizette helped her as a woman too. It also can be seen in feminism where also pay attention to the social role and the psyche of women. This kindness supported La Folle to get the health soon. On this case, La Folle got a special treatment.

A hero means, she had more power than other in this story, even to the P’Tit Maitre. Her role here had portrayed that feminism treat her well. While, Tante Lizette have more powerful to treat La Folle when La Folle passed the death. In this case, it can be seen clearly that there are different place between Tante Lizette and other man character in this story. It already argued from freedman (2001), where in society the idea of dissimilarity between men and women still happening. (p. 10) It means that even though women had more powerful in society the difference between both of them had difficult to escape.

It happened to Tante Lizette, eventhough she had more powerful to treat La Folle, but she keep in her position to be housewife in her home. It means, there is domination of men in their home. However, Tante Lizette got the right to keep her place and there is good communication still together and looks well, without confrontation from each other. Tante Lizette also was not accepted the injustice from her husband. It is expected that men can aware that the position in the family also had to appreciate and can treat women well. The role of woman in this story is portrayed the woman life who had responsibility to her slave. The slavery is occurred in this era, and Tante Lizette give best treated to her slave. Feminism viewed it as the place of woman and the way of society treated the slave in the social life.

#Data 02 in Desiree’s Baby
The eighteenth century is portrayed the woman into different roles. Kate’s wrote Madam Valmonde became the one who respect the human life. Feminism give the strength to Kate to portray her character as heroic in order that men can aware the strength of woman beside became the housewife but also can be the hero as like as men in generally. Woman also is able to protect other woman with her own strength.

Madam Valmonde had protagonist character become heroic in this story. It is caused by the nature factor. She is parent in law of Desiree. As a parent in law and mother of Desiree’s husband she cares about Desiree and her husband. Madam Valmonde appeared in her house, and gives her advice and motivates Desiree and husband to keep her baby, and also tries to convince that it is her real baby without any doubt at all. Even though, Madam Valmonde is a mother of Desiree’s husband, but it couldn’t say that she taken side with her son, she is fair to them. She is also woman who loves her daughter in law, not only to her son.

The underlined statement of Madame Valmonde said “My own Desiree: Come home to Valmonde; back to your mother who loves you. Come with your child.” (para. 26-27) showed that Madame Valmonde as take Desiree well, eventhough she is parent in-law of Desiree. Her place who becomes a mother proved that she also can feel what the Desiree feel when she just ignored by her husband. She motivated and supported Desiree to continue her life as most women around them.

In this case, Madame Valmonde’s role was treating Desiree well. She had been a good parent for her daughter in law. This case proved that emotion of Madame Valmonde created her into this situation. Even though, Armand had been her son but as a woman she can felt the emotion of Desiree also. It refers to Freedman (2001) feminism which was thought that the main thoughts of feminism are differences between men and women. (pg. 10) It explicitly
emphasize that every differences of men and women are the main thought of expert to develop their study about feminism. The woman who had more ruled by emotionality is created by this case.

It proved that the lack of woman who always sets out by the emotion made man thought that woman been less reasonable. It proved in this story, when Madame Valmonde gave more attention to Desiree than her son. The emotionality as a woman made her ignored the placed of Armand as her son.

#Data 03 in Ma’ame Pelagie

This story is portrayed the strength of woman to face the hard life after the war. There are many poor societies at the time, because of the war. The hassle of the woman to keep her life and the way of woman in family life who became the one who have to take the responsibility to keep her family is portrayed in this story. Even though the women have differences strength in biology but Ma’ame Pelagie proved that women able to do that. Feminism viewed the role of Ma’ame Pelagie as the changed of woman as the new era for woman. Because of her role, the men can change their thought about the women and aware about the woman placed in the society life.

It happened when war almost come. Ma’ame Pelagie came and saved Pauline. It proved that Ma’ame Pelagie gave her loved and kept the baby well as a good mother for her sister. Become a mother is her duty to give Pauline the live well. Her place as the owner and become mother to her sister (Pauline) forced her to work hard even it in the plantation and home. But, she proved that she can finish it well at once. She proved that women also have strength as strong as men. She was respectable woman to her life. It proved that the feminism not only can
say about the biological differences between men and women, but also how women survive and how they get their own appreciate of the social.

In other argument, feminism claims that, women are closer to nature, while men are closer to culture. Closer to nature means that when women can feel the abstract situation by her psyche. When woman look at someone who need her help, she can feel the emotion of someone who need her. Woman acts with emotion. It will be the one differentiation of women and men. She treated Pauline well.

The biological differences between men and women were explicitly being visible in this case. The differences portrayed when woman accepted her social role, occupy them to house hold and guard, protect, and teach their children to grow up, woman closest to the children then man. It because, child is grew up with woman than a man. It happened to Pauline when there was no a man around them, she only with Ma’ame Pelagie who give her more than just love of mother to her daughter.

**Misogynistic Role**

1. Virgin

The life after the war really made Ma’ame Pelagie must face the life with hard choice. Ma’ame Pelagie decided to not marriage and chooses to keep the dream to rebuild her own home. The decision of Ma’ame Pelagie became a virgin is the personal factor. She only thought how to survive after war and also to her dream to rebuild their old home and how to rare her sister. Feminism explicitly made an attention to the women position in the life. When someone who be a virgin for whole life, it judged, as a woman who repulsive to the other. She got an intimidation because of this situation; nevertheless she only got benefit from all the conditions.
Besides, the advantage to her, where she can proved as a succeed woman with her own business in plantation and become good mother for her sister. The people around her also appreciate her place in social. Ma’ame Pelagie cannot accept the injustice treatment from other.

**Slave**

There were two roles that found in these stories.

#Data 01 in Beyond the Bayou

This story is created in the eighteenth century. The slave is occurred in this era. Kate portrayed the slave life in this story. When woman took the job as slave, it means that she have to serve the householder all the time and till the end of her life. The slave cannot complain about it. Feminism viewed it as the injustice to the woman right and have to remove from the society life.

The role is portrayed by La Folle. The underlined sentences in the story were implicit meaning where is La Folle worked. As a slave, she had a work from P’tit Maitre. Her character as protagonist is appropriate to her job as nursemaid besides in plantation. She became a nursemaid for son of P’tit Maitre and also she is the one who manage the household in P’tit Maitre. She also known as a woman who had physical strengthens than a man. She can do men job. He called Cheri, and she loved him as her own.

As a woman who been a slave, La Folle had no right to ask more attention from her boss. La Folle have to fight for this. Even though she accepted many care from her boss, but the other side she had to subjugate her life for them.

Feminism has given an attention of the social respect and intimidating of the sexual role. La Folle is the woman who achieved this treatment. She had to achieve an attention from other people around her, but in the other side, she only becomes a slave during her life. While, in
real life be a slave was the lower rank job. It means that she got an intimidation while she lived. La Folle must serve her boss and bond with the rule of her boss. La Folle portrayed as woman who had physical strength but in other side, she was a woman who had physical disorder. However, she was appreciated by other who been kind woman in social. Even though she was a slave she is the woman who strong to face the world.

When the slave view as negative work in the social because when someone who decided to be a slave she have to give her faith to her boss include to be the one sexual body use, but La Folle give an exception for this, because she proved that there is another people who appreciate the place of woman and P’tit Maitre’s family.

#Data 02 in Desiree Baby

This story is portrayed the slave life in this era. The household can make decision through their slave what the slave duty for the householder and slave cannot challenge it. It portrayed into role of La Blanche in this story. Desiree’s husband is the one who portrayed it, He made La Blanche have to serve his desire without got permission from his wife. The right of woman is disappeared in this moment. Desiree’s husband took all the right of La Blanche into his own decision.

La Blanche became a slave in Desiree’s home. She had been a slave to manage the house and also to be a baby sitter for Desiree’s baby. The place of woman as slave is really made woman achieve the appreciation to be a grateful person as a repulsive and dishonor person in the world. In this era, when woman became a slave, means that she have to ready to work for whole life to her boss and served them well. The intimidation of their right is explicitly seen in their life. When Desiree had a problem with her husband, La Blanche has to achieve the illogical
prejudice from her boss. Her boss suspected that she had a special relation with Desiree’s husband, because La Blanche’s baby had white-skin than hers. La Blanche not intervenes to her employer life. She only accepted it, because she knew that she does not have right to confuted it. She worked as professional. It proved that she is respectable person to her work and calm to their problem in the house.

Feminist literary criticism already emphasizes that feminist’s is totally to finish the injustice against the woman. It included the slave. Then, the judgment to slave is decreased. It hopes that the negative judgment of other people can disappear and aware that slave also is the human who have to protect in life and give them treat well when she work to the householder. A Slave also needs the right to keep their life.