



**The Construction of Patriarchal Ideas Through the Heroine Bella
in *Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn***

THESIS

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JEMBER UNIVERSITY

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The Construction of Patriarchal Ideas Through the Heroine Bella in *Twilight*

Saga: Breaking Dawn

THESIS

A thesis presented to the English Department,
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in English Study

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DEDICATION

In the sincerity of my heart, and with the deepest love and respect

I dedicate this thesis to:

1. The greatest father ever, Idrus b.s.a, who always encourages and supports my study either mentally or financially to pursue my dream.
2. The dearest mother ever, Musriyati, who always supports me to be a better person and gives me the endless love and prayer.
3. My lovely sister, Zakia, who becomes such a cool sister ever, who always motivates me to be a great person and helps me to understand things I am always confused about.
4. Alma Mater of faculty of letters, Jember university.

MOTTO

Beauty... should not be conceived only as a matter of the technique...but as the effect
of emotional honesty as well. *)

(Gardner)



*) Gardner cited in Donovan, 2003.

DECLARATION

I hereby state that the thesis entitled “**The Construction of Patriarchal Ideas Through the Heroine Bella in *Twilight saga: Breaking Dawn***” is an original piece of writing. I certify that the analysis and the research described in this thesis have never been submitted for any other degree or any publications.

I certify to be the best of my knowledge that all sources used and any help received in the preparation of this thesis have been acknowledged.

Jember, May 2015

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and endow them with the proper virtue. At least, I do hope this thesis may have a good contribution toward the English Studies, especially to English Literature Students

Jember, May 2015

Zaenab



SUMMARY

“The Construction of Patriarchal Ideas Through the Heroine Bella in Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn”. Zaenab, 100110101032, English Department Faculty of Letters Jember University.

This research analyzes the construction of patriarchal ideas through the heroine character, Bella Swan in *Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn*. *Breaking Dawn* is the fourth book of the *Twilight Saga* written by Stephenie Meyer. As a female American author, Meyer ought to uphold feminism values. On the contrary, she constructs her ideas of patriarchy through her heroine character, Bella. Bella is depicted in the story of *Breaking Dawn* as a perfect patriarchal woman. Bella as a heroine represents Meyer's conviction upon Western tradition stereotypes. Her subordination is the major plot of the story. Bella's subordination includes her inferiority, dependence and limited self-esteem. This thesis uses qualitative research method. In this qualitative research Josephine Donovan's feminist criticism theory is used as a tool to know how is the characteristic of patriarchal women depicted in literary work. Donovan's theory also helps to criticize how female characters should be constructed in literary work. This research is arranged by primary source. They are the data from the novel in the form of quotation, and journal of theory by Josephine Donovan entitled "Beyond the Net: Feminist Criticism as a Moral Criticism" (2003). The other sources such as journals, articles and data taken from the internet used as the secondary data in this thesis. The result of the research aims to show Bella's character as a heroine presented in the novel and to reveal patriarchal ideas constructed through the portrayal of Bella. The last is to expose what is beyond the construction of patriarchal ideas through the character of Bella. Hence, this research wants to criticize how women should be depicted in the literary work through the story of the novel. Since it applies Donovan's feminist criticism theory, this research is appropriate to enrich the knowledge of feminist criticism theory. In doing so, the reader will be able to find practical application of feminist criticism theory in literary

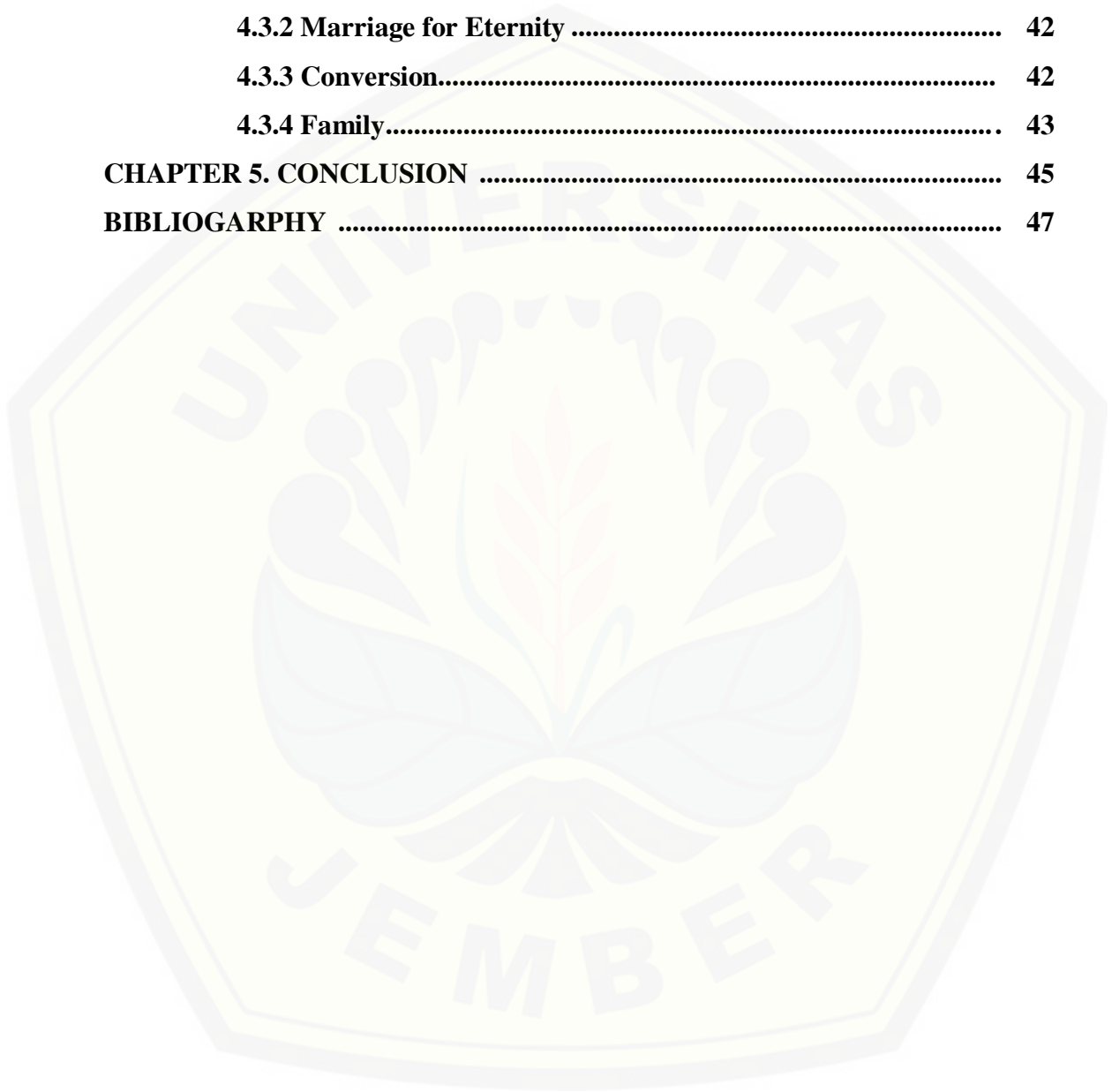
piece. This research also needed since this will be good contribution to gain the knowledge for the English department student majoring in literature to be more conscious about women's position in literary work.



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CHAPTER I. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Study

According to Ruthven *patriarchy* is a term used by feminists to describe a system which enables men to dominate women in all social relations (2003:1). Besides, according to International Encyclopedia the term *patriarchy* comes from the Latin *pater* (father) and *arch* (rule). Historically, “rule of the father” was the most appropriate definition of patriarchy.

The patriarchal phenomena have already spread all over the world, these phenomena happen due to the understanding of differing gender between male and female. Even religion also teaches us about a male leadership position which gives the effect of the male as a leader or a male has a dominant position compared to female position which seems to be inferior in the society (Beauvoir, 1953:108). Moreover, good female (girl or woman) defined as the one who dutifully follows what male orders. This condition is one of the reasons why patriarchal phenomena are hard to be completely removed in many countries all over the world.

Women have been struggling for a long time to fight for the rights of women and to get the equal position to men. Female authors have criticized their society, especially the way women are treated through literature. Literature is used to explicitly and implicitly assert their need for freedom, equality, identity and power. For example, a feminist reading of Toni Morrison’s *The Bluest Eye* (1970) might examine the ways in which the novel invites us to criticize the sexist behaviors and attitudes it portrays (Tyson, 2006: 117-119).

Nowadays, In the 21st century, in America and Europe have already released and approved the existence of feminism movement. Women could freely work all day outside the house and has a good position in some places they are working because the social gap between male and female position has been removed. On the contrary, Stephenie Meyer as a female American author who

writes the tetralogy of *Twilight saga*, consciously or not, constructs a patriarchal ideas in her novel through the character of Bella.

According to *USA Today* Stephenie Meyer's *Twilight Saga* entered the first number in the list on Aug. 2, 2008 in the manner of international bestseller status in its own right. The tetralogy is simply styled an old fashioned, traditional romance narrative between Bella Swan and Edward Cullen. They fall in love, marry, have a child and live happily ever after. She wrote the series from the perspective of a first person, female protagonist.

However, there has been many debates surrounding the *Twilight saga*, in particular the character of Bella Swan, her personality traits, and whether she is a good role model for the thousands of young women who declares themselves fans of the series.

Meyer has created Bella as a subordinate woman. The term 'women subordination' emerged due to the patriarchy which means the inferior position of women to men. The feeling of powerlessness, discrimination and experience of limited self esteem and self-confidence jointly contribute to the subordination of women (Sultana, 2011:7). Bella clearly shows her inferiority through her admission of human is a breakable creature (Meyer, 2008:16). She also shows her limited self esteem by the story of Bella and Edward 's honeymoon in what described as broken bedboard, feathers everywhere, bruises on her body and a big smile on her face.

Meyer is trying to figure out Bella's character as a strong woman who can vocalize what she really wants in her life, but her thoughts are odd because that strong character leads her protagonist character into Meyer's ideas of patriarchy.

Instead of being the main character in the story, this further discussion finds Bella as a subordinate women of the partriarchy. It is reasonable then for me to use Josephine Donovan's feminist criticism theory to analyze the novel discussed. Donovan (in Keeseey, 2002:230) assumes that "Feminist Criticism is rooted in the fundamental *a priori* intuition that women are seats of consciousness: are selves, not others". Through her journal Donovan returns to that focus to argue that the representation of women remains a key issue in

feminist criticism but she found in many western literature (which becomes the object of his research) puts women not as human beings, but as objects, as facilities, as stereotypes of good or evil, creatures whose function is simply to help or hinder the male hero's progress.

Based on the explanation above, the discussion of the issue of the construction of patriarchal ideas through the heroine Bella in Meyer's *Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn* needed, to know Bella's character as a heroine presented in the novel, to reveal patriarchal ideas constructed in the novel through the portrayal of Bella and to expose what is beyond the construction of the patriarchal ideas through the character of Bella.

1.2 Problems to Discuss

Stephenie Meyer as a female American Author who ought to uphold feminism values, on the contrary, consciously or not, constructs a patriarchal idea in her novel *Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn* through the oddity of making the character of Bella. This research is intended to expose how patriarchal ideas constructed in the novel through the character of Bella and what is the reason beyond the construction of patriarchal ideas beyond the heroine character, Bella. Josephine Donovan feminist criticism theory and the secondary data will be used for the analysis.

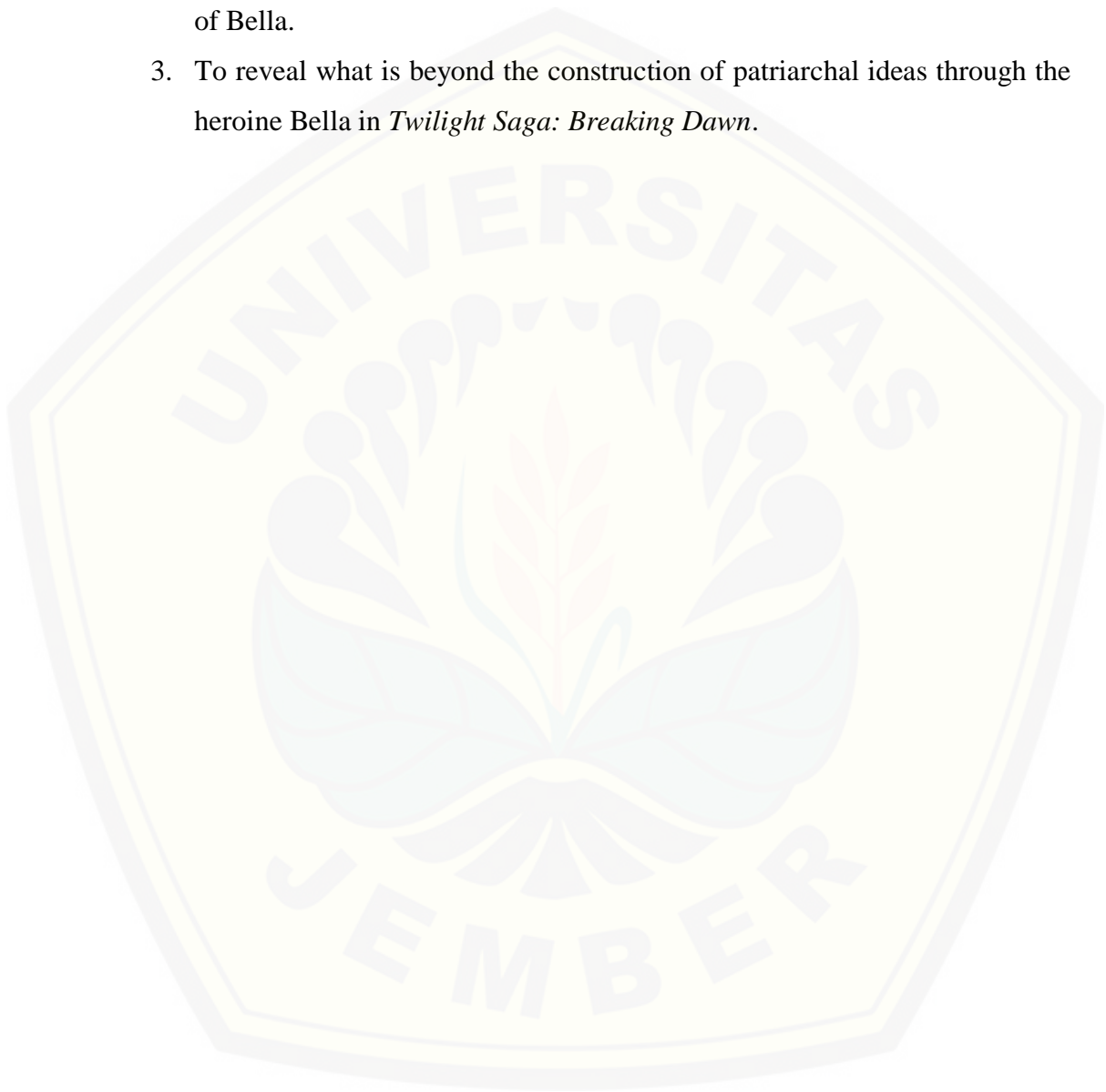
Based on the explanation above, the research questions are:

1. How is Bella as a heroine presented in the novel?
2. How does the portrayal of Bella represents the ideas of patriarchy?
3. What is beyond the construction of patriarchal ideas through the character of Bella in *Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn*?

1.3 The Goal of The Study

The goal or purpose of my thesis are:

1. To know Bella as a heroine presented in the novel.
2. To reveal patriarchal ideas constructed in the novel through the portrayal of Bella.
3. To reveal what is beyond the construction of patriarchal ideas through the heroine Bella in *Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn*.



CHAPTER 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Some important theories and concepts related to the topic of the discussion set in this literature review. It used to support the analysis of the problem and to make the discussion clearer. Moreover, this literature review is important in order to give a clear information and description about previous research and theories related to the topic discussion in this thesis.

There are four discussions in this literature review. The first discussion explains the previous research, the second discussion explains about the concept of patriarchy, the third discussion explains about literature and feminist study, and the last discussion explains about Josephine Donovan's feminist criticism theory. The theory used as the main tool to analyze patriarchal ideas beyond the heroine Bella character's construction in *Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn*.

2.1 The Previous Research

The previous research is a sample of a similar study with the topic or an object related to the topic, which taken in this thesis. The previous research is important for the researcher to help ease the analyzing process and as a reference to proof the original difference of the thesis of the previous research.

Two previous research have contribution to this thesis. First, is a thesis entitled The Comparative Study of the Vampire in Stephenie Meyer's *Twilight* and Vampire in Bram Stoker's *Dracula* written by Sheila Yulianti (2010). This thesis is a comparative study of old literary work *Dracula* and modern literary work *Twilight*. There are two problems discussed in the thesis, first is how the writers of the novels describe their vampire in the stories. Second, the researcher explores the similarities and the differences between the vampire in Stoker's *Dracula* and Meyer's *Twilight*. The researcher of the thesis uses a structural approach to analyze the topic discussed. The inductive method is applied for the analysis to know the similarities and the differences between the vampire in Stoker's *Dracula* and Meyer's *Twilight*.

Second, a journal entitled “The Feminist Analysis of Shirley Jackson’s *The Lottery*; A Dominant-Discourse-Control Framework” written by Dr. Seyed Mohammad Hosseini-Maasoum, Hoda Davtalab, and Mahnoosh Vahdati. This journal written to investigate the feminist aspects of *The Lottery*. The qualitative and descriptive method used for the research to apply feminism to one literary work. Therefore, feminism studied broadly in this paper and many feminists’ books, articles, ideas were studied to survey with their approaches. Simone de Beauvoir’s feminist ideas in her book *The Second Sex* selected as the theoretical framework in order to unveil the position of women in the story and second, to reveal that the author of the novel *The lottery* is actually aimed to argue that a woman allowed to protest against a man to express her own identity in the society and not to allow men behave towards women as the secondary creatures. Thus, the researchers hope the reader will be able to find practical applications of Beauvoir’s ideas in literary piece.

Again, both researches are related to my analysis. However, Yulianti’s research discusses the comparison of vampire presented in Stoker’s *Dracula* and Meyer’s *Twilight*. Meanwhile, my analysis focuses on the construction of patriarchal ideas beyond heroine Bella (the main character) in *Breaking Dawn* (the fourth book of the *Twilight Saga*). Second previous research is a feminist analysis which uses Simone De Beauvoir’s feminist ideas taken from the Beauvoir’s *Second Sex* for the theoretical framework. Meanwhile, my analysis uses Josephine Donovan’s feminist criticism theory for the theoretical framework. Moreover, the object chosen by the second previous research is different to my object of analysis.

2.2 Concept of Patriarchy

According to Sultana in his journal entitled “Patriarchy and Women’s Subordination: A Theoretical Analysis” the word ‘patriarchy’ literally means the rule of the father or the ‘*patriarch*’, and originally it was used to describe a specific type of ‘male-dominated family’- the large household of the *patriarch* which included women, junior men, children, slaves, and domestic servants all

under the rule of this dominant male. Now it is used more generally “to refer to male domination, the power relationships by which men dominate women, and to characterize a system whereby women are kept subordinate in a number of ways” (Bashin cited in Sultana, 2011:2).

The term of women's subordination is emerging due to the patriarchy. The term ‘women subordination’ means the inferior position of women to men. The feeling of powerlessness, discrimination and experience of limited self esteem and self-confidence jointly contribute to the subordination of women (Sultana, 2011:7). Feminist mainly uses the term ‘patriarchy’ to describe the power relationship between men and women. Thus, patriarchy is more than just a term; feminists use it like a concept and like other concepts it is a tool to help us understand women’s realities (Sultana, 2011:2).

2.3 Literature and Feminist study

Female authors have criticized their society, especially the way women are treated through literature. Literature used to explicitly and implicitly assert their need for freedom, equality, identity and power. Lois Tyson in her book *Critical Theory Today* states that it is useful to examine the ways in which literary texts reinforce patriarchy because we can see when and how patriarchal ideology operates so that we can against it in our own lives. This approach, applied to literary works in the male canon, was the dominant mode of feminist literary analysis in America during the 1970s (Tyson, 2006:117). For example a feminist analysis of the patriarchal ideology operating in Arthur Miller’s *Death of a salesman* (1949), might examine three related areas: (1) the ways in which the female characters function as tokens of male status; (2) the ways in which the “good-girl”/ “bad-girl” view of women validates the sexism; and (3) the ways in which the character of a woman has internalized patriarchal ideology. Such a reading would also relate the play’s patriarchal ideology to the period in which it was written and is set: post–World War II America. This was a time when American patriarchy attempted to counteract the war time freedom of women who

took on the jobs and family responsibilities of their absent men by reestablishing the belief that “the (good) woman’s place is in the home (Tyson, 2006:117).

According to Tyson, literary work also depicts patriarchal ideology in order to criticize it or invite us to criticize it. For example, a feminist reading of Toni Morrison’s *The Bluest Eye* (1970) might examine the ways in which the novel invites us to criticize the sexist behaviors and attitudes it portrays (Tyson, 2006:117).

According to Tyson the goal to use feminist theory are to help enrich our reading of literary works, to help us see some important ideas they illustrate that we might not have seen so clearly or so deeply without feminist theory, and to help us see the ways in which patriarchal ideology blinds us to our own participation in, or at least complicity with, sexist agendas. However, the ultimate goal of feminist criticism is to increase our understanding of women’s experience, both in the past and present, and promote our appreciation of women’s value in the world (Tyson, 2006:119).

2.4 Josephine Donovan’s Feminist Criticism Theory

Josephine Donovan is the author of seven books of nonfiction. Her fields of specialization include feminist criticism and theory, American women’s literature (especially nineteenth-century), early modern women’s literature, and animal ethics. One of her brilliant article entitled “Beyond the Net: Feminist Criticism as a Moral Criticism”.

Through her article Donovan argues: “Feminist Criticism is rooted in the fundamental *a priori* intuition that women are seats of consciousness: are selves, not others”. Donovan returns to that focus to argue that the representation of women remains a key issue in feminist criticism, but she found in many western literature (which becomes the object of her research) puts women not as human beings, but as objects, as facilities, as an excuse to blame for the role male figures, and as stereotypes of good or evil, creatures whose function is simply to help or hinder the male hero’s progress.

According to Donovan Western tradition stereotypes tend to fall into two categories, which she named it as a Manicheistic dualism. Female stereotypes symbolize either spiritual or the material, good or evil. The following diagram shows how this dualism is conceived:

Spiritual	Material
Spirit / soul	Body
Virginal Ideal	Sex Object
Mary	Eve
Inspiration	Seductress
Good	Evil

Donovan has a notion that the good women stereotypes, that is, those who serve the interests of the hero, are the patient wife, the mother/martyr, and the lady. In the bad or evil category are deviants who reject or do not properly serve men in his interest: the old maid/career woman, the witch/lesbian, the shrew or domineering mother/wife (Donovan cited in Keeseey, 2003:228).

The stereotypes of women in literature can be either positive or negative; either spiritual (good) or material (evil) but both poles of the manicheistic dualism result in inauthentic characters, because the good woman is the one who exists for the purpose of benefitting the male. Perhaps the female figure who best illustrates this positive but inauthentic person is Mary (the mother of Jesus), she serves as an inspiration and as virginal ideal. Just the opposite from the first woman, Eve is an example of the “evil”, a materialistic female stereotype who is hindrance for men.

Women in the western literary work oftenly described as a subordinate or 'the other' which Beauvoir perceived, it is the sociality dominant group which establishes itself as self, as the norm, the essential; while subordinate groups are Other. Which means they are perceived as deviant, inessential, objects (Donovan cited in Kessey, 2003:225).

This problem became a stigma repeatedly raised by the authors in their new works. Donovan considers this matter as inhumane because it denies the 'humanity' of women. Women are human beings, just like men, so women should be positioned as a human being, not 'the other'. If the Western is always talking

about morals and always praising it, in fact what is reflected in their great literary works needs correction in its own moral values. Donovan argues:

“Feminist criticism is moral because it sees that one of the central problems of Western literature is that in much of it women are not human beings, seats of consciousness. They are objects, who are used to facilitate, explain away, or redeem the projects of men.” (Donovan cited in Keesey, 2003: 230).

Donovan also assumes that literature, especially Western literature that always put moral as the concern is supposed to be more human. She found in the great Western literatures such as *Odyssey*, *Commedia*, and *Faust* actually take women characters just as an object, not as human. It means that those works have dehumanized in this point of view. However, by considering literature as a form of education that promotes moral growth by help us to see beyond the usual illusions and facile stereotypes, will avoid literature function as propaganda furthering a sexist ideology. Feminist critic recognizes that literature is an important element in contributing to moral atmosphere in which women derogated, as women cannot find herself in the literary work. Thus, for Donovan the “Images of Women” approach to literature provides a fundamental model of moral criticism.

It is reasonable then for me to use Donovan’s feminist criticism theory which supports my analysis of patriarchal ideas beyond the heroine Bella character’s construction in *Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn*. Considering my object is a western literary work which still contains patriarchal ideas in the story by placing the female character as a subordinate women actually not as human just as an object, as an excuse to blame for the role of male figures even as stereotypes of good or evil, creatures whose function is simply to help or hinder the male hero’s progress. It means that Meyer’s literary work has dehumanized in this point of view.

CHAPTER 3. RESEARCH METHOD

Hornby mentions that method is a way of doing something (1974: 533). Method is a key issue in every research. Research functioned to discover a new fact and to get additional information about the study. Therefore, research method is applied to get an objective result in this thesis. These subchapters deal with the procedure of the research. It includes type of research, data collection, data processing and data analysis. Each of those subchapters will be discussed below.

3.1 The Type of Research

This research uses qualitative research, it concerns on finding information primarily on non numeric data. The propensity of doing qualitative research is doing exploration and explication toward text as detailed as possible (Blaxter, 2006: 64). In this research I want to analyze the construction of patriarchal ideas through the heroine Bella in *Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn*.

3.2 Data Collection

The primary data of this research are taken from the novel *Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn* by Stephenie Meyer which was published in 2008. The data present in the form of words, phrases, sentences, paragraphs, and dialogs throughout the novel that are related to the construction of patriarchal ideas through the heroine Bella. The researcher also uses secondary data such as the biography of the author, articles, journals and previous researches which are related to the research. All of the secondary data above to help the researcher to analyze the primary data.

3.3 Data Processing and Data Analysis

This research shows how the novel of *Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn* which is written by American author Stephenie Meyer still contains patriarchal ideas which constructed through the main character of the novel Bella Swan. The analysis is started from collecting the data which later used in the process of analysis. The undergoing research employs Donovan's theory to discover the heroine version of Meyer and to classify Bella's subordination.

This research is conducted in several steps. Firstly, I categorize the problems happened in Meyer's *Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn*. Those problems are in the form of words, phrases, sentences, paragraph which related to patriarchal ideas. Then, I begin deciphering the discursive problems in the novel such as Bella as a heroine representing the Western tradition stereotypes, Bella's inferiority and her limited self-esteem leads to Bella's subordination and eventually, connecting these problems in order to shape the issue of patriarchal ideas depicted in Meyer's *Breaking Dawn*. Donovan's feminist criticism ideas about the images of women gives countenance to my criticism to answer how women should be treated and depicted in literary work. Eventually, Meyer's biography and Mormonism data help me to analyze the facts beyond the construction of the patriarchal ideas through the heroine character Bella.

Descriptive interpretive is a method chose to analyze the collected data. Milan, (1992:12) quoted in purwitasari's thesis, "Descriptive method can be considered as the procedure to solve the problems of the research by describing or portraying objects of the discussion based on the data" Whereas, according to Blaxter (2006:219), "Interpretation is the process by which researcher puts his own meaning on the data he has collected and analyzed by compared that meaning with those advanced by others". It means that during the process of collecting and analyzing the data, I am applying Josephine Donovan's feminist criticism theory to support my analysis. Therefore, the descriptive interpretive method is a method which discusses the problem of the analysis using clear statements of my

understanding which supported by Donovan's ideas of feminist criticism to reveal the meaning sense exists in Meyer's *Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn*.

