

ABSTRACT

For years, the patriarchy system, with its hierarchical relations between man and woman where the man is in the prior position than the opposite sex, has cause woman living in suffer. They do not get their own right to live the same life with their fellow men. This situation results women's lack of ability in fulfilling their self-actualization. Chinese society is one of the supporters that support the ideology of patriarchy in its social system. As pictured in Catherine Lim's *Following the Wrong God Home*, a Chinese woman named Yin Ling is having trouble in aiming her self-actualization as a part of Singaporean Chinese society.

Her self-actualization is described as being with someone she truly loved. Yin Ling's struggle apparently found to be the focus of the novel, her struggle in fulfilling self-actualization is captured by the writer to be the subject of this thesis. The story itself represents a romantic love story between a Singaporean Chinese woman and a visiting American exchange lecturer. The story set in an Asian society (Singapore) where traditional values and duty underline modernity, wealth and stability. It is a modern love story in that the lovers are modern and well educated. The "opposing forces," those afflicting the main character, Yin Ling, are the old-age dilemmas of family-ties and duties, dream versus reality, money and expectations from the society.

Yin Ling's struggle in fulfilling her self-actualization is viewed from the personality development theory proposed by Abraham Maslow. In his theory, Maslow mentions that self-actualization is the highest human need to be the most complete, the fullest "human."

After analyzing the novel *Following The Wrong God Home*, it is very obvious that Yin Ling as the main character in the story shows a success in her attempt in fulfilling her self-actualization need. She has reached her highest need, which is described as being with someone she truly loved, the love to Ben encourages her to against all the problem. Her success in adjusting herself to the condition means that she has gradually becomes a mature woman.

CHAPTER :I
INTRODUCTION