

Chapter VI

Conclusion

Emma Bovary, was a Norman middle-class woman in France who strove to reach a higher position along with her neurotic pattern to have her romantic desire.

The denial toward the reality of bourgeoisie where she came from had made her always searching for something new ; something higher than what she had at the time. As a woman of middle-class in France she was bored by the commonplaces of the situation of the country-town she lived in. She imagined herself to live in Paris; having a dance with a gentleman who caught up with the up to date fashion and a noble manner, talking about the newest actual topic with high intelligence, and living in a gorgeous house. Basically, she was bored with the dullness of bourgeoisie society and its surroundings. For the term of society, Madame Bovary depicts the segments in French society; the dullness of middle-class society represented by the society in which Emma lived as well as the noble class represented by the society of Marquis d'Andervillier, and lower-class represented by the peasants who won in the prize in Agricultural show. The pessimism Emma Bovary faced toward her society later will cause the adultery and the habit of taking a sum of debt.

Along with the pessimism toward the society, the psychological insight of Emma Bovary was also a distinctive element for her tragic life. She had a denial toward the reality surrounding her and a neurotic pattern that cause her to be always pick something just to drop it. The denial of the reality was caused by the boredom she felt for living in a small dull bourgeoisie society. The neurotic pattern she had came from her longing to have a romantic reality just like any romantic dreams she had that came from the idealised romantic novel. She longed for something extraordinary happening; she longed for the romantic and gentleman lover who could fulfil the excitement she needed that she never had from her husband. After knowing that Charles was dull - as dull as the class where he came from - she eagerly looked for it in other men who could share her dreams of romantic longing. She found it in Leon, a law clerk who also fell in love with her and to Rudolphe, a rich bachelor who simply used her as his mistress among many other mistresses he had. As a woman who longed for the exciting moment to be loved in a romantic way as in the novels she read, she soon gave up herself entirely first to Rudolphe, and then to Leon. But soon, Rudolphe was aware of Emma desire. He decided to end the circumstances and soon Emma got physically and psychologically ill. The second, she found the joy of love in Leon, a law clerk in Yonville who studied in Rouen. Their second intimacy after their first hidden desire was also not succeeded for Emma soon realised the emptiness

even in adulteries she committed; and for Leon who finally realised that he simply became her mistress rather than Emma was his mistress. At the time she had adulteries, she always neglected her duties as a mother and a wife.

For the result of adulteries she committed, she had taken a lot of money loan. She bought many presents to be given to her lovers, many unnecessary household equipment to fulfil her emptiness after being rejected by her lovers, and spent a great sum of money to make a journey to Rouen to see Leon. Finally, the debts she had taken was over due, Emma was charged to get back the money, which she could not afford it. She had done many things to make the payment by asking for a help to Leon - unfortunately there was nothing much could be done - , and to Rudolphe, which resulted in the same way.

However, behind the adulteries she made, she would never give herself to prostitution. When she was having money problem, she asked for a help to a lawyer, Maitre Guillaumin. Unfortunately, he asked Emma to have an intimate relationship in return for the money he gave. Emma straightway rejected the idea.

When she committed suicide, it is not only being desperate for she was unable to solve her financial problems, but mostly also because she felt being betrayed by the love she thought could fulfil her dreams. She died in peace for she thought that in the hand of death she finally could find the dreams she

longed for. When she died, she was back to religious fold, the same condition as her life in the convent. Just like she saw her life in the convent in romantic way, she died in religious fold also in romantic way. She perceived the pain before her soul was taken as a sensuous touch of God.

Thus, Emma Bovary was a romantic woman who lived in a dull society. She lived with her longings to reach a higher position and a romantic love. When the dreams failed, she would prefer to end her life. The end of her romantic dreams would mean to be the dead of Emma Bovary as well.

Eventhough, actually it all did not have to happen if she had some helps and attention from the people around her. The one who should have concerned about Emma's longing and desire was her husband, Charles Bovary. If he was care enough to Emma's need, she might not be fallen into the adultery; and with a little bit suggestion and discussion, she perhaps did not have to take a lot of debt for her lovers. She also might need some attention from her neighbours, including the priest who seemingly abandoned her and did not give her the advise she needed.

Emma Bovary was such a character from whom our own can learn valuable and essential lessons. The phenomenon of adultery is still relevant with the social reality at this time. It is known until now that those who have another woman or man will only have a temporarily pleasure. As time passes by, they all will realise that there are many problems they have to face. They

have to realise that if they commit adultery, they also deals with the spouse's (particularly husband or wife, or even the children) feelings. They will feel like being abandoned or neglected. Definitely, it hurts for them as the victim. They would be better to strengthen the family's relationship rather than seeking for pleasure from outsider. So , from this literary work, people from our own are expected to be able to avoid the same kind of mistake as Emma Bovary has done.