

ABSTRACT

Sister of My Heart which was written by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni, is a novel about women characters in the middle of tradition.

This study focuses on the tradition that picture Sudha's life, what her struggle for releasing the tradition boundaries are and why she struggles for releasing the tradition boundaries. The method used in this study is descriptive analysis through literature.

Actually, the Indian tradition is based on patriarchal system where women must obey rules that place them as inferior. For instance, women meant to be the wives should keep their reputation. There is also dowry system that obligates women's family to give a sum of money or wealth to men's family and the wives also has to completely obey the husband and parents-in-law.

In analysis, the writer applies anthropological approach and radical cultural feminist theory. The anthropological approach is used to explain Indian tradition in Sudha's live and it combines with feminist theory to analyze Sudha's struggle for releasing tradition boundaries. According to radical cultural feminism women actually want to be independent to release the patriarchal oppression.

Sudha is a woman who lives in strong Indian tradition since she was born. However, influenced by Anju and her daughter, she becomes aware that the tradition has taken her rights. She struggles to get freedom to reach her own desire. She wants to release the control over her own lives.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION