

CHAPTER VI

CONCLUSION

In Fear of Flying Erica Jong has succeeded in crystallising the dilemma of the woman writer and communicate that anguish in a brutally forceful way. She exposes the confusion, the guilty feeling, the uncertainty as well as inferiority of being a woman writer instead of an ordinary woman.

Erica Jong proposes independence of a woman as being able to live her own life; to be able to make decision concerning her life without any doubt and believe in it. In short, she warns women to hear to their own consciousness instead of looking up to others.

Erica Jong also illustrates the core of the problem of the dilemma, the grandiose notions of a woman's ability and the most degrading feelings of incompetence, which is the underlying dependence of a woman towards men.

Through her major character, Isadora Wing, Jong gives a fact that women admire men in an unhealthy degree. Women is prevented from an independence because they do not believe in themselves. They do not realize their potentiality because they thinks men are so much better than themselves. Thus, through Isadora, Jong plainly showing women's unliberated

thinking. They do not want to believe that they are equal to men.

One cause of it is due to female early education, they are not trained to act for themselves, they always directed to please others. It is because women's self-esteem depends on their appraisal of the reactions of others to them. Women's feelings of security and accomplishment or of insecurity, inadequacy, and guilt all stem from their assessment of the approval or disapproval that they received from others.

Isadora has going through a process of recognizing her own fear, her hidden problem. She comes to realize that she is always in the verge of self-doubt which roots in dependency. She begins to understand that she must be content with her choice. To be an independent being is to be able to take responsibility to all her decisions. Once she discovers that she is capable of dealing with the world alone, Isadora comes of age.

On the other hand, Erica Jong frankness upon woman's biological inner rhythm within this novel may impress readers with a kind of "sexual show-off" and also an "exhibit A". Male readers may not approve the details about woman's bodily and emotional movement. Still Jong is really attuned to her body, so that her writing is vigorously sensual. Furthermore, Erica is unable to maintain the distance in the

narration, sometimes. She describes Isadora's disguised autobiography, but frequently she advise the reader as well. It means that the character is often intervented by Jong's subjective exploration of the multiple problems of "growing up female". There is also a mixture between time present and time past which affects readers logic.

After all, Fear of Flying is a novel written by a woman without denying her gender. Thus it relying on woman's experience that is full with blood of menstruation. As Christopher Lehmann-Haupts observation that this novel was "sensitive to the ambiguities of growing up intellegently female these days."