

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Etymologically, the Latin word “litteratura” is derived from “littera” (letter), which is the smallest element of alphabetical writing. Underlying literary production is certainly the human wish to leave behind a trace of oneself through creative expression, which will exist, detached from the individual and, therefore, outlast its creator. The earliest manifestations of this creative wish are prehistoric paintings in caves, which hold “encoded” information in the form of visual signs. This visual component inevitably remains closely connected to literature throughout its various historical and social manifestations (Mario Klarer, 1999, p.2). There are so many kinds of literary products, such as poem, short story, novel etc. The novel is an invented prose narrative of considerable length and a certain complexity that deals imaginatively with human experience, usually through a connected sequence of events involving a group of persons in a specific setting. Within its broad framework, the genre of the novel has encompassed an extensive range of types and styles: picaresque, epistolary, gothic, and romantic, realist, historical – to name only some of the more important ones. *The Barefoot Girl* is the one of the picaresque types and style of the novel.

In *The Barefoot Girl* novel the author lifted the sacrifices from the main character. Sacrifice is giving something without thought of reward, because sometimes the sacrifice done by coercion. In this case the sacrifice made by a young girl in coercion her parents did like adults, like arranged - marriage. But not only arranged – married, the main character in this novel is also sacrificing her happiness for the others. Until she was eventually regained her happiness but she must do some other sacrifices. Catherine

Monroe made this novel to entertain the reader if the main character did some sacrifices to help that family.

Catherine Hart Monroe, is a student at Union Presbyterian Seminary, and she divides her time between both the Richmond and Charlotte campuses. She is a final level student and plans to receive her Master of Divinity in 2016. A native of Wilmington, North Carolina, Catherine received her Associate of Arts degree from Peace College in 1990, and her Bachelor of Arts in English and Communications from Meredith College in 1991. After spending most of her adult life in Charlotte, North Carolina, Catherine and her family relocated to Norfolk in 2012. Catherine is married to Chuck Monroe, and they have three children, Whitley (14), Hart (8), and Alden (6). In 2006 *The Barefoot girl* it's first book of Catherine and The King's Nun a Novel of king Charlemagne in 2007 is the second book the genre is literature & fiction. The first in a series of fictional historical biographies by Paula Paul writing as Catherine Monroe, *The Barefoot Girl* is told by the elderly Margarita looking back on the bare bones of her life, a life marked by physical beatings, rape, greed, and murder, thankfully, love. The author handles these themes frankly and with the abundance of grace appropriate to St. Margaret, the Barefooted One, and Patroness of the Abused.

Set in 14th-century Italy, *The Barefoot Girl* follows the life of a poor peasant girl from the harvest fields of Ancona to the market town of San Severino, where she is taken by her future husband, the cruel, abusive and very wealthy Domenico Vasari. Sold to Vasari by her father, who sees the marriage as a boon for his struggling family, 15-year-old Margarita is torn unwillingly from her mother and sister and the farm boy she loves, bathed, dressed in a yellow damask gown and warned to act like a lady while in the company of Vasari's friends – or else. Lonely, surrounded by avarice and subjected to cruelty, the girl is drawn to San Severino's starving impoverished; despite her husband's warnings, she becomes determined to help them. Dressed in rags and shoeless in the dead of winter, she slips from

Vasari's castle to deliver food to the homeless and suffers terrible physical abuse at Vasari's hands because of it. Encouraged by the trust she has earned from the hungry as well as her friendship with a handsome, young priest and the promise of love she feels in the baby growing inside her, Margarita continues her mission – at times, a true battle – to help San Severino's poor, particularly the young girls and women forced into lives of prostitution to earn a crumb of bread.

There are some reasons why the writer is interested to analyze this novel. The first reason is the genre of this novel is injustice. The main character in this novel always gets the injustice in her life. The second reason is this novel describes Italian life in the 14th century that the treasure is everything. In the Novel chapter one Margarita said about the contract between her father and gentleman from Ancona that meant she had to give up all that she held dear, the gentleman named Dominico Vasari. He is cruel, abusive and very wealthy. The third reason is the main character in this novel is "Margarita". She's very stubborn that there are some conflicts that she made herself. But she did so many sacrifices for her life to make that life is more worthy. The fourth reason is this novel tells the story of repentance and atonement of her sins that have been committed by the main character with her sacrifices.

The researcher uses the feminist approach as an approach to analyze this novel, because the story of the novel is the Margarita sacrifices, arranged – married, inequality and etc. So the researcher gives the title: "MARGARITA' S SACRIFICES REFLECTED IN CATHERINE MONROE'S *THE BAREFOOT GIRL* (2006): A FEMINIST APPROACH"

B. Problem Statement

The problems that the writer would like to analyze are:

1. How are Margarita' s Sacrifices reflected in *The Barefoot Girl* Novel by Catherine Monroe from a feminist approach

2. What are the causes and effects of Margarita doing sacrifice?

C. Limitation of the study

The writer focuses this research in analyzing the Margarita Sacrifices reflected in Catherine Monroe's *The Barefoot Girl* (2006) on Feminist approach.

D. Objectives of The study

The objectives of research are:

1. To analyze Margarita's Sacrifices reflected in Catherine Monroe's *The Barefoot Girl* (2006) feminist approach.
2. To describe the causes and effects of Margarita doing sacrifice.

E. Benefit of the study

The benefits of the study are:

1. Theoretical benefit

Theoretical benefit of this study is to give information and knowledge to literature research especially in Catherine Monroe's *The Barefoot Girl*. Hopefully, the result of this study will give some benefits to the other literature works, particularly the literary study on Catherine Monroe's novel.

2. Practical benefit

The study is expected to enrich knowledge and experience of the writer and the other researchers who have interest with literary studies on this novel from feminist approach.

F. Paper Organization

The research paper organization of The Margarita Sacrifices Reflected in Catherine Monroe's *The Barefoot Girl* (2006): Feminist Approach is follows:

Chapter I introduction, which consists of the background of the study, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, research method, and research paper organization.

Chapter II concerns with literature review: underlying theory, which present notion of feminist approach, notion of Margarita Sacrifices, theoretical application and previous study.

Chapter III research method: type of the study, type of data, data source, technique of collecting data, and technique data analyzing.

Chapter IV deals with social background of Italy society in the early of 14th century.

Chapter V presents the feminist analysis.

Chapter VI presents the conclusion and the suggestion