CHAPTER V

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

After describing and discussing the findings of the research, this chapter presents conclusions which are drawn from the previous chapter. This chapter also provides some suggestions for the readers and the future research deals with the same issue of fairytale retelling.

5.1 Conclusions

“Ella Enchanted” presents Ella as the main female character with different characterization from other female characters in fairytale tradition. Ella emphasizes the power and effort of a main female character in the process of achieving human liberation. Although she is bound under a spell, she is able to make decision for her own good. Ella’s action to break the curse indicates that Ella as a young female is determined, assertive, and intelligent. The character of Ella deconstructs other female characters that commonly appear in fairytales. She is actually put in a powerless situation, but she fights to solve her difficult situations by herself. Ella raises the issue of independent young female in achieving her subject position as she wants. Thus, Ella as the main female character is able to hold her position as a subject.
The main female character’s choice and her power to achieve her liberation clearly relate to her subject position in a society. In this case, Ella’s subjectivity is constructed through her actions in the novel such as her different ways in holding positions and deliberating her thoughts. Moreover, her subjectivity is also formed through her surviving in different social conditions and surviving against dominant male discourse in that society, her interaction with others, her ways of facing problem, and her perception of herself. The intertextual connection in the text is also shaped the main female character’s subjectivity. Ella, as the main female character, presents that she has through the stage of creating her identity through her efforts, voice, power, and actions. Afterward, she has successfully achieved her goal to be the subject as she wants. In other words, learn from Cinderella as pre-text, Ella’s character seems to empower the readers that women has her own choice in order to get her right and to be the subject as she wants to be.

The ways of young adults to grow up being a person shaped the maturity process of them. They are confronted with many challenges in finding their personal identity to be the subject as they wants. In this way, young adult fiction entitled “Ella Enchanted” reflects those challenges. One of the challenges is human’s liberation to choose her own decision rather than following someone else’s expectation. The young females have to struggle and fight own rights. Through the novel, Ella as young female shows the message of self-defined. Therefore, Levine’s “Ella Enchanted” tries to liberate the readers that young female or woman has something more or other possibility than what she had as a
woman. Moreover, the concept of ‘happily ever after’ that finally achieved by main female character in the novel shows that being happy depends on the power and decision of a subject.

Overall, “Ella Enchanted” follows traditional fairytale plot that the readers are able to make intertextual connection to the story “Cinderella”. However, the reproduction of “Cinderella” in “Ella Enchanted” serves new ideological purposes. In this way, Levine’s “Ella Enchanted” presents the main female character of modern fairytale with subjectivity in which the main female character holds her own voice, makes her own decision, gains power of her own, and finally achieves her goal to be the subject as she wants.

5.2 Suggestions

There are several suggestions that are made for the further research. Firstly, a further research is suggested to analyze other aspects that exist within this novel, such as the description of gender role of the main female character and the prince, or the comparative study of “Ella Enchanted” and “Cinderella”. Secondly, the next researchers can carry out the similar study of subjectivity to the other texts or media, such as poetry, movie, and song lyrics which contain the issue of subjectivity and feminist literary criticism. The last, “Ella Enchanted” can be the alternative source to learn about main female character with subjectivity in the discussion of feminist literary criticism in class room.