Antony and Cleopatra

By

William Shakespeare

(A Character Analysis of Cleopatra Based on The Existentialist Feminism Theory)

A Paper

Submitted to English Department of the Faculty of Adab and Humanities of State Islamic University in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements

For The Degree of Strata 1

By:

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A paper entitled “Antony and Cleopatra by William Shakespeare (A Character Analysis of Cleopatra Based on the Existentialist Feminism theory)” was examined at examination session of the faculty of Adab and Humanities in partial accomplishment of the requirements for the degree of Strata 1 (S1) at English Letters Department.

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ABSTRACT

Desti Maulaini Rahmah, A character Analysis of Cleopatra Based on The Existentialist Feminism Theory, A paper The Department of English Letters, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, Syarif Hidayatullah State Islamic University Jakarta, S1 Degree, 2006.

The unit analysis of this study is Shakespeare’s drama published by The Macmillan Press Ltd in 1988 with the title Antony and Cleopatra. The objective of the study on this paper were: The writer was describing the characterization of main woman character “Cleopatra” and describing the feminism movement that done by the main woman caharacter. However, the writer would like to analyze the character of Cleopatra by using the existentialist feminism analysis and using the descriptive-qualitative analysis as the method. This method tried to explain and described the content of drama. For the technique of data collection, the writer was using the textual-analytic technique: reading and underlying.

Cleopatra, as the main woman character in Antony and Cleopatra represent the characteristics of feminism movement. She was a beautiful woman that fighting for the equality to men, the humanity of women, to demand her full rights as human being. Although she was a woman, but she was able to do something as a man and put her position as subject, not an object.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the name of Allah, the most gracious, the most merciful.

Firstly, I would like to say thanks to Allah SWT who has given the writer opportunity to finish this term paper. Without his blessing it is impossible that this paper can be at present. The second, may shalawat and salam be with our prophet, Muhammad saw, who has guided people how to be a good and successful person in this world.

The biggest thanks I dedicated to my parents, Achmad Bathin S.Sos. and Resmiyati, who never stop to support me during I am studying at the State Islamic University. Their love always makes me strong in facing anything. Without their patience and praying, I am nothing. I just hope to give them the best of my own life.

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My term paper actually has not been perfect yet. I realize that there are so many mistakes in my paper. It is not easy for my self in making the perfect one, because I am only a human being who has the limitedness in doing anything.

Finally, I just hope that this paper can be useful for all people who read it. So they can get the benefit after reading this paper, especially in understanding the concept of existentialist feminism.

Jakarta, 14 Juli 2006

The Writer

Desti Maulaini Rahmah
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CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Feminism is generally said to have begun in the 19th century as people increasingly adopted the perception that women are oppressed in a male-centered society. It is a belief in the principle that woman should have the same rights and opportunities as men. The feminism fights for the equality to men, the humanity of women, to demand their full rights as human being. Principally, their position based on the women’s position (in philosophy, politic, economy, culture, and social) and oriented in the pattern of changes on power relationship.

In the mid of the 18th century, feminism was used to refer to the qualities of females, and it was not until after the First International Women’s Conference in Paris in 1892 that the term, following the French term féminisme, was used regularly in English for a belief in and advocacy of equal rights for women based on the idea of the equality of the sexes.

Although feminism in English is rooted in the mobilization for woman suffrage in Europe and US during the late 19th and early 20th century, of course efforts to obtain justice for women did not begin or end with this period of activism. Some have found as occurring in waves. On the wave model, the struggle to achieve basic political rights during the period from the mid 19th century until the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment in 1920 counts as first wave feminism. Feminism waned between the two world wars, to be revived in the late 1960’s and early 1970’s as second wave feminism. In this second wave, feminist pushed beyond the early quest for political rights to fight for greater equality across the board, such as in education, the workplace, and at home.

More recent transformations of feminism has resulted in a third wave. Third wave feminist often critique second wave feminism for its lack of attention to the differences among women due to race, ethnicity, class, nationality, religion, and emphasize identity as a site of gender struggle.

Feminism is an interesting topic to be discussed. In literary field, feminism has brought so many changes. One of the examples is in the field of arts, especially in literature. Literary works usually dominated by male writers. But after the emerge

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2 http://plato.standford.edu/entries/feminism-topics.
of feminism movement, women have their chances to show their ability in making good literary works. In 20th century, there are some literary works that made by women writers. One of them is A.S. Byatt, an English scholar and novelist. She won Britain’s prestigious Booker Prize in 1990 for her novel Possession, a story that intertwines two love stories taking place in different centuries.

In 18th and 19th century, there are also a lot of women that wrote some literary works although it is not comparable with men writers, among them Jane Austen with her great novel Emma and Pride and Predjudice, and Charlotte Bronte who wrote Jane Eyre. Most of them create woman as the main character in their works and put her as the strong woman. Nevertheless, there is also some men writer that put woman characters in their drama such as William Shakespeare. He takes a woman character in his works and describes the character based on his point of view. Some of the woman character that he make can be categorized as feminist, such as Desdemona in the drama of Othello. She is very brave to break the rules of the class. Desdemona is white people woman who comes from the upper class has been fall in love to Othello who comes from the lower class and have a black skin.

Shakespeare also puts a woman’s name as a title in his drama, such as Romeo and Juliet, Troilus and Cressida, and Antony and Cleopatra. It proves that he interested in presenting a woman as the main character. The women in the third drama above have the special characteristic. They are brave to break the traditional rules.

The greatest works that Shakespeare has made that describing the feminist character is in the drama of Antony and Cleopatra (1606-1607). The drama that raised a real story about love, lust, and the power among the Roman leader and great general, Mark Antony and the queen of Egypt, Cleopatra who had a victorious at her period in Egypt, Roman and Greek.

In the drama of Antony and Cleopatra, is very interesting to analyze the character of Cleopatra as the queen of Egypt. She is a woman who comes from the richest country and has the authority in Egypt. There are so many things that make her become the superior woman. It is the reason for the writer to choose and analyze the drama and make it as a reference in making the paper.

The writer chooses the aspect of main woman character in the drama of Antony and Cleopatra and tries to analyze the life of main woman character to prove that the character is expressing a feminism movement which has caused her position and her status are the same as a man.
B. Scope and Limitation

The drama of *Antony and Cleopatra* by William Shakespeare makes the writer interested to focus a problem in analysis the character of Cleopatra who becomes the main woman character and correlate the analysis by using the theory of existentialist feminism as the extrinsic element in a drama.

C. Statement of the Problem

Based on the plot of the drama *Antony and Cleopatra* by William Shakespeare has given the real description that power, love, arrogance, hypocrisy, and despair are problems of life that cannot be avoided by someone.

Because of that, the writer is doing a character analysis of Cleopatra as the main woman character that depicted clearly by William Shakespeare in the drama of *Antony and Cleopatra* and correlate it with the existentialist feminism theory.

Based on the problem above, then the several things to be research are:

1. What are the main characterizations of Cleopatra that are very dominant?
2. How does Cleopatra represent feminist seen from the existentialist feminism?

D. The Significance of the research

In this paper, the writer is expecting the benefit for the writer herself and also the reader of the drama of *Antony and Cleopatra*, to understand the drama and improve the knowledge about feminism concept that presented, especially the existentialist feminism theory.

E. Organization of the Paper
This term paper consists of four chapters. The first chapter divided into three parts, introduction, theoretical framework, and research methodology. Introduction consists of background of the story, scope and limitation, statement of the problem, the significance of the research, and organization of the paper. Theoretical framework consists of six parts, the historical background of feminism, the definition of feminism, the definition of existentialism, the definition of existentialism of Sartre, the feminism existentialism by Simone de Beauvoir, and the definition of character and characterization. Research methodology consists of the objective of the research, research instrument, the method of research, technique of data analysis, analysis unit, place and time.

The second chapter will explain about woman condition in Elizabethan era. It consists of biography of Elizabeth I, background and early life of Elizabeth, the Elizabethan renaissance, Elizabethan daily life, Elizabethan family, and Elizabethan women’s life.

In the third chapter, the writer is analysis the intrinsic element to give the information about the drama of Antony and Cleopatra. For the main topic, the writer analysis the character of Cleopatra as a main woman character based on the existentialist feminism theory. In this chapter, the writer will prove that there is a feminism movement that has been performed by Cleopatra.

In the fourth chapter or the last chapter, the writer was gives the conclusion and suggestion based on the research result.
F. Theoretical Framework

1. The Definition of Feminism and Existentialist Feminism

   a. Historical Background of Feminism

   There are some theories explaining about the first appearance of feminism in the United States. One of the theories related to the political aspect. It explains that when the Americans proclaimed their independence in the year of 1776, it is stated in the Americans’ Independence Declaration clearly that ‘all men are created equal’, without mentioning about women. So, the content of the declaration creates a certain opinion among women and those who interested in feminism. All feminists feel that the American government did not pay any attention on the women affairs. Hence in Convention in Seneca Falls at 1848, which considered being the early incidence of women’s movement in organizationally and it is also assumed as ‘Women’s great Rebellion’, all feminists proclaimed another version of the Americans’ Independence Declaration and added that ‘all men and women are created equal.’

   The other theory came from the religion aspect. According to the theory, the early movement of feminism in the United States appeared because the church is responsible to women’s position which is inferior. It is explained that either in the protestant or catholic religion the women’s position is lower than men. And according to Martin Luther King’s teaching and John Calvin, although men and women may have direct relation with God, women are not allowed to travel, women
have to stay at home and take care of their household. On the other hand, the Catholic Church gives an opinion which said that women are dirty creature and they are the evil’s agent. Other than that, the bible cites the utterance of Santo Paulus which stated ‘and the head of every woman is man. Let your women be silent in the churches, for it is not permitted unto them to speak.’ Further more, the bible also cites the utterance of Santo Petrus: ‘Ye wives, be in subjection to your own husband.’

Among other example which is related to the evangelist aspect or the aspect of religion is the habit of a Jew boy clan in his pray never forget to say ‘thanks’ to God, because he did not born as a woman.

The third theories which influence a feminism ideology are socialism and Marxist concept. Women are mentioned as the lowest class in the capitalism society and having absolutely no economic values, concerning their duty as a housekeeper which is worthless and cannot be compared with men’s responsibility in earning money. Adding the case is the exploitations on the Americans’ mother giving them no chance to have decent production utilities, so they suffered lack of production tools. Compiling from all of that, women struggled in having their rights in the society. A number of feminism activists copied the Lenin business in providing easiness for them, such as the use of public kitchen, daycares for children, public laundry, and lots of other business they created. Their main goal is to provide wider opportunity for women to participate in the production field.
All of these theories – politics, evangelist, and socialism – become the fundamental idealism related to the movements of feminism in the United States. Of all the three aspects, the conclusion which can be brought up to the surface is that the American Feminists struggle is generally have no intention in winning above men or to be dominated. Even though women are considered as the proletarian or the lowest class, and men are said as the brogues class, the feminism movement have no intention to create a pay back on men or to over rule among men.

The feminism fights for the equality to men, the humanity of women, to demand their full rights as human being. Principally, their position based on the women’s position (in philosophy, politic, economy, culture, and social) and oriented in the pattern of changes on power relationship. For that matters, the hierarchy society’s rules and giving pressure on women, in the aspect of class, culture, feudalism, and social contract must be changed heading for new social relationship (in production, family, community, society) where women (equal as men) become a full subject in making a decision related to the allocation of power and its resources. This kind of changes won’t be happening by itself, but it must be fight for.

The feminists believe that women are independent of their body, soul and their life. A woman is a full subject who owns the same rights as man. That feminist main goal does not create groups’ victory among others (in this matters women above men), or the center of power on one side only, but to gain a reconstruction in the society without putting their side aside. So, the point is feminism goal is to equalize the women’s position with men’s. Related to that, the equal right’s movement
appeared in the society. Among other way is to release women from domestic environmental bond or families and house environment. This is called as Women’s liberation movement, or known as women’s lib, or women’s emancipation movement.³

b. Definitions of Feminism

There are differences among the feminists related to the definition of word feminism. It happens because feminism does not take any conceptual and theoretical based on single theory, therefore the definition of feminism always changes according to reality of socio-cultural which becomes its background, level of consciousness, perception, and the actions taken by the feminists themselves. This can be proven by fact that the word feminism in the 17th century (when the first time being used) and feminism in the 80’s has different meaning. Despite all of that, feminism must be defined clearly in order to prevent misunderstanding among others.⁴

Etymologically, the word feminism comes from the *femme* which means woman who struggles to fight for rights of women, as a social level. In this matter it is necessary to make a difference between male and female (as the aspect of biological differences, as natural term), masculine and feminine (as the aspect of psychological and cultural differences). In other words, male-female leading to sex,

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on the other hand masculine-feminine leading to gender. In more extensive understanding, feminism is the women movement in resisting to be marginalized, subordinated and to be put aside by the dominant culture, either in economy and politics or in social life in general. In a slight understanding, which is in literature, feminism is connected in ways to understand a literature related to either the production process or the reception.\(^5\)

There are few definitions which can be brought up and to be discussed. According to Kamla Bhasin Akhmad and Night Said Khan, ‘feminism is the awareness of over roles on women in the society such as in the work place, in the family also the awareness action by women or men to change the circumstances’. They also brought up that a lot of women declare that they are suppressed in so many aspects and have become marginal in the society for centuries. Most of them even experience direct suppressed on them, maybe by the tradition that put men over women or by the viewed that explain women as an object. Despite all of that, lots of women refused feminism.

There are at least two reasons of the disagreement, first, they might not fully understand the meaning of feminism itself or misunderstand it which makes feminism considered as ‘anti men’ struggle, against its nature as a woman and others attribute which give an extreme impression. Secondly, it is a fact that the opposed to feminism actually the effect of society’s fearness against changes. Feminism which fight for

freedom in order to reform the relation pattern and power between men and women in individual environment, family, and public seen as a threat against the settlement of tradition, family institution and to the patriarchy ideology.

Yunahar Ilyas said that feminism is an awareness of the gender unfairness, which is felt by women, either in the family or society also the conscious action done by either women or men to change the state of condition. Meanwhile, Wardah Hafizh viewed feminism as a social theory and also as a women’s revolt movement that tries to create a transformation for a social prenatal which in gender is more egaliter. This purpose based on the awareness and fact that the patriarchy system, which applies in the majority of society in the world actually in gender, is not egaliter and creates unfairness against women so that it is necessary to have a transformation towards fairness.\(^6\)

The term of feminism or also known as gender is acknowledged as a characteristic, which stuck on men and women socially through education, religion, family and others. Men’s attitude and behaviour in the concept of feminism can also be owned by women. The demand towards it developed up to the masculinity level, which is equality among men and women in all sort of things. It does not mean that the struggle of the feminists does not have a strong reaction, especially from the women themselves because most of the feminists’ characters eliminate the domestic responsibility in the family.

Mansour Fakih in his book, *Analisis gender & transformasi sosial*, mentions about the women’s point of view which is against feminism. It is stated that once they are able to change the women’s position inside the house into women with excellent carrier would caused a disaster towards themselves. They will suffer both physically and mentally, because of too much equality. Their argumentation brought up to this matter is that the path which is actually wanted by women is to become a housewife or a wife who stays at home and a proud mother.\(^7\)

### c. Definition of the Existentialism

Existentialism is the philosophy which declares as its first principle that existence is prior to essence. By this simple statement is reversed the traditional view of idealist philosophy from Plato to Hegel (and of Christianity as well) that what man, as a member of the human species, ultimately becomes is the result of the unfolding of his innate nature of essence, which is a necessarily imperfect reflection of some pre-existent eternal and unchanging spirit or idea. On the contrary, say the existentialists, each individual man is what he makes of himself by a succession of actions undertaken in complete freedom of choice in a situation which constitutes his particular physical and historical context (Sartre even denies the possibility of any universal or predictable ‘human nature’). There is no transcendent absolute or first

cause encompassing man’s existence to which he can appeal to give his life form and meaning; thus he makes his own “essence” by the totality of his actions taken in perfect freedom of choice.

It should be stated at once, however, that there is no one definitive form of existentialism (it is not, strictly speaking, a philosophical system at all) and that the movement itself is deeply divided between atheistical and various forms of religious existentialism. However, since our concern here is with existentialism as it applies to literature, it will not be necessary to trace in detail the origin and development of every form of this philosophy. Furthermore, since Western literature of the twentieth century has demonstrated a predominantly humanistic, if not a frankly irreligious bias, we shall have most to do among present day existentialists with Jean-Paul Sartre, who not only has in his philosophical writings carried to their local extreme most of the more radical elements of existentialist philosophy, but also as a highly competent novelist, playwright and auto biographer, has deeply influenced contemporary literature.

A final word of preparation should be said. Like Freudianism twenty-five years before it, existentialism has had to go through a period of popularisation and oversimplification during which anyone who could speak knowingly of forlornness, anguish, and despair or vaguely refer to la nausée and L’homme engage was presumably an expert on the subject; and every new novel or play or collection of poetry was “existentialist” if only it was gloomy enough to be almost unreadable. As will be seen, however, existentialism, so far from being merely a more extreme form
of the literature of doom, is a fully responsible philosophy whose chief intent is to restore to the human individual the freedom-if he dare pay the price for it-to determine the value of his own life.  

Existentialism is philosophy which looked at every symptom based on the existence. Generally, the word existence means being, but in the philosophy of existentialism the phrase existence has a certain meaning. Existence is how human exist in the world. Human exist differently with things. Things are not aware of its existence, also the existence of one thing besides the other, without a connection. It does not work on human. Human exist along with all those things. And all those things become meaningful because of human. On the other hand, human exist together with the other human. To make a difference between the existences of those two, through the philosophy of existentialism it is said that thing ‘exist’, but human ‘being existence’. So, it is only human being existence.

The word existence comes from the word ex (out) and the verb *sisto* (stand up, to place). So the word existence defines as: the human stands up as himself by coming out of him. Humans are aware of their existing. They can doubt on everything, but one thing for sure, that they exist. It is called as ‘me’. Everything all around humans related to them (my table, my chair, my friend, etc.). In this world, humans decide their existing by their actions. They are experiencing themselves as a person. They find their personality as if it comes out of them and tiring themselves

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with it. They use things all around them. With that kind of busyness they discover themselves. They stand as themselves by coming out of them and busy with the world outside. That’s how they’re being existence.

d. Definition of the Existentialism of Sartre

The person who served the theory of existentialism is Jean Paul Sartre (1905-1980). It is by him, the philosophy of existentialism known world wide. It is happened because of his extraordinary ability as literature expert. He brought his philosophy in a form of roman and played in a language which can explain its intention to all his reader. As it is explained in the Being and Nothingness

*Being* consisted of:

1. *Being in itself*: exist in oneself, the unconscious existing; it’s there by itself, the whole existing.

2. *Being for itself*: exist for oneself, the conscious existing; the consciousness which can be criticize. Exist on human who have thought and able to do so, since because of the criticism humans are face into the choices of the consequences of their freedom curse.

3. *Being for others*: exist for others, the existing with other people, the fully conflict of subjects relationship.

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10 Ibid, page 159.
e. Feminism Existentialist

The theories of feminism divided into few parts, among of them are: (a) the theory of psychoanalysis feminism, (b) the theory of existentialist feminism, (c) the theory of post-modern feminism, (d) the theory of socialist feminism, etc. In the play of *Antony and Cleopatra* by William Shakespeare, the writer will try to analyze by using the theory of existentialist feminism.

Existentialist feminism is a theory that adopted from existentialist theory, especially is from Jean Paul Sartre (1905 – 1980) theory about existentialism. It is by him, the philosophy of existentialism known world wide. It is happened because of his extraordinary ability as literature expert. He brought his philosophy in a form of roman and played in a language which can explain its intention to all his reader.

A feminist who is a student, a close friend and also a working partner of Sartre is Simone de Beauvoir (1908-1986)\(^\text{12}\) with her famous book entitled *The Second Sex*, the book that published in 1948 with a French language *Le Deuxleme Sexe*\(^\text{13}\). Simone de Beauvoir explained the existence of women as an object related with the subject. In this world no woman express herself freely without depend on men as subject. Women described as human with no consciousness, which depend on the other human (men), have no freedom so women are often called as *the other.*

\(^{12}\) Microsoft Encarta Encyclopedia Deluxe 2000. © 1993-2003 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

The feminism of existentialism emphasize on women to be exist in her relation to others (men). Women as the subject instead of being an object. But how it happens?

The existing of these women can be achieved by the tendencies as follow:

1. **By working**\(^{14}\)

   Despite of having two roles, women will be getting equal opportunity as men who work in the public sector. And the opportunity will become an extra value if their role not only as a housewife.

2. **Becoming intellects**\(^{15}\)

   The intellect activity will bring changes on women. They will become the subject instead of the object.

3. **By transferred the social value into the society**\(^{16}\)

   Such as Sartre, de Beauvoir forgot the hope to end the roles as subject-object, self-other in the general human relationship and the relation of men-women in particular. He agrees more on Sartre’s opinion that one of the key of setting women free of their dependency on men is by the economic power.

4. **Refused to internalize “the other” status and identify herself through the view of dominant group in the society.**\(^{17}\)

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\(^{15}\) Ibid.

\(^{16}\) Ibid, p. 275.

\(^{17}\) Ibid
2. The Definition of Character and Characterization

a. Definition of character

Some experts told about the meaning of character. There are some definitions of character as below:

1. A character is an imaginary person that lives in a literary work. Literary character maybe major or minor, static or dynamic.\(^{18}\)

2. A character is someone in a literary work who has some sort of identity (it need not be a strong on), an identity which is made up by appearance, conversation, action, name, and (possibly) thoughts going in the head.\(^{19}\)

3. A character is any person who appears in a work of fiction. More accurately, a fictional character is the person of conscious entity we imagine to exist within the world of such a work.\(^{20}\)

Based on definition above, the writer concludes that character is a person in literary work. Character in literature is an extended verbal representation of human being, specifically the inner self that determines thought, speech and behavior. Through dialogue, action and commentary, literature makes these interaction interesting by portraying characters who are worth caring about rooting for, and even


loving, although there are also characters whom public may laugh, dislike or even hate.

b. Kinds of character

According to Thomas Mc. Laughin in his book *Literature The Power of Language*, the characters are divided into two typical, major character and minor character.\(^{21}\) Major character is character that has a big part in the story. It is always develop in the story and mostly appear on the text. Meanwhile, minor character does not develop nearly as fully as the major character; it does not have demand or sympathy. Minor characters only complete the story and seldom appear on the text and have small part in the story.\(^{22}\)

Judith divides the types of characters as follows:

1. Protagonist and Antagonist
   
   Protagonist is the main character in a story or a real event. The protagonist experiences conflict caused by antagonist, which considers antagonist as a wicked character, is not true because antagonist is a person who actively opposes somebody or something.\(^{23}\)

2. Static or dynamic

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Static character is a character that does not change in any significant way during the course of the work. Dynamic character is a character who change shows many different facets; often the course of the work.  

3. Flat and round

Round character according to Perine is complex and many sides. They might require an easy for full analysis. It undergoes a permanent change in some aspect of character, personality and outlook. Major character are likely to be round, while minor characters are to be flat. Through the language and actions of the characters, readers will learn whether the personages are multidimensional characters, which simply developed characters or perhaps merely foil which have main purposes to shed light on more important characters. The readers will also learn about the emotion, attitudes, and values of characters such as their hopes and fears, their strengths and weaknesses in a story. Flat character is one embodying a single idea of quality. Looking any complexity, it never surprises. The flat character sometimes called a type or caricature. For it can be summed up in sentence.

**c. Description of characterization**

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24 Ibid, p.394.h
Richard Gill said in his book, *Mastering English literature*, that a character is a person in a literary work, characterization is the way in which a character is created. Characters are all the product of characterization, that is to say, they have been made in a particular way. Characters are what they like because of the way they have, the things they do, their appearance and so on are the particular ways in which the author has chosen the characterization at his of her characters.

The kinds of conversation that characters have are very interesting. The things that they do and their appearances are the particular ways in which the author has chosen to characterize. The characterization, in other words is a method and character is a product the method of characterization can be narrative description with explicit judgment.

FC Lucas divides six methods to understand the characterization, they are.
1. Direct statement by the author. The author through the power of omniscience may explain what he wants public to know about his characters in the story.
2. Action. What a person does in the story often give public in sight into his very nature and from this insight public can make judgment about him.
3. Externals. May be a clue to develop perception of the character through the use at physical detail. Including the facial features, voice, walk and clothes. Public is able to make a judgment about the inner traits, values and attitudes of character.
4. Speech. From the character’s speech, public learn his or education an environments. Often it reveals the way he thinks about people and thinks.
5. Reactions from the others. This method often includes a slanted view. If the person talking about the character has a biased opinion, public get distorted picture. Therefore, the reliability at the character must always be uppermost.

6. Environment. The presentation of a person’s surrounding, particularly those he deliberately chooses, including the reactions author’s prefer, contributes to an understanding of the character

G. Research Methodology

1. The objective of the research

The objective of the research is to prove that there were feminism movements that performed by the main woman character in Shakespeare’s drama, *Antony and Cleopatra*, which was giving a reality that women have the equal rights as men. This research also purposes to give benefit and add the knowledge about feminism, especially the existentialist feminism for the readers.

2. Research instrument

The research instrument that the writer used to got some data was by a library research in the form of text study or library study and correlate it from some sources that can support this research. The main data that used for the research was the text of drama of *Antony and Cleopatra* by William Shakespeare that published by the Macmillan Presss ltd. From the text, which was related with feminism will be underlined and given a high light.
3. The Method of Research

The method of research that the writer used was the descriptive – qualitative method. This method tried to explained and described the content of the drama. The result of the description had correlated by using Simone de Beauvoir’s theory about the existentialist feminism theory.

4. Technique of Data Analysis

Technique of data analysis that used in this paper was a qualitative analysis. For the technique of data collection, the writer was used the textual analytic technique by reading and underlying the text of drama.

5. Analysis Unit

The unit analysed in this research was the text of drama Antony and Cleopatra written by William Shakespeare in 1607-1607. It has been edited by Roderick Wilson and published by The Macmillan Press ltd in 1988.

6. Place and Time

This research was conducted on March 2005 at the library of adab and humanities faculty of UIN Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta, the library of letters faculty of University of Indonesia, national library, and woman studies library of University of Indonesia.
CHAPTER II
WOMAN CONDITION IN ELIZABETHAN ERA

One might say that Shakespeare's era, the Elizabethan age, actually began as early as 1485, when Elizabeth's grandfather, Henry Tudor, defeated Richard III, and ascended to the throne of England. Henry's rule, and that of his Tudor descendants ended the Wars of the Roses, the civil wars that had so split England, as well as bringing to an end the lawlessness and economic depression that had characterized the fifteenth century. Before the writer explain about woman in Elizabethan era, the writer will start with biography of Elizabeth I, a woman that has so many influences in Elizabethan history.

A. Biography of Elizabeth I

Elizabeth I (1533-1603), queen of England and Ireland (1558-1603), daughter of Henry VIII and his second wife, Anne Boleyn. Elizabeth was the longest-reigning English monarch in nearly two centuries and the first woman to successfully occupy the English throne. Called Glorianna and Good Queen Bess, Elizabeth enjoyed enormous popularity during her life and became an even greater legend after her death.
Elizabeth’s reign was marked by her effective use of Parliament and the Privy Council, a small advisory body of the important state officials, and by the development of legal institutions in the English counties. Elizabeth firmly established Protestantism in England, encouraged English enterprise and commerce, and defended the nation against the powerful Spanish naval force known as the Spanish Armada. Her reign was noted for the English Renaissance, an outpouring of poetry and drama led by William Shakespeare, Edmund Spenser, and Christopher Marlowe that remains unsurpassed in English literary history. She was the last of the Tudor monarchs, never marrying or producing an heir, and was succeeded by her cousin, James VI of Scotland.

B. Background and early life of Elizabeth I

Elizabeth was born at Greenwich Palace in London on September 7th, 1533. Her parents, Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn, wanted a son as heir and were not pleased with the birth of a daughter. When she was two her mother was beheaded for adultery, and Elizabeth was exiled from court. She was later placed under the protection of Catherine Parr, Henry’s sixth wife, and educated in the same household as her half-brother, Edward. Both were raised Protestant. The noted scholar Roger Ascham later served as her tutor, and he educated her as a potential heir to the throne rather than as an insignificant daughter of the monarch. Elizabeth underwent rigorous
training in Greek, Latin, rhetoric, and philosophy and was an intellectually gifted pupil.

Edward VI succeeded his father in 1547 at the age of nine. Because of her position as a member of the royal family, Elizabeth became a pawn in the intrigues of the nobles who governed in the boy’s name. One of them twice proposed marriage to her. When her Roman Catholic half-sister, Mary I, inherited the crown in 1553, Elizabeth faced different dangers. She was now sought out to lead Protestant conspiracies, despite the fact that she had supported Mary’s accession and attended Catholic services. In 1554 Mary had Elizabeth imprisoned in the Tower of London, briefly threatened her with execution, and then placed her under house arrest. Elizabeth lived quietly at her family’s country retreat north of London until she became queen upon her sister’s death in 1558. Elizabeth’s experiences as a child and young adult helped her develop keen political instincts that allowed her to skillfully balance aristocratic factions and court favorites during her long reign.

C. The Elizabethan Renaissance

The renaissance (rebirth of learning) began in Italy in the fourteenth century and spread throughout Europe. There was new interest in the ancient Greek and Roman classics, and also new forms of art, architecture, music, and literature. It was a
period of change, questioning and vitality. People no longer believed everything they were told, but tried to find things out for themselves.27

The effects of the Renaissance in England were particularly felt in education, in the printed books, in voyages of exploration, and in science, although scientific work was still closely associated with magic in the Elizabethan mind.

Although excited by new ideas and discoveries, most Elizabethans still believed in the ancient and medieval notion of a geocentric universe, with the earth located at the center of universe that was ruled by God in his Heaven. The Elizabethan cosmos, often thought of as a great "chain of being," was organized by two important principles, hierarchy and correspondence. Existing very precariously at the center of this universe was man, who possessed the faculties of both intellect and appetite, and whose character was created by the balancing of four "humors" in his body.

Just beginning to stir during Shakespeare's lifetime were hints of other, more radical ideas about human nature and the cosmos, ideas promulgated by such men as Copernicus and Galileo, Machiavelli, and Montaigne. The skeptical effects of their views may well be embedded in Shakespeare's late major tragedies.

During Shakespeare's immediate lifetime, England was ruled by Queen Elizabeth, the daughter of Henry VIII. In spite of the religious ferment caused by John Calvin's and Martin Luther's Protestant reformation, Elizabeth was able to maintain an uneasy religious peace in her own country. Her court became the center of England's political, cultural, and social life: The arts and literature flourished under its patronage.

With her special political genius, the Queen managed national and international affairs, seeing her country through the threat of Mary, Queen of Scots, and through its wars with Spain. At her death in 1603, the Scottish James succeeded to the English throne; his reign, whose atmosphere may be depicted in Shakespeare's late comedy, Measure for Measure, was known for its moral and social corruption.

D. Elizabethan Daily Life

Daily life in Elizabethan England varied according to status and location. This page reflects the general daily life for the majority of the English people and the some of the major events which effected their lives. It was the time of the Renaissance - new ideas in science and technology. The Introduction of the theatre and the work of playwrights such as William Shakespeare and Christopher Marlowe and great poets such as John Donne and Edmund Spenser. Changes in leisure and entertainment, increase in trade, changes in the countryside with the wool trade and discoveries in
the New World.

Queen Elizabeth I ruled England. She was a popular monarch and the English people loved her. She was the daughter of King Henry VIII and well versed in the art of rhetoric. She inspired the English people with some great speeches which confirmed her position as a strong leader of the country. One of her finest speeches was made when she addressed to the English army at Tilbury Fort, when invasion by the mighty Spanish Armada was imminent:

"...I know I have but the body of a weak and feeble woman; but I have the heart of a king, and of a king of England, too; and think foul scorn that Parma or Spain, or any prince of Europe, should dare to invade the borders of my realms: to which, rather than any dishonour should grow by me, I myself will take up arms..."

Queen Elizabeth had never married and therefore never been subject to the wishes of a husband - she had not brought a foreign prince to influence the everyday lives of the English people. Her leadership skills provided a sense of security and stability to the people of England and Elizabethan Daily life.

Prior to the reign of Queen Elizabeth had England undergone massive religious changes. The break with Rome and the establishment of the Church of England by her father led to massive changes in Elizabethan Daily life. This major event occurred in 1531 when the Commons acknowledged the king as their "only and supreme lord and, as far as the law of Christ allows, even supreme head." In the Act of Supremacy of 1534, the caveat "as far as the law of Christ allows" was deleted. England no longer answered to the Pope in Rome.
The Dissolution of the Monasteries by King Henry VIII followed between 1536 and 1540 put vast sums of money into the royal coffers and saw Monks and Nuns homeless and many poor people without a place of refuge.

Grammar schools were available to the Middle classes. The development of printing produced more books and cheap pamphlets which were in the reach of most Englishmen. Between 1550 and 1570 many of England's famous schools and colleges were founded.

The Medieval Feudal system had broken down. Outbreaks of the plague had reduced the population - even peasants were paid for their labor. The wool trade provided opportunities for Englishmen. There were opportunities for young Englishmen to become apprentices and learn a trade which would bring them a good standard of living. A Wealthy Merchant class emerged in England. Elizabethan Daily life provided many opportunities which had been denied to previous generations.

The Elizabethan era saw the introduction of the Theatre. A cheap form of entertainment for the Lower Classes. A means to influence the masses (which was therefore tightly regulated). The history of England was played out in the vivid historical plays by playwrights such as William Shakespeare.

Explorations across vast oceans into the New World. New lands to be claimed increasing the wealth of England. New foods were introduced such as the tomato and the turkey! New spices!

Changes in agriculture during the Elizabethan period led to people leaving the countryside and their village life to search for employment in the towns. The wool
trade became increasingly popular during the Elizabethan age, which meant that land
which had been farmed by peasants was now dedicated to rearing sheep and a process
known as land enclosure meant that the traditional open field system ended in favour
of creating larger and more profitable farming units which required fewer people to
work on them. Village life was changing and the movement towards town life started
during the Elizabethan era.

E. Elizabethan Family

People in Elizabethan England were divided into four major classes: gentlemen, citizens, yeomen, and laborers and artificers. The class of gentlemen included all the nobles; citizens were primarily trades’ people; yeomen were primarily farmers and small landowners; and artificers were skilled workmen. In addition to these groups, one might mention also the vagrants, gypsies, criminals, and beggars who wandered over the countryside.

Elizabethan family life, much like our own today, was centered around the small nuclear family. Considerations of wealth and social parity were important considerations in marriages of members of the upper class, although young people usually still exercised some freedom in their choice of a mate; members of the lower classes, where property was not such an issue, had a good deal more freedom. Elizabethan weddings were lavish affairs, with feasting, music, and dancing.
Children were welcomed by their parents; often they were baptized quickly because they were so at peril from infectious diseases. Noblewomen frequently kept nursemaids or even send their babies out to be nursed, though this practice was frowned upon. Once they reached adolescence, most middle and upper class Elizabethan children were expected to move out of their homes: Upper class males, for instance, were usually sent to the university or the Inns of Court (law school). Those of the middle class could work as servants for wealthy families or as apprentices in order to learn some trades. Apprentices signed a seven-year contract to remain with their masters while they learned a trade.

With the exception of the Queen, the status of Elizabethan women was defined by their position in the family. They were seen either as wives or potential wives, who depended on their husbands for their livelihood and status. A woman in sixteenth-century England had no vote, few legal rights, and an extremely limited chance of ever getting an education, much less a job. Although noblewomen often were well educated and leisured, most Elizabethan women were expected to develop and practice various domestic skills. Women who were too outspoken were frequently attacked as being shrews.

During Shakespeare's time, England was still largely a rural land, dotted by fields, forests, cottages, and villages. Travel on muddy and unkept roads could be difficult, and even dangerous. The center of England was London, containing grand
buildings, a variety of people, great contrasts in living and sanitation conditions, and many amusements, including executions, bull and bear-baiting, and the theatre.²⁸

F. Women’s Life in Elizabethan Era

1. Upper Class Elizabethan Women

Elizabethan Women were subservient to men. They were dependent on their male relatives to support them. They were used to forge alliances with other powerful families through arranged marriages. There was little dispute over such arrangements as Elizabethan woman were raised to believe that they were inferior to men and that men knew better.

a. Elizabethan women tutored at home - there were no schools for girls.

b. They not allowed to enter University.

c. They could not be heirs to their father's titles (except female royals).

d. They could not become Doctors or Lawyers.

e. They did not have the vote and were not allowed to enter politics.

f. There were no Elizabethan women in the Army or Navy.

g. They not allowed to act in the theatres ( but women at court were allowed to perform in the Masques).

²⁸ http://www.people.vcu.edu
Disobedience was seen as a crime against their religion. The Church firmly believed this and quoted the Bible in order to ensure the continued adherence to this principle. The Scottish protestant leader John Knox wrote:

"Women in her greatest perfection was made to serve and obey man."

The fabric of Elizabethan society was built with this belief and Elizabethan women could not be heirs to their father's titles. All titles would pass from father to son or brother to brother, depending on the circumstances. The only exception was the monarchy.

2. Royal Elizabethan Women

Understanding the subservient role of Elizabethan women provides an understanding as to why Queen Elizabeth was reluctant to marry. Had she married all this would have changed. Elizabeth would have been expected to obey her husband. Mary Queen of Scots placed herself in this situation when she married Lord Darnley. He expected Mary to obey his wishes. The same occurred when the Queen's own sister, Mary, married Philip of Spain - she was placed in a subservient role to this foreign prince. The tragic Lady Jane Grey was used as a pawn to further the ambitions of her powerful family by joining the family in marriage to the Dudleys. She was, first of all, forced to marry Guildford Dudley. Jane did raise objections saying that she was already promised to Edward, Lord Hertford. The punishment for disobey was the whipping stool - Elizabethan girls were beaten into submission and
this happened to Lady Jane. She was later forced into taking the throne against her wishes. She was eventually executed by beheading - she was just seventeen years old. These stories about the lives of Elizabethan women illustrate how, even Royal Woman were totally dominated by the male members of their families.

3. The Education of Upper Class Elizabethan Women

The Elizabethan period brought the Renaissance, new thinking to England. Elizabethan women from wealthy and noble families were sometimes allowed the privilege of an Education. The girls of Noble families were invariably taught by tutors at home and Elizabethan women were taught from the age of five, or even younger. Various languages were taught including Latin, Italian, Greek and French. Music and dancing skills were essential for Elizabethan women. Elizabethan women were not allowed to go to university but might be sent away to complete their education. As young as seven years old girls would be sent away from their home to live with another noble family. Elizabethan women would be taught a range of subjects and skills. Manners and etiquette were of prime importance, including how to curtsey. Music, dancing, riding and archery were also taught. These young girls were expected to act as servants to the Ladies of the castle - their duties would be to look after clothes and the assist ladies with dressing and coiffure. Some housewifely duties such as preserving fruits and household management would be also be learnt. High ranking young women would take on the role of ladies-in-waiting to the Queen.

4. The Education of Lower Class Elizabethan Women

Elizabethan Women from the lower classes were also expected to obey the
male members of their families without question. Lower class of these women would not have attended school or received any formal type of education. Elizabethan women would have had to learn how to govern a household and become skilled in all housewifely duties. Their education would have been purely of the domestic nature in preparation for the only real career option for a girl - marriage! Single Elizabethan women were sometimes looked upon with suspicion. It was often the single women who were thought to be witches by their neighbors. They would be expected to marry, and would be dependant on her male relatives throughout her life.

5. Elizabethan Women and Marriage
Elizabethan women were expected to bring a dowry to the marriage. A dowry was an amount of money, goods, and property that the bride would bring to the marriage. It was also referred to as her marriage portion. After marriage they were expected to run the households and provide children. Large families were the norm as the mortality rate for children and babies was so high. Many Elizabethan woman made arrangement for the care of their children in case they themselves died during childbirth.

6. Elizabethan Women - Appearance
The appearance of a noble Elizabethan woman was important. An Elizabethan woman aged quickly during this era. Constant child bearing and pregnancies took its toll on a woman's body. The Elizabethan diet lacked Vitamin C resulting in bad teeth
and bleeding gums. A Medieval woman might even dye her hair yellow with a mixture of saffron, cumin seed, celandine and oil! Face make-up was applied to acquire a pale look. A pale complexion was so desirable that Elizabethan women were bled to achieve the desired look. Face paint made from plant roots and leaves was also applied. The white make-up was lead based and therefore poisonous - Elizabethan women who applied this make-up were often ill and if it was used in sufficient quantities it would result in death. The dress and clothing of Elizabethan women was a series of different layers. Uncomfortable corsets were worn to create the desired look dictated by fashion. The color and materials that were worn were not just a matter of choice. The type of clothing worn by Elizabethan women was dictated by the Sumptuary Laws. \(^3\)

\(^3\) http://www.william-shakespeare.info/elizabethan-women.htm
CHAPTER III
CHARACTER ANALYSIS

Antony and Cleopatra is one of the Greek and Roman dramas that Shakespeare’s wrote besides Troilus and Cressida (1601-1602); Coriolanus (1607-1608) and Timon of Athens (1607-1608). Antony and Cleopatra also categorized as Shakespeare’s tragedies with Roman themes. In spite of the diversity of tragic subjects, Rome remains a consonant preoccupation, inspiring the two major works, Julius Caesar (1599) and Antony and Cleopatra.

Antony and Cleopatra, tragedy by English dramatist William Shakespeare. First produced in about 1607, Antony and Cleopatra is based on the intertwined lives of Roman general, Mark Antony and Cleopatra, queen of Egypt from 51 to 30 BC. Mark Antony (Marcus Antonius Creticus) was a man, who defeated the assassins of Julius Caesar and, with Gaius Octavius and Marcus Aemilius Lepidus, formed the Second Triumvirate, which ultimately secured the end of the Roman Republic.

In this paper, the writer had analyzed the character of Cleopatra based on the feminism theory. The writer tried to give the explanation and information about the drama of Antony and Cleopatra from this analysis and also to give the description about feminism movement that performed by Cleopatra in getting the equal rights as a man.

A. The Main Characterization of Cleopatra.
When analyze the drama, there are so many ways that can used. The first is intrinsic element, and the second is extrinsic element. The writer had analyzed the character analysis of Cleopatra that conclude into the intrinsic elements. The character analysis became the main topic in this paper. The writer had analyzed the character analysis based on the feminism theory. It is chosen because the writer tried to analyze the existences of Cleopatra as a woman.

Before the writer moved to the main topic about feminism movements that done by Cleopatra, firstly, the writer described Cleopatra’s characterization. Based on the drama, there were so many characterizations of Cleopatra. However the main characterization of herself as follows:

1. Cleopatra Was a Beautiful and Seductive Woman

Cleopatra was a seductive woman, one of the characters of Cleopatra that is known after reading the drama of Antony and Cleopatra. Cleopatra was a beautiful woman. She had a physical beauty that made two of Rome’s greatest generals, Caesar and Antony became fall in love with her.

In the drama of Antony and Cleopatra, there was a great general Roman, Marc Antony, who gave up his honor for Cleopatra. After the assassination of Julius Caesar, Antony became one of the triumvirs. At the moment, the condition of Rome was very sadness. Rome’s economic drastically changing. They needed a help from another country to handle the situation. Finally, Octavius, the Roman
leader, delegated Antony to beg some help from Egypt as the richest country and they wish to conquer it. In Egypt, Antony forgot with his purposes to Rome. He attracted with the queen of Egypt, Cleopatra, although he had been married with Roman’s woman, Fulvia. Antony did not care with his wife because he loved Cleopatra so much more than anything.

The affair between Antony and Cleopatra can be seen in act one. The scene was set in Alexandria, the famous port city on the Mediterranean coast of Egypt, exactly in Cleopatra’s palace. It is seen the affair between Antony and Cleopatra first of all through the eyes of two friends of Antony, Demetrius and Philo. They saw Cleopatra as the embodiment of sensuality, and they think Antony, once a brave and dedicated general, behaved like a fool.

Two of Antony’s men were not interested with Antony and Cleopatra. Philo told to Demetrius about the foolish infatuation of Antony. He described Antony as a man with mythic rather than human qualities. It can be seen when he was describing Antony’s goodly eyes that have glow like plated mars, which is mars itself was has meaning as a Roman god of war. Philo also described Cleopatra in vulgar terms, describing her as being no more the bellows and the fan, to cool a gypsy’s lust. The gypsy in Shakespeare’s time, mean liking, pleasure, delight, or appetite, without necessarily meaning anything sexual.

Scene 1. Alexandria. A room in Cleopatra’s palace.
Enter DEMETRIUS and PHILO.

PHILO Nay, but this dotage of our general’s
O'erflows the measure: those his goodly eyes,  
That o'er the files and musters of the war  
Have glow'd like plated Mars, now bend, now turn  
The office and devotion of their view  
Upon a tawny front: his captain's heart,  
Which in the scuffles of great fights hath burst  
The buckles on his breast, reneges all temper,  
And is become the bellows and the fan  
To cool a gipsy's lust.

Flourish. Enter ANTONY, CLEOPATRA, her ladies, the  
Train, with Eunuchs fanning her

Look, where they come:  
Take but good note, and you shall see in him  
The triple pillar of the world transformed  
Into a strumpet's fool: behold and see.

(Act one – Scene 1 – Line 1-13)

Although they did not like the affair of Antony and Cleopatra, but they cannot stop the biggest feeling that Antony had to Cleopatra. Antony kept staying in Egypt although he realized that he was stir by Cleopatra. In scene one, it is seen how the deepest feeling of Antony when they were together at Cleopatra’s palace. At the moment, the attendant came and told him that there was a messenger from Rome. Antony refused to hear them. Cleopatra teased him with the suggestion that perhaps Fulvia or the young Octavius Caesar want him to do something.

Antony did not care with that news. He had to fine a time to be bothered by news from the capitol and shirks his duties. He said in complete words that let Rome in Tiber melt, and the wide arch of the ranged empire fall, but his space was in Egypt. Egypt was escape from the duties of empire, and in Alexandria, Antony was able to live life as he loves to live it. He did not care with Fulvia, his wife. He only love Cleopatra although he realized that he was stir by her. Antony kept with
his determination not to listen to the messengers. By this condition, it is concluded that how much the deepest feeling of Antony to Egypt and Cleopatra.

**CLEOPATRA** Excellent falsehood! Why did he marry Fulvia, and not love her? I’ll see the fool I am not; Antony Will be himself.

**ANTONY** But stirr’d by Cleopatra. Now for the love of love and soft hours, Let’s not confound the time with conference harsh: There’s not a minute of our lives should stretch Without some pleasure now. What sport tonight?

(Act One – Scene One – Page Nineteen)

Cleopatra had a physical beauty which is a trap for men. Cleopatra was a good woman and queen that made use of her beauty to entice Marc Antony. Her intentions were only good though, she must save her people, her crown, and her life. She only used her beauty for survival, when there was no other option.

2. Cleopatra Had The Emotion That Rapidly Changing

Another characterization of Cleopatra was her emotions that often sincere. In her physical beauty, there was the biggest emotion that Cleopatra’s had. But she knew how to use emotion for her own ends. Her relation ship with Antony had something of the feeling of a game to it. She tried to play him in a way that kept him hers. It can be seen when Cleopatra was thinking that Antony was leaving because he was tired of her and only obeying his wife’s orders to go to back to Rome. At the moment, Cleopatra asked Charmian to investigate Antony. Cleopatra wanted to know where Antony is and who is with him and what he had done, but she did not let Antony knew that Charmian was sent by her.
CLEOPATRA Where is he?
CHARMIAN I did not see him since.
CLEOPATRA See where he is, who’s with him, what he does,
I did not send you: if you find him sad,
Say I am dancing; if in mirth, report
That I am sudden sick: quick, and return.
(Act one – Scene 3 – Line 1-5)

Cleopatra’s emotion was easily changing. It proves with her statement that
rails against Antony. After the death of Fulvia, Antony returns to Rome. Cleopatra
did not know what the reason of Antony’s action to return to Rome. She was very
angry with his decision, because she knew that Antony will gone.

In scene three, the conversation between Antony and Cleopatra had proved
that Cleopatra was very angry with Antony’s decision to return to Rome. But Antony
tried to explain her that Fulvia his wife was dead and he should back to Rome for that
reason and to handle the garboils that awaked by Fulvia. Antony showed her the
scroll that brought by the messenger about the news of Fulvia’s death. Cleopatra
railed against Antony, saying she should never have trusted a man who was so
faithless to his wife. She said that Antony seems unmoved by the loss of Fulvia, so
will he be unmoved by the loss of Cleopatra.

ANTONY She is dead, my queen:
Look here and at thy sovereign leisure read
The garboils she awaked; at the last, best:
See when and where she died.

CLEOPATRA O most false love!
Where be the sacred vials thou shouldst fill
With sorrowful water? Now I see, I see,
In Fulvia’s death, how mine received shall be.
(Act one – Scene 3 – Line 59-66)
In the midst of her anger, Cleopatra’s emotion is rapidly changing. After she rails against Antony because of his decision to return to Rome, suddenly Cleopatra said the amazing words. She told Antony to forgive her, and to be on his way, with her hopes for his success. She let him go, though not without commenting on her own pitiful status.

**CLEOPATRA**

‘Ts sweating labour

To bear such idleness so near the heart

As Cleopatra this. But, sir, forgive me;

Since my becomings kill me, when they do not

Eye well to you: your honour calls you hence;

Therefore be deaf to my unpitied folly,

And all the gods go with you! Upon your sword

Sit laurel victory! And smooth success

Be strew’d before your feet!

(Act one – Scene 3 – 94-101)

Even as she relinquished hold and asked forgiveness for her becomings, which mean her graces but suggest the rapid changes of her emotional state, she cannot help but toss in a self pitying note to elicit some response from Antony. Cleopatra had lived her life as the center of attention, as if life was a play in which she was the star. For the queen, even love has an element of performance, and Antony must proclaim his love to satisfy her.
### TABLE OF CLEOPATRA CHARACTERIZATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main Characterization of Cleopatra</th>
<th>Evidence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cleopatra was a seductive woman</td>
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<td>- Act one – Scene 1 – Line 1-13</td>
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<td>- Act one – Scene 1 – page 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cleopatra had the emotion that rapidly changing</td>
<td>Cleopatra was very sad and disappointed when she knew that Antony would stay in Rome with his wife and Cleopatra let him go. When Antony in Rome, Cleopatra tried to gave the information about him and hope that Antony will back to Egypt.</td>
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<td>- Act one – Scene 3 – Line 1-5</td>
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<td>- Act one – Scene 3 – Line 94-101</td>
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### B. Cleopatra’s Existentialist Feminism Movement

Those are the characterizations of Cleopatra that can be seen from the drama of *Antony and Cleopatra*. The characterization that create her as the different woman and put her position as one of the most popular person in the world. Another characterization of Cleopatra that very interesting to discuss was her feminism movement. She had done feminism movements which was prove that women have the same rights as men. The writer had analyzed the Character of Cleopatra based on
the existentialist feminism theory and the writer described the feminism movement that done by Cleopatra in complete.

Existentialist feminism that explains the existence of women as an object related with the subject. In this world no woman express herself freely without depend on men as subject. Women described as human with no consciousness, which depend on the other human (men), have no freedom so women are often called as the other.

The feminism of existentialism emphasize on women to be exist in her relation to others (men). Women as the subject instead of being an object. But how it happens? Based on psychoanalysis, it can be happens because women's jealousy of not having penis isn’t caused because they want to have it but it is because they want the power, the same treatment as it is given by the society to those who have penis (men).

According to existentialist feminism theory, the existing of these women can be achieved by the tendencies as follow: by working, becoming intellects, by transferred the social value into the society, and refused to internalize “the other” status and identify herself through the view of dominant group in the society.

1. Cleopatra Became The Leader For Her Country

By the drama of Antony and Cleopatra, there were some feminism movements that done by Cleopatra in proving her existences as woman that having a power in her country. According to the existentialist feminism, woman should be a
worker to existing herself. Woman worker was not a weird thing that can be found in this modern era. Today, some of companies have been put women as their employer. It proves that woman had so much ability in getting a job and changing their label before. It is known before the feminism movement rise, there was no an equal rights for woman in getting a job. Women had to stay at home and take care their household.

William Shakespeare wrote the drama of Antony and Cleopatra, in Elizabethan era, exactly in the year of 1606 until 1607. In the previous chapter, the writer has given the description about women condition in Elizabethan era. Based on the second chapter, It can be seen that women did not have an equal rights as a man. They must stay at home and concern with their household. The education also did not become the main priority for women. Any of them did not study at school. Only women come from the upper class that have attended school or received any formal type of education. That is why, so many women in Elizabethan era became a housewives, especially for lower class.

Although the drama was published in Elizabethan era, but the characters of the drama were not live at the same time. It was occurred between 51 and 30 BC because 75% of this drama is a real story, the true political history and also a love story between two central characters, Antony and Cleopatra. But the different era between history of the play and the published of the drama has become the interesting topic to discuss. It can be seen that there still the similarity of women rights in getting the equality of their life in many aspects.
In *Antony and Cleopatra’s* drama, Cleopatra as a main woman character had proved that woman can work as a man. After the death of Cleopatra’s father, Ptolemy Auletes, Egypt was ruled by a woman. Cleopatra who was eighteen years old has been chosen to continue her father as the queen of Egypt. Based on the history, Ptolemy Auletes has six children, Cleopatra VI, Berenice IV, Cleopatra VII, Arsinoe IV, Ptolemy XIII, and Ptolemy XIV. But Ptolemy Auletes preferred to choose Cleopatra to be the queen of Egypt, because she was a smart woman that can speak seven languages so she can converse with anyone when leads the country. It proves that Cleopatra not only has the physical beauty but she also had the truly beauty because of her wit, intelligence and charm. It was a right decision of Ptolemy Auletes to choose Cleopatra because his sons can not be as like as Cleopatra.

Actually, people that kept a power in leading a country are men. Women did not have a change to be a leader. But Cleopatra can show to the world that woman especially herself was able to do that job. She can lead her country as well as a man.

2. Cleopatra Was an Intellectual Woman

The second point of the existentialist feminism movement is woman should be an intellectual. We can see the greatest Cleopatra when she was shown as a political figure. Although she was a woman but she able in handling her country. Political, economy, social, and many other problems that happened in Egypt, can handled by
Cleopatra. In the drama, there were interesting things that showed by two famous leaders. There are Octavius, Rome’s leader, and Cleopatra, the Egypt leader.

After the assassination of Julius Caesar, Rome was rule by Octavius Caesar. In his authority, Rome cannot be the glorious country. It was very disagree with the condition of Egypt. Although Egypt was ruled by a woman, but it can be the richest country. From this reality, Cleopatra had been proving that woman can be the greatest leader. There was no the differences between man and woman anymore. Cleopatra had been changing the social rules. According to the patriarchy system, woman had to stayed at home and became a housewife and a good mother. Woman was an object and man was a subject.

As a woman, Cleopatra did not follow the patriarchy system. She can be the leader although she had children. She was a great woman character that can do her duty in the same time. As the intellectual and a good mother. Her ambition and brilliant idea had put herself as a subject. She had been proving her existence as a woman in the society. Cleopatra was a strong woman that having the equal rights as man.

The third aspect for woman to get her existence in a society is by transferred the social value into the society. Such as Sartre, de Beauvoir forgot the hope to end the roles as subject-object, self-other in the general human relationship and the relation of men-women in particular. He agrees more on Sartre’s opinion that one of the key of setting women free of their dependency on men is by the economic power
In the drama of Antony and Cleopatra, Cleopatra had proved that she had the economic power that make herself becomes the great leader. Egypt as the richest country had grown as the super power country. The wealth of Egypt had brought Rome to get some help from Egypt. In the drama, Antony has having the mission to do the political relationship with Egypt. It purposed to repair the economic condition of Rome. But it cannot work, because Antony had been forgotten his duties. Antony had another mission for himself. It was to get Cleopatra as his own. The effect of Antony’s affair was the misery for Rome. The good economic condition that dreamed by Rome disappeared.

In the beginning of the story, this condition was not clearly described by Shakespeare. It is known about the conflict between Antony, Cleopatra and Octavius. In the end of the story, we got the information about the condition of Rome. It proves from Octavius’s attitude that he wants to get a part in Egypt’s wealth after the death of Mark Antony. He asked Cleopatra to gave him a part of her wealth.

Cleopatra was very angry with Octavius having a plan to take a part of her kingdom. She did not agree with Octavius’s decision. As a woman and mother, she tried to keep her rights and authority. She said to Octavius that she would not give all of her belonging to Rome. She will gave it for her son. She wanted the better life for her children.

**CLEOPATRA**

Did tell me of you, bade me trust you; but
I do not greatly care to be deceived,
That have no use for trusting. If you master
Would have a queen his beggar, you must tell him,
The majesty, to keep decorum, must
No less beg than a kingdom: if he please
To give me conquer’d Egypt for my son,
He gives me so much of mine own, as I
Will kneel to him with thanks

(Act five – Scene 2 – Line 13-20)

Cleopatra’s economic power also can be seen when she helped Antony’s problem. It can be seen from the action when Antony badly needed her help. After the death of Fulvia, Antony got married to Octavius sister, Octavia, to safe his position in Rome as one of the triumvirs and has a part of Rome’s land. Antony did not love Octavia, because only Cleopatra who stayed in his mind. After marrying to Octavia, Antony tried to back to Egypt and stayed with Cleopatra again. He was left his wife, Octavia, to get his lovely queen, Cleopatra. Since Antony return to Egypt, Octavius was very angry with him. It was because Antony has left his sister, Octavia, to go back in Cleopatra’s love. It was degradation for Octavius as the number one person in Rome. He was very disappointed with Antony’s decision. Octavius realized that Antony had insulted her sister.

The effect from this problem was a war. Octavius was challenging Antony to war. Antony agree to a sea battle. Although he realized that his military strength lies primarily in land forces, and his decision was disastrous. Finally, because of her deep feeling to Antony, Cleopatra insist on joining Antony on the expedition, because Cleopatra had so many powers to help Antony.

The dialog between Antony, Enobarbus and Cleopatra had been giving the description about the condition of Antony’s soldiers and his weakness. Antony fight
with Octavius in a sea battle. Enobarbus gave good reasons why he should not do so, because Antony’s soldiers were used to fight on land not by sea. It was very dangerous if Antony kept his decision to a sea battle. Cleopatra as the head of a state having so much power wants to help him and take a part in it. She sent her sixty sails to help Antony. She was a contributor to the finances of the war.

ANTONY

By sea, by sea.

ENOBARBUS Most worthy sir, you therein throw away
The absolute soldiership you have by land;
Distract your army, which doth most consist
Of war-mark’d footmen; leave unexecuted
Your own renowned knowledge; quito forgo
The way which promises assurance; and
Give up your self merely to chance and hazard,
From firm security.

ANTONY I’ll fight at sea.

CLEOPATRA I have sixty sails, Caesar none better.


Octavius won a sea battle. Antony who helped by Cleopatra was lost the war. It was because the wrong information that Cleopatra received when the battle was happened. She heard the news that Antony was dead in the middle of war, and his military want Cleopatra to leave the battle. Antony who still fights against Octavius was very shock when Cleopatra left him. He was angry with Cleopatra. He blame Cleopatra for fleeing for which she knew she was at fault. Finally, Cleopatra beg his forgiveness for the mistakes that she has done.

After the sea battle, once again Octavius was challenging Antony to fight with him. It was because Antony’s private tutor, the only messenger he had left available to send, had arrived to beg for him with Caesar. Antony beg through him to be allowed to live in Egypt, or falling that, as a private citizen in Athens. Antony became
wild with desperation, completely unreasonable. He repeat his absurd request for one-on-one duel, which is all bravado and passion, and serving no construction purpose. Finally, the personal combat happened between Antony and Octavius. And once again Cleopatra became a woman that has much power in helping him. She knew that Antony can not do it by himself alone.

**CLEOPATRA** Nay, I’ll help too.
**What’s this for?**
**ANTONY** Ah, let be, let be! Thou art
The armourer of my heart: false, false; this, this.
**CLEOPATRA** Sooth, la I’ll help: thus it must be.
(Act four – Scene 3 – Line 5-9)

From the description, it can be concluded that Cleopatra as a woman was able to give a helping hand for a man whom very famous in Rome. Her economical power had brought herself as the important person. She changes the position of woman that usually always in the second place. She proved that she had much power as a woman leader. She had anything to make herself became interesting. Wealthy, beauty and smart were the great point that Cleopatra’s have. All of the economic aid from Cleopatra had prove that woman can be the most important people in the society. Once again she prove that she can put her position as a subject. By having the economic power, Cleopatra changes the position of a woman in a society. She changes the position of a woman from inferior into superior and creates herself as the symbol of feminism.
CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

A. Conclusion

One of the interesting things in the drama was a woman character that very dominat. She was Cleopatra, the queen of Egypt. Cleopatra reigned in Egypt and historically was the last Greek queen. She was a beautiful woman that having a power to shows herself as a different woman. She was a feminist. She had done so many kinds of feminism movement to got the equal rights as a man. She prove that woman can be a subject, not an object.

Based on the existentialist feminism theory, Cleopatra can kept her existences by working as the queen of Egypt. She also had the intellectual thinking that make herself as the intellect woman in the society. Her richest county was being another aspect that make her as a woman that having a power to do anything. Cleopatra was a symbol of feminism and power because of her strong will and independence. She was as a symbol of sexuality and womanhood, as a wife, lover, and mother figure.

B. Suggestion

Antony and Cleopata was a history play written by William Shakespeare that became the greatest literary works in elizabethan era. It contains not only about love, lust, power, and roman history, but also about the struggle of woman. The play can be
analyzed from many point of view, however the researcher uses The Existentialist Feminism to prove the feminism movement in it.

The researcher suggest anyone who is interested to do a deeper study about feminism in literary work to read more sources about feminism. The criticism by many readers of critics upon the literary works in websites and the literary analysis written by many authors are some helpful sources in this kind of study. The writer is also suggest some books to be studied, such as Rosemarie Putnam Tong’s book about Feminist though, Facts and myth written by Simone de Beauvoir, and Jean Paul Sarte’s book about sex and revolution.