

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

By analysing and interpreting Katniss Everdeen's actions and statements in *The Hunger Games*, I conclude that Katniss has proven the characteristics of self-reliance as proposed by Emerson. The characteristics are (1) individual's will, (2) originality and creativity, (3) self-reliance. By showing all of these qualities, Katniss is proven as someone who believes in herself. She is being original in finding her ways to become a hero. Proof of her actions are as follows:

First, in following her own will or instinct, she voluntarily comes to rescue her little sister as a tribute. While others will not do that because they are afraid to die, Katniss trusts highly in herself of being the only one to protect her family. For this reason, she relies on herself to be a survivor of the game.

Second, Katniss is a person who develops her own culture. She has gained the trust of the people who watch her in the game. Whenever they agree with her actions and decisions, the people would give their three-fingered gestures. The people actually just imitate what Katniss did when she paid respect to Rue who died when playing the game.

Third, in gaining trust from others, Katniss shows her honesty to others. When she feels that she is not being attacked she quickly shows friendship with others, even though according to the regulations of the game, that person is her enemy.

Fourth, Katniss shows how self-relied she is in her own decisions by not conforming to the regulation of killing others to become the ultimate winner of the

game. She believes that every person has the right to make his/her own decisions. This is why she offers Peeta to eat the poison berries with her to uphold individual rights. She prefers to die rather than killing someone else just to make the Capitol happy.

Cinna may be the first person, who sees Katniss' leadership skills. That is why he sponsors her with a black costume, so people will recognize her every action and every utterance. As suggested by Emerson, in order to have to have self-reliance, one must stand on one's two feet by trusting oneself. Katniss as the main character of *The Hunger Games* movie has proven herself with her actions and sayings, and is thus, accepted by others to become the hero of the game and be the true leader that Emerson has been seeking for.

