
Liberal Feminism Depiction in “The Story of An Hour” By Kate Chopin’s Short Story

*1 Ida Ayu Made Sinthya Dewi

²Ni Luh Nyoman Seri Malini

³Ni Luh Putu Krisnawati

^{1,2,3}Udayana University

* Corresponding Author, Email: Sinthyadewiidaayumade@gmail.com

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ABSTRACT

Women's voices as a struggle against oppression are still very minimal to be heard. The purpose of this research is to find out the representation of liberal feminism that used in the utterances in the short story “The Story of an Hour” by Kate Chopin. This data was collected by qualitative method with documentation technique. The result of this study is the story contains about discrimination of women in marital status through the dialogue of the characters, paying attention to the behavior and actions of the characters in the story. The researcher found seven data that including the types of liberal feminism, such as equal liberty, equal right and equal freedom. The conclusion of this study explains that the main character reflects the liberal feminism. Mrs. Mallard as main character implicitly feels unlucky in her marriage as a wife. In the end, she got her freedom back after her husband died.

Introduction

Talking about women is closely related to feminism. Feminism is a women's movement that occurs almost all over the world, which leads to the emancipation of women. According to Hooks (2000:1) Feminism is a movement to stop sexism, end exploitation and end oppression based on gender. Generous women with a visionary view of liberation argue that men and women everywhere deserve and should have equal opportunities. The opportunities discussed can be about many things, in all kinds of fields such as education, economics, the field of their role in society, including



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politics, all must have the same measure and balance. In doing a job, women are just as entitled to get and do work that may in the view of people can only be done by a man. Compared to this opinion, there is a social system that has long existed and become a benchmark in everyone's thinking, where this social system places men as people who hold power, have dominating roles such as social rights regarding political leadership, moral authority, and control over property. Therefore, feminism was formed and grew as a women's movement that sought balance and demanded equal rights, which could then be treated equally as human beings who were beneficial in terms of developing knowledge and moral capacity. Some of the things that can be shown to prove this are by providing the same path regarding education, being balanced in having the opportunity to choose between staying at home or working, and being given the same opportunities in terms of the political world as the rights obtained by men.

Access to this freedom is actually problem and has long been become fashionable as a topic of conversation, possibly at times among people who are themselves blind to the explosive significance of the movement's power (Altbach, 1980:1). In many cultures, women have been subjected to various forms of oppression, including limited access to education, unequal pay, and restricted reproductive rights. Such restrictions limit a woman's ability to exercise her freedom, and have significant implications for her personal and professional growth (Ahmed, 2017: 44). One area where women's freedom has been particularly restricted is in the workplace. Research shows that women are often subjected to discriminatory practices that limit their advancement opportunities, despite having the same qualifications as their male counterparts (Blau and Kahn, 2017: 30). For example, women may be paid less than men for doing the same job, or they may be denied promotions or other career advancement opportunities due to gender bias. Another illustration of the oppression of women's freedom is seen in the realm of reproductive rights. In some countries, women are denied the right to access contraceptives or undergo abortions, which limits their ability to make choices about their own bodies and lives (Inhorn, 2018: 2). This can have serious implications for their health and well-being, as well as their ability to participate fully in society. Additionally, women's freedom is also



limited by cultural and societal norms that perpetuate gender-based violence. Sexual harassment, domestic violence, and other forms of gender-based violence are prevalent in many societies, and often go unreported and unpunished (Koenig et al., 2021: 21). This creates a culture of fear and intimidation, which limits women's freedom to move about freely and participate fully in their communities. Those are some illustrations that can be made of a woman's freedom. Besides, not many women in history are known to people if not for the influence of their relationships with famous men. That is also the reason that drives the feminism movement, which is a struggle by women to achieve gender equality in work. This movement has the goal of improving the lives of women as a social group, so that in this case it can improve the status of women's degrees. Many researchers have discussed feminism. As a women's movement, feminism has several branches and has its own theories that are certainly different from one another, one of these theories is called liberal feminism theory.

Liberal feminism focuses on eliminating inequalities between women and men in the legal, political, social, and educational spheres of freedom. Tong (2009:2) states, "If society is to achieve sexual equality, or gender justice, then it must give women the same political rights and economic opportunities and the same education that men enjoy." It can be illustrated as a situation when a woman is married and married, she cannot continue her work before marriage or become a career woman just because she has to follow her husband to take care of the children and the house, which is usually done by housewives. This statement makes women trapped in the problem of viewpoints about freedom of rights and makes feminists to discuss these issues to voice the freedom of being a woman and equal rights and obligations with men, and women are given access to express themselves without any restrictions given in society (Tong, 2009:12).

Discussions that talk about feminist studies from year to year are increasingly common to be discussed even in all aspects. This is proven and can be seen from the aspect of literature that discusses and focuses on feminism. Literature is a work of creative art where humans are the object and language is the medium used. There are several types of literary works that exist in literature including novels, short stories, poetry and drama. According Carmen (2016: 4) Short stories are a unique form of literary expression that allow writers to convey a full narrative arc in a condensed



format. They offer a concise and powerful way to communicate complex themes, emotions, and experiences. In recent years, short stories have gained renewed popularity among readers, as well as recognition within literary circles. One of the defining characteristics of short stories is their brevity. Unlike novels, which can span hundreds of pages, short stories typically range from a few pages to around 20,000 words. This compressed format allows writers to focus on a single event, character, or theme, and to use language with a precision that is often not possible in longer works (Allen, 2021: 1). Another feature of short stories is their ability to capture the complexity of the human experience. Through vivid descriptions, nuanced characters, and unexpected plot twists, short stories can offer insights into the intricacies of human relationships, identity, and emotion (Chihota, 2019: 77).

Short stories are a medium for a literary writer to let out and express feelings and communicate through words based on imagination and self-created situations. Many writers use the medium of literature to voice the situation, social life and even stories about life, especially in the form of short stories. Short stories are a particularly effective means for writers to communicate a message, as they can be read and understood quickly while still conveying a deep and meaningful message. Through short stories, writers have the ability to explore a variety of topics, from social issues to personal experiences, and to share their perspectives with readers around the world (Lapena, 2018: 45). All elements in short stories are related to the historical background of the author, for example using the experience of discrimination as an object, as a result of various conditions in society. The huge growth in literature can be seen in publications by women for women, and libraries full of fiction and nonfiction books (Evans, 1997:18). Kate Chopin is an American writer who originated in the 1890s and is famous for her stories about the inner lives of sensitive and courageous women. She is widely regarded as one of the most important writers in America with one of her stories entitled "The Story of an Hour".

This story has an interesting issue about feminism. Gender discrimination, especially against women, still persists today, and there is still a patriarchal system. In addition, there are still many news about discrimination against women in voicing opinions or in the field of work. Therefore, the author



wants to discuss feminism that is voiced through literature. This research takes up the story written by Chopin with the purpose to find out representation of liberal feminism by using the theory of feminism proposed by Tong. This research has several goals of study, firstly to explain how liberal feminism reflected in the story. Secondly is to find out the type of liberal feminism that used in the utterances of story.

The article written by Desmawati (2018) discusses feminism in novels. The problem in this study is feminism, especially the various types of feminism in the female characters in the novel and the feminism reflection itself in the character development that occurs. The purpose of this research is to find out the types of feminism and the feminism reflection in the novel *Perempuan-perempuan Kecil*. This research uses descriptive qualitative method, with data taken from the novel *Perempuan-perempuan Kecil*. Based on the results of the research, there are four types of feminism in the novel *Perempuan-perempuan Kecil*. The characters in this novel represent Liberal feminism, Marxist feminism, Existentialist feminism, and Radical feminism. However, the characters' struggle to survive, to place themselves in a man's world (patriarchy), to feel secure with themselves to do what they like, and their protest to no longer be an object of violence for men, all reflect feminism. The study and this study use the same problem, which is to find reflections of feminism in characters who represent liberal feminism and use descriptive qualitative methods to analyze the data. However, there are differences between that research and this research. The object of the previous study was a novel, while the object of this study is a short story. As a result, the study contributed in providing some references for this study.

Afifulloh and Wijayanti (2023), discussed about gender and feminism on Indonesian cinemas. They interpreted cinema from the critical discourse analysis and concluded that Indonesian cinemas still position women as 'other'. In some cases, women have been as equal as men but they should struggle harder than men, i.e., job opportunity, education, politics. This research differs from my research, beside the object, the approach of the research is also different.

Gunawati, et al (2020) discussed the characters in a novel entitled *The Notebook Novel* (1996). This research seeks to find the characteristics of Noah Calhoun and Allison Nelson, the main characters in the novel who represent liberal feminism. These characteristics are analyzed using



textual analysis in this study. Data were collected using the linguistic units of the transcribed corpus. According to the research findings, Noah Calhoun and Allison Nelson are liberal feminists. This is shown in the characters of both characters. Their characteristics are a blend of positive feminine and masculine traits. Their main characters are respectful, assertive, strong, loyal, firm, sensitive, confident, patient, carefree, responsible, and independent, which reflect liberal feminism. The previous research and the current research use the same problem of finding reflections of feminism in characters that represent liberal feminism. However, there are differences between that research and this research. The study used textual analysis to analyze the data, while this study used descriptive qualitative method. The object of the previous research was a novel, while the object of this research is a short story.

The article written by Fabianti and Putra (2021), focuses on feminism in film. The purpose of this research is to find out the representation of feminism in the movie "The Hunting Ground" by using John Fiske's semiotics. Qualitative methods were used in this study, along with John Fiske's semiotic analysis. The cases of feminism contained in this movie became the object of research by using the theory of The Codes of Television. This theory uses three social codes: reality, representation, and ideology. As a result of this research, the following conclusions were obtained: First, the meaning of feminism in the film "The Hunting Ground" is formed through dialog, interviews, narratives, and conflicts depicted in the process of the survivors' struggle to regain their welfare. Second, feminism in the movie "The Hunting Ground" is shown through the actions and attitudes of the survivors who dare to oppose their own campus by filing charges and accusations against the victims. Third, liberal feminism emerges as a movement that describes the situation. Both of these studies and this study use the same research problem, which is to find a reflection of feminism in the characters. However, there are differences between the research and this study. The object of the previous study was a novel, while the object of this study is a short story. The study used a qualitative method to analyze the data, along with John Fiske's semiotic analysis, while this study uses a qualitative descriptive method. As a result, the study provided many references to help this study.



Azizah and Nurul (2019) discussed about liberal feminism in movie entitled "The Post". This journal focuses on analyzing main character in movie through a feminism-inspired lens. Her research aims to find out representation of liberal feminism through the main character. This study applied qualitative descriptive method with read-write technique. The writer found that there are three types of liberal feminism in the character of movie. There are feminism of equal rights, feminism of fear, and feminism of personal development that belong to criteria liberal feminism in the post movie. The previous study used a movie as an object of research, whereas this recent study uses a short story. Both of this study analysis about liberal feminism, but the theory that applied is different. The previous study used Marilley theory meanwhile this recent study used Tong theory. This previous study is still related to the current research because it still discusses the value of feminism as depicted by the main character in the movie.

Wulandari et. Al., (2019) discuss liberal feminism in novels. This journal focuses on analyzing liberal feminism in 21st century America through novels. The purpose of this study is to describe the discourse of liberal feminism displayed in the novel, as well as to find the author's critical position. This study uses qualitative research methods and uses a constructionist approach to representation theory. The researcher found that the narrative and dialog in the novel construct a discourse of liberal feminism in which Arab women are considered as inferior and Arab men are considered as superior. The novelist wanted to explore the idea that women should get equal rights with men and there are many ways to get them. These two studies both focus on liberal feminism, but the difference is that the previous study used a novel as the object, while this study uses a short story as the object. The weakness of this study is that the researcher did not explain in detail and clearly the theory of feminism used. Meanwhile, the researcher used a constructionist approach to analyze the representation of feminism in the novel.

Caherine Tebaldi (2021) written an article that focused on feminism anti-capitalist. This article explores how women have mobilized anti-capitalist language to celebrate motherhood and advocate for a more feminist political and social order. They have taken an increasingly large role in this movement, often framing themselves as fighters for the family and against feminists. Feminists have come to represent all the failings of



capitalist liberal democracy as the "symbolic glue", connecting different coalitions and righteous interests and making the role of these anti-feminist women all the more important. They used the language of worker exploitation to portray liberal society as inherently antithetical to the family and women's natural motherhood. This gendered reframing of critiques of late capitalism is outlined in the right's diagnosis of liberalism's problems and solutions: white genocide, or conspiracy theories that blame feminist elites for low birth rates and social decline, and white sharia, the enforcement of "gender redistribution" and male power.

The data in this study was taken from a short story entitled "The Story of an Hour" and it was taken from the internet. Kate Chopin is the author of the story. She is a writer whose famous novel is about the emotional liberation of women (Scofield, 2006:98). In the 1890s the short story was well received, which was then published by several prestigious magazine companies in America, one of which was Vogue. "The Story of an Hour" is a short story by Chopin that has an outline of the theme of women's freedom. It tells the thoughts of a married woman who is told that her husband has died in an accident. First appearing in 1894 in Vogue Magazine, this short story is one of Chopin's many popular works. It was chosen because it tells the story of the indirect oppression of married women. Another reason for using this short story for research was as written data to express support for women's freedom of speech.

Research methods involve the forms of data collection, analysis, and interpretation that researchers propose for their studies (Creswell, 2014:14). The method used in collecting data was through the documentation method with note-taking techniques. In order to obtain relevant data, the procedure carried out by the author was to read carefully, to obtain statements and collect data from sentences in the story that have a relationship with the formulation of the problem and do not discuss numbers or statistics. Then, highlighting the sentences that attempt to express and describe liberal feminism, which are then given an explanation.

The author analyzes the data by relating the short story to Tong's (2009) theory of liberal feminism using a qualitative descriptive method through the dialogue of the characters, by paying attention to the behavior and actions of the characters in the story. According to Tong, in Feminist



Thought Book, “Liberal feminism is not about women who can do anything that men can do, but it is more about some women who can do anything that they want” (2009: 18). As Tong notes, liberal feminism is not just about women being able to do anything that men can do. Rather, it is about women being able to pursue their own goals and aspirations, free from the constraints of gender-based discrimination and oppression (Tong, 2009). This means that liberal feminism is not just concerned with breaking down barriers to women's entry into traditionally male-dominated fields, but also with challenging the cultural norms and expectations that limit women's choices and opportunities. Liberal feminism has been influential in a number of areas, including education, employment, and politics. In education, liberal feminists have advocated for equal access to educational opportunities and for the elimination of gender-based stereotypes in the classroom (Riordan, 2018). In the workplace, liberal feminists have sought to eliminate discrimination in hiring, promotion, and pay, and to create a more supportive environment for working mothers (England, 2010). And in politics, liberal feminists have worked to increase women's representation in government and to promote policies that support women's rights and interests (Sapiro, 2010). Despite its many achievements, liberal feminism has been criticized by some feminist scholars for its focus on individual rights and freedoms at the expense of collective action and systemic change. Intersectional feminists, for example, argue that liberal feminism fails to address the ways in which gender intersects with other forms of oppression, such as race and class (Collins, 2015). Socialist feminists similarly critique liberal feminism for its emphasis on individualism and its failure to challenge the structural inequalities of capitalism (Fraser, 2013). Liberal feminism places a strong emphasis on the freedom that women can attain. In other words, women are just as free as men to do whatever they want and have no limitations on how they express themselves in society. Women can express themselves by engaging in any activity they choose because they can do whatever they want. After all, they are equal to men.



Discussion

This short story by Chopin describes the emotions Louis Mallard experienced upon hearing of the death of his husband Brently Mallard. He is believed to have died in a train accident. In a way, Mrs. Mallard is also a woman with heart problems, with her illness, her sister tries to break the bad news to Mrs. Mallard in a gentle and very careful way. After hearing the news from her sister, Mrs. Mallard locked herself in her room to express her grief over her husband's passing. But as she tried to express herself, she began to have a strange and unexpected feeling of joy. "Free! Free body and soul!" was the phrase she believed and took as a benefit from her husband's death. The story ends with the realization that her husband was neither involved nor a victim of the train accident. However, upon the husband's return home, he finds that his wife or Mrs. Louis Mallard has passed away due to her sudden feelings of happiness.

Kate Chopin's "The Story of an Hour" narrates the events that occur in the one-hour moments of Louise Mallard, a housewife who is feeling something unusual and unexpected after hearing the news that her husband died; she felt happy. Chopin depicts a different type of wife as a woman. Women's desire to be free has given raised to a feminist movement that seeks to abolish gender equality, this is because men have dominated society for a long time. It attempts to demonstrate to women that they are capable of doing everything that men are capable of doing.

In The Story of an Hour, Mrs. Mallard feels no more like a sense of constraint. This is shown in several parts of the story and utterances spoken by Mrs. Mallard. These utterances refer to the freedom of a person, especially a woman, to express her opinion and voice. In this case, the sentence refers to the conceptual roots of liberal in liberal feminism carried out by the female character in the story. Liberal feminism is a type of feminism that emphasizes the characteristics of liberal feminism to achieve gender equality between men and women. Liberal feminists think that if everyone in society supported a combination of positive masculine and feminine traits, then everyone would be equal, and no one would think that women are subordinate to men. Equal liberty is one of aspect in the liberal feminism which mean people have their own right to do what they want to express themselves without any limit from the outside (Tong, 2014:16).



That issues of liberal feminism, portrayed in some of the utterances written in the story. Some parts that show liberal feminism in the story are described below:

Utterances 1: **“Now her bosom rose and fell tumultuously. She was beginning to recognize this thing that was approaching to possess her, and she was striving to beat it back with her will--as powerless as her two white slender hands would have been. When she abandoned herself a little whispered word escaped her slightly parted lips. She said it over and over under her breath: free, free, free!”** (This is shown in the second sentence of the 9th paragraph).

Analysis: The utterance "She was beginning to recognize this thing that was approaching to possess her, and she was striving to beat it back with her will" shows Mrs. Mallard's struggle to free herself from the social controls and expectations associated with marriage and gender. In this case, liberal feminism considers it important to free women from social obligations and expectations in order to pursue their personal goals and aspirations. Women should be given the same rights and freedoms as men to achieve freedom and self-fulfillment. In addition, it continues with phrases such as "free, free, free!" it is refer to Mrs. Mallard feel completely free. It reflects Mrs. Mallard's struggle to free herself from the social attachments and expectations that silenced her. Liberal feminism considers it important to give women the same rights and freedoms as men, so that they can pursue their aspirations and goals without any unfair restrictions. In this regard, women should be given the opportunity to actively participate in social, economic and political life. The utterances above belong to liberal feminism which refers to equal liberty aspect. Mrs. Mallard is a wife of Mr. Mallard, she has a limited freedom to choose her life and express herself. After the death of Mrs. Mallard's husband, she feels a freedom that had been hidden in herself.

Utterances 2: **“There would be no one to live for her during those coming years; she would live for herself. There would be no powerful will bending hers in that blind persistence with which men and women believe they have a right to impose a private will upon a fellow-creature.”** (This is shown in the first sentence of the 10th paragraph).

Analysis: The utterances above refers to liberal feminism that belong to equal right that after a long time, she can feel her spirit and



freedom also become alive again. Mrs. Mallard felt she had been unlucky in her marriage. Powerlessness as a wife makes her have to follow all her husband's wants. After her husband died, she arose from her struggle and released the power of her desire. In addition, the phrase "There would be no powerful will bending hers" reflects the importance of individual rights and freedom for women, which is the main focus of liberal feminism. Mrs. Mallard realizes that after the death of her husband, she will no longer be bound to the will and control of others, which allows her to live according to her own wishes. In the view of liberal feminism, women should be freed from dependence on men and have full control over their own lives.

Utterances 3: **"Her fancy was running riot along those days ahead of her. Spring days, and summer days, and all sorts of days that would be her own. She breathed a quick prayer that life might be long. It was only yesterday she had thought with a shudder that life might be long."** (This is shown in paragraph 19)

Analysis: This utterances can be interpreted that being a wife also has her own rights and freedom. Mrs. Mallard prayed for a long life, so that she would have the opportunity to pursue her dreams and achieve her freedom. This shows how important a woman's individual rights and freedom are in her life. As equal members of society with men, women should have equal rights to pursue their personal goals and aspirations. This is refers to feminism which belong to equal right. For Mrs. Mallard, her husband's death is not the end of everything. She is not losing herself and is still alive. Instead of drowning in the sorrow of her husband's death, she tries to take a great opportunity to have a better life.

Utterances 4: **"She could see in the open square before her house the tops of trees that were all aquiver with the new spring life."** (This is shown in paragraph 5)

Analysis: This remark can illustrate that Louise's increasing awareness of the freedom she has without Brently Mallard. At first, she unconsciously allows herself to think and feel that freedom. It comes to her wordlessly and symbolically, through the "open window" through which she can see the "open field" in front of her house. The repetition of the word "open" indicates restraint and emphasizes the possibility and absence of restrictions during her life. This leads to feminist equality of freedom,



where Mallard as a female character feels free after her husband dies. In this case, it can also prove that perhaps during her lifetime, Mallard felt constrained in the household she lived in.

Utterances 5: **“There was something coming to her and she was waiting for it, fearfully. What was it? She did not know; it was too subtle and elusive to name. But she felt it, creeping out of the sky, reaching toward her through the sounds, the scents, the color that filled the air.”** (This is shown in paragraph 8)

Analysis: The phrase "there was something coming to her and she was waiting for it, fearfully" suggests that Louise senses something new and unexpected on the horizon, but she is also apprehensive about what it might be. The phrase "it was too subtle and elusive to name" indicates that whatever Louise is feeling is difficult to define or describe. It is a sense of foreboding or anticipation that she cannot quite put her finger on. This suggests that Louise is not entirely in control of her own emotions or experiences, and is still subject to the influence of external factors beyond her control. The phrase "creeping out of the sky, reaching toward her through the sounds, the scents, the color that filled the air" further emphasizes the mysterious and intangible nature of Louise's experience. It is as if some unseen force is descending upon her, enveloping her in a sensory experience that is both exhilarating and frightening. The story can be interpreted as a critique of the traditional gender roles and power dynamics within marriage, which often left women feeling trapped and powerless. Mrs. Mallard's lack of awareness of her own restraint suggests that she may have internalized societal expectations of women and their roles within marriage, leading her to accept her own subjugation. Through Louise's experience, Chopin highlights the need for women to recognize and assert their own agency and freedom, both within marriage and in society at large. The story suggests that true happiness and fulfillment can only be achieved through personal autonomy and self-determination. This shows the absence of equal liberty in a marital status for wives. Where every relationship, woman or man should have equality and be able to balance each other. Mrs. Mallard is illustrated as a woman who apparently still lives in the unconsciousness of restraint.

Utterances 6: **“But she saw beyond that bitter moment a long procession of years to come that would belong to her absolutely.”** (This is shown in paragraph 10)



Analysis: One of the above story fragments can provide a perspective on the freedom of life. The phrase "she saw beyond that bitter moment" refers to the news of her husband's death, which initially brings sadness and tears to her eyes. However, this feeling is quickly replaced by a sense of liberation and anticipation for the future. The phrase "a long procession of years to come" suggests that Louise sees her life stretching out before her, full of possibility and promise. She realizes that she will now have the freedom to pursue her own interests, make her own decisions, and live life on her own terms. This realization is both thrilling and terrifying for her, as she has never known such independence before. The phrase "that would belong to her absolutely" indicates the depth of Louise's desire for freedom. She longs to be in control of her own life, free from the expectations and restrictions of marriage and society. For Louise, the prospect of owning her life completely is a beautiful moment that she will cherish forever. This story fragment represents a powerful moment of self-discovery and liberation for Louise Mallard. It highlights the challenges faced by women in patriarchal societies and the longing for independence and freedom that can accompany these struggles. The situation can be said to be women's resistance to gain equal freedom, not being confined and being a beautiful moment in life.

Utterances 7: **"There was a feverish triumph in her eyes, and she carried herself unwittingly like a goddess of Victory."** (This is shown in paragraph 15)

Analysis: The phrase "feverish triumph in her eyes" suggests that Louise is experiencing a surge of intense emotion, which is new and unfamiliar to her. The phrase "carried herself unwittingly like a goddess of Victory" reinforces the idea that Louise feels triumphant and empowered. She holds herself with confidence and grace, embodying a symbol of victory and success. This imagery highlights the transformative nature of her experience and suggests that she has emerged from her husband's death with a newfound sense of purpose and strength. The story can be interpreted as a commentary on the restrictive gender roles and expectations of the time, which denied women the right to self-determination and personal fulfillment. Mrs. Mallard's unhappiness in her marriage suggests that her life was constrained by societal norms and expectations, leaving her feeling unfulfilled and restricted. Through

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Louise's experience, Chopin challenges the traditional roles of women in society and celebrates the power of personal freedom and individual agency. The story suggests that true happiness and fulfillment can only be achieved when individuals are free to pursue their own desires and passions. This is represented as reflected a moment of newfound freedom and joy for Louise Mallard. It highlights the transformative power of personal agency and challenges the traditional gender roles and expectations of the time. The imagery of victory and triumph emphasizes the strength and empowerment that can come from breaking free from societal constraints and pursuing one's own desires. This shows that Mr. Mallard cannot give his wife the right of freedom so that Mrs. Mallard as a wife feels happy and becomes free in her life.

Conclusion

Since men have long ruled society, women's desire for emancipation has given rise to a feminist movement that aims to achieve gender equality. Based on the analysis of *The Story of an Hour* by Kate Chopin, it can be concluded that the values of liberal feminism is reflected in Mrs. Mallard as the main character. She felt trapped in her married life and felt the freedom after her husband's death. First, it is shown in the second sentence of the 11th paragraph, and then in the first sentence of the 14th paragraph, and the last, in the paragraph of 19. Mrs. Louise Mallard tried to take advantage of a great chance to have a better life instead of immersed in the sadness of her husband's death.

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