

AN ANALYSIS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN AMERICA IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY AS REFLECTED IN *THE BLACKER THE BERRY* NOVEL

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ABSTRACT

This final project analyzes racial discriminations towards an African-American woman. This final project is intended to expose such racial discriminations to the main character and how she can survive from it.

The object of this study is Wallace Thurman's novel entitled *The Blacker The Berry*. The writer uses descriptive qualitative analysis. The data of the study are in the form of phrases, sentences, and dialogue. The data were gathered by reading the novel, identifying, classifying, and reporting. The analysis was done by several techniques including exposing, explaining and interpreting.

The analysis finds several findings. The first is discrimination towards Emma Lou comes from her family which originally Mulatto. Some kinds of effort have been done by them but Emma's skin is still dark. It is a very dark skin color which brings Emma to chaotic situations. The next discrimination comes from the social environment which clearly shows how people really hate Emma's darkness. Some new friends she is acquainted with see her as someone who is not worthy enough. Further, when she tried to get jobs, all of the job owners do not give her chances to work due to his physical appearance. Several efforts have been done by Emma to whiten her skin, such as bleaching and powdering. But nothing works to her skin which is too black and ugly.

On the basis of those conclusions, the thesis reveals several suggestions to the readers. The first suggestion is everyone should see Black as equal to other race in this whole world. Black should not be considered as inferior and White as the superior one. People live in diversity which contains a lot of races, customs, and backgrounds. Honoring each other without seeing the race or background should be applied in this entire life. The second suggestion is everybody should be confident in showing abilities and competences so that people will appreciate it well. It does not matter what people say, everybody has full right to grow up and gain a lot of dreams.

Keywords: discrimination, African-American