

### **3. ELIZA SOMMERS' SEARCH OF HER SELF-IDENTITY**

In this chapter, the thesis writer analyzes Eliza Sommers search of her self-identity. Eliza Sommers is the main female character in Isabel Allende's *Daughter of Fortune* novel. Eliza has crisis of identity that it is brought up to the discussion of the aspects that influence Eliza which is caused by being raised between two cultures, British and Indian. The discussion also on her relationship with Joaquin that makes her experiences her journey and friendship to search her self-identity that finally determines her self-identity.

First, I want to discuss the aspects that makes Eliza confused and it makes her experience crisis of identity. Next, She gets through a journey in order to confront her crisis of identity that she hopes could end her problem. During the journey, She meets Tao Chi'en and a friendship is growing between them.

Accordingly, the thesis writer divides this chapter into sub-chapters that is, the aspects that influence Eliza's search for her self-identity and the process to end her problem of crisis of identity that later will determine Eliza Sommers self-identity.

#### **3.1. The Aspects That Influence Eliza's Search for Her Self-Identity**

In this subchapter, I will analyze the aspects that influence Eliza to search her self-identity. There are two aspects that I could mention, the first aspect is the influence from the people in the Sommers' house and the second is Eliza's social condition. Both of these aspects create a conflict in Eliza's life which makes Eliza doubt and confused over her self-identity.

##### **3.1.1 The People in the Sommers House's Influence on Eliza**

In this novel, Eliza Sommers is described as a young girl who doubts of her own self and life. Since in the beginning of her life she is adopted because Eliza was a child that is left as a baby on doorstep. That is the way and the time when

she came in the Sommers' family. Therefore, the discussion focuses on the cause that makes Eliza Sommers doubt and confused over her self-identity, that is because she was raised between two cultures.

There are people living in the Sommers' house: Miss Rose, Jeremy Sommers and Mama Fresia as the Sommers' Indian servant. The major influences come from two people, Miss Rose and Mama Fresia. Therefore, I will only describe the influences from those two people in the Sommers' house.

### **3.1.1.1 The Influences from Rose Sommers**

First of all, Eliza's Aunt Rose is a woman of contradictions and contrasts. A love affair in her youth altered her perception of her own modern reality. Unable to find a partner to meet the expectations formed by her youthful dalliance with a married man, Rose opts to stay unmarried and take the role of chatelaine in her brother's home. It is Rose that insists that she and Jonathan adopt the foundling child into their home and raise her as they would a daughter of the house.

(<http://www.januarymagazine.com/fiction/daughterof.html>)

“I those days I was longing to have a child, and you fell into my arms, sent by God to be brought up in the solid principles of the Protestant faith and the English language.” (Allende, 1999, p.4)

The quotation above reveals Rose Sommers' intention and wish toward Eliza. It also reveals that Rose Sommers came from the British culture, which have the solid principles of the Protestant faith and the English language. Therefore, Eliza has to put up with all the boundaries set for women in the 19th century. She is brought up believing that her main goal in life should be to arrange a good marriage, and to please her future husband.

Because Rose Sommers wanted to keep a baby badly in the Sommers' house, Eliza should socially fit with the Sommers family. Rose Sommers expressed it to the other member of the Sommers' house, Jeremy, Rose's brother that has his opinion about Eliza in having a place in one of the societies. Since the Sommers are living in the British colony of Valparaíso, Chile. While Chile also has their own custom and society.

“I must make some decision regarding Eliza, Jacob. She hasn’t the least notion of her place in society. People are beginning to ask questions and Eliza surely imagines a future does not befit her. Nothing as perilous, you know, as the demon of fantasy embedded in every female heart.” (Allende, 1999, p.53)

In this quotation, Jeremy Sommers as Rose brother is worrying about Eliza future about belong to which society she must be in the future. She will get confused to decide for which part of the society she belongs to because she does not remember from where she came, “You cannot possibly remember that, Eliza. Newborns are like cats, they have no emotions and no memory, “ (Allende, 1999, p.4). It describes that Eliza sommers tries to remember about her past because she getting confuses with her born. Therefore, Miss Rose is telling Eliza about her origin using the description of the soap crate where Eliza was lay in it,

“The basket they had found at the office door was woven of the finest wicker and lined in batiste; Eliza’s nightgown was worked with French knots and the sheets edged with Brussels lace and topping everything was a mink coverlet, an extravagance never seen in Chile.” (Allende, 1999, p.5)

The quotation above reveals that Miss Rose is likely intended to give strong evidences to the story of Eliza’s origin since the kind of the crate soap is never seen in Chile so it might came from England. Hence, “Over time, other details were added: six gold coins tied up in a silk handkerchief and a note in English...” (Allende, 1999, p.5), these details make the evidence is much stronger.

However, it seems that those evidences were missing and makes the story from Miss Rose become unconvincing, “The mink, the coins, and the note conveniently disappeared, erasing any trace of her birth.” (Allende, 1999, p.5). Since Eliza Sommers is born with some special talents, a good sense and a good memory. She uses the later to recall her experience when she was a baby that left on a doorstep, “...Eliza never set eyes on any of that.” (Allende, 1999, p.5) Indicated that she never seen any of what Miss Rose had told to Eliza.

“Intelligence is a drawback in a woman. Rose wants to sent her to Madame Colbert’s school, but I am not in favor that much schooling, but I am not in

favor of that much schooling for girls; it makes them unmanageable. 'Let us always know our proper stations,' that is my motto." (Allende, 1999, p.54)

In the quotation above, it shows that Rose wants to send her to Madame Colbert's school. It also reveals Rose's influence on Eliza in order to make Eliza become an appropriate English girl, but on the other hand Jeremy does not agree to Rose's intention to send Eliza to Madame Colbert's school with the reason that Eliza will be hard to control. However, Miss Rose is insisting on schooling Eliza in Madame Colbert's school but there is a problem in getting Eliza to the school because Eliza is not appropriate.

Next, even though the Sommers family lives in Chile but they still adopted British culture. With the love of Miss Rose, she brings the influence to Eliza since Miss Rose spent many happy hours to teach and play with Eliza. She made Eliza become her play toy.

"In the following years, Miss Rose made Eliza her play toy. She spent happy hours teaching her to sing and dance, reciting verses her charge memorized with no effort, braiding her hair and dressing her up..."

"Speaking English is one part of the house and a mixture of Spanish and Mapuche, her nana's native tongue". (Allende, 1999, p.12)

In this quotation, it shows that Rose is willing to spend her time with Eliza in order to teach her how to become an appropriate English girl, that means Eliza must learn what usually English girls do in their life, such as singing and dancing. "She devoted herself to giving Eliza the broadest possible education, not overlooking the skills appropriate for a young lady." (Allende, 1999, p.12)

This quotation shows that Rose Sommers is really anxious to give Eliza many things on education that fits to Eliza by not neglecting the appropriate skills that fits for a girl.

"Eliza learned to play without either talent or grace, but through dint of strict discipline could by the time she was twelve accompany Miss Rose at her musical evenings." (Allende, 1999, p.13)

From the quotation above, it can be seen that Eliza is learning the skill of playing piano but it also reveals that she does not have talent in playing the piano.

Therefore, it shows that it is contrary to the previous quotation, which tells that Rose is not just overlooking the appropriate skills. This condition seems to make Eliza become uncomfortable because she can not enjoy what she does since she had to fulfill the demand of Miss Rose. This condition can be seen through the following quotation.

“The day Eliza threw a tantrum because she didn’t want to practice the piano, Miss Rose grabbed her by an arm and without waiting for the coachman dragged Eliza twelve blocks downhill to a convent. On the adobe wall, above a heavy oak door with iron studs, you could read in letters faded by the salt air: “Foundling Home.” (Allende, 1999, p.12)

This quotation shows that Miss Rose wants Eliza to have the piano skill by insisting Eliza to learn even though she does not have the talent. However, there is a positive side based on this condition that Eliza has a very good discipline.

Furthermore, even though Miss Rose is willing to spend her time to teach and play but it is not enough yet. “She spent three hours in the morning with Eliza and another three in the afternoon, studying school books imported from England.” (Allende, 1999, p.58) It shows that Miss Rose is really dedicated herself toward Eliza. However, she can not do all the lessons that she wants to give to Eliza, therefore she needs help from the others like what is shown in the following,

“She entrusted the French lessons to a professor because no well-educated girl could be ignorant to that language.” “The piano lessons-now with a professor newly arrived from Belgium who used a ferule to rap the clumsy fingers of his students-became a daily martyrdom for Eliza.” (Allende, 1999, p.59)

The quotation above shows Miss Rose’s effort to make Eliza to become appropriate English girl according to her thoughts. Though it is not only French lessons and the piano lessons, there are some more lessons that Eliza must learn.

“She also attended an academy of ballroom dancing, and at the master’s suggestion Miss Rose obliged her to walk for hours balancing a book on her head, the purpose of which was to teach her to stand up straight.”...

“The rest of the time she personally supervised every stitch Eliza made for her trousseau: sheets, towels, table linens, and profusely embroidered undergarments, which rose then wrapped in linen, perfumed with lavender, and stored in trunks. Every three months she took everything from the trunks and laid them in the sun to prevent the ravages of humidity and moths during the years leading up to marriage. She bought a coffer for the jewels of Eliza’s dowry and charged her brother John with filling it with gifts from his travels.” (Allende, 1999, p.59)

This quotation reveals Miss Rose is so intent in feeding Eliza with all of the education, lessons or skills that she thinks Eliza will need for her future.

Here, Eliza’s future meaning that Miss Rose is preparing her for her marriage. It is shown in the following,

“The first step toward emancipating Eliza would be a good marriage, seeing that girl could not count on an older brother to shield her as her own had done.” (Allende, 1999, p.58)

Furthermore, although Miss Rose does not see the advantages of being a married woman but with all of her efforts, she is raised Eliza in a manner designed for her to marry well. Therefore, even though Miss Rose is already a woman, she does not have any intention to get married. As a result, it is like stated in the following

“I would happily give half my life to have the freedom a man has, Eliza. But we are women, and that is our cross. All we can do is try to get the best from the little we have.” (Allende, 1999, p.58)

A few years have past, Eliza with all of the education and lessons that she already has, Eliza become a girl like Miss Rose wanted. “From the angular little bug she had been in childhood she was transformed into a girl with soft curves and a delicate face.” (Allende, 1999, p.60)

However, taken from all of the action that Rose have done for Eliza has the truth that Miss Rose is setting a goal for Eliza with all of the education and lessons that Miss Rose had given to Eliza. And the goal for Eliza is finding a good husband. For two years, Miss Rose limited her time of search to find one in Chile.

Moreover, All of the things that Miss Rose has done for Eliza are much less giving her some influences. Both good and bad, the good influences from

Miss Rose is what she has thought Eliza on how to behave as a British people and she has the skill that usually British girl has. Nevertheless, Eliza also seems get depressed with all the lessons that she has to take, because she feels uncomfortable.

### **3.1.1.2 The Influences from Mama Fresia**

Mama Fresia was living in the Sommers' house since she is working as the Sommers' Servant, who has Indian origin. First, since Mama Fresia told Eliza that she is not an English girl, "You, English? Don't get any ideas, child. You have Indian hair, like mine" (Allende, 1999, p.4). It reveals that Eliza appearance is different from typical English people appearances. Subsequently, Mama Fresia is become the second person that has much influences on Eliza. "Mama Fresia was the second pillar of Eliza's childhood. She clung to her black skirts, followed her around while she did her chores, and in the meantime drove her crazy with questions. That was how Eliza learned Indian legends and myths, how to read signs of the animals and the sea, how to recognize the habits of the spirits, and the messages in dreams, and also how to cook." (Allende, 1999, p. 13)

In the previous subchapter, I have already explained that Miss Rose is telling Eliza about her origin using the description of which Eliza is a baby left on doorstep where she was laying in the soap crate with the details based on Miss Rose story. Moreover, Mama Fresia is argued the description from Miss Rose.

"No mink coverlet, no gold coins. I was there and I remember very well. You were shivering and bundled up in a man's sweater. They hadn't even put a diaper on you, and you were covered with your own caca" (Allende, 1999, p.5)

Mama Fresia statement's above is very convincing since she explained it in actual details which means she does not add or subtract the fact. She also added what Eliza was like when she was a baby, "Your nose was running and you were red as a boiled lobster, with a head full of fuzz like corn silk." (Allende, 1999, p.5) This quotation shows that Mama Fresia has a very good memory in remembering the experience when Eliza was found on their doorstep.

Next, the reasons that makes Eliza is making Mama Fresia become her second person in the Sommers' house to rely on, because in the explanation in previous subtitle that Miss Rose had given her influences in creating Eliza as Miss Rose wanted her to become, which is an appropriate English girl. It is done with the intention of getting a good husband. This condition is making Eliza sometimes feels uncomfortable but she likely get upset with all of this treatment from Miss Rose. For that reason, she needs other person and in this case is Mama Fresia.

Moreover, along with Mama Fresia, Eliza Sommers develop her ability and skill based on what Mama Fresia had thought her.

“With her prodigious nose, she was able to identify herbs, spices, and other ingredients with her eyes closed, and just the way she memorized poems, she remembered how to combine them. Soon Mama Fresia's complicated Chilean dishes and Miss Rose's delicate pastries lost all their mysteries for her. She had a rare culinary gift; at seven, without turning a hair, she could skin a beef tongue, dress a hen, make twenty empanadas without drawing a breath, and spend hours on end shelling beans while she listened openmouthed to Mama Fresia's cruel Indian legends and her colorful versions of the lives of the saints.” (Allende, 1999, p.13)

The above quotation reveals that everyone is born with some special talent, and Eliza Sommers discovered early on that she had two: a good sense of smell and a good memory. She used the first to earn a living and the second to recall her life.

“Listen to me, Rose, Eliza has no need for further education. She needs to learn a skill that will enable her to earn her living. What will become of her when you and I are not here to protect her?” (Allende, 1999, p.56)

In this quotation, Mama Fresia show that she is care for Eliza as Rose is care to her. Here, Mama Fresia is concern for Eliza if she does not have a skill that can be useful for her if she and Miss Rose leave her alone. Nevertheless, Miss rose has other intention for Eliza, “If she has an education, she will make a good marriage,”said Rose (Allende, 1999, p.56)

“That colic was one of the few upsets Eliza suffered in her infancy; the others were headed off at the first symptoms by Mama Fresia's herbs and incantations, including the fierce epidemic of African measles carried to



Valparaiso by a Greek sailor. As long as that danger lasted, Mama Fresia placed a piece of raw meat on Eliza's navel every night and bound it with a strip of red flannel, nature's secret for preventing contagion." (Allende, 1999, p.11)

From this quotation above, it can be seen that Mama Fresia loves and cares Eliza as she is her daughter. Eliza can have a sense of compassion toward Mama Fresia and it makes Eliza give Mama Fresia as the second pillar in the Sommers' house.

"Eliza concluded that the erratic Englishwoman had been a very good mother and that she was grateful to her for the large spaces of internal freedom she had given her. Mama Fresia was the second Pillar of Eliza's childhood." (Allende, 1999, p.13)

The above quotation can be the conclusion of what she feels during living in the Sommers house. Even though, Miss Rose had given Eliza a strict discipline in educating and equipping Eliza to make her ready to be an appropriate English girl also prepare her for her marriage, Eliza gives her appreciation to Miss Rose.

Next, she also included Mama Fresia as a person besides Miss Rose that given her a skill that most likely is fit for her. Mama Fresia give her influence to Eliza by giving her knowledge about all of the Indian things because Mama Fresia believes that Eliza origins is Indian. Therefore, Eliza has the skill and knowledge about Indian customs.

### **3.1.2. The Social Influence toward Eliza**

There are other people besides the people in the Sommers' house having meet Eliza and those people are much less have their influence on Eliza. First, I notice that Jacob Todd, a charismatic redhead with the most beautiful preacher's voice ever heard on those shores, disembarked in Valparaiso in 1843 with three hundred of the Bible in Spanish. (Allende, 1999, p.14).

"..., until they were interrupted by a little girl dressed like a princess. Todd shook off his anguish, and as he straightened up intercepted a slightly mocking glance exchanged between the Sommers. Trying to smooth over his gaffe, he turned to the child with exaggerated attention, determined to win her over."

“This is Eliza, our protegee, “ said Jeremy Sommers.

“Protegee? I’m not sure I follow you.” He said.

“It means that I do not belong to this family,” Eliza explained patiently, in the tone of someone speaking to an idiot. (Allende, 1999, p.27)

The quotation above reveals that Eliza has already know that she is not coming from the Sommers’ family, so she behaving that she does not belong to the Sommers’ family. Yet, Miss Rose is rebutted Eliza. “What are you saying, Eliza! Pay attention to her, Mr. Todd. Children get strange ideas. Of course Eliza belongs to our family,” Miss Rose burst out, rising to her feet.” (Allende, 1999, p.27). This condition shows that Eliza is trying to put herself in the position that she feels is befit her and that position is not in the Sommers’ family. I also notice that her action above is the reflection of her true self-identity that makes her not comfortable in the Sommers family.

Next, the event of Miss Rose wants to introduce Eliza to her future husband. Therefore, it makes Eliza is having a relation with another person is Michael Steward, he is twenty-eight years old, an officer in the English fleet anchored in the port of Valparaiso. (Allende, 1999, p.82).

“Somehow Miss Rose would arrange things so Eliza and Steward traveled in the same carriage, sat together, and were partners in the ball games and pantomimes, but in cards and dominos she separated them because eliza stoutly refused to let anyone beat her”.

“You must allow the man to feel superior, child,” Miss Rose patiently explained

“That is very difficult,” Eliza, unmoved, responded (Allende, 1999, p.84).

The quotation above reveals that Eliza has her own opinion on man, so do not want to be under-estimated. Hence, Eliza heard the truth of Michael Steward. “From a corner of the hallway, Eliza had heard everything through the half-open door of the sewing room.” (Allende, 1999, p.87).

“I want you for Eliza, not myself,” Miss Rose sputtered with fright, and bolted out the door to run and lock herself in her room, while the hapless suitor asked for his cape and cap and left without a word to anyone, never returned to that house. (Allende, 1999, p.87).

Here, Eliza notice that Michael Steward is one of the Miss Rose intentions for Eliza. It is to find her a suitor, for her get married to a man. However, Michael Steward does not give much influence to Eliza because she does not interested to him. Moreover, Michael Steward is also likely interested to Miss Rose rather than top Eliza.

Another event that make Eliza is getting in touch with the outside world, what I mean here is that Eliza can feel and having relation with many people in the society in Chile. It happens when the celebration of Cristo de Mayo, The May Christ. It is the celebration of when two hundred years before, a devastating earthquake had leveled the capital, “His Crown had slipped from his head to around his neck, where it stayed, because every time they tried to put it back where it belonged the earth began to tremble.” (Allende, 1999, p.37)

“Her *patrones* had forbidden to mention any Catholic or Indian rituals in front of the girl, much less expose her to them, but she herself was dying to see the Cristo de Mayo at least once in her life.”

“So the two stole out of the house, walked down the hill, and climbed onto a cart that took them close to the plaza, where they joined a column of the Indian penitents. Everything would have worked out fine if in the tumult and fervor of the day Eliza had not let loose of Mama Fresia’s hand, Mama Fresia being so caught up in the collective hysteria that she failed to notice.”

“Eliza had no way of knowing how long she was paralyzed with terror until gradually she began to think clearly.” (Allende, 1999, p.39)

The quotation above reveals that action can be the evidence that Eliza is never goes out from the Sommers house to meet with other people in the society or being in the crowd of people.

“Eliza thought of just starting off toward Cerro Alegre, but she was afraid that she would be overtaken by darkness before she found her house; she had never been out alone and did not know which way to go. She decided not to move until the crowd thinned out; maybe then Mama Fresia would find her” (Allende, 1999, p.40)

By the above quotation, I can tell that the celebration of Mayo de Cristo is the first time Eliza goes out and blending with other people but she become confuse and

do not know what to do in this kind of situation. It is happened when Mama Fresia which make her went to the Mayo de Cristo celebration had losses her.

She also met Joaquin Andieta, she met him for the first time one Friday in the May of 1848. “when he came to the house overseeing a cart pulled by several mules and loaded to the top with crates belonging to the British Import and Export Company, Ltd. Packed”. “Two months before, she had turned sixteen and she was ready for love.” (Allende, 1999, p.88). Therefore, Joaquin is becoming the first love for Eliza and their relationship brings some influences to Eliza, which will be explained broader in the next section in this chapter.

From the explanation above, it can be seen that these two conditions of her surrounding, inside and outside the Sommers brings the influence to Eliza that makes her doubt her self identity. At the time Eliza is living in the Sommers house, she feels confuse since the Sommers family adopted her especially Miss Rose Sommers is protecting her. Therefore, she takes everything that Miss Rose give her but then she feels uncomfortable to that condition so she rely to the second person in the house which is Mama Fresia and then she starts to question her self-identity and her confusion arises. Here, she experiences hesitancy to her self-identity since she adopts and uses the British language and culture while her appearance look like the Indian. Therefore, she decides to find her self-identity and she did it by having a journey to end her confusion about her self-identity.

### **3. 2. Eliza’s Efforts in Finding Her self-identity**

Eliza experiences hesitancy to her self-identity since she adopts and uses the British language and culture while her appearance does not resemble to the common British people, she has the Indian appearance. Therefore, Eliza has the intention to find her self-identity.

#### **3.2.1 Eliza Discovery of Her self-identity through Her Love Relationship**

In the previous sub-chapters, it is obvious that she had influenced by Miss Rose and Mama Fresia, but she finds one person that she meet one day and make Eliza Sommers falls in love. The relationship happens with Joaquín, a poor yet

terribly proud underling at her Uncle Jeremy's British Import and Export Company. The relationship happens because Eliza thinks that Joaquín can provide the place to rely on outside the influences from Mama Fresia and Miss Rose.

Therefore, their relationship is not only about fulfilling their love to each other whenever Eliza and Joaquín met each other, by holding hands, kissing and so on but they also talking and discussing about themselves.

“They discussed the improbable basket with batiste sheets and mink coverlet in contrast to the Marseilles soap crate, and it came as a relief to Andieta that Eliza was not a daughter of either sommers but was, like him born of obscure origins, although they were still separated by a social and economic abyss”. (Allende, 1999, p.119)

The quotation above shows Eliza feels comfortable sharing her thought to another person in their discussion besides the people in the Sommers house. Eliza used it as a relief to her obscure.

Since then it is sure that both of them, Eliza and Joaquín, are going to get to know each other and wants to learn about each other and themselves.

“Eliza learned that Joaquín was the fruit of a passing ravishment; his father had vanish as quickly as he had shown his seed, and the boy had grown up not knowing his father's name,...” “The family drove their dishonored daughter from their bossom and disregarded her illegitimate son. His grandparents and his uncles, merchants and minor civil servants in a middle class mired in prejudice, lived in the same city, only a few blocks away, but their paths never crossed.” (Allende, 1999, p. 119)

The quotation above tells Eliza about Joaquín big family that he is not coming from typical family in harmony. He doesn't know his father because he left his mother when he left his seed, so by that event her family dishonored his mother because she give birth illegitimate son. “The family drove their dishonored daughter from their bossom and disregarded her illegitimate son”. (Allende, 1999, p.119). I see this is what makes Eliza feels more comfortable with Joaquín, both of them almost have the same experience.

“Later, when for years Eliza would follow Joaquín Andieta faint trail, those letters would be her only grasp on the truth, irrefutable proof that their

delirious love was not an invention of her adolescent imagination but that was real, a brief blessing and an extended torment.” (Allende, 1999, p.121)

The quotation above reveals that since Eliza met Joaquín, for a long time. This quotation reveals that Eliza does not mind following Joaquín despite the fact that she does not have a self-reliant. It can become the proof that Eliza does not have strong self-identity therefore it is not strange if Eliza is mimicking other person. She makes Joaquín as her grasp in her life and she really trusts him.

“Then, in the Sommers house, she is like disappearing and her behavior or appearances do not revealed her secret. “...except the demented gleam in her eyes and a more frequent use her talent for making herself invisible” (Allende, 1999, p. 121)

This quotation shows that the occurrence of her new behavior would be the first experience to Eliza as a result of Joaquín influence.

“Finally came the night the lovers did not meet at the shrine but in the Sommers’s home. To reach that moment, Eliza had suffered the torments of an infinity of doubts; she realized this was a decisive step. Just for meeting in secret, unchaperoned, a girl sacrificed her honor, her most precious treasure.” (Allende, 1999, p.123)

The quotation above shows that it was the first time Eliza does the event with Joaquín. Though, She did it within the conflict in her thought of what she had heard over and over again. “A woman without virtue is nothing, she can never become a wife and mother, better she tie a stone around her neck and jump into sea,” had been drummed into her time and time again. (Allende, 1999, p. 123) because of her truly trust to her lover, she has done it. “They established the routine of making love at least once a week in that same room with the armoires, now their nest”. (Allende, 1999, p.127) The influence from Joaquín has made Eliza become different person.

Next, After a brief but passionate love affair, “They had been lovers for three months...” (Allende, 1999, p. 133) Joaquin sets off on a boat to follow the sudden gold craze that has swept South America. Gold is discovered in the hills of northern California “The news of the gold discovered in California reached Chile in August.” (Allende, 1999, p. 134) By 1849, Chileans of every stripe have fallen

prey to feverish dreams of wealth. Joaquín takes off for San Francisco to seek his fortune. “...like thousands of other Chileans his age, no matter their situation, dreaming of bags of gold dust and nuggets scattered across the ground.” (Allende, 1999, p. 138), “... convince he would never have another chance like this....He was haunted by the vision of dazzling future...” (Allende, 1999, p. 140) “ On the night of December twenty-second, he kissed Eliza and his mother good-bye, and the next morning set off for California.” (Allende, 1999, p. 142) Then, Eliza decides to leave Chile and goes to California because she comes to her confusion to her pregnancy about herself to become a mother to the child she carries.

I notice that Eliza seems truly happy to be in love with Joaquín until he leaves to California to make his fortune in the gold rush without realizing that Eliza is pregnant with his baby. Confused with herself of being future mother, Eliza Sommers decides to let loose from the influence from Miss Rose and Mama Fresia so she leaves Chile to California. I see that the action she takes is the result of her own decision because with her pregnancy she have think a lot and she does not want her child to be confused like what she had experienced through her life.

After Eliza Sommers arrive in California, she decides to disguise herself as boy to find Joaquín. “She kept wearing men’s clothing because it contributed to the invisibility so necessary in the quixotic mission to Tao Chi’en had enrolled her in.” (Allende, 1999, p. 404) By this journey that she takes, Eliza Sommers has reinventing her to accommodate the exigencies of her life and find her self-identity.

### **3.2.2 Eliza’s Discovery of Her self-identity Through Her Friendship with Tao Chi’en**

During her journey Eliza Sommers is making a strong friendship with Tao Chi’en on the ship named *Emilia* that brings them together. At first, this friendship helps Eliza to survive both a miscarriage and the harsh journey because it turn out that Tao Chi’en actually a skilled physician who is able to take care of Eliza’s miscarriage. Eliza friendship to Tao Chi’en is not only to help her but I see that this friendship is also giving some inputs to Eliza and these inputs are coming from the dialogues between Eliza and Tao Chi’en.

First of all, Tao Chi'en said his principal to Eliza about what matters is what you do in this world, not how you come into it, she used to say to Tao Chi'en during the many years of their splendid friendship; he, however, did not agree. It was impossible for him to imagine his own life apart from the long chain of his ancestors, who not only had given him his physical and mental characteristics but also bequeathed him his karma. His fate, he believed, had been determined by the acts of his family before him, which was why he had to honor them with daily prayers and fear them when they appeared in their spectral robes to claim their due.

Next, since Eliza began her friendship to Tao Chi'en, she always at Tao's side until she stays in California for two years and also she works at Tao's side.

"Eliza Sommers worked for two years in San Francisco at Tao Chi'en's side. During that time, she left twice, during the summers, to search for Joaquín Andieta, following the same procedure she had used before: joining other travelers. (Allende, 1999, p. 403)

The quotation above reveals that Eliza is still hoping to find Joaquin, so she will do anything to find him. It can be seen that during she spent time with Tao Chi'en she has left for Tao Chi'en twice. But it is not long since she left, Eliza has returned and it is because she couldn't stand the anguish of being away from Tao Chi'en. "They were so comfortable in their routines, paired in their work and as close in spirit as an old married couple" (Allende, 1999, p. 403) In order to track her lover that has become the outlaw, Eliza uses the information from the newspaper. "She collected everything published about Joaquin Murieta and memorized it, as she had Miss Rose's poems when a little girl, although she tried to ignore the references to the outlaw's sweetheart." (Allende, 1999, p. 403) the latest statement is reveal that Eliza is also trying to put out Joaquin of her mind. I notice this as one of the change that happens in Eliza, she tried to solve her problem by herself.

After that, Tao Chi'en gives Eliza some advices in an informal conversation. This conversation is meant to give the vision of her future for Eliza but it is not only Eliza is looking forward for her future, also Tao Chi'en.



“You cannot wait for that man forever, Eliza. It is a form of madness, like gold fever. You must set a deadline,” Tao said one day.

“And what do I do with my life when the time is up?”

“You can go back to your country.”

“In Chile a woman like me is worse off than one of your singsong girls. Would you like to go back to China?”

“That was my intention, but I am beginning to like America. There I would be Fourth Son again. I’m better off here.”

“So am I. If I don’t find Joaquin, I’ll stay here and open a restaurant. I have everything I need: a good memory for recipes, love of the ingredients, a good sense of taste and touch, an instinct for seasonings....” (Allende, 1999, p. 408)

The quotation above reveals Tao’s opinion of Eliza must limit her time to find Joaquin because the future must be set. It is because Eliza needs to remember the reason why she needs to find Joaquin. They dreamed to stay in America because both of them have their own opinion of their problems if they went to their home country. Besides the serious conversation of their future, they also create laughter that makes them felt uncomfortable to each other. “I will make you a deal, Eliza. If within one year you do not find this Joaquin, marry me,” said Tao Chi’en, and both burst out laughing.” (Allende, 1999, p. 408)

“The spontaneous laughter and quiet tenderness that had used to bubble up between them was now replaced with oppressive tension. If they brushed against each other by accident they pulled back, embarrassed; each was aware of the other’s presence or absence; the air seemed laden with presages and anticipation.” (Allende, 1999, p. 409)

The quotation shows that both of them have the feeling of respect that makes them have space between them. Furthermore, Tao Chi’en also has a feeling of longing to follow Eliza when she went to her room, but it was never happened because he is covered with respect and shyness. (Allende, 1999, p. 408) I see that their act is to protect their friendship therefore their friendship can last for long.

From the explanation above, it reveals that some of these positive inputs are coming from Eliza’s friendship with Tao Chi’en that gives her the good influence

that can make her determine herself. There are so many things that she get from Tao's advices. Furthermore, at first she felt that she needs Joaquin as her guidance in her life but then he left her with uncertainty, consequently this condition make her confuse and makes a big decision in her life. The decision is leaving from the influences of Miss Rose and Mama Fresia and doing a journey, but eventually that decision can make her mature. During the journey she met Tao Chi'en and make a strong friendship to him, along with Tao Chi'en, she find her life so meaningful because of his input of the thought of life. Here, she experiences the changes in herself since she always thinks what Tao said to her and when she feel comfortable, she adopts it to her life. Inevitably, she finds her self-identity by having a journey and making a good relationship to Tao Chi'en in order to end her quest her self-identity.

### **3.3. The result of Eliza's effort in finding her self-identity**

Eliza did her journey because of her pregnancy and she is confused to the future of her unborn child, she does not want her child is in the confusion as she has. She is also has a chance to determine herself by getting loose from the influence of Miss Rose and Mama Fresia. During the journey she met Tao Chi'en and making a strong friendship to him. In her friendship with Tao Chi'en, she gets many inputs in the form of advice placed in the dialogues between them and many of those advises have affected Eliza's life.

"Well?" asked Eliza on his return

"Nothing."

"What do you mean, *nothing*! Not even a little tuberculosis? She won't die?"

"We are all going to die. That snake will die an old woman. She is as strong as a buffalo."

"Most evil people are."

"As for Eliza, she knew that she was at definitive fork in her road and that the direction she chose would determine the rest of her life. Tao Chi'en was right: she had to set a deadline." (Allende, 1999, p. 414)

The quotation above reveals that Eliza is already beginning to have clear mind of herself. She creates questions of what she already has done in her life. It because she needs it as the reflection toward herself so she can evaluate and correct her action in the future.

“She asked herself a thousand times why she had hungered so desperately to belong body and soul to Joaquín Andieta when in truth she had never been totally happy in his arms, and could explain it only in terms of first love. She had been ready to fall in love when he came to the house to unload some cargo; the rest was instinct.” (Allende, 1999, p. 415)

Here, in the quotation above, it is clearly indicated that Eliza is looking backward of her life especially to her relation with Joaquín to have her reflection. In her thought, she back trace what happened a long ago and ends up with the answer of “the rest was instinct”. Next, she continues her thought.

“Not only was she tired of looking for him, but deep down she did not want to find him; at the same time, though, she could not go on riddled with doubts. She needed an ending for that phase in order to begin a new love with a clean slate.” (Allende, 1999, p. 415)

The above quotation reveals that Eliza is going to give up in finding Joaquín in California. Eliza search for the elusive Joaquín gradually turns into another kind of journey that transforms her over time, and what began as a search for love ends up as the conquest of personal freedom. In California, Eliza's unending quest to meet up with her lover eventually leads her to finding out who she really is. In this new place, she can establish herself and build up a good reputation, despite the fact that she is a woman.