

STRUGGLE IN JUN'ICHI WATANABE'S NOVEL *BEYOND THE BLOSSOMING FIELDS*

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Abstract

This research is about the struggle of the first character named Ogino Ginko in reaching her dream to be a female doctor and help other women who have the same illness as she suffers in a novel, **Beyond the Blossoming Fields**, written by Watanabe Jun'ichi, published in 1970. This research is conducted by descriptive qualitative method, and one of the significant theories used in this research is proposed by Centeno (2014: 136) who claims that struggles are exactly what we need in our life. It means struggle is something crucial in our life. The finding of this research shows that the protagonist is successful in her struggle to be a doctor. She becomes the first female doctor in Japan, and after she opens a clinic, there are so many woman patients coming to her clinic, and most of them are contracted with the illness as she suffers. She also becomes the inspiration for other women in Japan to become woman doctors.

Keywords: protagonist, struggle, ambition, gonorrhoea, orthopedic surgeon

1. Introduction

Beyond the Blossoming Fields, written in 1970, is a novel of Jun'ichi Watanabe, a novelist who was born in Hokkaido in 1933. He was interested in literature when he was in high school. After graduating from Sapporo Medical University, he worked as an orthopedic surgeon, but in 1969 he resigned his post and moved to Tokyo to pursue a full-time career as a writer. His novel, *Beyond the Blossoming Fields* is successful to receive the recognition as "International Best Seller". This is based on the label inclusion on the top of the cover of the novel published in Indonesia with the title "Ginko". He received some prestigious literary awards such as "The Naoki Prize" and "The Yoshikawa Eiji Prize". Watanabe has written numerous scientific texts as well as biographical books and works of fiction, many of which have been made into films, and one of them is *Lost Paradise* which became best seller in Japan and over Asia.

Beyond the Blossoming Fields itself tells about the struggles of the protagonist named Ginko to become a doctor and to help other women having the same illness as she suffers. Ginko Ogino, the first woman doctor in Japan, married in her late teens to the son of a wealthy neighboring family, and she contracts gonorrhoea from her husband, whom she has divorced. Suffering, humiliation and pain at the hands of male gynecologists,

Ginko determines to become a doctor for women. Her family finds this unacceptable within Ginko's social class so that Ginko leaves her family, finding her parents' value at odds with her own. Determined to gain an education, she pursues her goals as she struggles in school for many years. She enters a medical school where she is the only woman, and she must endure ridicule and abuse in order to succeed. Brilliant, she establishes her own clinic in Tokyo, becoming a renowned mentor to inspire woman doctors, and a strong figure in the Japanese Christian Women's Organization. Despite suffering chronic symptoms of gonorrhea, she becomes famous—from far and near the Japanese public seeks her out for her leadership in medical and political causes. She remarries Yokiyoshi Shikata, a protestant minister and eventually follows him to the northern island of Hokkaido to build a utopian Christian settlement.

A person may have some dreams and purposes in life. Sometimes, dream can be regarded as a guidance of life for a person. A person needs struggle to make it come true. The struggle is done to obtain a good result and to get happiness. However, not every person wants to make the dreams come true. There is a person who just regards a dream as an imagination which has no need to make it come true, there is also a person who wants to struggle to materialize the dream. But in fact, by means of struggle, a person does not always get what he wishes even though how strong the struggle is done. It may happen because it also involves a luck or fate element.

According to Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary (2000: 1343), the term "struggle" is defined as "to try very hard to do something when it is difficult or when there are a lot of problems". While, Collins Cobuild English Dictionary (1987: 1658) defines "struggle" as "try hard to do something". Based on the definitions of struggle quoted above, it can be inferred that struggle is to try very hard to do something when there are such kind of difficulties or problems.

According to Nugroho et.al (1996: 141) struggle is a hard work to materialize dreams. Half of human life contains of effort or endeavor. If a person has a desire to be rich, he or she must work hard. The hard work might be done by using science and strength, or even both. Then, whatever a person does to fulfill his or her dream is called a struggle.

This research will uncover the struggles of the protagonist named Ginko Ogino in Jun'ichi Watanabe's novel, *Beyond the Blossoming Fields*. What makes the writers interested to carry out their research on struggles is that struggle is a must in our life. We cannot materialize our objectives in this life without struggle. Prayer without struggles is like hunting using rifle without bullets. It means we must struggle to materialize our objectives as wise words say life is struggle. Besides, this topic contains moral values which inspire us not to feel hopeless in this life. We must keep on struggling in order to materialize our dreams and to get happiness as well as success in our life. We must also keep on doing good things since we will reap what we sow.

The subject matter that is analyzed in this research is struggles of the first character in the novel entitled *Beyond the Blossoming Fields* written by Jun'ichi Watanabe. There are two struggles of the protagonist; they are her struggle to become a doctor, and her struggle to help other women who have the same illness as she suffers. Then, this research focuses on the protagonist's struggles in Jun'ichi Watanabe's *Beyond the Blossoming Fields*. The research covers the protagonist's struggle to become a doctor and to help other women who have the same illness as she suffers. Other matters having no relation to the research will not be included.

2. Literature Review

Literature cannot be separated from the cultural elements. The culture that is created is the result of the society's thinking about the moment and also the event that occurred at that time, so that the author took an initiative to write on various interpretations (Warren and Wellek, 1995: 11). The events which took place in the society are taken and expressed imaginatively by the author, so it will produce a valuable literary work. The imaging of sadness, pain, happiness, misery, and love - grief which are experienced by people in the society are interpreted with full appreciation. Those make the reader feel and come into the literary work (Yani and Mumun, 2005: 253). So, literary work is the interpretation of the facts and events which are taken and expressed imaginatively by the author to produce a valuable literary work and all the aspects in literary work that lead the reader to enjoy it. A literary usually has some important elements, such as plot, theme, setting and character. Character can be of some kinds, i.e. antagonist, deuteragonist, tritagonist, and protagonist. Since this research deals with the protagonist, the writer would like focus her description on the protagonist. However, she would also like to put the definitions of antagonist, deuteragonist, and tritagonist.

- a. **Antagonist** is the major character in opposition to the hero or the protagonist of a narrative or drama. (Beckson and Ganz: 1990: 14)
- b. **Deuteragonist** is the second actor in Greek drama, often synonymous with antagonist although the deuteragonist could, when necessary, assume more than one role. In subsequent usage, the term has been applied to the character of second importance (Beckson and Ganz: 1990: 61)
- c. **Tritagonist** is the three actors assumed by various roles in the play by changing masks and costumes (Beckson and Ganz: 1990: 289)
- d. **Protagonist** is the chief character in a plot, on whom our interest centers (or alternatively, the hero or heroine) (Abrams. 1981: 212)

As stated previously that protagonist is one of the variables that would be presented with more understanding to make the writers clear enough of what would be done in their research. Protagonist is the chief character in a play or story who may also be opposed by an antagonist. Originally, in ancient Greek theatre, the protagonist was the principal actor in a drama (Baldick: 2001: 157). Abrams (1981: 212) and Baldick (2001: 196) are in line in their definitions about protagonist. They claim that protagonist is a main character either in a plot or play, or a story and it becomes a limelight of the audience. Basically, a protagonist is always a hero or a heroine in a story. A protagonist always becomes the opponent to the antagonist as well as it is said by Beckson and Ganz (1990: 217) that a protagonist is the first actor who plays the leading part. The term now refers to the most important character, usually the hero, in a play or story. This definition is in line with Raj (1991: 134) who said that protagonist refers to the first actor in a play; thence the principal actor or character.

Based on some definitions of the protagonist above, we can conclude that a protagonist is the first actor in a literary work. Moreover, there are some people saying that protagonist should not always a man, a woman has the same opportunity to be a protagonist in a story. Fuentes (2014: 67) is one of them who claims that we need to write a novel with a woman protagonist. He says: "I always felt a little worm inside me: 'Now you need to write a novel with a woman protagonist.'" This idea is supported by the statement stated by Ann Beattie (2014: 98). She says, "Quite often my narrator or protagonist may be a man, but I am not sure he is the more interesting character, or if the more complex character is not the woman." Ann's statement implies that it is not only a

man who has interesting character; still a woman always has more complex character. Therefore, woman is also possible to be a protagonist in a literary work.

One's life cannot be separated from struggle, because struggle is needed whenever he or she wants to achieve his or her dreams in his or her life. To know what is meant by struggle, in this subchapter the writer gives some accounts theories about struggle. Nugroho et.al. (1996: 94) said that "struggle is a hard work to materialize dreams. Half of human life contains of effort or endeavor. If a person has a desire to be rich, he or she must work hard. The hard work might be done by using science and strength, or even both. Then, whatever a person does to fulfill his or her dream is called a struggle." Based on this definition, one's life cannot be separated from struggle. Whatever he or she wants to achieve in life, he or she needs to struggle to get a satisfying result. On the other hand, struggle is aimed at achieving a dream which should be realized by everyone in his or her future to make it real.

Furthermore, Krishnananda (1989: 79) says that struggle might be fulfilled by various ways. It is due to different barriers and limitations faced by everyone in his or her life. In addition, everyone has different dream in his or her life and every dream has its own way to realize. Therefore, different dream may have different struggle. However, one who really wants to achieve his or her goal in life, he or she should struggle hard to face any obstacles coming to him or her.

As human beings, we should not be hopeless with the obstacles coming to us when we are struggling in achieving our goal in our life. However, obstacles in our life will make us to be a strong man or even stronger. Centeno (2014: 74) says:

"Sometimes, struggles are exactly what we need in our life. If we were to go through our life without any obstacle, we would be crippled. We would not be as strong as what we could have been. Give every opportunity a chance, leave no room for regrets."

It is clear that there should be no regret in one's life. Whatever comes to one's life must have a certain meaning and benefit for his or her life. This idea is in line with Napoleon Hill's statement which said that "strength and growth come only through continuous effort and struggle." It emphasizes that effort and of course struggle will create strength in life. Therefore, whatever obstacle we face when we are achieving our goal, it will become a means for us to make us strong or even stronger.

It cannot be denied that someone who has got what he or she wants usually will easily become lazy and satisfied, and even refuse to struggle. This is in line with what Pope Paul VI (2014: 57) says:

"All life demands struggle. Those who have everything given to them become lazy, selfish, and insensitive to the real values of life. The very striving and hard work that we so constantly try to avoid is the major building block in the person we are ready."

As human beings, we should not feel enough or satisfied of what we have got. We still must keep on struggling for everything in our life, so we can appreciate our life. Everyone who does not want to keep struggling cannot be regarded as human, because a half of human life is struggle and endeavor. There is no human who does not struggle in life, everything he or she wants to reach, he or she must struggle to get it.

According to Maizler (2012: 67), there are some kinds of struggle. They are as follows:

1. **Negative struggle** is done to eliminate a deficit state. This occurs when you are attempting to get back to the norm, such as mastering a life-limiting phobia.

2. **Positive struggle** is done to involve transformation from your steady state into a more evolved, grown, or developed state of being. Positive struggle, in contrast to negative struggle, does not involve overcoming pathology. The examples of positive struggle are going to graduate school or writing a book. Positive struggle may still certainly involve overcoming resistance and discomfort.
3. **Inevitable struggle** deals with the necessary losses and attendant discomfort that are conditions of your life in this world. As your mother struggled to birth you, you struggled to adjust to a new and less comforting world. During your life, you will struggle with sadness and loss when your friends, parents, or partners die or go elsewhere. These struggles are an automatic condition of your life.
4. **Chosen struggle** is the product of personal choice and is not automatic condition of life. The simple examples of chosen struggle are climbing a mountain, going to graduate school, or becoming a body builder.

3. Research Method

The method adopted in this research is descriptive qualitative method because the analysis as well as the conclusion is accomplished in a descriptive form.

4. Discussion

The focus of this research goes to the struggles of the protagonist in the novel *Beyond the Blossoming Fields*, named Ginko Ogino. The protagonist's struggle to be a doctor and the protagonist's struggle to help other women who have the same illness as she are the subject matters of this research. A person may have some dreams and purposes in life and to make it come true a person needs struggle, because without any struggles, a person cannot get what he or she wants to achieve, and the dream will become just as an imagination forever. The struggle is done to obtain a good result and to get happiness.

4.1 To Be a Doctor

The protagonist, Ginko Ogino, comes from a wealthy family. She is the fifth daughter of Ayasaburo Ogino, the village headman in their village Tawarase in Northern Saitama. Ginko had married Kanichiro in sixteen years old. She contracts gonorrhoea from her husband which causes her to suffer the ignominy of divorce. Forced to bear the humiliation of being treated by male doctors, she resolves to become a doctor herself in order to treat fellow female sufferers and spare them some of the shame she had to endure. The following quotation shows her dream to be a doctor:

If only the doctor were a woman and not a man. This is it! If I were being seen by a woman, I would gladly undergo any form of treatment!

If there were women doctors, I and countless other women like me would be saved from such terrible shame. Then another idea occurred to her. Why don't I become a doctor? (Watanabe, 2008: 46)

The quotation above shows that Ginko feels shameful with the male doctor who checks her. She thinks if there is a woman doctor, she will not feel disgraced to be checked. Such a shamed experience motivates her to be a doctor.

After two months Ginko spends her days in hospital with some examinations every day, she always thinks about her dream. Even the dream which is planted in her mind has begun to take root. The following quotation shows that Ginko wants to be a doctor:

By now, the dream that had been planted in Gin's mind had begun to take root. To begin with, she had wistfully aspired to becoming a doctor, but now she was absolutely determined to become one.

Indeed, it was all she thought about. (Watanabe, 2008: 46)

The quotation above shows that Ginko really wants to be a doctor and it is only her dream which inspires her, and it is only that which she always thinks during her stay in hospital.

When Ginko is released to go back home to Tawarase, she really wants to make her dream come true. She realizes that there are only few paths to a medical degree, especially when the field is limited to western medicine. As a young girl and widow, it is really hard for her to be a doctor. Ginko should go through some obstacles and torture.

4.1.1 Losing Her Family

After Ginko comes back from hospital, she is always in her room along day to think about what she wants to be. Finally, she decides to tell her mother about her dream. When she tells her mother about her dream to be a doctor, her mother so angry that she prohibits her.

Kayo looked sharply at Gin. "You do not live alone and there is more to consider than your own personal desires. There is your family to think of, along with all of the people we come into contact with. There may be no law preventing from doing as you please, but there are social customs. Think of how the villagers would laugh if they ever heard that you planned to go to Tokyo to research and become a doctor. They'll point their fingers at you, and talk about 'that madwoman'." (Watanabe, 2008: 57)

The quotation above shows that Kayo, Ginko's mother is very angry at her. She scolds her and prohibit her idea to be a doctor. She reminds Ginko to think about the good name of their family, in which her father is a headman in their village. Her mother warns her that other people will laugh about Ginko's dream, and it will also make her family become bad in villagers's eyes.

Ginko is a smart girl, and her hobby is reading. Although it is unusual for woman even to open a book, Ginko always studies herself by reading books. Because of that Ginko is a girl who never gives up making her dream come true. Although her mother forbids her to raise her dream, she is resolute in her dream. She really wants to make her dream come true. Therefore she goes to Tokyo with or without permit from her family, as drawn in the following quotation:

When the palanquin reached the main road, Gin took out the purse she had tucked away in the breast of her kimono. Yasuhei had given her thirty yen in his capacity as head of the Ogino family, indicating that he considered it enough to live on for about a year – the extent, he intimated, of any remaining responsibility he felt for his sister. Gin was leaving home under the assumption that she would never return. (Watanabe, 2008: 64)

The quotation above shows that Ginko should go to Tokyo to raise her dream to be a doctor. Although her family members do not permit her to go, she secretly goes. Yasuhei, Ginko's brother is the only member of the family who supports her. He gives her thirty yen to support her life in Tokyo. He considers that thirty yen will be enough to support her sister's life for about a year in Tokyo. When Ginko decides to be a doctor

and goes from her house without permit from her family, it means that Ginko will never return or she is considered not one of the Ogino family's members anymore.

4.1.2 Rejected

When Ginko arrives in Tokyo, Ginko rents a room in the Hongo Kanazawa districts. It is not far from the school of Yorikuni Inoue where Ginko is accepted as a student to be a sort of scholar before she tries to study in medical college. In Tokyo, Ginko is not accepted in University directly. She must study as a student and become a teacher in the school where she gets a chance to develop her skill to get standard education, before she starts studying to be a doctor. It is six months since she leaves her house that finally she graduates as a sort of scholar. Then Ginko wants to continue her study in medical University, but there is no medical colleges which are ready to accept a woman as their students, as verified in the quotation below:

The first public universities were being established, and there were a few private medical colleges as well, but all of these were closed to women.

With a mind like yours you probably could become a doctor. It's a shame that you happen to be a woman. (Watanabe, 2008: 99-100)

The quotation above shows that it will be difficult for Ginko to be accepted in University. Although there are a few medical colleges but Ginko cannot study in there because she is a woman. Woman is not permitted to study in University at that time.

Following this, the headmaster of Ginko's school, professor Nagai, helps Ginko to actualize her dream to be a doctor, after he hears Ginko's statement to be a doctor. Ginko graduated as the best student in her class, so Professor Nagai is sure that she can be a doctor. Then Professor Nagai makes a letter to his friend Ishiguro, the Director of the Army Surgical Hospital and an influential person in the medical world of the day, to help Ginko look for a University which wants to accept her, as shown in the following quotation:

“But I do know one person who might be able to help. I'll arrange an introduction for you—would you go to meet him if I do?” “Would you really do that for me” “I'll have a letter of introduction ready for you by tomorrow. I don't know if it'll be of any use, though.” “I'm very grateful, thank you. I'll definitely try.” (Watanabe, 2008: 100)

The quotation above shows that Professor Nagai wants to help her to be a doctor. He wants Ginko to actualize her dream, although he is not sure if the letter of introduction will be of any use for her to be accepted as a student in medical university. However, Ginko is happy enough because there is someone who wants to help and support her to be a doctor.

Furthermore, Ginko visits Ishiguro in his private residence. Then, she gives the letter of introduction from Professor Nagai to him who immediately reads the letter of introduction. He says that he agrees if there must be a woman as a doctor. Because, generally, woman feels shy, and particularly uneasy being examined for gynecological conditions. He promises to do his best to find universities which will be ready to accept her as a student in their universities, as indicated in the quotation below:

“As you know at the moment, all medical schools are closed to women. I don't know that I can find you a place quickly, but I will check around.” It was a week later, at the beginning of March, when Ginko heard back from him. She went straight to meet him, and in his usual

booming voice he told her, “I tried a number of places but none would accept a female student.” (Watanabe, 2008: 101)

The quotation above shows that Ginko’s attempt to materialize her dream to be a doctor is really hard, because in Japan at that time, universities are closed to women.

After Ginko passes through the long ways to look for the medical universities which accept a woman, Ginko gets the university which wants to accept her in the long run. She does her best that eventually she graduates from the medical college. After she graduated from the medical college, she must follow the medical licensing exams. Then, she sends off her application to follow the licensing exams, but her application is rejected. She sends her application many times, but it is always rejected, as verified in the quotation below:

The examinations were held in two parts, the first in the spring and the second some weeks later, in the summer. With nothing to lose, Ginko sent off her application. As expected, it was curtly refused with the note: “No precedent of a female receiving a medical license”.

...

The next year she reapplied. Again she was rejected. The following year she reapplied to take the examination in her native Saitama prefecture, enclosing a formal her qualifications and stating that her reason for wanting to become a doctor was to help women who might otherwise avoid seeking treatment. However, this application was rejected as well. (Watanabe, 2008: 133-134)

The quotation above shows that Ginko cannot follow the licensing exam because the government rejects her application. She gets trouble not only to look for the medical college, but also to follow the licensing exams. Although she has been so enduring to apply and reapply to take the examination, and even she does it for years by stating her reasons why she wants to be a doctor, her application is still rejected.

4.1.3 Abused

Ginko is eventually accepted in Kojuin Medical College, not far from Juntendo, where she had been hospitalized. This area certainly holds many memories for Ginko. The President has agreed to accept Ginko because he cannot reject Ishiguro’s request as an influential person in the medical world of the day. However, there are no special accommodations for a single female student, as shown in the following quotation:

The President had agreed to accept Ginko, but he made no special accommodations for a single female student – nothing in the way of facilities, equipment or adjustment to the rules. If she wanted to attend, her presence would be tolerated, but that was all. From day one, Ginko was in for nothing but rude shocks. (Watanabe, 2008: 102)

The quotation above shows that Ginko is actually accepted with perforce by the university and the university does not give the facilities for woman. Therefore, Ginko must use all the facilities for man. During Ginko studies in the university, she gets some bad treatments from other male students. Male students do not agree with the existence of a female students in their university.

“Gentlemen, it is truly unbearable – unspeakable – that our glorious medical college, run by the Imperial Court’s designated physician no less, has today admitted a female medical student. Why? Our honourable profession is being degraded to the work of women and

children. It's not enough that educated women are breaking up the home – now they are proceeding to crush the medical profession. It's outrageous!"

...

"Gentlemen, today we are faced with a female student. We will have to study medicine with women, listen to lecturers and do experiments alongside women. In other words, we have been demoted to the level of women. Who's to blame?"

(Watanabe, 2008: 104)

The quotation above shows that the male students complain to Ginko's coming to their university. They consider that her presence is just to make their status as a man degraded, and to crush the medical profession.

A month and a half after Ginko has started attending lectures, she hurries as usual to the bathroom at the end of the midday lecture. When she is in the bathroom, there are some men who want to disturb her until she is shocked.

Ginko quickened her steps to pass them and head for the stall, when suddenly one of the men turned to face her. Nothing the movement, she looked up and found him exposing himself. "Oh!" she gasped involuntary and covered her eyes with both hands, dropping into a crouch on the spot. "No, look! I'm a man!" The man's vulgar laughter filled the bathroom. "Oh my, it seems to have upset Miss Female Scholar." So saying, he waved his penis in front of Ginko's face and tightly shut eyes. (Watanabe, 2008: 106)

The quotation above shows that how hates the male students to Ginko until they do not feel shy to show their penis. They never feel bored and guilty to disturb her. Even, they feel satisfied and happy to make Ginko suffer. They want to make Ginko drop out from the university so that they always do something that makes Ginko uneasy as well as uncomfortable in the university.

One day, when Ginko goes home in the evening through a field, suddenly her path is blocked by three men. Ginko recognizes the men as Kojuin students. The man in the middle spread his arms to block her way. They have a bad plan to Ginko, as verified in the quotation below:

They planned to assault her like common thugs. "We're asking to take turns, got it?" She turned again, but they were blocking the path behind her. "We won't tell anyone, so there's no need to play hard to get." She looked past them as far as she could, but there was no one in sight. "Take your clothes off!" roared Walrus Moustache, his eyes bloodshot. They were going to gang-rape her. "Hurry up!" "NO!" she screamed as she was yanked back. The men had become beasts, and fought to pin down her flailing limbs. (Watanabe, 2008: 108)

The quotation above shows that the men want to gang-rape Ginko and Ginko knows that the men are from Kojuin Medical College. They really want to make Ginko give up of her choice to be a doctor; therefore, they always disturb Ginko with some bad deeds and even sometimes dangerous. However, the men cancel their plan to gang-rape her, because Ginko tells them about her illness, gonorrhoea which is infectious. Ginko should encounter such bad treatments from female students for some months but she can pass them and remain with her firm obsession to be a doctor.

When Ginko wants to follow the practical seminar, she must get a patient as her observation in practical seminar. The man who will become her patient does not want to show his wound to her. He does not want to be examined by a female doctor.

“I have to examine you now to prepare your treatment in time for tomorrow. Please bear with me.” This did elicit a reply, and the man growled, “I’ve no need for a woman.”

...

“Please, that’s all I’m asking,” she bowed her head once more. “Leave me alone, you stupid woman!” shouted the man, hurling the cakes at her feet. “I said I won’t show you and I won’t. Leave me alone now!” (Watanabe, 2008: 114-115)

The quotation above shows that Ginko always gets abused in her step to be a doctor since she studies in her college. Not only do the female students in her college treat her roughly but also the patient who will be examined by her in the practical seminar does not want to be examined by her and even he chases away and curses her.

4.2 To Help Other Women Having the Same Illness as She

Finally, Ginko can follow licensing exam and she passes it. Ginko is a doctor now. She is successful to make her dream come true. She becomes the first female doctor in Japan at that time. Ginko becomes famous because many newspapers and magazines publish her story.

The first woman to receive a license to practice medicine, Ginko became a celebrity overnight as her story was carried in newspapers and magazines, all praising her academic talent and effort. Ginko had hitherto been widely derided as an eccentric and a woman who did not know her place, so this sudden shift in public opinion was slightly alarming and the praise rang somewhat hollow. (Watanabe, 2008: 167)

The quotation above shows that Ginko can achieve her dream to be a doctor. She has opened the eyes of people in Japan, especially those of female in Japan that a woman can be doctor, and can receive a license to practice medicine from government. Even though many have derided her as an eccentric woman who does not know her place, those who praise her academic talent and effort are not less in number.

When Ginko opens her clinic, one of the people who does not like her terrorizes her clinic with sarcastic words in all over the wall by a caricature. It happens some days since Ginko opens her clinic.

The owner of this house is a wanton woman who revels in blood. The words scrawled all over the walls were accompanied by a caricature of Ginko with a scalpel in one hand and a demonic face half-observed by long, disheveled hair. The graffiti was duly removed, but two days later there was more. The end is near when a woman takes your pulse. Doctoring is not an occupation for a woman! (Watanabe, 2008: 169)

The quotation above shows how Ginko is terrorized when she opens her clinic. All over the walls are scribbled by mocking words accompanied by a disdainful caricature of her. However, she ignores the words and does not care about it. She has always encountered such a bad treatment when she was still in her college. Therefore, she regards it as a trivial trouble. She does not want to consider the words as she believes that it will just make the people who dislike her satisfied. Therefore, she just cleans the words and continues her practice in her clinic.

From the first time, Ginko's dream to be a doctor is to help other women especially those who have the same illness as she suffers. She is sure that there are many women out there who suffer the same illness as she, and who feel shy to get treatment from doctors since all the doctors are men. Consequently, they hide their symptoms until their illness becomes worse. Therefore, within a month since she opens her clinic, many patients, especially women, come to her clinic to get treatment.

Indeed, within a month of opening, the Ogino clinic was overflowing with patients. Ginko was astonished at the prevalence of venereal disease. It was as if all of the women who had been silently bearing their symptoms until now had come forwards at once. In morning the waiting room was full of women with the pale complexion characteristic of gonorrhea, including some whose disease had progressed so far that they had difficulties walking. Familiar as she was with their agony, Ginko gave each patient a gentle but thorough examination. (Watanabe, 2008: 170-171)

The quotation above shows that there are many women in Japan who bear the characteristics of gonorrhea, and even many of them whose diseases have progressed so far. It means that they have been infected by the disease for a long time, but they are reluctant to check it to a doctor since no woman doctor in Japan before. It also means that they actually need a female doctor to check them, but they feel shy to be checked by male doctors so that they should suffer from the illness without getting treatment from a doctor.

One day, there is a woman patient called Sue Imura in Ogino Clinic. From Sue's description of her symptoms, it is clear to Ginko that she has gonorrhea. Therefore, Ginko asks her to rest and drink medicines for five days. However, Sue looks like hesitate and just wants to buy the medicines only for three days. Then, Ginko lets her take the medicines for five days, and does not need to pay for it.

"Twenty-five yen for five days' worth." This was half of what Ginko normally charged. Sue thought for a moment, and then answered, "I'll take three days' worth." "You can pay me later. Go ahead and take enough for five days," said Ginko, jotting down "No payment required" on the woman's chart. "Now, do you understand? Keep the infected area clean, and gets as much rest you can." "Thank you." Sue bowed to Ginko, grabbed her son's hand, and rushed out of the examination room. (Watanabe, 2008: 174)

The quotation above shows that Ginko really wants to help other women. When she finds out that her patient is not lucky enough in economy, she is even ready to treat her without payment. She does not care how much the patient pays her, she just cares about the health of her patient.

Ginko really cares to her patients especially those who are contracted with gonorrhea, because that illness must do a routine control. After the first time Sue comes to Ogino Clinic, she never comes back again. Ginko worries about her and her illness. Therefore, she plans to come to Sue's house to know her condition.

"Hello?" Ginko called out as she slid the front door open, but there was no answer. She called out again and waited. "Who is it?" she heard Sue's voice from inside the house. It sounded as though she had been asleep. "Is this the Imura home?" "Yes. Who's there?" Ginko saw the shadow of someone coming to open the door. "Oh!" Seeing who the

caller was, Sue shrank back and quickly tried to straighten her clothing. Ginko could see that she was clad only in a grubby slip, the kind worn under a kimono, and her hair was disheveled. "I was in the neighborhood making house calls, so I thought I'd drop by and see how you were." (Watanabe, 2008: 181)

The quotation above shows that Ginko really cares to her patient. When her patient who is supposed to come back to get checked by her does not come back to her clinic, she takes initiative to come to her patient's house to check her condition.

5. Conclusion

It is found that the protagonist named Ginko Ogino has great struggles to reach her dream to become a doctor in order that she can help other women who have the same illness as she does. She struggles hard to look for a medicine college which wants to accept her as a woman student because she is the first woman who wants to be a doctor at Japan, whereas at that time, no woman is permitted to get the education or to be a doctor. She also struggles hard to obtain the practice medicine in order that she can open her own clinic. Although she must reapply the licensing exam for many times and even should be patient to wait for years, she does not feel hopeless to obtain the permit for her practice medicine from the government. Besides, she proves that she wants to help other women who contract the same illness as she. After she becomes a doctor and opens a clinic, many female patients come to her clinic to get treatment from her, and most of them contract the same illness as she suffers, that is gonorrhoea.

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