SUMMARY OF THE NOVEL

This novel tells the story of a woman named Elizabeth Gilbert who entered the age of thirty years and has been getting the entire desired modern American woman. Besides a husband, a house, an ambition and education, Liz also had a brilliant career as a writer. Previously, she also has foster home but later divorced. Failure after failure in love life makes this rich and well-established career woman decided to leave her home in California. She travels on the streets for a year, with the aims of calming, finding self identity of herself, and finding meaning in life. But she was unhappy, sad and felt uncertain to face her life. She was panicked in facing her life. Liz felt the pain of divorce, depression, failure in love, and loss of grip in his life.

To recover herself, Liz had taken a fairly extreme decision. In the way of searching for her true identity, she sold all his possessions, left her job and the people who loved and care for her. She started a one year trip around the world alone. For a woman who looks attractive, it is clearly a solo travel adventure. Eat, Pray, Love is a record of events in the search. Elizabeth Gilbert's desire to visit three places where she could examine one aspect of life, with cultural backgrounds that have traditionally been realizing these aspects of life very well.

She began her journey and decided to go to Italy as her first destination. In that country, Liz learned about the art of enjoying life and learned how to speak Italy. During her journey in Italy, she also spoiled her appetite by eating a large variety of Italian foods which are very tasty. Liz weight had increased 12 pounds.
From Italy, Liz leaves for India. In this country she learned the art of devotion or surrender in a Hindu ashram, or hermitage, she met a yoga teacher, and she spent four months to explore her spiritual side.

Finally, Bali becomes final destination. On the resort of this island resort, this mature woman found her life goal, namely a balanced life between earthly joy and peace of mind and she also fell in love with a very beautiful way without being planned. She met a kind hearted widower who worked with the Balinese silversmiths to create jewelry of precious stones which was imported from Brazil and to be exported to the United States. He has stayed for a long time in Bali. Gilbert who had been apathetic and felt would never be related to romantic relationship with any other man, finally found her true love back on this man named Felipe.

This novel is presented with clear, thoughtful, thrilling and funny. It is about the search for identity. Eat Pray Love describes something that can happen to someone who have responsibility for the happiness of their lives. This novel particularly describes a journey of life that can occur when a woman does not live her life according to the rules that exist in society, the complexities of human relations which are not only about good or bad and right or wrong. This is a story that touches anyone who is aware of the need for change. One thing that is interesting is the background making Bali as one of the places visited during the search because Liz is very influential in demonstrating the beauty of Bali.
Elizabeth Gilbert was born in Waterbury, Connecticut, on July 18, 1969. She is the daughter of John Gilbert, a chemical engineer, and Carole Gilbert, a nurse; the family also farms Christmas trees at their isolated country home and as a child Gilbert lived without conveniences such as television. She grew up on a small family tree farm, with her sister, novelist and historian Catharine Gilbert Murdock (author of *Dairy Queen*, the first in a series for teens). Elizabeth attended New York University, where she studied political science by day and worked on her short stories by night. After college, she spent several years traveling around the country, working in bars, diners and ranches, collecting experiences to transform into fiction.

Liz explorations eventually formed the basis of her first book - a short story collection called *Pilgrims*, which was a finalist for the PEN/Hemingway award. When Elizabeth Gilbert's first story, "Pilgrims," was published in 1993, the editors at *Esquire* subtitled it "The Debut of an American Writer." A decade into her professional writing career, her diverse résumé included short fiction, a novel,
creative nonfiction, drama, and journalism--and the awards she has garnered include several prizes for best new fiction writer, a National Magazine Award, and a nomination for a National Book Award. Whatever the genre, however, there is a consistency of theme and subject matter in almost all of Gilbert's writing: hers is a distinctive voice in contemporary American letters, mixing antisocialist working-class heroes with antiliberal frontier values, in service of a feminism that is anything but antimale. Her 1997 *GQ* article, "The Muse of the Coyote Ugly Saloon", a memoir of Gilbert's time as a bartender at the very first Coyote Ugly table dancing bar located in the East Village section of New York City, was the basis for the feature film *Coyote Ugly*. She adapted her 1998 *GQ* article, "Eustace Conway is Not Like Any Man You've Ever Met", into a biography of the modern naturalist, *The Last American Man*. It received a nomination for the National Book Award in non-fiction. "The Ghost", a profile of Hank Williams III published by *GQ* in 2000, was included in Best American Magazine Writing 2001.

In addition to writing books, she has worked steadily as a journalist. Throughout much of the 1990’s she was on staff at SPIN Magazine, where she chronicled diverse individuals and subcultures, covering everything from rodeo's Buckle Bunnies (reprinted in The KGB Bar Reader) to China’s headlong construction of the Three Gorges Dam. In 1999, Elizabeth began working for *GQ* magazine, where her profiles of extraordinary men – from singers Hank Williams III and Tom Waits (reprinted in The Tom Waits Reader) to quadriplegic athlete Jim Maclaren – earned her three National Magazine Award Nominations, as well as repeated appearances in the “Best American” magazine writing anthologies.
She has also written for such publications as The New York Times Magazine, Real Simple, Allure, Travel and Leisure and O, the Oprah Magazine (where her memoir "Eat, Pray, Love" was excerpted in March, 2006.) She has been a contributor to the Public Radio show "This American Life", and -- perhaps most proudly -- has several times shown up at John Hodgman's Little Gray Book Lecture Series, most notably during Lecture Four on the subject "Hints for Public Singing." She was a three-time finalist for The National Magazine work, and an article she wrote in GQ about her experiences bartending on the Lower East Side eventually became the basis for the movie COYOTE UGLY.

In 2000, Elizabeth published her first novel, STERN MEN (a story of brutal territory wars between two remote fishing islands off the coast of Maine) which was a New York Times Notable Book. In 2002, Elizabeth published THE LAST AMERICAN MAN - the true story of the modern day woodsman Eustace Conway. This book, her first work of non-fiction, was a finalist for both the National Book Award and the National Book Critics Circle Award. Much of her writing has been optioned by Hollywood. Her GQ memoir about her bartending years became the Disney movie "Coyote Ugly"; and Paramount Pictures has acquired screen rights to the Eat, Pray, Love. The memoir was on the New York Times Best Seller List of non-fiction in the spring of 2006, and in October 2008, after 88 weeks, the book was still on the list at number 2. Gilbert appeared on The Oprah Winfrey Show in 2007, and has reappeared on the show to further discuss the book and her philosophy, and to discuss the film. The book was
optioned for a film by Columbia Pictures, which was released as *Eat Pray Love* on August 13, 2010, with Julia Roberts starring as Elizabeth Gilbert.

She is at work in 2006, Gilbert published *Eat, Pray, Love: One Woman's Search for Everything Across Italy, India and Indonesia* (Viking, 2006), a chronicle of her year of "spiritual and personal exploration" spent traveling abroad. She financed her world travel for the book with a substantial publisher's advance. Elizabeth is best known, however for her 2006 memoir *EAT PRAY LOVE*, which chronicled her journey alone around the world, looking for solace after a difficult divorce. The book was an international bestseller, translated into over thirty languages, with over 10 million copies sold worldwide, and a movie version in the making, starring Julia Roberts. The book became so popular that, in 2008, Time Magazine named Elizabeth as one of the 100 most influential people in the world. Elizabeth published a follow-up to *EAT PRAY LOVE* called *COMMITTED* -- a memoir which explored her ambivalent feelings about the institution of marriage in 2010. The book immediately became a number one New York Times bestseller, and was also received with warm critical praise. *Committed: A Skeptic Makes Peace with Marriage*, was released by Viking in January 2010. The book is somewhat of a sequel to *Eat, Pray, Love* in that it takes up Gilbert's life story where her bestseller left off. *Committed* also reveals Elizabeth Gilbert's decision to marry a Brazilian man named Felipe.[6] The book is a thorough examination of the institution of marriage from a multitude of historical and modern perspectives — including that of people, particularly women, reluctant to marry. In the book, Gilbert also includes perspectives on
same-sex marriage and compares this to interracial marriage prior to the 1970s. As Newsweek wrote, COMMITTED "retains plenty of Gilbert's comic ruefulness and wide-eyed wonder", and NPR called the book "a rich brew of newfound insight and wisdom." COMMITTED will be published in paperback in February 2011. Elizabeth Gilbert's decision to marry a Brazilian man named Felipe whom she met in Indonesia. Elizabeth Gilbert lives in rural New Jersey with her husband, her garden, and far too many beloved pets.