

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

Human being always have needs to live their life. Needs are something that must be fulfilled every day. For instance, people need food to get some energy to do their daily activities. Therefore, needs are the most important thing to support human life.

Related to this issue, the writer spots an American psychologist who created a well-known theory of human needs. Abraham Maslow in his paper “A Theory of Human Motivation” he states that hierarchy of human needs are divided into five stages, and it must be satisfied. According to Maslow (in Hjelle and Ziegler 1992, p: 448-449) there are five hierarchy level of needs named physiological needs, safety needs, love and belongingness needs, self-esteem needs, and self-actualization needs. The physiological needs are the lowest level or the basic needs while self-actualization needs are the highest level of needs.

In this case human being have motivation to fulfill their needs. Motivation is the forces, tension states, drives, needs or other mechanism that start and keep voluntary activity against the achievement of the personal goals (Hoy & Miskel, 1987, p: 176). Motivation of individual is usually based on needs. The needs give rise to intention which cause tension. And it will turn to give rise to action which caused satisfaction. Therefore, motivation is the direct result of needs, expectation, and desires which energize behavior. If there is a deficiency of what individual wants or expects, created tension, then the individual adopts certain behavior that

will lead not just to the reduction of tension but also the goals of the expected desires.

Now days, the discussion of human needs and not only exist to human in the real life, but also characters in the literary works especially novel. Novel is one of the literary product in the form of writing that related to the story of act and situation as a narrative. As a narrative, novel can be a reflection of the real life. Thus, the characters in the novel are the reflection of the real human in life that can be studied for its psychological aspect such as the needs and its motivation.

“Adrift” novel written by Tami Oldham Ashcraft with Susea McGearhart (2018) is included as literary product which tells about Tami and her fiancé, Richard. They set sail from Tahiti under brilliant blue skies. But less than two weeks into their voyage, disaster struck. Despite their best efforts to steer clear of an approaching hurricane. They became trapped in the storm’s path and found themselves battling pounding rain, waves the size of skyscrapers, and 140 knot winds. Richard tethered himself to the boat and sent Tami below to safety, and then all went early quite. “Adrift” which is a literary product can be analyze from the psychological aspect. Thus the writer is interested to do the study about human needs of the major characters in the novel. The novel is interesting to be analyzed because from the novel the writer can find out about the way of the major character fulfill their hierarchy of human needs and its motivation from the basic level of needs to the highest level by adrift on the sea with all the limitation access.

A branch of knowledge which studied about psychological aspect that exist in literary work called as psychology of literature. Psychology and literature are

studied about human being. However, psychology and literature have different object of concern. Psychology deals with the real life situation and literature deals with the imaginary of human being. Wellek and Warren (1956, p.81) states “By psychology of literature, we may mean the psychology study of the writer, as type and as individual of the study of the creative process, or the study of the psychological types and laws present within works of literature or finally we effect of literature upon its reader (audience psychology)”. Psychology and literature do not stand apart, as psychology can be applied to analyze the literary work (Papalia, 1985, p.4). Psychology is the scientific study of mental processes and behavior. Psychologists studying phenomena such as perception, cognition, emotion, personality, behavior, and interpersonal relationships. Psychology also refers to the application of knowledge to various spheres of human activity, including issues which related to daily life. Psychology maybe defined as the science that the studies the human behavior. Beside that, literature psychology is literary studies that consider the literary work as psychology activity, the author uses the thought, feeling, and work in working (Endraswara, 2003, p.96).

Literature as the psychology symptom contains phenomenon that related to psychic and psychology. Thus, the literary works can be approached by using psychological approach. This is probably accepted because psychology and literature have indirect relationship and functional (Endraswara, 2003, p: 97). Psychology of literature research is a research that focuses on the literary work which is using psychology review. Psychology of literature can reveal about psychiatry of either the authors, character in literary works, the audience or the

reader of literary works. Psychology of literature research needs accuracy and precision in reading, in order to find elements that affect the literary works.

Based on the explanation above, it is important to do a study about hierarchy of needs in the novel “Adrift” because from the discussion, the readers of this thesis can be learn how to fulfill each levels of needs in applying to the real life from the lower to the top by their own way, even in the hardest situation and with all the limitation access. Every person has their own way in fulfilling the needs in their life, but this novel presents an extraordinary way to fulfill hierarchy of needs that might be beneficial for the readers to apply in their life. Hence, a study about hierarchy of human needs was done in a thesis entitled “Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs in the Novel Adrift”.

1.2 Problems of the Study

Problems of the study were formulated as follows:

1. What are the levels of hierarchy of human needs in the novel “Adrift”?
2. How do the major characters fulfill the hierarchy of human needs in their life?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

From the problems formulation above, the objectives of this study were:

1. to find out the needs levels of major characters in fulfilling hierarchy of human needs
2. to find out how the major characters fulfill the hierarchy of human needs in their life

1.4 Significance of the Study

The significance of this study could be viewed from theoretical and practical field. Theoretical field, this study would provide the comprehension for students in understanding the hierarchy of human needs by Abraham Maslow. Besides that, the result of this study are expected to determine an approach in analyzing literary work from the psychological view. Practical field, this study would give boarder knowledge to English department students about the hierarchy of human needs. This study also hopefully could be a beneficial for the next researcher who are interested in studying hierarchy of human needs written in the literary works especially novel.

1.5 Limitation of the Study

To analyze deeper about the hierarchy of human needs by Abraham Maslow, the writer chose “Adrift” novel as the object of this study and limited this study by only focusing on the major characters, Tami and Richard.