

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter is structured into five essential sections: the background of the study, the research problem statement, the study objectives, the significance of the study, and the study's scope and limitations.

1.1. Background of Study

Literature is a work that can imitate real life. Literature works express both life experienced by author or life experience by other and even imaginative life of author (Ghosh, 2018).

Every human being wants to fulfill his or her needs. The most basic needs of humans are physiological needs. The examples of physiological needs are eating, drinking and resting. When a need is unmet it will disturb the human, such as when a human lacks sleep then they cannot concentrate on activities or work.

Abraham Maslow, the author of human motivation theory states that human needs are dividing into five layers pyramid. Five of hierarchy of needs is physiological needs, safety needs, love and belongingness needs, esteem needs, and self-actualization needs.

The source of data this research is novel *As Long As The Lemon Tree Grow*. Zoulfa Katouh as her Young Adult debut novel writes *As Long As The Lemon Tree Grow*. This novel published in 2022 and there are several awards to this novel, a 2023 CCBC book-award winner, OLA white Pine nominee and finalist for 2023 Governor's General Awards. The reason the author chose this novel is because this novel teaches us not to give up and not lose hope which is depicted by the main character in this novel. Apart from that, the main character's struggle to survive in a city affected by war is also interesting to research using Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory. The story follows Salama Kassab, a young Syrian woman whose life was changed by the war.

Salama Kassab's life was still cheerful a year ago; she enjoyed spending time with her family, was not burdened by financial troubles, and did not worry about anything when she was outside the house. However, when the war started, everything in her life changed dramatically. Salama has lost everything because the military captured her father and older brother, and no one is sure what happened to them. She lost her mother when a missile struck her home. Her best friend and sister-in-law, Layla, is all she has. Having daily necessities met is challenging when living in a war-torn area. The military's activities are beginning to interfere with food, water, and medicine access. Because of the sporadic bombs and ambushes by the military, Salama felt uneasy walking outside her home.

Salama is unsure of whether she fled Syria in order to live or to carry on helping at the hospital in her hometown of Homs. However, Layla continued to urge Salama to leave Syria and reminded her that Salama had promised her brother, Hamza, to look after Layla and the unborn child and find a way out of Syria.

Salama's doubts grew when she met Kenan while caring for his younger sister, who had been injured by bullet fragments. Kenan is the man who will be matched with her by their parents. Salama gradually became attracted to Kenan, as did Kenan after several days of interaction. Kenan was determined to fight for his country. This made her consider whether she would leave Kenan or fight alongside him in Homs, Syria.

Nonetheless, the doubt did not last long; Salama had a secret that she never revealed to anyone: she had an imaginary friend named Khawf, who was a manifestation of Salama's trauma following the outbreak of war. When Salama was doubtful, Khawf would show her a picture of the worst-case scenario for her and those around her if she refused to leave Syria.

Since the novel has just been released recently, there is no one who has already conducted research on it but there are several previous studies using Maslow's theory of hierarchy of needs. The first study is journal article entitled

Sophie's needs in Rooftopers novel using maslow's theory of hierarchy of human needs. This study written by Akbar Yunadi, Singgih Daru Kuncara, Nita Maya Valiantien from Mulawarman University (2020). The focuses of this article are finding out the needs of main character in novel and how she fulfills all her needs.

The second study is thesis entitled *Hierarchy of Needs of Lily Bloom In Colleen Hoover's It Ends With Us*. This thesis written by Putri Arti Lestari from Diponegoro University (2019). Focus of this study is to analyze how Lily Bloom fulfills her Hierarchy of needs.

The third study is a thesis entitled *An Analysis on Hierarchy of Human Needs of the Main Character in Charlotte's Web by E.B White*. Written by Zulhana from Hasanuddin University (2021). This study focus on analyzes the hierarchy of human needs of main character and to find out main character dominant need.

The fourth study is journal article entitled *Needs Hierarchy in T.B. Silalahi 's novel Toba Dreams*. This article written by Aryo Setiawan from Islamic University of Sumatera Utara (2018). The focus of this study on the level of human needs, which are wanted to be quickly achieved as the key of success.

The last study is journal article entitled *The Optimism as Self-actualization Fulfillment in the Novel Pollyanna*. The article written by Azni Rizka Anandari Antung, Siti Hafsah, and Ulum Janah from Balikpapan University (2021). Focus of this article is to identify the reflection of optimism obtained.

This research differs from earlier studies. Since this study relies on a recently published novel that has not been previously examined, it suggests that this research is novel in its approach. The hierarchy of needs of Zoulfa Katouh's main character in *As Long As The Lemon Tree Grow* is the subject of this study. This theory can be applied because the main character in the book struggles to survive and find a way to leave Syria to fulfill her needs.

1.2. Statement of Research Question

Based on the background study, this study analyze about hierarchy of needs portrayed in main character of the novel *As Long As The Lemon Tree Grow* by

Zoulfa Katouh. This problem can be formulated in the form of the following question:

1. What is the hierarchy of needs portrayed in the main character of the novel *As Long As The Lemon Tree Grow* by Zoulfa Katouh?

1.3. Objective of Study

Following the research question in above, the objective of this study is to find out:

1. To describe the hierarchy of needs portrayed in main character of the novel *As Long As The Lemon Tree Grow* by Zoulfa Katouh.

1.4. Significance of Study

This study is expected to provide theoretical and practical study advantage. Theoretical significance for this study is provide knowledge about hierarchy of needs by Maslow. While for practical significance, this study could give understanding to the reader about the existence of hierarchy of needs so people can be more aware on their need.

1.5. Scope and Limitation of Study

This study describes about hierarchy of needs theory to analyze the main character in the novel *As Long As The Lemon Tree Grow* by Zoulfa Katouh. The scope of this study is Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory. Meanwhile for the limitation of this study is the author's narration, the character's utterances, and dialog that related hierarchy of needs portrayed in main character of the novel *As Long As The Lemon Tree Grow* by Zoulfa Katouh.