

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

Literature is a form of artistic expression that uses language as the main medium to convey ideas, feelings, experiences, and stories. As an embodiment of human creativity, literature encompasses a variety of genres such as poetry, prose, drama, and essays, each offering unique ways to explore and express human conditions. Literary terms include written expressions as a whole, but not all written documents can be said to be literary. Because of this, definitions usually apply extra characteristics like "esthetics" or "artistic" to set literary works apart from other types of writings like phone books, newspapers, legal documents, and scientific articles (Klarer, 2004). The artistic value of literature, especially in its ability to convey human experiences and emotions, becomes more apparent when examined through the lens of a particular literary form, such as the novel.

The novel is as a literary work that important role as a mirror of life and an effective tool for understanding and analyzing human behavior in meeting its needs (Bahuwa, 2019). With a psychological approach, the novel is able to describe various aspects of human personality, ranging from deepest motivations to complex inner conflicts, thus helping us understand the complexity of life and providing valuable insights into living this life. Through a rich character and storyline, the novel can reflect the various psychological dynamics that individuals experience, ranging from fear, hope, love, to hatred (Virginia and

Satria, 2022). It makes the novel a very effective medium in exploring human psychological conditions.

As a literary work that can be analyzed psychologically, the novel can also be judged through the concept of Abraham Maslow, such as the hierarchy of human needs. Maslow stated that humans have five levels of needs, physiological needs, safety and security, love and belonging, self-esteem, self-actualization. This hierarchy is generally described as a pyramid, where the most basic needs lie at the bottom. Once one level of need is met, man will move to the next level, and so on, until he finally reaches the level of self-actualization (Ariani et al., 2023). In this context, the novel can explore how the characters in the story struggle to meet these needs, as well as how they evolve and change over time. For example, a novel can describe a character's struggle to self-actualization after meeting other basic needs, or it can illustrate internal conflicts that arise when those needs are not met. can be further enriched by understanding the life and works of key literary figures, such as Leo Tolstoy.

Leo Tolstoy, a key figure in world literature and moral philosophy, lived a life as complex as his characters. Born into Russian aristocracy on September 9, 1828, at Yasnaya Polyana, he had a privileged upbringing. He left the University of Kazan without completing his studies and embarked on a life of leisure. His military service during the Crimean War deeply influenced him, inspiring his early literary works like *Childhood*, *Boyhood*, *Youth*, and *Sevastopol Sketches* . Tolstoy is best known for his novels *War and Peace* (1869) and *Anna Karenina* (1877), considered masterpieces for their deep exploration of human nature, love,

and society. In his later years, Tolstoy experienced a spiritual transformation, adopting Christian anarchism, which emphasized nonviolence, simplicity, and rejecting materialism. His beliefs, expressed in works like *The Kingdom of God Is Within You* (1894), influenced figures like Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr. Tolstoy was also a social activist, founding schools for peasants, advocating for reform, and opposing the Russian Orthodox Church. His life evolved from privilege to asceticism, leaving a lasting legacy in literature and moral philosophy that continues to inspire readers and thinkers globally.

The relationship between literature and psychological theory provides an opportunity for deeper discussion. The field of literature continues to evolve by exploring various dimensions, with one key area being the intersection of literature and psychology. This merger enables deeper analysis of characters' motivations and psychological complexities, enriching text interpretation. Psychological theory can help to better understand the characters, themes, and structure of narratives in literature. Instead, literature provides concrete examples that enrich psychological theory and allow us to understand motivation, emotions, and inner character dynamics in depth (Citra et al., 2020). Combining both enables a richer and more comprehensive analysis that deepens our understanding of human beings and the world around us. One of the figures who formulated this theory was Abraham Maslow, a humanistic psychologist who introduced the hierarchical theory of needs, which outlined the five levels of human needs: physiological needs, safety and security, love and belonging, self-esteem, and self-actualization (Ronie and Hellystia, 2019).

Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory describes the various human needs that must be met to achieve well-being and self-actualization. One of the key levels in this hierarchy is love and belonging needs. According to Fromm, love is a productive relationship that encompasses responsibility, care, respect, and knowledge and the desire for others to grow and thrive. Love is an expression of intimacy that preserves the integrity of each individual (Maslow, 1954). The relationship between literature and psychological theory opens up opportunities for deep discussion. Psychological theories help to understand characters, themes, and narratives in literature, while literature provides concrete examples that enrich psychological theory and provide insights into human experience. The combination of both allows for richer and more comprehensive analysis, deepening our understanding of ourselves and the world. Among the many literary works the researchers chose novels.

Abraham Maslow (1908–1970) was a pioneering American psychologist, best known for developing the Hierarchy of Needs, a theory that greatly influenced the field of humanistic psychology. Born in Brooklyn, New York, to Russian Jewish immigrant parents, Maslow grew up in a challenging environment but pursued academic excellence. Initially studying law, he soon shifted his focus to psychology, earning his doctorate from the University of Wisconsin under the guidance of renowned psychologist Harry Harlow. Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs presents a theory of motivation consisting of five levels: physiological needs, safety needs, love and belonging needs, esteem needs, and self-actualization, where individuals realize their full potential and live authentically. His theory

emphasizes that only after basic needs are met can one strive for higher-order psychological and self-fulfilling needs.

Maslow's belief in human potential and positive psychology led him to study individuals he called self-actualizers, people who exemplified creativity, authenticity, and peak human experiences, such as Albert Einstein and Eleanor Roosevelt. His work has had a wide impact beyond psychology, influencing fields such as education, business management, and marketing, where his insights into motivation are used to understand individual and consumer behavior. Later in his career, Maslow's focus expanded toward transcendence, a higher state beyond self-actualization, in which individuals work not only for personal fulfillment but also for the greater good of others. His optimistic view of human growth, potential, and capacity for good marked a shift from the more pessimistic perspectives of earlier psychological theories. His enduring legacy continues to shape modern psychology and remains relevant in discussions of personal growth, motivation, and well-being long after his death in 1970.

A novel as a literary work can be analyzed with a psychological approach, including through Abraham Maslow's theory of the hierarchy of needs. One such novel that relates to this theory, particularly in its exploration of love and belonging, is Leo Tolstoy's "Anna Karenina". Tolstoy, one of the most significant figures in world literature and a renowned moral philosopher, was born on September 9, 1828, in Yasnaya Polyana, Russia. His spiritual transformation led him toward Christian anarchism, which influenced social movements led by figures like Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr. In addition to his literary

achievements, Tolstoy was actively involved in educational reform and advocated for a simple, non-violent life, making him not only a famous Russian writer but also a prominent social reformer and moral thinker.

Tolstoy's works, particularly "Anna Karenina" (1877), are known for their rich philosophical and moral reflections. "Anna Karenina" is considered one of the greatest literary works of all time, telling the tragic story of Anna, a Russian noblewoman who engages in a forbidden affair with Count Alexei Vronsky. The novel explores various themes such as love, betrayal, happiness, and tragedy, while also providing a detailed portrayal of 19th-century Russian society. Alongside the main storyline of Anna and Vronsky, Tolstoy contrasts their doomed love with the more stable relationship of Konstantin Levin and his wife, Kitty, offering readers an insightful examination of different human experiences and societal norms.

Mustaf et al. (2023) Researchers examined No Friend but the Mountains: Writing from Manus Prison using Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs to assess Boochani's characters. Through qualitative text analysis, they identified key statements related to the characters' needs. The findings reveal that Boochani is motivated by both physiological and psychological needs but struggles to achieve self-actualization and often cannot satisfy even his basic needs. Other previous research on love and belonging was done by Bahuwa (2019), This study analyzes Jay Gatsby's needs in F. Scott Fitzgerald's Gatsby using Abraham Maslow's hierarchy. Employing a descriptive qualitative method, the findings reveal that

Gatsby fails to meet safety and love and belonging needs, hindering his self-actualization.

Both previous and current research have similarities and differences. The similarity lies in the use of the same theory for analysis. However, the difference is in the data sources used the current research employs a novel by Leo Tolstoy as its data source, whereas previous studies may have used different sources. This research focuses on the love and belonging needs in relation to the main character in Leo Tolstoy's novel, as it finds that the hierarchy of needs, particularly love and belonging, is not fulfilled in the story. The data is analyzed using Abraham H. Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory. Furthermore, the background phenomenon inspired researchers to submit a study entitled “Family Affair and Divorce As The Effect Of Unfulfilled Love and Belonging Needs in Tolstoy’s Anna Karenina”.

1.2 Identification of the Problem

With the background established, the researchers can describe the novel "Anna Karenina" as follows:

1. Physiological needs by the main character in the novel "Anna Karenina" by Leo Tolstoy.
2. The unfulfilled of satisfying self-actualization needs in “Anna Karenina” novel by Leo Tolstoy.
3. The causes of unfulfilled self-esteem needs in the main character of the “Anna Karenina” novel by Leo Tolstoy.
4. The obstacles of the main character to fulfill their love and belonging needs within society in the “Anna Karenina” novel by Leo Tolstoy.

5. The effects of incapability of the main character to fulfill their love and belonging needs in intimacy relationship the “Anna Karenina” novel by Leo Tolstoy.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

The researchers focused their research by defining the boundaries of the problem as follows:

1. The obstacles of the main character to fulfill their love and belonging needs within society in the “Anna Karenina” novel by Leo Tolstoy.
2. The effects of incapability of the main character to fulfill their love and belonging needs in intimacy relationship the “Anna Karenina” novel by Leo Tolstoy.

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

Based on the above limitations, the researchers made three aggregate problem formula:

1. What are the obstacles of main character to fulfill their love and belonging needs within society in the “Anna Karenina” novel by Leo Tolstoy?
2. What are the effects of incapability of the main character to fulfill their love and belonging needs in intimacy relationship the “Anna Karenina” novel by Leo Tolstoy?

1.5 Objectives of the Research

This qualitative research has the objective:

1. To find out the obstacles of main character to fulfill their love and belonging needs within society in the “Anna Karenina” novel by Leo Tolstoy.
2. To figure out the effects of incapability of the main character to fulfill their love and belonging needs in intimacy relationship the “Anna Karenina” novel by Leo Tolstoy.

1.6 Significance of the Research

Following the research analysis, the researchers intend to provide some recommendations, namely:

1. Theoretical Significance

Theoretically, this study aims to enrich the theoretical foundations of literary works related to the psychology of characters in the hierarchy of needs. In this context, this research seeks to analyze and understand how literary work, in particular novel, can describe and explore the psychological aspects of the characters relating to the hierarchies of needs.

2. Practical Significance

In practice, this study aims to apply one of the literary theories with the aim of gaining an understanding of how motives can control individual behavior in meeting human needs. The research also aims to give readers insight into the basic emotional impulses of humans from a psychological perspective. In addition, this research is expected to be a reference and alternative source of science, as well as benefiting other academics who are conducting similar research.

1.7 Definition of Key Terms

To prevent any misunderstandings between the researcher and the reader, the researchers conclude as follows:

Psychological Approach : The perspective approach implies that there is a certain view or belief about human behavior. Thus, the study highlights the importance of literary works in the context of their influence on readers, both in influencing their minds and lives.

Hierarchy of Needs : Humans have a set of needs that are arranged hierarchically in Abraham Maslow's need theory. This need starts from basic physical needs like food and shelter, then goes on to the need for security, the social need to interact with others, the need to appreciate to feel appreciated, and finally the need of self-actualization to reach the full human potential. This hierarchy reflects the complexity and different priorities of human life.

Love and Belonging : Humans have a strong urge to be loved, accepted, and engage in meaningful social relationships. This will encompass various forms of interaction, ranging from intimate

love and belonging friendship to close emotional bonds with families and communities. Engaging in positive relationships not only meets our social needs, but also plays an important role in improving emotional well-being and supporting healthy personal development. These relationships support us in facing the challenges of life, contribute to our happiness, and enrich our overall meaning of life.