

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. Background of the Problem

Human beings and needs are something inseparable. Humans are designed to survive and have a desire to meet their needs. Human needs are necessary for human to continue their life. With many variations of human needs, the ones that must be satisfied before the others are the basic needs such as food, water, clothing, sleep, and shelter. Those are the bare necessities for anyone's survival.

A best-known human motivation theory by an American psychologist Abraham Maslow, hierarchy of needs, stated that five categories of human needs dictate an individual's behavior. In a 1943 paper titled "A Theory of Human Motivation," Abraham Maslow theorized that human decision-making is undergirded by a hierarchy of psychological needs. Later in 1954, in his book titled "Motivation and Personality", Maslow stated that five core needs form the basis for human behavioral motivation. Those needs are physiological needs, safety needs, love and belonging needs, esteem needs, and self-actualization needs.

At once other (and "higher") needs emerge and these, rather than physiological hungers, dominate the organism. And when these in turn are satisfied, again new (and still "higher") needs emerge and so on. This is what we mean by saying that the basic human needs are organized into a hierarchy of relative prepotency (Maslow, 1943).

Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory is presented in a pyramid shape, with basic needs at the bottom of the pyramid and high-level needs at the top. The pyramid visualizes the needs that human must have met in order to reach self-actualization. According to Maslow, the basic needs must be satisfied first before a human can move on to addressing the higher-level needs. Our most basic needs will be the first thing that motivates our behavior.

We as human beings must have experienced a moment where we have an urge to fulfill our needs, which is normal and natural, as it is one of human being's behavior. Humans are motivated to do things by their desire to meet their needs.

Additionally, if their needs are unmet, humans may not be able to meet their other needs, which explains why people sometimes feel stuck or unmotivated.

The behavior of having such a strong desire is often seen in movie characters. Movie characters can be regarded as a presentation or imitation of humans as social beings in real life. That is because literature represents various experiences, ideas, and passions of human beings in daily life which are expressed on several forms of literary works. Since literature is a general understanding of the phenomenon in the world, it can give us knowledge and experience about human problems, including values, morals, cultures and human interests.

*I Feel Pretty* tells the struggle of the main character, Renee Bennett, in fulfilling the hierarchy of needs. Renee struggles with low self-esteem because people often underestimate her for her appearance. Renee who works for a high-end cosmetics brand Lily LeClaire, managing their website at an underground office in Chinatown, has a dream to work as a receptionist at the corporate headquarters. Knowing that she doesn't fit the criteria of her dream job and the fact that she has been single since birth but gets rejected on online dating apps, she goes to the gym more often to achieve a good-looking body. An accident when Renee falls, hits her head and then wakes up with the belief that her appearance has magically changed brings so much impact on herself. From going out with a man named Ethan who finds Renee attractive after Renee shows her confidence and wins over the crowds of a "bikini body" contest, getting hired as a receptionist by CEO Avery LeClaire and earning her coworkers' respect with her insight into the company's new diffusion line, until being invited to a dinner meeting with the company founder Lily LeClaire and to an important business meeting in Boston to give a key presentation, all of that happens to her. But unexpectedly, Renee suffers a new head injury in a fall in the shower. She wakes up and perceives her real physical appearance. She realizes that she was never transformed and she has been feeling beautiful and capable, despite looking and being the same as always. Renee crashes the product launch and proceeds to give an impassioned speech about women accepting themselves as they are, presenting a collage of diverse real women, then gets praised by Lily LeClaire as one of the keys to the success of the new line of products.

The reason why I choose *I Feel Pretty* movie script as the object of this research is because it shows the effort of Renee Bennett as the main character to fulfill and satisfy her needs. Renee was trying to fulfill her needs to finally be able to reach self-actualization in the end.

## **1.2. Identification of the Problem**

Based on the background above, I identify that Renee Bennett as the main character is trying to fulfill and satisfy her human needs in order to achieve her self-actualization. Therefore, I assume that the theme of *I Feel Pretty* movie script is Renee Bennett's hierarchy of needs. In order to understand what needs she fulfills and how she fulfills them, I will use the theory of Hierarchy of Needs by Abraham H. Maslow.

## **1.3. Limitation of the Problem**

Based on the identification of the problem above, I limit this research to the main character only. I focus on analyzing Renee Bennett's hierarchy of needs as seen in the *I Feel Pretty* movie script. I describe Renee Bennett's human needs based on the hierarchy of needs by Abraham Maslow. I admit that this study has its limitation. This study only examines the main character, Renee Bennett. Then, I limit this study to analyzing Renee Bennett's needs by using psychological theory, which is Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs.

## **1.4. Formulation of the Problem**

Based on the limitation of the problem above, I identify the following problems in analyzing the main character of *I Feel Pretty* movie script:

1. What method of characterization is going to be used in *I Feel Pretty* movie script?
2. How is the function of the plot and setting in building the theme in *I Feel Pretty* movie script?
3. How is the reflection of hierarchy of needs in *I Feel Pretty* movie script?
4. What is the theme of *I Feel Pretty* movie script be reinforced through intrinsic and extrinsic approaches?

### **1.5. Objective of the Research**

Based on the formulation of the problem above, the problem in this movie can be formulated to prove the reflection of hierarchy of needs in the main character, Renee Bennett, which became the assumption of this research. Therefore, I formulate the formulation of the problem as follows:

1. To analyze the characterization by using the showing method.
2. To analyze the plot and setting in building the theme of the movie script.
3. To analyze the concept of hierarchy of needs.
4. To prove the theme of *I Feel Pretty* movie script through intrinsic and extrinsic approach.

### **1.6. Benefit of the Research**

I hope that the objectives of this research can be achieved both theoretically and practically.

#### **1. Theoretical Benefit**

This research is expected to be helpful for those who are interested in deepening their knowledge in related topics. This research is open for further research as it is expected to be useful for references for other researchers who are interested and finding new perspectives in related topics.

#### **2. Practical Benefit**

This research is expected to be helpful as an overview of related phenomena in real life. Understanding what people need is an important part of effective management.

### **1.7. Systematic Organization of the Research**

According to the title of the research, this term paper consists of five chapters as follows:

#### **CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION.**

Contains: Background of the Problem, Identification of the Problem, Limitation of the Problem, Formulation of the Problem, Objective of the Research, Benefit of the Research, and Systematic Organization of the Research.

## **CHAPTER 2 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK.**

Contains: Theory of Intrinsic Structure that is characterization, plot, and setting, Maslow's Theory of Hierarchy of Needs, and Previous Related Studies.

## **CHAPTER 3 RESEARCH METHOD.**

Contains: Time and Location, Research Approach Method, Research Object and Data, Data Collection Technique, and Data Analysis Technique.

## **CHAPTER 4 THE ANALYSIS OF HIERARCHY OF NEEDS OF RENEE BENNETT AS THE MAIN CHARACTER IN *I FEEL PRETTY* MOVIE SCRIPT**

Contains: The Characterization of Renee Bennett, The Characterization of Avery LeClaire, The Characterization of Ethan, The Analysis of Plot in *I Feel Pretty* Movie Script, The Analysis of Setting in *I Feel Pretty* Movie Script, Hierarchy of Needs Expressed in Renee Bennett Character, Hierarchy of Needs Expressed in Plot, and Hierarchy of Needs Expressed in Setting.

## **CHAPTER 5 CONCLUSION**

Contains conclusions and suggestions from all research that has been carried out.

