LOVE AND BELONGING NEEDS ANALYSIS OF SAROO AS THE MAIN CHARACTER IN LION FILM

A Thesis
Submitted to Faculty of Adab and Humanities
In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for Strata One Degree

MUHAMAD WILDAN MUSTHOFA
11140260000025

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF ADAB AND HUMANITIES
STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY SYARIF HIDAYATULLAH
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ABSTRACT

Muhamad Wildan Musthofa, *Love and Belonging Needs Analysis of Saroo as the Main Character in Lion Film*. A Thesis: English Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, State Islamic University Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta, 2018.

The aim of the study is to show the main character's effort in fulfilling his love and belonging needs viewed from Abraham Maslow's theory. The writer identifies the characteristics of Saroo as the main character in *Lion* film and analyzes his fulfillment of love and belonging needs. The writer uses qualitative descriptive analysis method to reveal the findings. All data are collected from the scenes and dialogues of the film.

From the analysis of the film, the writer finds Saroo's characteristics as the important role in this story are simple, smart, organized, introvert, calm, and continual struggle. In the context of hierarchy of needs, he gets the barrier and obstacle in fulfilling love and belonging needs because he remembered and missed his biological family when he gathered with his Indian friends in Australia. Because of his continual struggling, he meets his biological mother in India. Then, at that moment, Saroo had given and received love, affection, and the sense of belonging among his biological family, his girlfriend and his adoptive family. It shows that Saroo fulfilled his love and belongingness needs perfectly.

**Keywords:** Abraham Maslow, Film Analysis, Hierarchy of Needs, Lion, Love and Belonging Needs.
APPROVAL SHEET

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MUHAMAD WILDAN MUSTHOFA
11140260000025

Approved by:

Nina Fartina, M.Hum.
19850429 201503 2 002
(Day/Date: Friday/ November 28th, 2018)

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF ADAB AND HUMANITIES
STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY SYARIF HIDAYATULLAH
JAKARTA
2018
LEGALIZATION

Name : Muhamad Wildan Mustofa

Nim : 11140260000025

Title : Love and Belonging Needs Analysis of Saroo as the Main Character in
Lion Film

The thesis entitled above has been defended before the Adab and Humanities Faculty’s Examination Committee on December 26th, 2018. It has already been accepted as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of strata one.

Jakarta, December 26th, 2018

Examination Committee

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1. Drs. Saefudin, M.Pd. (Chair Person)
   19640710 199303 1 006

2. Elve Oktafiyan, M.Hum. (Secretary)
   19781003 200112 2 002

3. Nina Farlina, M.Hum. (Advisor)
   19850429 201503 2 002

4. Elve Oktafiyan, M.Hum. (Examiner I)
   19781003 200112 2 002

5. Ida Rosida, M.Hum. (Examiner II)
   19781003 200112 2 002
DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this research is my own work and based on the best of my knowledge and belief. This contains neither material previously published or written by another person nor material which substantial, extent has been accepted for the award of any other degree or diploma of the university or other institute of higher learning, except where due acknowledgement has been made in the text.

Jakarta, November 28th, 2018

Muhamad Wildan Musthofa
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In the name of Allah, The Most Gracious and the Most Merciful

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May Allah bless and protect them always, Amin. Finally, the writer hopes this thesis can be beneficial for every people who attracted to this field.

Jakarta, November 2018

Muhamad Wildan Musthofa
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CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Research

Street children in India are often seen working or just hanging around in streets, market areas, intersections, parking areas, and railway stations. They are engaged in a host of working activities including rag picking, vending, selling newspapers, cleaning cars, begging, shining shoes, and drug peddling. Because of their increasing numbers, the efforts of nongovernmental organizations, and media attention, street children are now commanding a great deal of attention in India (Verma 7). Not only in India, the issue about street children also gain attention from international organizations and companies. One of them is See-Saw Films. It tries to help street children by making Lion film.

Directed by Garth Davis, Lion tells about one of the street children from India named Saroo. He is selected to by the Australian family in Tasmania, where he grows up in loving and prosperous home. However, for all his material good fortune, Saroo as 25-year-old man finds himself plagued by his memories of his lost family in his adulthood and tries searching for his lost family.

For the release of Lion film, the foundation #LionHeart was launched in collaboration between the production companies of this film, See-Saw Films and The Weinstein Company (TWC) and The Charity Network. It will provide financial support to the over 11 million children who live on the streets of India (IMDb). See-Saw Films, the company who produced Lion, The Weinstein Company and their global network of distributors have increased their corporate
donations from $50 thousand to over $105 thousand boosting the already substantial public contributions to the global #LionHeart campaign amassing a grand total of over $250 thousand so far. In support of the #LionHeart campaign, Nicole Kidman, whose performance as Saroo's adopted mother in the film has earned her fourth Oscar nomination, personally donated $10 thousand to kick start the campaign before Christmas (Thomson).

The family who inspired the Hollywood film Lion say their story may have contributed to the Australian government's decision this week to reverse a ban on adoptions from India. Mr Brierley's adopted mother Sue said she hopes other Australian parents will soon be able to experience the same joy she experienced. "I hope that there is such a thing as 'the Lion effect',' she said. Ms Brierley said she believed the India adoption programs should never have been shut down and urged the government to provide more support for local and overseas adoptions (Bolger).

Lion film received six nominations at Academy Awards 2017, including Best Picture, Best Supporting Actor for Patel, Best Supporting Actress for Kidman, Best Adapted Screenplay, Best Original Score and Best Cinematography. The film won Best Actor in a Supporting Role for Patel and Best Adapted Screenplay at British Academy Film Awards 2017.

In Lion, Saroo lived happily with his adoptive parents. His parents never pressed him to be someone else or even doing torture. They showed love and affection to Saroo. They always smile and eat together with Saroo in the same
table. They play cricket together in the beach. And also provide him with the best quality education.

But one day, he introduced himself at the class of university as adopted child from Calcutta indicates that he lacks of love and belonging needs from his new family. While he is describing about his homeland, he shows the expressions of uncomfortable. Then, in the little party of indian friends, his memory of his homeland comes over his head. He always tries to feel comfortable around his indian friend. But finally, he could not push his pressure feeling of loss when he is staring at jalebi, the typical snack from india, and then tastes it. After this culmination experience, Saroo shows some actions that drive and motivate him to fulfill his love and belonging needs perfectly.

From the story above, the writer concludes that Saroo has unsatisfied needs. According to Maslow’s theory, the drive to fulfill the needs is what motivates human behavior and personality. In this case, Saroo as adopted child motivates himself to fulfill his unsatisfied needs especially love and belonging needs by searching his biological family in India. Maslow stated that love should be involves a healthy relationship and loving affection between two people, including trust to each other. This need involves both giving and receiving love, affection, and the sense of belonging (Goble 75). Therefore, the writer wants to analyze Saroo as the main character in Lion film using the hierarchy of needs theory by Abraham Maslow. The writer believes that, this theory can explain human behavior particularly Saroo as the main character of the film.
B. Research Focus

Based on the background of the research above, the writer analyzes the characterization of Saroo as the main character in *Lion* film and identify how he fulfills his love and belonging needs viewed by Abraham Maslow’s hierarchy of needs.

C. Research Problem

According to the background of the research, the writer concentrates and limits it by formulating the research questions as follow:

1. How is Saroo as the main character described in the film?
2. How does the main character fulfill his love and belonging needs in *Lion* film according to Abraham Maslow’s hierarchy of needs theory?

D. Significance of the Research

The writer hopes that this research can be useful for the readers who are interested in film-field discussion through literature studies, especially for those who want to know more about Abraham Maslow's theory, *The Hierarchy of Needs*. Meanwhile, the writer also wishes to understand the main character's characterization and the efforts of fulfilling his love and belonging need in *Lion* film. Furthermore, hopefully the result of this research can be used as an input in literary studies.
E. Research Methodology

1. Objectives of the Research

The objective of the research is to explain the characterization of Saroo in *Lion* film and how the main character fulfill his love and belonging needs based on the hierarchy of needs theory by Abraham Maslow.

2. Method of the Research

The method in this research is a qualitative method; it uses descriptive analysis technique because the characteristic from qualitative research is descriptive. It means the data collected is in the form of words and pictures rather than number (Sugiyono 9). Merriam (19) defines that qualitative method or qualitative research is "A type of research that encompasses a number of philosophical orientations and approaches. Philosophical itself emphasizes on experience, understanding, and meaning-making, and all of qualitative characteristics."

Woods (3) mentioned, qualitative research is concerned with life as it is lived and things as they happen and the researchers seek lived experiences in real situations. This is an attempt to ensure that data and analysis will closely reflect what is happening. The writer does the research by describing and analyzing the characteristics of Saroo in *Lion* film. The collected data such as dialogues and pictures will be analyzed by Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory.
3. The Instrument of the Research

The writer himself is as the main instrument of this research. The writer watches *Lion*, the data, with closer and deeply, in order to identify and to analyze the main character of Saroo to find out the evidences of the fulfillment hierarchy of needs by Abraham Maslow.

4. The Unit of Analysis

The unit analysis of this research is the script and picture of *Lion* Film directed by Garth Davis, released at USA on October 11, 2016, and other references that have correlation with the object as secondary data.

5. The Technique of Data Analysis

The writer uses the descriptive analytic technique to analyze Saroo as the main character by Abraham Maslow’s hierarchy of needs approach based on critical study and analysis to the qualitative data. First, the writer watches the film carefully for several times, to learn and get the point contents of the film intensively. Then, the writer marks the scripts of the film to underline and understanding the film. Finally, the writer explains and analyze the data, such as dialogues and pictures of the film based on Abraham Maslow’s theory.

6. Research Design

This Research consists of four chapters. Chapter I is an introduction started with Background of the Research, Research Question, Significance of the Research and ended with Research Methodology in which consists of the Objectives of Research, the Method of Research, the Instrument of Research,
the Unit of Analysis, the Technique of Data Analysis and Research Design. All of them are to reinforce the problems found, as well as provide the introduction of the problems.

Chapter II entitled The Theoretical Framework. It consists of Previous Research and the concept. The previous research aims to the writer know his position in this research, whether as the new research or continue the previous researchers, in other hands, the characterization and Maslow’s hierarchy of needs concept to solve the problems.

Chapter III entitled Research Findings. It consists of the analysis about the characterization of Saroo as the main character and the efforts of fulfilling his love and belonging needs in *Lion* film.

Chapter IV is conclusions and suggestions which contain the conclusions of the analysis about the characterization of Saroo as the main character and the efforts of fulfilling his love and belonging in *Lion* film. Then, suggestions for those who want to research *Lion* film with other theories and perspectives.
CHAPTER II
THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This chapter explains the previous researches and the theories that are used to analyze Saroo as the main characters and his efforts to fulfill his needs. This research uses characterization theory in film by Joseph M Boggs and Dennis W Petrie to describe and explain the main character. Furthermore, to explain the fulfillment of the needs, especially how the main character fulfills his love and belonging needs, it is used the theory of hierarchy of needs by Abraham Maslow.

A. Previous Research

The writer does not find any previous researches which put Lion film as a subject except in shape of blog reviews. However, the writer takes two theses which use hierarchy of needs theory for their research.

The first title of the thesis is “Man Does Not Live by Bread Alone . . . unless There is No Bread: An Analysis of Dickens Characters Using Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs”. It is written by Amylee Caffee from Black Hills State University in 2013. This research wanted to focus on application of the hierarchy of needs to Dickens’s characters provides a reciprocal understanding of both and new insights into the behaviors and relations of characters. Beginning with physiological needs and ending with self-actualization, different Dickens characters will be analyzed at each level. In Bleak House, Jo and the brickmaker’s family will be analyzed according to physiological needs; in Hard Times, the workers of Coketown, represented by Stephen Blackpool, will be assessed in
regard to safety needs; in *Great Expectations*, Miss Havisham will be interpreted as a character with love and belonging needs, and Pip by esteem needs; finally, in *A Christmas Carol*, Scrooge will be examined as a character who gets stuck on the safety level of the hierarchy, but, upon the realization of a peak experience, quickly moves toward self-actualization.

The second thesis is “Hierarchy of Needs Analysis of The Main Character in *Love, Rosie* Film” which written by Fita Megeta Sari, student of UIN Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta in 2017. This research discusses about the way of Rosie, as the main character, to fulfill her needs viewed from Abraham Maslow’s theory. The method that is used in this research is descriptive qualitative. This analysis focuses on how Rosie fulfills the third need, Love and Belonging needs. Rosie in this film is portrayed as a success woman. She tries to fulfill the third need by having some relationship with some men, but it can not stand longer. Rosie's love and belonging need is fulfilled by having relationship with her best friend since they are kids, Alex. He is able to give what she looking for; he gives the love in shape of attention and emotion. the writer finds that the main character fulfills three levels of needs; physiological needs, safety needs, and love and belonging needs.

The related studies above are some examples of the researches on literature with similar topic that is about the fulfillment of human needs by using the theory of Malsow's hierarchy of need. Then, this research itself focuses on how the main character fulfill his love and belonging needs in *Lion* film. This research describes and analyzes the characterization of Saroo as the main character that related to the
ways of how he fulfill his needs, and then using hierarchy of needs theory to see what are the efforts and the needs that are finally successfully fulfilled.

B. Characterization

According Jane Bachman Gordon and Karen Kushner (97), characterization is a way the author makes the character alive and has unique identity to be recognized by the reader, "Characterization is what the author does to bring a character to life, to provide the reader with a sense of that character's personality, to make the character unique". In presenting characters, characterization is divided into several types:

1. Characterization Through Appearance

Characterization can be depicted through appearance. Although, in real life most of us are aware that appearance are often deceiving, in the world of fiction details of appearance (what character wears and how he looks) often provide essential clues to character (Pickering and Jeffrey, 28-29). Most of film actors project certain qualities of character the minute they appear on the screen, characterization in film has a great deal to do with casting a major aspect of film characterization which is revealed visually and instantaneously. The minute we seen most actor on the screen, we make certain assumptions about them because of their facial features, dress, physical build, and mannerisms and the way they move. Our first visual impression may be proven erroneous as the story progresses, but it is certainly an important means of establishing character (Boggs and Dennis, 60).

Characterization can be depicted through the dialogue. Dialogue can reveal the moods and personalities of the characters. Characters in a fictional film naturally reveal a great deal about themselves by what they say, but a great deal is also revealed by how they say it. Actor uses of grammar, sentence structure, vocabulary and particular dialects (if any) reveals a great deal about their character's social and economic level, educational background and mental processes. Therefore we must develop a keen ear, attuned to faintest and most subtle nuances of meaning revealed through the human voice, listening carefully not only to what is said but also to how it is said (Boggs and Dennis, 61).

3. Characterization Through External Action

Although appearance is an important measure of a character's personality, appearances are often misleading. Perhaps the best reflections of character are a person's actions. Some actions are more important in revealing character than others. Even the most ordinary choice can be revealing, for some kind of choice is involved in almost everything we do. Sometimes the most effective characterization is achieved not by the large actions in the film but by the small, seemingly insignificant ones. For example, a fireman may demonstrate his courage by saving a child from a burning building, yet such an act may be only a performance of duty rather than a reflection of a choice (Boogs and Dennis, 62).
4. Characterization Through Internal Action

Internal action is character's minds and emotions which consist of secrets, unspoken thoughts, daydreams, aspirations, memories, fears, and fantasies. People’s hopes, dreams, and aspirations can be as important to an understanding of their character as any reveal achievement, and their fears and insecurities can be more terrible to them any real catastrophic failure (Boogs and Dennis, 62).

5. Characterization Through Reaction of Other Characters

The way characters view a person often serves as an excellent means of characterizations. Sometime a great deal of information about a character is already provided through such means before the character first appears on the screen (Boogs and Dennis, 64).

6. Characterization Through Contrast: Dramatic Foils

Foils is contrasting characters, the opposite characteristics of the main character such as behavior, attitudes, opinions, lifestyle, physical appearance and so on. Put white and black together in one frame (Boggs and Dennis, 64).

7. Characterization Through Choice of Name

One important method of characterization is the use of names possessing appropriate qualities of sound, meaning, or connotation. This techniques is known as name typing. The connotations of some names, such as Dick tracy, are rather obvious and clear. Dick is slang for detective; tracy derives from the fact that detectives trace criminals (Boggs and Dennis, 66).
C. Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs Concept

Abraham Maslow is an American psychologist and the father of humanistic psychology, developed a theory of motivation describing the process by which an individual progresses from basic needs, like food, water and air, to the highest need. Maslow argued, the highest need that every human tend to achieve is a self-actualization, the fulfillment of one's greatest human potential. Maslow represent the hierarchy of human needs as a pyramid, with the larger to lower levels representing the need for self-actualization. Every level of pyramid is dependent on the previous level (Schultz, 89).

The first needs in Maslow concept contain the set of physiological needs necessary of bodily homeostatic, quiescence and survival. Moreover, the other level needs in maslow concept are psychological in nature human needs (Feist, 280). Maslow hypotesized that these needs appeared sequentially. Furthermore, the lower needs were more powerful (prepotent) than the higher needs. The more these needs were satisfied, the better would be the psychological health of the individual (qtd in Lester 5). The following Maslow's concept represented as a pyramid below:

![Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs](Picture 1 (Seong).)
According to Maslow's theory, the drive to fulfill the needs of the hierarchy is what motivates human behavior and personality. For example, if a physiological need such as food is not met, then behavior and personality are motivated by the drive to obtain food, and all other needs will be perceived as secondary. Once a need is met, it is submerged and the next need on the hierarchy emerges as the dominating force (qtd in Caffee 2).

1. Physiological Needs

The first level of hierarchy of needs is the physical need which is the most basic necessity and the most dominating. These needs are biological, such as the need for oxygen, food, water and so on, which if not fulfilled then individual cannot live (Setiawan, 39-40). If this need is not satisfied then someone will be dominated by this need and other needs may become simply nonexistent or be pushed into the background. Because usually people who are hungry will be hard to think, even to talk about love, values, morality and so forth. For the man who is extremely and dangerously hungry, no other interests exist but food. He dreams food, he perceives only food, he thinks about food, he emotes only about food, he perceives only food, and he wants only food (Maslow, 37).

Physiological needs have two strong reasons why it must be fulfilled. First, physiological needs are the only needs that can be completely satisfied or even overly satisfied. These needs must be satisfied, so it related with body temperature. People will seek until they found and satisfy the needs in this level. When the needs are completely satisfied, they lose their motivation power.
Second, physiological needs have specific characteristic; recurring nature, the needs constantly recur (Feist, 279).

2. Safety Needs

The second level is the need for safety. After the relative biological needs are met, other needs arise, that can be categorized as the need for safety, such as needs: security, stability, dependence, protection, freedom from fear and chaos, neat or well organized, strong in protection and so on. Maslow also shows that many indication that lack of safety are found in adults. These indication exhibit behaviors that tend to seek protection to stronger people or systems, or to people who are able to provide a sense of security. This behavior is very similar to children who are afraid and react to danger situation (Setiawan, 40).

However, adult’s point of view of safety need is different from the children’s point of view, because adult people will not feel seriously endangered if they are already in a safe environment where something deadly does not threaten them. This situation means that the safety need is longer adult’s current motivator. However in order to recognize the safety need of adults, the observation must be shifted to the social issues faced by common adults these days, which are, the preference of job with protection, the desire for saving accounts and any other various kinds of insurance. Otherwise, the need of safety becomes imminent if people are in an urgent situation, such as war, natural catastrophes and chronically bad situation (Maslow, 39).

However, if the subject of observation is shifted to the neurotic adults, their reaction of psychological dangers is very overwhelming and they often over
react to particular situation as if it is very urgent. These people often attempt to seek the safety from a stronger person or whom they may depend. They are known as compulsive-obsessives who are trying too hard to stabilize the world so that any unexpected danger will not happen at all and if something happens out of their control, they will be panicking hard as if a deadly situation is happening to them (Maslow, 43).

3. Love and Belonging Needs

The third level is the need for belonging and love. The need for love is including the need to give and receive the attention from the others. Maslow thought that human in his life always tries to avoid loneliness (Setiawan, 41). Maslow stated that love should be involves a healthy relationship and loving affection between two people, including trust to each other. This need involves both giving and receiving love, affection, and the sense of belonging (Goble 75).

The experience of love each other should include affection, joy, happiness, satisfaction, pride, a feeling of overwhelming (if everything went smoothly). There is a tendency for each other to get close and create a more intimate physical contact, such as cuddling and embracing a loved one, and miss them (Maslow 42).

Individual will hunger for affectionate relations with people in general, namely, for a place in his group or family, and he will strive with great intensity to achieve this goal. He will attain such a place more than anything else in the world.. The facts that the love needs involve both giving and receiving love (Maslow, 43).
If a person starts feeling the absence of companions, he will look for an affectionate relationship or a place in his group and try as hard as possible to achieve this goal. He becomes very motivated to the point he already forgot how unimportant love was for him when he was hungry but feeling the poignant of loneliness instead (43).

Although the scientific information regarding the belonging is lesser than the love need, it can be seen through the destructive effects of some people moving from place to another too much, people mocking the others roots, and people forcefully being apart from friends and family. It happens because many people are still unaware how significant the roots and neighborhood are for human being. Hence many personal growth group and community increase rapidly in the society to satisfy the hunger of intimacy and belonging by overcoming the feeling of loneliness and alienation which has been worsened by high mobility and steady urbanization (Maslow, 44).

The impediment of these needs often happen because of the inability of people to adapt, both love and affection have dealt with restriction since there are many disagreement of both needs and their expression in sexuality. However, the most important thing to know is that love and sex are two different things. Sex may be studied as purely physiological need while usually sexual behavior is determined by not only sexual desires but also the love and affection needs (45).

People who have had their love and belonging needs adequately satisfied from early years do not panic when denied love. These people have confidence that they are accepted by those who are important to them,so when other people
reject them, they do not feel devastated. Children need love in order to grow psychologically, and their attempts to satisfy this need are usually straightforward and direct. Adults also need love, but their attempts to attain it are sometimes disguised. These adults often engage in self-defeating behaviors, such pretending to be aloof from other people or adopting a cynical, cold, and callouses sufficiency and independence, but in reality, they have strong need to be accepted and loved by other people. Maslow states that human beings need for friends, a sweetheart, children, affectionate relationships in general. For example, in our day to day life, we exhibit these needs in our desire to marry, have a family and be part of community (Yahaya, 24).

4. Self-Esteem Needs

Most people in the society have needs or desires for being stable, self respect, self-esteem and the esteem of others. The esteem is divided into two subsidiary sets. The first set is, desires for strength, achievement, adequacy, mastery and competence, confidence, and independence also freedom. The second set deals with desires for esteem from the others such as, for reputation, status, fame, dominance, recognition, attention, importance and appreciation (Maslow, 45)

The gratification of the esteem need leads to feelings of self-confidence, worth, strength, capability, and being useful. However, if a person fails to satisfy the esteem need, he will feel inferior and weak (Maslow, 46).
5. Self-Actualization Needs

Even though all of the four previous needs are well satisfied, many people still expect for being discontent in life once they are doing what they fit for. For example, a musician must make music, an artist must paint, a poet must write in order to be at peace with himself. In other words, a person must become what he can be. The term of self-actualization was introduced by Kurt Goldstein and is being used by Maslow in his book refers to man’s desire for self-fulfillment specifically to the tendency of him being actualized in what he is potentially (Maslow, 46).

Therefore, the specific form of the self-actualization needs is various from one person to another since every person has its own ideal form of desire in life. The need will distinctly come out if the four previous needs, namely the need of physiological, safety, belonging and love, also esteem, are already well gratified (Maslow, 46).

Maslow believed in a holistic analysis of the person to determine self-actualization. he saw the self-actualized person as "different" from the norm. He referred to them as "healthy individuals", but not perfect. The "peak experience" is explained as a mystical identification that can be drawn from strong emotions associated with "newness appreciation". Nevertheless, he negates any theological or supernatural equation, referring only to the natural experience (qtd. in Francis and William 3).

Self-Actualization Needs is the highest need in Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs. Self-Actualization Needs include self-fulfillment, the realization of all
one's potential and a desire to become creative in the full sense of the world. People who have reached this level become completely human. Self Actualizing people are independent people, they can maintain their feelings of sel-esteem even when scorned, rejected, and dismissed by other people. They are not dependent on the satisfaction of either love or esteem needs (Feist, 282-283).

Self-Actualization resides at the top of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs and is considered as a part of the humanistic approach to personality. The humanistic perspective has been called "The Third Force" in psychology (Sdrow, 17). The humanistic psychology focuses on healthy, motivated people and tries to determine how they define the self while maziming their potential (Freud, 5).

In conclusion, Maslow argues that the human being have many needs. Maslow divides the five levels of basic needs, such as: Physiological Needs of so-called basic human needs for food, oxygen and water; Safety Needs or it could be called a security needs. it means that every human beings has the awareness of the importance of safety and security; Love and Belonging Needs for every human being describes that they cannot live alone, they need to be accompanied, to share affection and love; Self-Esteem Needs means that the recognition or judgement of others against him, every human want to be recognized that a person has the achievement, because basically they need recognition and reputation for what they did; Self Actualization Needs, it can also be also said for actualization needs, every human needs a space to actualize himself as a conscious human being that has the ability to form different actualization.
CHAPTER III

RESEARCH FINDINGS

In this chapter, the writer discusses about the data description and analysis about Saroo as the main character. The data presented is based on the dialogue of the film and the picture from the scenes in film to support it. The data is analyzed by Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory. At the beginning, the writer describes the characteristics of Saroo as the main character in Lion film. Then, the writer analyzes how Saroo fulfills his love and belonging needs.

A. Character Analysis of Saroo

Characterization is the way the author presents the character. Therefore, characterization is the way to describe the personality of the character, and how the character acts. In this research, the writer analyzes the characteristics of Saroo as the main character of Lion film.

Saroo has a curly long hair and brown skin. He also has moustache and beard in his face. His physical condition is healthy. The clothes that he wear is simple. He often wears t-shirt than shirt. He is not a type man who is very careful with appearance and worried about what other people will say about his clothes. This appearance indicates that he is a simple man.

Picture 2.1 (00:58:05)
(Saroo wears T-shirt in the class)
Picture 2.2 (01:40:16)
(Saroo wears T-shirt and jeans in India)

Picture 2.1 reveals how Saroo dressed as a simple man clearly. He wears T-shirt at the first day of university class. Then, Picture 2.2 shows Saroo walking to his homeland in India. He wears T-shirt and jeans obviously. He does not carry any tools to protect himself excessively. He wants to search his family simply.

Saroo is a smart person. In the age 25, he was accepted into hotel management department and his adoptive parents celebrate his attainment in the restaurant. His adoptive father said that he is very proud of his achievement.

*Mother:* Saroo, our beautiful boy. From the moment you came into our lives. You were all that we could have hoped for more, more than we hoped for, rally, and more work, that's for sure. You really embraced every opportunity.

*Father:* We're very proud of you, son.

*Mother:* Very proud and very excited with this next chapter in your life.

*(Lion, 00:54:133-00:54:23)*

This conversation denotes how much his adoptive parent love and proud to Saroo and shows that he never makes them upset. The achievement that already said from his parents describes Saroo that he is smart. He embraced every opportunity in his life. In addition, when his girlfriend visited his house, his mother showed all trophies that Saroo ever won as the conversation below:
Ronnie: Your mom showed me all your old little trophies
Saroo: Mum, you didn't

(Lion, 01:10:06-01:10:12)

Saroo always thinks before act. He is an organized person. He is not a reckless person. When he tries to find his real mother, he does not go as soon as possible to India. Before doing it, first he tries to analyze data from Google Earth and his memory. Saroo tries to find out his birth family, the first action that he takes is using the technology of Google Earth. Firstly, he signs all the station from Calcutta in the poster. He calculates to the speed of train while he recall his memory of the station that he left. This orderliness of solving his problems denotes how organized this person.

Picture 2.3 (00:58:05)
(Saroo writes and calculates the train speed on the paper)

Picture 2.3 points the effort of Saroo to calculate the train speed and estimates what train station that the last he remembered. He does not miss any sign of train station of his estimation. He marks all the train station accurately.
Saroo is an introvert person. He never seems laugh out loud in front of the crowd. He rarely appears happy or sad expressions exagerately. When he is sad or wildered he always hides in his heart only.

Picture 2.4 (01:18:55)
(Saroo feels sad and walks on the beach alone)

Picture 2.4 reveals Saroo’s sad feeling, he is in weak condition but he does not show it to other people. He feels sad because of his effort to find his home in India seems like no result.

Saroo is a calm person. Whenever Saroo speaks, he will speaks gently. Even, when he was angry he does not sounds loud but emphasizes his words. Unlike Mantosh, his step brother who sheds his anger by hitting something and screaming, Saroo can control his energy and emotion. There is no act of him that shows he drops things like plate, table, or anything in front of others. He can withstand the pressure of feeling and save it by himself.
Saroo: Why are you here?
Mother: He's here because he's your brother.
Saroo: No, he's not, We're different.
Father: Hey, no no, Saroo!

This conversation occurs when Saroo cannot stand with the act of his step brother, Mantosh. He feels that his step brother always hurt her mother’s heart. Mantosh has mental disorder which makes him could not afford to control his emotion. In contrary, Saroo in this conversation still calm and hold his emotion. Although Mantosh attacks Saroo’s head with his hand as the reaction of Saroo’s word as seen in picture 2.5, Saroo does not act like what his brother act to him. He
keeps silent and understands about the condition of his step brother as seen in picture 2.6.

Saroo means lion which appears in the explanation at the end of the film. He had been mispronouncing his name when he was child.

“Saroo learned that all those years ago, as a five-year-old, he had been mispronouncing his own name. He was ‘Sheru’, meaning.. LION”

(Lion 01:57:58 - 01:52:03)

According to Schneider, lion is symbolic of continual struggle and victory (qtd.in Cirlot 190). Almost the same, Saroo always struggle to find his homeland in India continually. He exerts all energy and idea how to attain his purpose to meet his blood family whatever will be. Such as calculating of train speed and using Google Earth as his friend suggesting. He also tried hard to recalling his memory. Every details that appear in his mind suddenly will be noted by him.

In the middle of process, he once gave up upon himself. But, this condition is temporary. He becomes eager and believes that his effort never be useless. So, he continues to search his homeland. And finally Saroo gets his victory by reuniting with his blood family in India after separating for years.

Based on the discussion above, the main character, Saroo is described as simple, smart, organized, introvert, calm, and continual struggle. He lived happily with his adoptive family. His house, clothes, foods, health and education is provided well in Australia. However, for all his material fortune and good life, there are scenes in this film which indicates lack of his love and belonging needs. This needs will be discussed in the following discussion.
B. Saroo’s Love and Belonging Needs

In this subchapter, the writer analyzes deeply about Saroo’s love and belonging needs in *Lion* Film using Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs theory. According to Maslow’s theory, the drive to fulfill the needs of the hierarchy is what motivates human behavior and personality. Once a need is met, it is submerged and the next need on the hierarchy emerges as the dominating force.

For example, if a physiological need such as food is not met, then behavior and personality are motivated by the drive to obtain food, and all other needs will be perceived as secondary (qtd in Caffee 2). Maslow hypothesized that these needs appeared sequentially. Furthermore, the lower needs were more powerful (prepoten) than the higher needs. The more these needs were satisfied, the better would be the psychological health of the individual (qtd in Lester 5).

As seen above, the needs appeared in chronological order. Therefore in this subchapter, firstly the writer will analyze the first needs and the second needs before analyzing the third needs namely love and belonging needs. Because once a need is fulfilled, it is submerged and the need on the hierarchy emerges as the dominating force (Caffee 2).

First need or physiological needs is the most basic needs which is very clear for human to physically survive. Physiological needs have two strong reasons why it must be fulfilled. First, physiological needs are the only needs that can be completely satisfied or even overly satisfied. These needs must be satisfied, so it related with body temperature. People will seek until they found and satisfied the needs in this level. When the needs are completely satisfied, they
lose their motivational power and have nauseating effect. Second, physiological needs have peculiar characteristic; recurring nature, the needs are constantly recurring (Feist, 279).

In *Lion*, Saroo is never lack of this basic needs fulfillment. Saroo as the main character has adoptive parents which always provides him everything he needs such as food for his energy and the shelter to stabilize his body temperature. This condition makes Saroo does not have any difficulties to fulfill his basic needs.

As seen in the picture 3.1 above, Saroo has a place to live with his adopted family, he also meet the needs of this first need by eating in the dining room. On the table various kinds of foods and drinks are available.

The other evidence which support the explanation of Saroo’s fulfillment in physiological needs is when he start to work and stay alone in his house. In this house, there are some equipments that support his fulfillment of his need such as refrigerator, glass, plate, and bed to sleep as seen in picture 3.2. In addition, there is a scene where he goes outside to eat in the restaurant as seen in picture 3.3. This
picture indicates that he could provide his needs without help of his adoptive parents anymore.

Furthermore, there is no scene in this film that Saroo is starving or dying because of no fulfillment this basic need. So, it can be concluded that the first requirement to achieve Saroo’s physiological need is fulfilled.

After the physiological needs are met, someone is driven to meet safety needs. Someone who has fulfilled physiological needs will be driven to meet
tranquility, stability, and free from anxiety and criminality (Feist, 279). In his new life, Saroo grows at his new family home. In that home, there is no anxiety or criminality that he feels along his staying. His new family always support and protect Saroo from deficiency. The environment around his home seems safe and there is no war which makes Saroo feel in unsafe condition.

Moreover, when he lives in his house independently. He can provide this needs by choosing the location where the war and criminality submerged. Then, in this film there is no scene which shows Saroo in danger of war or criminality which threatened his life sustainability.

After the physiological needs and safety needs are met, the other need that he has to be fulfilled is love and belonging needs. According to Maslow, love and belonging needs is the desire for friendship, the wish for a mate, children, and the need to belong to; a family, a club, a neighborhood, even for a nation (qtd.in Feist 279-280). Maslow (44) asserts that love is not synonymous with sex, it is studied as a purely in physiological need, and the love needs are involve both giving and receiving love. The absence of friends, or a sweetheart, or a wife, or children with motivate a person for affectionate relation with people in general like a place in his group or family and he will try to achieve this goal (45). The belonging and love need that include the need for a sense of belonging is trust, love and compassion each other will be an important motivation for every individual. Generally, each individual will desire for relation of love with others, particularly the need for a sense of belonging within the group (Goble, 74).
In the third level, love and belonging need, Saroo needs effort to fulfill this need. In spite of Saroo has gained everything and she is surrounded by people who love her, he cannot live with a feeling of guilty by the memory of his real family in India. He has to receive the love from his biological mother and brother who had took care of him and loves him with full of heart when he was child. This condition pushes him to looking for someone who can satisfy his love and belonging needs.

In one point, when he introduced himself at the class as adopted child from Calcutta indicates that he seems like lack of love and belonging needs from his new family. While he is describing about his homeland he shows the expressions of uncomfortable. Not only he is looking down and the forced smile that he made but also the shining eyes with tears tell the viewer about his loss of his real family as seen in the picture 3.2 and 3.3 below.
Picture 3.2 shows how he answer lecturer’s question about his origin place. His eyes looks down hiding his inconvenience. He tried to avoid his feeling of loss. Picture 3.3 show his forced smiled and the shining eyes with tears.

Then, to cover his loss of his love and belonging needs he tries to approach the girl named Lucy that seems attract him in the class. When he is walking to attend the little party with the indian friend from the class, he meets Lucy again and getting in to the house’s indian friend together.

But in that little party his memory of his homeland comes over his head. He always tries to feel comfortable around his indian friend. But finally, he is not able to push his pressure feeling when he is staring at jalaby, the typical snack from india, and then tastes it. His tears go down and feeling of loss attacks him anymore and stronger. Then, he finally explains honestly before his friends that actually he is not from Calcutta.
Lucy: You okay? Saroo?
Saroo: I’m not from Calcutta. I’m lost.

As the conversation and picture above, when Lucy asks Saroo about what happen with that food, Saroo made a recognition that he was actually not from Calcutta as he said before in the class. This food reminds him of his memory with his biological brother in India when he was child and asked his brother to buy a thousand of it for him before going to station with his brother. But this desire when he was child never accomplished because of his separation in the station.

This jalaby could be a symbol of attachment feeling. The feeling that he always represses everyday and then explodes when Saroo tastes it for the first time after his separation from his blood family a long years ago. John Bowlby suggesting that interactions with attachment figures throughout the lifespan, but particularly in infancy, shape how individuals perceive themselves, close others, and relationship. Attachment orientations, however, are not immutable, an
incremental changes can be predicted by current relationship experience (qtd. in Campbell and Sarah, 149). Once the attachment system is activated, individuals are motivated to seek proximity to externalized attachment figures (Green and Karen 31). After this experience, Saroo wonders his perceptions about his relationship from the others. His love and belonging needs from his adoptive family decrease from day to day together with his memory of blood family appears continually. Afterwards, he motivates himself to fulfill his love and belonging need.

The absence of family will make people try to achieve the gratification of love and belonging needs by looking for someone (Maslow, 45). Saroo tries to fulfill back his love and belonging need by dating Lucy. He goes to party with her, sleep with her, even he invites Lucy to his house and introduce her to his adoptive family. He also share about his feelings and stories toward her. Maybe he thinks that it will make him feel calm and satisfy his love needs. But the reality does not fit with his deepest feeling of loss. Saroo always remembers his biological mother and brother but he tries to hide it from his girlfriend. Until at that moment, he angry to his girlfriend because of arguing about his condition and decides to stay away from her.

_Lucy_ : Saroo, you have to face reality!
_Saroo_ : What do you mean? Reality? Do you have any idea what it’s like knowing my real brother and mother spend everyday of their lives looking for me? How everyday my real brother screams my name! Can you imagine the pain they must be in for not knowing where I am? 25 years, Luce. 25!
_Lucy_ : Why didn’t tell me that was happening for you?
_Saroo_ : And we swung about in our privileged lives. It makes me sick. I have to find home. They need to know, okay?

_(Lion 01:15:16-01:15:56)_
From the conversation above, Lucy realize when he look at Saroo’s eyes and listen his answers, there something has lost in Saroo’s soul. Saroo also realize it, he knows this life is not a life what he wants but he cannot escape from reality.

If he fails to fulfill this need from his girlfriend. So, he tries to find it in his adoptive family again. Actually, he had received love from his adoptive family. But, his adoptive family never told him about the location of his biological family. This condition makes Saroo fail to give his love to his adoptive family because of their disguise. In fact, the love needs involve both giving and receiving love (Maslow, 43). His stepbrother also does not help because of the abnormality. Moreover, Saroo does not want to tell his adoptive family about his attachment feeling of blood family because he thinks that it will hurt them and shows his feeling of ungrateful. In addition, he is a cold and cloistered person.

After that, he keeps at the distance of his girlfriend and adoptive family. Because he cannot reach the third level of need so he cannot fulfill the higher need above it. As Maslow stated that every need has relation between one need to another; lower level needs must be satisfied or at least relatively satisfied before higher level needs become motivators (Feist, 277). So, he cannot reach his self esteem need. In this movie, Saroo starts to feel depressed and he lost his confidence until he only stay in his home which his adoptive parents give. The more these needs were satisfied, the better would be the psychological health of the individual (qtd in Lester 5). In this stage, the psychology of Saroo is not in health condition because he could not reach his love and belonging needs.
Eventually, Saroo tries to do something that could help him to go homeland in India to relieve his guilty feeling and to attach with his biological family. He listen to his friend’s suggestion to try Google Earth to find out his hometown.

Moreover, he calculates the speed of the train in the time he was child then he give a sign to every station that probably the place he last saw his real brother. He uses his knowledge of his mathematics and match it with his little memory as seen in picture 3.7 and 3.8 below.
Saroo is an organized person. He will think before act. Instead of going to India hurriedly, he gather all the datas and components that support his hypothesis of his effort. He gather all the memories and match it with the pictures which appers on Google Earth.

He becomes obsessed with his searching. In one point, Saroo reunites with his girlfriend after quarrel. Saroo tries to give his love to his girlfriend, Lucy. But his girlfriend does not give him back her love. Lucy denied it because of Saroo’s obsession to find his biological family in India.

Saroo : What?
Lucy : What if you do find home and they're not even there? And you never stop and keep searching? And you don't know what happens over time, things change, and entire worlds change.
Saroo : I don't have a choice (then silent)
Saroo : Stay
Lucy : I can't

(Lion 01:23:00 - 01:23:46)

From the conversation above, the writer finds that Saroo tries to fulfill back his love and belongingness by asking Lucy to support him and love him back. But Lucy denied it by saying “I can’t”. In this situation, Saroo gives
someone love but does not receive love. He fails again to fulfill his love and belongingness. Because the love needs are involve both giving and receiving love (Maslow, 44).

Saroo’s effort to meet his biological mother and brother is not useless. When he clicked a place in the Google Earth, he feels that the place is familiar and match with his memory. The station that has a big rain tank which near with his homeland, Ganestlay, the place where he remembered but does not exist in map. He explores the railways from Google Earth. Meanwhile his memory when he was walking home emerges profusely. And finally he stops to the name of place which appears on the laptop screen, Ganesh Talai. It just takes time to realize that all this time he misspronoucing his homeland’s name.

Picture 3.9 (01:35:35)
(Moment when he realized his homeland)
After he believed that his data was accurate, he finally tells his family about his feeling that he always presses and then permits to go to India. His adoptive family support him. Also, he meets again with his girlfriend and asks her to wait him until he found his answer about the big question of his life. His girlfriend supports him too by showing happy expression and hugging him.

Finally, he goes to Ganesh Talai. After he arrived in there. He walks while remembering his childhood in that place and match with his memory and intuition. Ultimately, he arrives in the village which he can feel so near with his feeling. His memory drives him to his house. When he stands in front of the house that he believe that this house is belong to his real family, he sees goat pen.

Fortunately there is man approaches Saroo and asks question to him. Saroo tells that he used to lived here. He informs to this man that his name is Saroo and he is looking for Guddu, Kallu, Shekila, and his mother. This man seems shock and suddenly guides him to his blood family. Finally he meets his biological mother, his sister and brother. But, unfortunately, he faces the reality that on the
same night he stepped up to empty carriage, the day he lost, his brother Guddu died, hit by a train not far from the platform.

From Picture 3.11, the writer can see clearly the feeling of emotion that emerge between mother and her son who had gone far away from her life. In this moment, the first sentence that comes out from Saroo’s mouth is “I’m sorry”. Saroo thinks that this reunion is his redemption of his guilty to his blood family who had been looking for him. In this moment, they hug each other that indicates that Saroo has giving and receiving love. The experience of love each other should include affection, joy, happiness, satisfaction, pride, a feeling of overwhelming (if everything went smoothly). There is a tendency for each other to get close and create a more intimate physical contact, such as cuddling and embracing a loved one, and miss them (Maslow 42).

After that, his biological mother does not ask him to stay in India, she just happy knowing Saroo is alive. Then, Saroo accepts it wholeheartly and says that the questions have been answered and he loves the whole of his adoptive family in Australia.
Saroo: Hi, mom. I know you will be sound asleep. I just want to say that i’m safe. I’m safe and the questions have been answered. There are no more dead-ends. I found my mother, and.. she thanks you both for raising me. She understands that you are my family. She’s.. happy, just knowing i’m alive. I found her, but that does not change who you are. I love you mom so much. And you, Dad. And Mantosh

(Lion 01:48:34-01:49:17)

This conversation occurs when Saroo is still in India. He sends voicemail to his adoptive parents. He finally understand and accepts the reality wholeheartedly. Maslow liked Carl Roger’s idea of love: a state in which a person deeply understood and accepted wholeheratedly (Goble 74).

Maslow stated that love should be involves a healthy relationship and loving affection between two people, including trust to each other. This need involves both giving and receiving love, affection, and the sense of belonging (Goble 75). Indeed, Saroo had given and received love, affection, and the sense of belonging among his girlfriend, his biological family, and his adoptive family. Before going to India, his relationship with his girlfriend is solved and he receives love from his girlfriend. The sense of belonging emerges when he met his blood family for the first time after long years ago. Finally, Saroo gives love to his adoptive family after meeting his blood family in India which actually he had received love from them. Then, in this moment Saroo fulfilled his love and belongingness needs perfectly. It is shown from the scene when Saroo walk along the railroad. He shows happy and relief expression as seen in the two pictures below:
Saroo’s brother died on the railroad. Saroo and his biological brother is very closed. On this railroad, he separated with his biological brother for the last time. Then, at the ending of this film, Saroo express his love and belonging to his biological brother by walking on the railroad as seen at Picture 3.12 and Picture 3.13. Both pictures are separated by 3 seconds which shows how close his relationship to his biological brother.
From the analysis above, it can be concluded that Saroo fulfill his love and belonging needs by dating Lucy. At the middle of time, Saroo is angry at his girlfriend because of arguing about Saroo's condition towards his biological family. Then, actually Saroo had received love from his adoptive family but they never told him about the location of his biological family. So, he tries to find out his hometown by using Google Earth and calculates the speed of the train in the time he was child. After he give a sign to every station that probably the place he last saw his real brother. He matches the data and memories with the picture which appears on Google Earth. Finally, he meets his biological mother in India and received love from his biological mother. Maslow (43) stated that love needs involve both giving and receiving love. Then, in this moment Saroo has fulfilled his love and belongingness needs perfectly.
A. Conclusion

Based on true story, *Lion* film tells a story of Saroo, a man from India who lives in Australia with his adoptive family from his childhood. He grows up in loving family, prosperous home. Nevertheless, for all his material good fortune, he finds himself plagued by his memories of his lost family from India. In one point, he attends to a little party among his indian-australian friends. Then, in that party, he encounters the culmination experience when he tasted *jalaby* for the first time. *Jalaby* is a snack from india that become a symbol of attachment between him and his biological family. After this experience, Saroo wonders his perceptions about his relationship from the others. His love and belonging needs from his adoptive family decrease from day to day together with his memory of blood family appears continually. Afterwards, he motivates himself to fulfill his love and belonging need perfectly by doing some ways.

The writer analyzes the characteristics of Saroo as the main character and how he fulfill his love and belonging needs. The writer uses the qualitative method, descriptive analysis technique and Maslow's hierarchy of needs as the main theory. The basic concept of this theory is once a need is fulfilled, it is submerged and the next level on the hierarchy of needs emerges as the dominating force. The levels of needs are: psychological needs, safety needs, love and belonging needs, esteem needs, and self-actualization needs. Love and belonging
needs is the desire for friendship, the wish for a mate, children, and the need to belong to; a family, a club, a neighborhood, even for a nation. Also, the love needs are involve both giving and receiving love.

After analyzing the film, the writer finds Saroo's characteristics are simple, smart, organized, introvert, calm, and continual struggle. At the first level until second level of hierarchy of needs, the main character in *Lion* can fulfill the needs without the barrier and obstacle. It does not matter for him to fulfill the needs. In Australia, Saroo has a good life. He has an adopted family who provides him food and house which make him safe and sound. Furthermore, at the level of love and belonging needs, he gets the barrier and obstacle in fulfilling the needs because he remembered and missed his biological family when he gathered with his indian friends in Australia. After he lost his love and belonging needs, he tries to fulfill back his love and belonging needs by dating Lucy. Then, he find out his hometown by using Google Earth and calculates the speed of the train in the time he was child. After he give a sign to every station that probably the place he last saw his real brother. He matches the data and memories with the picture which appears on Google Earth. Because of his continual struggling, he meets his biological mother in India.

At the moment of his meeting with his blood mother, Saroo had given and received love, affection, and the sense of belonging among his biological family, his girlfriend and his adoptive family. Consequently, Saroo fulfilled his love and belongingness needs perfectly.
Before fulfilling his love and belonging needs, Saroo has to fulfill the previous the needs including physiological needs and safety needs. After he satisfy it, he can fulfill his love and belonging needs perfectly. In this film, Saroo can fulfill Abraham Maslow’s hierarchy of needs until the third stage or love belonging needs. The fourth stage or the esteem cannot be fulfilled by Saroo because he still focus to fulfill his love and belonging needs.

A. Suggestions

In analyzing film, the researchers have to use the right approach and theory in order to have the right comprehension. If readers are interested in analyzing psychological issues, Maslow’s hierarchy of needs is one of the literary theories which focuses on it. The reader who are interested in this film can also analyze the diaspora culture aspect to get better understanding of the film.

The writer hopes that this research can be helpful for the reader, especially the readers who want to know about love and belonging need, as well as about the hierarchy of needs by Abraham Maslow. In addition, the writer also hopes that this research can be a reference who wants to create similar research. Expectantly, it can be beneficial for the development of learning literature.
BIBLIOGRAPHY


APPENDIX