A MAIN CHARACTER ANALYSIS OF MY SISTER’S KEEPER MOVIE USING HIERARCHY OF HUMAN NEEDS OF ABRAHAM H. MASLOW’S THEORY

A Thesis
Submitted to Faculty of Adab and Humanities
In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for
The Degree of Strata 1 (S1)

By:
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JAKARTA
2011

This research is aimed to find motivation of the main character through her life and to solve her problem in the My Sister’s Keeper reflects the needs based on Abraham Maslow’s theory of The Hierarchy of Human Needs. The writer first analyzes the characteristics of the main character. These characteristics influence the main character herself in fulfilling her needs. Then, the writer analyzes the characteristics and the needs of the main character based on Maslow’s theory by describing the three needs from the lowest to the second and third stages of Maslow’s theory, and identifies in what stage of needs does consumer behavior take place as the reflection of the needs that the main character tries to fulfill.

The method which is used by the writer in this research is descriptive qualitative. The data are analyzed by using Abraham Maslow’s theory about Hierarchy of Human Needs. In analyzing the data, the writer does some procedures such as: watching the movie several times, analyzing and understanding the dialogues and the motion pictures of the movie.

This research discussed characteristics of the main character; Rebecca Bloomwood, which in turns influenced herself in fulfilling her needs. The writer reveals the needs of the main character based on the Abraham Maslow’s theory and focuses on the three needs, they are; Physiological Needs, Safety Needs, and Love and Belongingness needs. The writer then found that the main character can fulfill all of the three level of needs.
APPROVAL

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LEGALIZATION

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The thesis has been defended before the Faculty Letters and Humanities’ Examintation Committee on October 6th, 2011. It has been accepted as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of strata one.

Jakarta, October 6th 2011
The Examination Committee

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this submission is my own work and that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, it contains no material previously published or written by another person nor material which to a substantial extent has been accepted for the award of any other degree or diploma for the universities or other institute of higher learning, except where the acknowledgement has been made in the text.

Jakarta, October 6th 2011

Febry Indah Sari
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

All praise be to Allah SWT, the Almighty and the Lord of the universe, who has given the writer guidance and strength to achieve and make this thesis possible. May peace and blessings of Allah be upon our beloved Prophet Muhammad SAW, and his families, relatives, and all of his followers. Ameen

This thesis would not have been possible without the guidance and the help of several individuals who are in one way or another contributed and extended their valuable assistance in the preparation and completion of this study.

On this very special occasion, I would like to express the very best gratitude to my family especially to my beloved parents, Mr. Endar Priyanto, SH and Mrs. Try Suwarni, who always give their prayer, love, affection, support, and advices all the times. This thesis will not accomplish without their contribution in the writer’s life.

I also wish to express my warm and sincere thanks to my thesis advisor Mrs. Elve Oktaviani, M.Hum, who has supported and given many useful suggestions and inputs throughout my thesis with his patience and knowledge. May Allah SWT, always bless him and his family.

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4. Elve Oktafiyani, M.Hum, the Secretary of the English Letters Departement.

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Last but not least, I also hopes that this paper will be useful for some literary study and give a lot of benefits to the students of English Letters Departement particularly who want to have a similar research. I realize that this
thesis is still far from being perfect. Therefore, it is really a pleasure for me to have any constructive suggestions and critics. May Allah SWT bless us. Amien.

Jakarta, October 6th 2011

Febry Indah Sari
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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the study

Nowadays, people have got many choices of entertaining themselves, such as traveling, doing sports, window shopping, watching movies, etc. Watching movies becomes the most favorite activities among different viewers. Everyone has different goals in watching movies, such as refreshing, adding knowledge, learning foreign languages, and understanding foreign cultures. Along with the development, until now film is a great demand entertainment media other than music, because film combines sound (audio) and pictures (visual). In addition, film is also one of the cultural forms that presence is familiar with humans daily.

Film is a work of art presenting many problems of interpretation related to unresolved meanings (values) and shapes (structure) of social and historical conditions inherent in human life. Film as a form of a fictitious description of a phenomenon presented in the form of audio-visual that reflects a condition of a State associated with the system prevailing in it, whether it is a social system, politics, economics, culture, customs and so forth. The film is more realistic than the novels because they have the background of real and tangible figures as well. The film is a fiction, namely one related to literary writing. The value contained in a film or literary work is the value of life, which is always evolving and dynamic.¹ One film that is always evolving and dynamic is My Sister's Keeper this movie

portrayed that humans have different types and levels of needs. *According to Abraham Maslow humans have five needs that make up the tiers or also called the hierarchy of the most important to the unimportant and from easy to difficult to achieve or obtain. Human motivation is strongly influenced by the fundamental needs that need to be met.*

The film tells a family which was quite perfect, but it was all just a moment. Since the first child in the family is convicted of blood cancer (leukemia), their life changes where the mother figured in this story really concerned with health and safety of her first daughter named Kate. According to the medical record, it requires a suitable kidney donated to Kate, but after checking there was nobody in her family have suitable kidney.

The movie begins with a bit of misdirection when 11-year-old Anna (Abigail Breslin) sues her parents. It looks like headed into a fascinating legal drama dealing with a thorny ethical issue. Anna has always known she is a "donor child." When her parents, Sara (Cameron Diaz) and Brian (Jason Patric), discover their first daughter, Kate (Sofia Vassilieva), has leukemia, they choose to conceive another child through genetic engineering who would be a perfect genetic match with Kate. Thus, Anna can donate blood or whatever else is necessary to keep her elder sister alive.

The two girls love each other dearly, so Anna never complains. Then, 11 years into this routine, Kate's kidneys are failing and she'll need one of Anna's.

1. [http://organisasi.org/teori_hierarki_kebutuhan_maslow_abraham_maslow_ilmu_ekonomi](http://organisasi.org/teori_hierarki_kebutuhan_maslow_abraham_maslow_ilmu_ekonomi)
Anna finally says no. She hires a big-shot lawyer (Alec Baldwin), whose face adorns billboards and buses all over Los Angeles, and goes to court seeking her "medical emancipation." But her mom, who gave up a law practice to care for her ailing daughter, will make a ferocious opponent.

Therefore, Anna Fitzgerald as the main character appears in the process of searching reveals the needs that she must fulfill. The main character in *My Sister's Keeper* can be analyzed by using psychological theory. In order to understand what needs she must fulfill, the writer applied the concept Hierarchy of Human Needs of Abraham H. Maslow’s Theory.

**B. Focus of the study**

The research will be concentrated on how to understand the three needs: physiological, safety, and love and belongingness needs that must be fulfilled by the main character. The writer thinks that it is necessary to analyze the movie by using the Hierarchy of Human Needs Theory of Abraham H. Maslow.

**C. Research Question**

According to the focus of the research, the writer tries to identify the problem by following questions:

1. What are the main character’s needs that motivate her to claim her mother?
2. How does the main character fulfill the hierarchy of needs viewed from Abraham H. Maslow’s Theory?

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D. Significance of the study

Through the research the write hopes the result of the research has benefit for readers who are interested in literature and know further the main character’s needs in her searches using Hierarchy of Human Needs Theory in this film.

E. Research Methodology

This research methodology comprises by many aspects such as objective of the study, method of research, technique of data analysis, instruments of research, and analysis unit.

1. **Objective of the study**

Based on the background of the study and the focus above, the writer would like to classify the objective of the study into two categories below:

   a. To explain the needs of the main character which motivate her to claim her mother in the film

   b. To describe the main character in fulfilling her needs viewed from Abraham H. Maslow.

2. **Method of Research**

   Based on research questions and the significance of the study above, the writer applies descriptive qualitative method, where the writer describes and analyzes the compiled data. It can be said that the data will be analyzed qualitatively and without using any quantitative-systems.

3. **Data Analysis Technique**

   The writer will analyze the data by using “descriptive analysis technique”.

   In this technique, the writer uses Hierarchy of Human Needs of Abraham
Maslow’s approach based on critical study and sharp analysis to the collected data. First, the writer watches the film carefully for several times. This is aimed to learn the contents of the film intensively so it can prevent misunderstanding in the analyzing. Then, the writer makes understanding, and identifying *My Sister’s Keeper* film carefully. Finally, the writer analyzes the related data according to human needs theory. Lastly, the writer writes a report of the study.

4. **Analysis Unit**
   
   Analysis unit that is used in this research is the film *My Sister’s Keeper* by Jeremy Leven and Nick Cassavetes was published by U.S.A.: New Line Home Entertainment, Inc. in 1999.

5. **Instruments of Research**
   
   The research instrument of this research is the writer herself. The writer analyzes by reading the film carefully. Then, the writer marks the characterizations of the main character to find out the evidences of the fulfillment hierarchy of needs viewed by Abraham H. Maslow in *My Sister’s Keeper* film.

6. **Place and Time**
   
   This research was conducted in Jakarta, in the Faculty of Adab and Humanities UIN Jakarta, from October in 2009 to August in 2011.
A. Maslow Theory

Abraham Maslow is a humanistic psychologist. He developed a theory of personality that has influenced a number of different fields. This theory accurately describes many realities of personal experiences.

The cornerstone of Abraham Maslow’s understanding of motivation is the proposition that human beings possess urges or basic needs at organism level. These basic needs, however, are weak needs, quiet biological urges that are often confused and easy overlooked in day to day affairs. It means that the individual seek to satisfy successively the higher needs that occupy a set of hierarchy.

Maslow had little interest in compiling a list of how many needs human beings possess. Rather, Maslow side-stepped the numbers issue and proposed that one master need, the tendency toward growth, governs and organizes all other needs. The growth/actualizing need organizes all others into a hierarchy featuring five clusters based needs. The arrangement of these needs, Maslow felt, was best represented visually by a hierarchy. The first need in Maslow’s hierarchy contains the set of physiological needs necessary for body homeostasis, quiescence, and survival. All the other needs in the hierarchy (safety and security, love and

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belongingness, esteem, and self-actualization) are psychological in nature of human needs.\(^5\)

Maslow argued that any comprehensive theory of Human motivation must take into account the individual as a whole. One cannot hope to understand the complexities of the human condition by reducing behavior to specific responses in specific situations. The wholeness of behavior can also serve several motive states at once.\(^6\) Thus for example, sexual behavior may serve physiological as well as psychological needs of belonging and esteem.

Maslow argued that one must seek to understand the ultimate goals of behavior rather than the superficial or apparent goals, because the apparent goal for any observed behavior may be quite different from the ultimate goal.\(^7\) This implies, in fashion similar to Freudian theory that motivations occur at an unconscious level. Unlike Freud, however, Maslow also regarded the striving for protection or self actualization as the ultimate purpose of behavior.\(^8\)

Maslow argued that human motivation can best be studied by observing human rather than animal behavior. His observations led him to the conclusion that human needs can be understood in terms of hierarchy of needs. Needs lower on the hierarchy are propotent (i.e., stronger) and must be satisfied before needs higher on the hierarchy will be triangle.\(^9\) Maslow did not, however, regard the hierarchy as totally rigid: one can partially satisfy lower needs, thus allowing

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\(^5\) Ibid
\(^7\) Ibid
\(^8\) Ibid
\(^9\) Ibid
higher needs to become partially active. Maslow regarded the satisfaction of needs on the hierarchy in a probabilistic manner. If a lower need is being satisfied most of the time (e.g., 85%), that need will have little influence on behavior.\textsuperscript{10} The following diagram shows Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs, represented as a pyramid below:

![Figure that depicts Maslow’s Hierarchy]\textsuperscript{11}

Maslow’s hierarchy of needs is often displayed as pyramid consisting of five levels: the four levels are grouped together as deficiency needs associated

\textsuperscript{10} Ibid
\textsuperscript{11} http://psychology.about.com/od/theoriesofpersonality/a/hierarchynoeds.htm accessed on April 6th, 2010
with physiological needs, while the top level is termed growth needs associated with the satisfied such as satisfying physical, social, intelectual and emotional needs. While deficiency needs be met, growth needs are continually shaping behavior. The basic concept is that the higher needs in this hierarchy only come into focus once all the needs that are lower down in the pyramid are mainly or entirely satisfied. Growth forces create upward movement in the hierarchy, whereas regressive forces push needs further down the hierarchy. Maslow’s basic needs are as follow:

1. **Physiological Needs**

The first level of the hierarchy consists of physiological needs. If needs such as hunger or thirst are not adequately being met, the needs above them on the hierarchy are pushed into the background in terms of controlling behavior. The individual is in an emergency situation and his or her whole being is dominated by need.\(^1\) Physiological needs consist of needs for oxygen, food, water, and a relatively constant body temperature. Maslow felt that physiological needs are adequately met for most people in our society. When these needs are met, the next need on the hierarchy emerges as a dominant force in controlling and directing behavior.\(^2\)

2. **Safety Needs**

When all physiological needs are satisfied and are no longer controlling thoughts and behaviors, the needs for security can become active.\(^3\) These needs

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\(^1\) Herbert L. Petri (2003), *op.cit.*290.  
\(^2\) Ibid  
\(^3\) C. George Boree, *Personality Theories.* [http://www.ship.edu/~cboeree/maslow.html](http://www.ship.edu/~cboeree/maslow.html) acceesed on March 18th, 2010
represent a need for safety or security in our environment. Like the physiological needs, safety needs are primarily triggered in emergency situations. Higher needs become unimportant when one’s life is endangered, and our behavior reflects our attempts to remain secure. An example of this recently occurred when the remnants of a hurricane caused extensive flooding in neighborhood. Some of his neighbors sustained thousands of dollars of damage to their homes; yet, at the time of the flood, their material loss was unimportant to them because escaping the flood was all that mattered.\footnote{Herbert L. Petri (2003), \textit{loc.cit}}

Safety needs dominate our behavior primarily in times of emergency. Maslow, however, felt that working of the safety needs can also be seen in people’s preference for familiar surroundings, secure jobs, savings account, and insurance. Safety needs are most evident in the children, as shown when an infant cries if it is dropped suddenly, is startled by a loud sound, or a stranger enters the room.\footnote{\textit{Ibid}}

Maslow believed that the safety needs of most adults in our society are adequately met. One reason for the clearer appearance of the threat or danger reaction in infants is that individuals do not inhibit this reaction at all, whereas individuals in our society have been taught to inhibit it at all costs.

3. **Love or Belonging Needs**

If both the physiological and the safety needs are fairly well gratified, there will emerge have love and affection and belongingness needs, and the whole
cycle already described will repeat itself with this new center. Then, they become unimportant in the direction of behavior, and the love or belongingness needs emerge. These needs involve a hunger for affectionate relationship with others, a need to feel part a group, or a feeling that one “belong”. The love needs are not equivalent to sexual needs (which are physiological), though sexual intimacy can serve to satisfy one’s need to belong. Maslow argued that individuals seek to overcome feelings of loneliness and alienation. This involves both giving and receiving love, affection and the sense of belonging.

4. **Esteem Needs**

If the love needs have been adequately met, they too slip into the background in relation to guiding behavior, and the esteem needs become dominant. These are need for a positive, high evaluation of oneself. This evaluation can be broken down into two subcategories – a need for self esteem and a need for esteem from other.

The need for self-esteem motivates the individual to strive for achievement, strenght, confidence, independence, and freedom. The need for self-esteem seems to have at its core the desire to feel worthwhile and appears highly. The related need of esteem from others involves a desire for reputation, status, recognition, appreciation by others of one’s abilities, and a feeling of importance.

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18 Herbert L. Petri (2003), *loc.cit*
19 *Ibid*
20 *Ibid. P. 291*
When the esteem needs are satisfied, one has feelings of self-confidence and self-worth and sees oneself as having a purpose in the world. When these needs are not satisfied, individual has feelings of self-frustrated, maladjustment can occur, typified by feelings of inferiority, weakness, and helplessness.

5. Self-Actualization Needs

When one has satisfied the first four level of need, the final level of development, which Maslow termed self-actualization, can be reached. At the self-actualization level, the person’s behavior is motivated by different conditions than at the lower levels. It means, at this level, the individual differences are greatest. What a man can be, he must can be. This forms the basis of the perceived need for self-actualization. This level of need pertains to what a person’s full potential is and realizing that potential. Maslow describes this desire as the desire to become more and more what one is, to become everything

The self-actualized individual has satisfied all the deprivation needs of the first four levels of the hierarchy. The behavior of the self-actualized person is, as a result, motivated by new set of needs, which Maslow termed the being needs (B-motivation, or metha-motivation). These B-motives are values such as truth, honesty, beauty, and goodness, and they provide meaning to the life of the self-actualized individual. The clear emergence of these needs usually rest upon some prior satisfaction of the physiological, safety, love, and esteem needs.

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21 Ibid
23 Ibid
24 Herbert L. Petri (2003), op.cit.292.
The picture Maslow gives us of the self-actualized person is a very positive one. The self-actualized individual is no longer motivated by deficiencies but is motivated to grow and become all that he or she is capable of becoming. Self-actualization constantly stimulates people to test their abilities and expand their horizons.\textsuperscript{26}

B. Character and Characterization

1. Character

In a film, character is an important element that will develop the story because character is a person who carries out the events of film and then those events become a story. A character, then, is presumably an imagined person who inhabits a story—although that simple definition may admit to a few exceptions. Character is any person, persona, identify or entity that exists in a work of art. Along with plot, setting, theme and style, character is considered on of the fundamental components of fiction.\textsuperscript{27}

Character development is essential to a good story. Character should enter the story as dimensional, on-stereotypical character, and become more dimensional as the story and other characters act upon them. Character is someone who suggests that he or she has a strange or eccentric personality. Person’s character involves a discussion of his or her personal values and behavior.\textsuperscript{28}

For analyzing film characters utilizes three different types of pairing: stock character and stereotypes, statistic versus dynamic character, and flat versus round characters.

\textsuperscript{26} ibid
\textsuperscript{27} X.J. Kennedy, \textit{An Introduction to Fiction}, (Boston: Little, Bown, 1983), p. 45
\textsuperscript{28} http://www.writing-world.com/screen/film3.shtml. Accessed on October 12\textsuperscript{th} 2011
Stock character and stereotypes are not essential or even desirable for every character in a film to have an unique or memorable personality. Stock characters are minor character whose actions are completely predictable or typical or their job or profession. They are in the film simply because the situation demands their presence. They serve as a natural part of the setting, such as stage properties like a lamp or a chair might function in a play.\(^{29}\) A stereotyped character represents a category of people. The word stereotype comes from printing and refers to a metal mold used to mass produce duplicates of printing type. Stereotypes, however, are characters of somewhat greater importance to the film. They fit into preconceived patterns of behavior common to or representative of a large number of people, at least a large number of fictional people.\(^{30}\)

Static versus dynamic characters are often useful to determine whether the most important characters in a film are static or dynamic characters. Dynamic characters deeply affected by the action of the plot and undergo some important change in personality, attitude, or outlook on life as a result of the action of the story. The change they undergo is an important, permanent one, not just a whimsical shift in attitude that will change back again tomorrow. The character will somehow never be the same person he or she when the action of the film began.\(^{31}\)

The change can be of any type but is significant to the total makeup of the individual undergoing the change. Developing characters become sadder or wiser,

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\(^{31}\) Joseph M. Boggs and Dennis W. Petrie (2000) loc.cit.p.58
or happier and more self-confident. They might gain some new awareness of life, become more nature or more responsible, or become more moral or less so. They may become simply more aware and knowing and less innocent or naïve.\textsuperscript{32}

Static characters remain essentially the same throughout the film. The action does not have an important effect on their lives. Or they are insensitive to the meaning of the action and thus are not capable of growth or change. Statics characters, however, remain unchanged; their character is the same at the end of the story as at the beginning.\textsuperscript{33}

Another important distinction is made between the characters and round characters. Flat characters are two-dimensional, predictable character who lack the complexity and unique qualities associated with psychological depth. They often tend to be representative character types rather than real flesh-and-blood human beings. Unique, individualistic characters who have some degree of complexity and ambiguity and who cannot easily be categorized are called round characters.\textsuperscript{34}

Round character is a three-dimensional character complex enough to be able to surprise the audience without losing credibility. Round characters are not inherently superior to static characters. The terms merely imply how different characters function within the framework of a story. Round characters are characters which are complex and realistic; they represent a depth of personality which is imitative of life.\textsuperscript{35}

\textsuperscript{32} Ibid. p.59
\textsuperscript{33} Jane Bachman Gordon and Karen Kuehner (1999) op.cit.p.97
\textsuperscript{34} Joseph M. Boggs and Dennis W. Petrie (2000) loc.cit.p.60
\textsuperscript{35} Jane Bachman Gordon and Karen Kuehner (1999) op.cit.p.95
2. **Characterization**

Characterization is the use of literary techniques to reveal the nature of a character. Characterization broadly refers to description and development of characters. Arguably, most fiction is characterization in a broad sense; one could say that plots and settings, for instance, generally work to develop character. Characterization can involve developing a variety of aspects of a character such as appearance, dialogue, external action, internal action or reactions of other characters.\(^{36}\)

a. **Characterization through appearance**

Characterization can be depicted through appearance. Although, in real life most of us are aware that appearances are often deceiving, in the world of fiction details of appearance (what a character wears and how he looks) often provide essential clues to character.\(^{37}\) 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 is revealed visually and instantaneously.\(^{38}\) The minute we see 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.\(^{39}\)

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\(^{36}\) Joseph M. Boggs and Dennis W. Petrie (2000) loc. cit. p.50


\(^{39}\) *Ibid*
b. Characterization through dialogue

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 the 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.

c. 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.

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40 Joseph M. Boggs and Dennis W. Petrie (2000) op.cit.p. 52
41 Ibid.p.53
d. 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 hopes, dreams, and aspirations can be as important to an understanding of their character as any real achievement, and their fears and insecurities can be more terrible to them any real catastrophic failure.\footnote{Ibid. p.53}

e. Characterization through reaction of other characters

The way characters view a person often serves as an excellent means of characterization. Sometime a great deal of information about a character is already provided through such means before the character first appears on the screen.\footnote{Ibid}
CHAPTER III
RESEARCH FINDINGS

A. Data Descriptions

*My sister keeper* is a movie which tells about a little girl named Anna Fitzgerald, who is looking for love and safety needs from her family. Focus the findings, the writer only focuses on the three needs that fulfilled by the main character and are drawn as the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Hierarchy Needs of Main Character</th>
<th>Remark</th>
<th>Corpus</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Physiological Needs</td>
<td>Hunger and thirst</td>
<td>“Anna: besides it’s the only place I’ve ever been. That’s mom and aunt Kelly making dinner.”</td>
<td>03:22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Safety Needs</td>
<td>Security of body and health</td>
<td>“Anna: I want to sue my parents for the rights to my own body. My sister has leukemia. They’re trying to force me to give her my body parts. Brian: All right, let’s hear it. what’s going on?” “Anna: Okay. Forget about the fact that the operation is dangerous, or that it would hurt...... Anna:.....or that I might not want to have something cut out of me. But if I only have one kidney, then what happens to me? What if I need it? And am I really never allowed to play sports or be a cheerleader or get pregnant?” “Anna: Hey Judge.</td>
<td>07:33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mr. Campbell: I brought this for you. We won. You still have to do your homework and go to bed when your parents tell you to…but you’re now officially medically emancipated.”

| 3. | Love and belongingness Needs | Love, affection and belongingness | Anna: I see other kids, I see what they do. They go to parties, the beach. “....I, on the other hand, am not a coincidence. I was engineered. Born for a particular reason.” “I wouldn’t even be alive if Kate wasn’t sick. I’m designer baby. I was made in a dish to be spare parts for Kate.” “But I don’t want to be careful. Who wants to live like that?.......I’m important too, mom. I’m important too.” |

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**B. Analysis**

**B.1 The main Character**

Character is someone who acts and appears or is referred to as playing a part in literary work. Most of film actors project a certain qualities of character the minute they appear on the screen. At the beginning of the movie the main characters usually give the audience some clues to get a better understanding of

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44 Paul Hunter, Alison Booth and kelly J. The Norton Introduction to Literature (W.W northon and company, Inc 2002) p. 102
her/his character. The characterization of a character can be depicted through appearance and can be shown through dialogue.

*My sister’s keeper* is a movie with a fascinating legal drama dealing with a thorny ethical issue. Anna Fitzgerald, as the main character is a little girl who struggles to be accepted and respected in her family especially from her parents. In this movie Anna as a kind and obedient kid. She loves her family, she always takes care her sister named Kate who get cancer illness and talks each other, and also make joke together.

“Kate: Hey, Mom. You wanna see our routine?
Sara: what routine?
Kate: Come on, Anna, Let’s do it.
    Hey baby, What’s your sign?
Anna: Cancer, You’re a cancer?
Kate: No, I’m leo...
    But I have cancer” (03:45)

From the dialogue above, it shows that Anna and Kate are very close and love each other. Anna always tries to make Kate happy such as, support what her sister needs, donate her blood or whatever else is necessary to keep her elder sister alive. Time passes by, Anna realizes that her appearances is just to be a donor child, she feels sad and she thinks that her parents only care and give a big attention to her sister. Finally Anna changes to be a different character, she is to be firm girl. She is also very straight with her arguments to get her right from her parents, especially to get attention and affection from her parents.

Sara: Anna, what is this? Is this from you?
Anna: Yeah, I got a lawyer
Sara: You’re suing us? Well, honey, what the hell is going on?
Anna: I don’t want to do it anymore, Mom.
Sara: You don’t want to do it anymore? That’s it? You don’t want to do it?
Anna: No. Guess what? Neither do I and neither does Kate
Sara: Please. It’s not like we have a choice.
Anna: That’s the thing, I do. I do have a choice……..(16:14 – 16:30)

From the second dialogue above, shows that she insists on her wants, she
is very firm with her arguments. This depiction is very far different from her first
character. It is shown in the movie that she is really trying hard to sue her parents
to fulfill her safety needs of her health and her body, she doesn’t want to give her
kidney to her sister because, if she do it many problems will face her in the future
especially for her healthy.

“Anna: I want to sue my parents for the rights to my own body. My sister
has leukemia. They’re trying to force me to give her my body parts.”
(07:38)
“Lawyer: No one can force you to donate if you don’t want to, can they?
Anna: They think they can. I am under 18, they’re my legal guardians.”
(07:52)

Seeing the quotation above, it is clearly she also ambitious to get
everything she wants. The main character who struggle in her right and trying to
prove everyone that she has same right to get love from her parents and also
safety for her body health. Even though her parents doesn’t like with her attitude
but the main character convince them that lives and deaths are God’s decision.
Human can not force God’s decision in any cases. In this point the main character
find her turning point. She finally realizes what she really wants and in the process
she realizes there are needs that she must fulfill to get a value and feel satisfied of
life.

B.2 The Hierarchy of Needs in the Main Character

As it has been explained previously at chapter II, Hierarchy of Human
Needs Theory is divided into five clusters of needs. Form the lowest Physiological

However, in this analysis the writer only focuses on the three needs, they are: The first level need, the second level need and the third level need. Then, the analysis can be described as follows;

a. **The First Level: Physiological Needs of Main Character**

Maslow argues that the basic level of the Hierarchy consists of physiological needs such as: hunger, thirst, air, sleep, shelter, breath and soon. Physiological needs are the strongest needs because if a person is deprived of all needs, the physiological needs would come first in the person’s search for satisfaction. If it is not fulfilled in very extreme circumstance, human being can lose control over their own behavior, such as; aggressive, do not feel embarrassed, do not have consideration of other, etc. At this level, the encouragements such as having a car, new shoes, will be neglected or occupied at second place.

Hunger, for human being does not pay attention to expect for eating, and the others are not considered important. Conversely, if the need is fulfilled, then the physiological needs will be lost. Furthermore, if the physiological needs are often fulfilled, the needs are not the needs again. Moreover higher needs will be appeared.

In *My Sister’s Keeper*, the main character lives with her family, complete with father, mother, sister, brother, and aunt. Her father works at Fire Department, and her mother stays at home to look after her sister Kate. Everyday they eat together, her mother and her aunt always cook for the family. Therefore, that is
not major problem for the main character in fulfilling the needs, especially for hunger and thirst needs. It is narrated below:

“Anna: Besides it’s the only place I’ve ever been. That’s mom and aunt Kelly making dinner
Anna: Everything steamed and, organic and germ free.” (03:22)

Based on the scene picture above Anna and family look happy and enjoy to make dinner together. In this story she looks healthy, she eats nutritious foods, she can eat everything in her house freely. Although, all foods are prepared and cooked according for cancer disease. The whole family eats the food with a menu in accordance with the Kate’s menu.
She also gets education from her parents. Her parents provide her an appropriate education. She goes to school every day, without obstacles. Sometime her father accompanies her to review her lesson at school or helps her to finish her homework. Even though, she often goes out of the classroom for permission to see Kate in the hospital when her condition is critical and worrying.

From the explanation above, it is clear that hunger, thirst are usually fulfilled by the main character. In this case, the main character can fulfill the needs without the barriers and obstacles. So, she does not feel the lack in fulfilling the needs. Therefore, physiological needs of the main character are fulfilled.

b. The Second Level: Safety needs

When all physiological needs are satisfied and no longer controlling thoughts and behaviors, then, appearing a new set of needs, safety needs, such as: security, stability, dependency, protection, freedom from fear, from anxiety and chaos; need for structure, order, law, limits; strength in the protector; and so on. All those have been said to the physiological needs are equally true, although in less degree, of these desires. Moreover, the safety need is often revealed specially in searching for protector, or someone who can give the security.

Maslow argued that safety needs had been found in many societies who lived in state of emergency such as war or natural disaster. He emphasized that a normal adult who lived in Western countries, generally, their safety needs was fulfilled because the condition of the country relatively prospeous and safety. Furthermore, in My Sister’s Keeper, the main character feels the threat of danger in physical form. In this film Anna is created to be donor for Kate, started from 5
years old, she donated lymphocytes. Then at 6 years old, she donated granulocytes.

Actually a doctor hooked up her mother’s eggs and her father sperm to make a specific combination of genes. Her parents do it to save her sister’s life, the genes is Anna. So everytime her sister needs her blood or parts of her body, she must give it to her. But suddenly at 11 years old Anna does not want to do more. She worries about her life and her health at the future. It can be narrated below:

“Anna: I want to sue my parents for the rights to my own body. Mr. Campbell: Would you repeat that? Anna: I want to sue my parents for the rights to my own body. My sister has leukemia. They’re trying to force me to give her my body parts. Mr. Campbell: You’re supposed to give her a kidney? Anna: She’s been in renal failure for a months now. Mr. Campbell: No one can force you to donate if you don’t want to, can they? Anna: They think they can. I’m under 18, they’re my legal guardians. Mr. Campbell: They can’t do that. Anna: That’s what I want you to tell them...they’ve been doing to me my whole life.” (07:38-08:10)

When Anna asks Mr. Campbell to be her lawyer depicts that Anna very needs someone’s help to save her body, especially to save her kidney. It can be imagined if she as a normal person survives just with one kidney, it is absolutely very hard and takes a risk for her whole life. Then, the most dangerous effect of the operation is she will die if the operation is failure. For that condition Anna encourage herself to sue her parents through Mr. Campbell as her lawyer to get protection of her health and body, and the indication can be depicted while Anna says “I want to sue my parents for the rights to my own body. My sister has leukemia. They’re trying to force me to give her my body parts.”
The needs of protection and safety of herself in the future make her a brave and firm girl, moreover she doesn’t care with whom she is facing, her own family especially her parents. Anna gets the support from Kate as her sister and Jesse as her brother. In this case she asks Mr. Campbell to be her lawyer. This is her first way that rent a lawyer to save her life, but in the process Anna faces many difficulties, her mother angry and disappointed so much, because she does not want to donate her kidney and sue her parents. It is narrated bellow:

Sara: Anna, what is this? Is this from you?
Anna: Yeah, I got a lawyer
Sara: You’re suing us? Well, honey, what the hell is going on?
Anna: I don’t want to do it anymore, Mom.
Sara: You don’t want to do it anymore? That’s it? You don’t want to do it?
Anna: No. Guess what? Neither do I and neither does Kate
Sara: Please. It’s not like we have a choice.
Anna: That’s the thing, I do. I do have a choice........”(16:14 – 16:30)

The dialogue above, depicts the struggle of Anna on claiming her rights, explains her reason why she does it. Even though her mother does not agree on her reaction. The rejection and anger from her mother can not stop her way. It is also narrated below:

Brian: All right, let’s hear it. what’s going on?
Anna: Okay.
Forget about the fact that the operation is dangerous, or that it would hurt.......
Anna:......or that I might not want to have something cut out of me. But if I only have one kidney, then what happens to me? What if I need it? And am I really never allowed to play sports or be a cheerleader or get pregnant? (17:19 – 17:32)

These quotations show that the main character never gets fear to fight against her mother. Moreover she protests back what her mother said. Anna thinks she has a right to choose what she wants. Anna does not want to live her life
through in fear and without freedom for her own health. She needs to live normally as other kids do. In this way, she tries to prove that life decision is on her own hands, not on her parents. Finally, Anna wins over her parents and it can be depicted below:

“Anna: Hey Judge.
Mr. Campbell: I brought this for you. We won. You still have to do your homework and go to bed when your parents tell you to…but you’re now officially medically emancipated.” (01:38:17 – 01:39:00)

According to the explanation above, it can be concluded that Anna can fulfill her safety needs while she wins the claim and it happens in the end of the movie. Beside that, it can be seen when she tries to fulfill the safety needs especially for security of body and health, she goes to lawyer to sue her parents for medically emancipation. So, when she thinks about thing that has happened in her life, she is conscious from her unconsciousness that she has got what she though, security of body and her health. Therefore, the safety need of main character is fulfilled.

c. The Third Level: Love and Belongingness Needs.

If both physiological needs and safety needs are fairly well fulfilled, there will appear the new needs, love and belongingness needs. If love and belongingness needs are not fulfilled, then the human being feel keenly, because of the absence of friends or family. Human being will hunger for affectionate relations with people in general, namely, for a place in her group or family, and she will strive with great intensity to achieve the goal.
As human being in general, the main character, needs friends, mother, father and family. When she realizes her appeared just to be donor for her sister, she feels everybody only care and give a big affection to her sickness sister. Her mother never knows what she wants and needs. It can be narrated below:

Anna: when I was a kid, my mother told me that I was a little piece of blue sky… That came into this world because she and Dad loved me so much. It was only later that I realized that it wasn’t exactly true. Most babies are coincidences. (00:50:0059) I, on the other hand, am not a coincidence. I was engineered. Born for a particular reason. (01:05) Anna: I’m designer baby. I was made in a dish to be spare parts for Kate. (18:08)

It is clear that Anna actually feels different with her condition and position in her family. It can be depicted clearly when Anna Says ‘I wouldn’t be alive if Kate wasn’t sick’” this quotation shows that Anna feels sad about her presence and it is the truth that her parents never know about her feeling. Her parents just want to know and understand how the way to make Kate alive but do not know how the way to make her happy and have a price for their family. On the other hand, she knows her presence only becomes spare part for Kate, but Anna is the same like other kids that always needs attention and tenderness of parents, especially from her own mother. She wants to be free for playing, go somewhere she wants to visit and not only stays at home for taking care her sister. Sometime they go on vacation together based on Kate’s request and it is not fair for Anna. It can be narrated below:

Sara: she’s your sister
Anna: I know that! But I’m not like you, mom!

I see the other kids, I see what they do. They go to parties, the beach.
Sara: I don’t understand why you didn’t say something earlier.
Anna: when? When you should I talk to you about it?
You’re never home. You leave me here with her.
Sara: Excuse me? You’ve never had to do anything you don’t want to do, and you know that!
Anna: I always wound up doing everything, didn’t I?” (17:49)
Sara: Anna, listen....
Anna: I’m important too, mom. I’m important too.(18:30)

The quotation above, depicts that Anna needs love and attention from her parents. The feeling to be loved by the family makes her brave to tell what she wants. She desires her parents realize that she is important too for their family. It can be narrated below:

“Mr. Campbell: My client is not seeking to be emancipated. She loves her parents and wants to live at home. She doesn’t cut open anymore.” (01:02:39)

The quotation above depicts that Anna actually needs love from her parents and makes them understand about her feeling and also realize about her presence and it is covered by suing to get medical emancipation. The dialogue below also depicts the same things:

Mr. Campbell: Mrs. Fitzgerald, how old was Anna when she started donating to her sister?
Sara Fitzgerald: She was a newborn
Mr. Campbell: And at 5, she started donating lymphocytes, is that correct?
Sara Fitzgerald: mm-hm
Mr. Campbell: What does that involve?
Sara Fitzgerald: Giving blood
Mr. Campbell: Did Anna agree to that?
Sara Fitzgerald: No, she was 5
Mr. Campbell: Mrs. Fitzgerald, how old was Anna the next time she was hospitalized?
Sara Fitzgerald: when she was 6
Mr. Campbell: She donated granulocytes. And what’s that? More needles?
Sara Fitzgerald: Yup
Mr. Campbell: And did you ask Anna is she was willing to donate the granulocytes?
Sara Fitzgerald: No, I didn’t, but Kate comes first? and Kate’s sick
Mr. Campbell: Mrs. Fitzgerald, you stand up for Kate
Sara Fitzgerald: I do
Mr. Campbell: But the real question is: who stands up for Anna? (01:15:35 – 01:19:25)

These dialogues describe that Anna sue her parents to make them realize and open their eyes that Kate’s sickness has made them forget that there is another child who is seeking attention and the love of them. In this case, Anna has always been the one who sacrifices a lot while everyone ignores her feeling to it.

Furthermore, the main character sues her parents for legal definition of medical emancipation. She does it, because she wants to live as a normal child. In process for searching love and affection Anna gets support from Kate and Jesse. On the previous page it has been told that Anna and Kate are close and care to each other. Kate knows the sacrifice of her sister for herself. Kate loves Anna so much, she does not want Anna live like her. Kate is actually the one who asks Anna to protest their parents. The other reason Anna does agree to do it because she loves her sister so much, beside she needs love from her parents and security of her health and body. It can be narrated below:

Jesse Fitzgerald: Kate wants to die!
She’s making Anna do all this because she knows she’s not gonna survive
Sara Fitzgerald: That’s a lie, Jesse!
Jesse Fitzgerald: oh, no, it’s not!
Kate’s dying and everybody knows it. You just love her so much that you don’t want to let her go. (01:23:15 – 01:24:07)
Kate: Anna? Sissy
Anna: you in pain?
Kate: Pain? My whole life is a pain. This is the end sissy. Time to go.
I need you to do me a favor, sissy
Anna: What favor?
Kate: You can release me. (1:25:02 – 1:25:29)
These dialogues above show the reason Anna wants to sue her parents because she cares and loves her sister and she wants release Kate from the pain. Anna knows Kate loves her so much, Kate also does the same thing for her.

Anna: Mom and Dad are gonna kill me. What am I supposed to tell them?
Kate: Tell them you’re important too.
Tell them you wanna play soccer.
Tell them you wanna cheerland
Anna: They’ll never believe me.
Kate: Yeah, they will. And you wanna know why?
Because it’s the truth. (01:26:45 – 01:27:01)

The dialogue shows that Kate very cares with Anna, she is not disappointed or be angry with Anna by refusing to donate the kidney. Kate realizes that her siblings get different treatments from her parents because her disease. Kate will do anything as she can to help her sister to get her right. Anna feels happy and does not feel alone anymore, because everytime she feels sad, Kate always on her side. It can be depicted by picture below:

From the analysis above, the main character has strong effort to fulfill her need. Even though she does not get love and affection from her parents, but she still has love from her sister and brother. At the end of the story, her father and her mother realize that Anna has rights to give her kidney for Kate or not after Anna
wins the claim. Her parents do not force her to do it anymore and her parents also realize of their mistakes. So, it can be concluded that love and belongingness needs of the main character are fulfilled.

Based on the analysis Hierarchy of Needs Abraham H. Maslow above that illustrates the need for whatever is needed and has been met by the main character of *My Sister's Keeper*, where it all gives an explanation of what things are that motivate the main character in prosecuting parents Emancipation court with medical claims. It is devided into three reasons, they are:

**First**, the reason why she is so brave to sue her parents due to the imposition of court made by the parents so that she should donate her kidney. In this case she feels threatened for her health and safety. She realizes that if she does it, during her life she will live in fear of her health in the future, for example; she will not allow to get pregnant because, it takes risk, she will get lose her freedom as common kids to get. It is depicted on second level (Safety Needs) of Hierarchy of Needs above that she must be fulfilled.

**Second**, the reason why the main character sues her parents is she feels that her parents never know what her wants and her feelings. Her parents only care about her sister, everything they do for her. Deep inside, she wants to go to the beach plays with her friends and do anything as common kids do, not only stays at home after going back from school to take care of her sister, but also she does anything for her sister needs, such as, talking each other, making joke and even must to be donor for her sister.
She feels left out, she thinks that her presence is never considered and appreciated. In fact she also requires the same attention as her sister, when all the people and her family only care about her sister healthy and feelings, then who want to care and understand about her health and feelings. Feeling, is very important, then it becomes one of the reasons that motivate her to sue her parents, it is showed on third level (Love and Belongingness Needs) of Hierarchy of Needs above that she must be fulfilled.

Third, the reason why the main character (Anna) sues her parents does she love her sister (Kate)? She wants to release her from the pain. Kate wants to die, because she feels that she can not survive anymore with the condition. She also can not bring to herself to look after her little sister in heavy burden to make her alive. This reason also becomes evidence that Anna can fulfill her love and belongingness needs from her sister. Even though her parents never give the big attention like her sister does.
CHAPTER IV
CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

A. Conclusion

*My sister's keeper* is a drama movie, a film about a child with leukemia understandably has a small theatrical audience, but *My Sister's Keeper* allows for nuances and takes time to focus this story of an illness on all the people and its affects. It is a fascinating legal drama dealing with a thorny ethical issue. Anna has always known she is a "donor child." When her parents, Sara (Cameron Diaz) and Brian (Jason Patric), discover their first daughter, Kate (Sofia Vassilieva), has leukemia, they choose to conceive another child through genetic engineering who would be a perfect genetic match with Kate. Thus, Anna can donate blood or whatever else is necessary to keep her elder sister alive.

The movie begins with a bit of misdirection when 11-year-old Anna (Abigail Breslin) sues her parents. Then, 11 years into this routine, Kate's kidneys are failing and she will need one of Anna's. Anna finally says no. She hires a big-shot lawyer (Alec Baldwin, and goes to court seeking her "medical emancipation", but her mom, who rejects a law practice to care for her ailing daughter, will make a ferocious opponent.

The main character who struggling in her right and trying to prove everyone that she has the same right to get love and safety for her body. Eventhough her parents do not like with her atittude but the main character convinces them that lives and deaths are God’s decision. Human can not force

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God’s decision in any cases. Besides that, Anna thinks she has a right to choose what she wants. Anna does not want to live her life through in fear and without freedom for her own health. She needs to live normally as other kids do. In this way, she tries to prove that life decision is on her own hands, not on her parents.

The most hierarchy needs that she looks for are needs for love (love and belongingness) and needs for safety (security for body and health). Finally, at the end of the story Anna can get her safety and love and belongingness needs for herself by fulfilling the needs as mentioned in the hierarchy needs. In her way to fulfill the physiological need, safety needs, love and belongingness needs, she can fulfill the needs to help her sister.

B. Suggestion

In analyzing film or literary work, researchers should use the right theory or approach in order to have the right comprehension of the film or literary work itself. In this occasion, the writer uses psychological approach in analyzing the My Sister’s Keeper film. She uses Abraham H. Maslow’s hierarchy needs theory to this research because she finds that in analyzing a character it is best to use that approach to get better understanding of a character.

Maslow’s theory is a theory which analyzes through a personal life as the subject. My Sister's Keeper is a movie which is based on a book with the same title. In this movie the character created as same as the character in the real world. This proves that there is a relation between psychology and literature. Fiction becomes a part of literature so that literature can be analyzed by using psychological approach so the writer chooses Abraham H. Maslow’s hierarchy
theory is the most suitable to analyze the character. Therefore, to other researchers who want to analyze the correlation of the literary work and psychological in term of analyzing a character can use hierarchy of needs by Abraham H. Maslow’s concepts.
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**SUMMARY OF MY SISTER’S KEEPER MOVIE**

*My Sister’s Keeper* is a 2009 American drama film directed by Nick Cassavetes and starring Cameron Diaz, Abigail Breslin, Sofia Vassilieva, and Alec Baldwin. Based on Jodi Picoult's novel of the same name *My Sister's Keeper* was released in the United States, Canada, Mexico, and the United Kingdom on June 26, 2009.

Conceived by means of in vitro fertilization, Anna Fitzgerald (Abigail Breslin) was brought into the world to be a genetic match for her older sister, Kate (Sofia Vassilieva), who suffers from acute promyelocytic leukemia, in order to keep her alive. Her family members are introduced one by one and each tells about how Kate's illness has affected them personally and the family. When Kate turns 15, she goes into renal failure. Eleven-year-old Anna knows that she will be forced by her parents to donate one of her kidneys. She also realizes that she may not be able to live the life she will want to lead - she may be unable to cheer-lead, play soccer, or be a mother. Anna tells her parents that she does not want any of this, and proceeds to sue them for medical emancipation and the rights to her own body. Her overprotective mother, Sara (Cameron Diaz), who leads an obsessive campaign to keep Kate alive, is indignant at Anna's decision and even strikes her across the face when she receives the notice of intended prosecution. Attorney Campbell Alexander (Alec Baldwin) agrees to work for Anna as her guardian ad litem, suing for partial termination of parental rights. It is later learned he agreed
to take the case not for the notoriety, but because he has epilepsy and understands her predicament of not having control over her own body.

The film is interlaced with flashbacks that detail Kate and Anna's closeness, as well as how Kate's illness has affected her siblings' lives and their relationships. In a flashback, Kate also meets a fellow cancer patient, Taylor Ambrose (Thomas Dekker), whom she begins dating. After a date, they share their first kiss outside Kate's house, with Sara and Kate's father Brian (Jason Patric) watching from their bedroom window. After this, he becomes her boyfriend in and out of hospital and supports her as she undergoes treatment. He then asks her to the hospital's "prom" for teen patients; there, they slow-dance, then proceed to a vacant hospital room to make love. A few days later, Kate is crying because Taylor hasn't called her for several days. Her mother Sara is furious when Kate mentions they did "stuff" after the prom and storms out to ask the nurse where Taylor is, evidently believing that he had dated her daughter merely to sleep with her, and learns that he has died.

Kate makes a request to go to the beach one last time, and Brian obtains permission from her doctor and removes her from the hospital to take her and the kids. Overprotective as ever, Sara is furious when Brian shows up at the house with Kate and demands that she be returned to the hospital. Brian angrily refuses and drives off, threatening Sara with a divorce if she does not join them. Sara later shows up at the beach, where they enjoy one final family outing. To Sara's dismay, the judge (Joan Cusack) refuses to grant summary dismissal, and the case
goes to a hearing. During the hearing, Anna and Kate's older brother, Jesse reveal that Anna's actions are actually under Kate's instruction; Kate, not wanting to live any longer, and knowing Sara refuses to hear any option other than her desired one, had gently persuaded Anna to refuse to donate her kidney. Sara is indignant at this discovery, but is finally forced by both Jesse and Brian to realize that Kate had been trying to tell her this for some time. Before the case is decided, Kate dies in her sleep at the hospital with her mother by her side. After Kate's death, Campbell brings the court decision: Anna won the case. The family moves on with their lives, but every year on Kate's birthday they go to Montana, which was her "most favorite place in the world." At the end, Anna says that their relationship continues because she will see Kate again.