

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

As a creature, humans are motivated to achieve certain things in their life and it is often driven by necessity or desire. These are needs that people want to be fulfilled which consist of physical or psychological needs. Maslow (1943) states that human needs are arranged into 5 types which are physiological needs, safety needs, love and belonging needs, self-esteem needs, and self-actualization. These needs are present in many people, ranging from little children to elderly and each of their needs varies from one person to another. In order to fulfil a need, an individual is required to finish or achieve specific things depending on the requirements of the need. These requirements to finish or achieve things vary whether it is a physical thing where someone needs to work to buy or achieve it, or a psychological thing where someone has to venture on a personal journey to gain psychological fulfilment. As a result of completing those requirements, an individual eventually has all the necessary tools to achieve what he or she wants and receives personal satisfaction after the need has been fulfilled.

However, fulfilling needs is not a straightforward process because individuals who attempt to satisfy their needs may face challenges during its process of fulfilment. These challenges hinder the individual's capability of achieving what they desire. For example, someone who is in dire need of food has to purchase it with money and therefore, money becomes the challenge in getting the food unless those individual risks to steal it in which it becomes psychological challenges where

someone has to face their own conscience to do something illegal. Therefore, challenges may vary depending on the type of the needs and the morality of the person and resolving these challenges will result in the fulfilment of that individual's needs.

Fulfilling needs bring numerous effects to those who encounter it during their daily activities. For example, someone who craves food and manages to satisfy it would find themselves full. On the other hand, someone who did not manage to satisfy their craving for food may find themselves with hunger. Moreover, needs such as food and water can be described as necessary as if not fulfilled it would make the individual face mortal danger such as death (Pittman & Zeigler, 2007). Therefore, people need to work around a solution every day to find the best way to achieve their needs so they can continue functioning in society without being hindered. This journey to accomplish needs also appeared in literature such as novels, one of which is the novel *Mickey 7* (2022) by Edward Ashton whereas the story progressed, the character displayed his needs and slowly work to fulfil them.

The novel *Mickey 7* explores the main character, Mickey Barnes, who has an occupation as an expendable that must serve the colony's missions. During his life as an expendable in the dome, Mickey has various needs that emerged from harsh living conditions such as duplication, scarcity, institutional oversight, expendability, and survival in a hostile colony world. As a result, he wanted to fulfil them in order to maintain his life and increase his productivity. Therefore, there are numerous needs that he had to manage during his journey throughout the story.

Mickey's struggle of achieving needs involved him rationing his food with his duplicate amid food scarcity in the dome, unless both of them wanted to risk starvation. Moreover, Mickey found out that physical needs were not his only concern because he needs to achieve safety for him and the one he loved from the authorities who would punish them if they figured out his secret. Furthermore, while hiding a dangerous secret, Mickey has to maintain, build, and prove himself to others in the colony so he would not feel worthless and lonely. His journey of carefully threading the situation eventually led to a climax where the authorities finally figured out that there were two of him and he must struggle to protect his and his girlfriend's life from the punishment. Therefore, he agreed to be sent on a mission to destroy an alien hive beneath the planet's surface in which he eventually decided to disobey because he followed his morality and he managed to become a diplomat for both races.

Mickey's adventure throughout the novel showcased his harsh living conditions that were caused because of his job as an expendable, his duplication with Mickey 8, limited resources, and government control. These conditions and circumstances present unique challenges for Mickey to fulfil his variety of needs. Therefore, this study aims to analyse how Mickey's needs are negotiated within those harsh conditions as depicted in the novel *Mickey 7* (2022) by Edward Ashton. The analysis will be conducted by utilizing Hierarchy of Needs and Preconditions for Need Satisfaction theories by Abraham Maslow.

1.2 Research Problems

Based on the problems that have been identified by the author, Mickey Barnes' needs in Edward Ashton's *Mickey 7* will be analysed through two research questions.

- 1) How does Mickey Barnes negotiate his hierarchy of needs under the conditions of expendability, duplication, and institutional control in Edward Ashton's *Mickey 7*?
- 2) How does Mickey Barnes negotiate his preconditions for need satisfactions under the conditions of expendability, duplication, and institutional control in Edward Ashton's *Mickey 7*?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the research problems, this study aims to achieve these following objectives:

- 1) To discover how Mickey Barnes negotiates his hierarchy of needs under the conditions of expendability, duplication, and institutional control in Edward Ashton's *Mickey 7*
- 2) To discover how Mickey Barnes negotiates his preconditions for need satisfactions under the conditions of expendability, duplication, and institutional control in Edward Ashton's *Mickey 7*

1.4 Scope of the Study

This research will discuss intrinsic elements and psychological analysis of the novel *Mickey 7* (2022). The intrinsic elements consist of characters, characterisation, and conflict. This is further expanded to include the types of character such as main and supporting characters, methods of characterisation such as showing and telling, settings such as location, time, and social circumstances, and the types of conflict that include internal and external conflicts. Furthermore, the psychological analysis of the novel will be an analysis of the Hierarchy of Needs and the preconditions of need satisfactions of Mickey Barnes in Edward Ashton's *Mickey 7* utilizing the aforementioned theories by Abraham Maslow.

1.5 Previous Studies

The author has discovered that there is a previous study that analysed the novel *Mickey 7* (2022) by Edward Ashton in the form of an article titled "Character Transformation in Adaptation: Life and Death Drives in Edward Ashton's *Mickey 7* and Boong Joon Ho's *Mickey 17* Movie Adaptation" by Putri et al (2025). The article explored the characters' adaptation from the book to the movie by also utilizing the theory of life and death instinct by Freud. It resulted in the discovery that both *Mickey 7* and *Mickey 8* represent life instinct due to their desire to stay alive. However, in the movie adaptation, *Mickey 17* and *Mickey 18* are very contrasting to each other because *Mickey 17* represented life while *Mickey 18* represented death because of his aggressive nature.

There are also multiple previous studies which utilized the same theory which is Hierarchy of Needs. This is demonstrated in a thesis made by Alvi Oktafia (2022), titled *Hierarchy of Needs Analysis in The Main Character of Soul Movie 2020*. In this thesis, he researched the main character's hierarchy of needs and analysed the self-actualization criteria that Joe Gardner achieved in the *Soul* movie. Additionally, there is a thesis made by Ilzya Novia Maunathul Choir (2023) titled *Hierarchy of Human Needs Analysis of Barnum, the Main Character in the Greatest Showman Movie (2017)*. This thesis is similar to the former where the main objectives are finding the types of human needs that the main character has and also include the aspects of a person who achieved self-actualization that was reflected through the main character.

Furthermore, there is a thesis made by Fita Megeta Sari (2017) titled *Hierarchy of Needs Analysis of the Main Characters in Love, Rosie Film*. This thesis apparently concentrates on one specific need which is love and belonging needs. Moreover, a thesis made by Mega Andini (2017) titled *Hierarchy of Human Needs Through The Main Character in Hitch Film* also used Hierarchy of needs theory where it explains the characteristics of the main character and how his hierarchy of needs are fulfilled in the movie. Another thesis titled *Charlie's Hierarchy of Needs in the Novel The Perks of Being a Wallflower by Stephen Chbosky* by Ahmad Nizam Azmi (2023) also discussed how Charlie, the main character, fulfilled his needs throughout the course of the story.

In addition to this, a thesis made by Zaidan Nabil Kautsar Kurniadi (2024) titled *The Main Characters's Hierarchy of Needs in Rick Yancey's The 5th Wave* researched how the main characters achieve his needs in the novel. The thesis also explored what are the most dominant needs that the main character has in the novel. In addition to his, A thesis made by Zulhana (2021) titled *An Analysis on Hierarchy of Human Needs of the Main Character in Charlotte's Web by E.B White* also explores similar problems. This thesis also discussed the main character's hierarchy of needs and which one of it is his most dominant throughout the story.

Hierarchy of needs are further explored in a thesis titled *Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs Reflected by The Narrator in Charlotte Perkins Gilman's The Yellow Wallpaper* by Lyla Aldora Balqis (2022). This thesis explored the narrator's hierarchy of needs and how the condition of society affects her journey of achieving her needs. Moreover, a thesis titled *Blythe's Hierarchy of Needs Described in Ashley Audrain's The Push* by Nurul Izzah (2024) presented an analysis of Blythe's hierarchy of needs before and after her marriage. The thesis also showcased how unfulfilled needs affected her character.

The analysis of these previous researches provided insights on how other researchers have not explored the hierarchy of needs of Mickey Barnes in the novel *Mickey 7* (2022). The previous study which analysed the novel *Mickey 7* (2022) rather used a different theory which was Freud's life and death theory while also comparing it to the movie adaptation. Furthermore, numerous previous studies that analysed other novels often delve into exploring hierarchy of needs and how the characters fulfil them. Additionally, these studies also analysed other subjects such

as the types of self-actualization, focus on analysing one needs, the effects of unfulfilled needs or explored the most dominant needs that the character has.

Therefore, this study aims to explore new frontiers regarding the analysis of needs by showcasing how needs in a science fiction story can be driven by technology, duplication of a single identity, expendability of a person, scarcity of foods, and authority oversight and how they affect Mickey's journey in achieving his hierarchy of needs. Moreover, this thesis also utilizes the preconditions for need satisfactions theory where it delves on how a character needs to achieve certain things before he could accomplish a need.

1.6 Writing Organization

CHAPTER I

This part will include background of the study, research problems, objectives of the study, scope of the study, previous studies, and writing organization.

CHAPTER II

This chapter includes theories and methods that are used in the research. It consists of intrinsic elements and psychological approach. The intrinsic elements consist of character and characterisation, settings, and conflict. The psychological approach consists of Hierarchy of Needs and Preconditions of needs satisfaction theories.

CHAPTER III

This chapter discussed the results of the analysis of the novel *Mickey 7* (2022) from intrinsic elements and psychological analysis.

CHAPTER IV

This chapter provides the conclusion from the analysis that has been conducted.

