

**BLYTHE'S HIERARCHY OF NEEDS DESCRIBED IN
ASHLEY AUDRAIN'S *THE PUSH***

THESIS

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LITERATURE
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI MAULANA MALIK IBRAHIM
MALANG
2024**

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THESIS

Presented to

Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang in Partial Fulfillment of
the Requirements for the Degree of *Sarjana Sastra* (S.S.)

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MALANG
2024**

STATEMENT OF AUTHORSHIP

*I state that the thesis entitled "Blythe's Hierarchy of Needs Described in Ashley Audrain *The Push*" is my original work. I do not include any materials previously written or published by another person, except those cited as references and written in the bibliography. Hereby, if there is any objection or claim, I am the only person who is responsible for that.*

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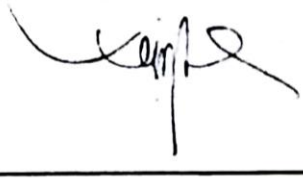
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MOTTO

“Knowledge is the life of the heart rather than blindness, the light of sight rather than injustice and the strength of the body rather than weakness.” –

Imam Al Ghazali

And your soul, if you do not occupy it in truth, it will occupy you in falsehood.” -

Imam Shafi'i

“Knowledge cannot be attained by nourishing the mind and body.” –

Syekh Taqiyuddin An-Nabhani

DEDICATION

This thesis is genuinely dedicated to the following:

1. Dr. Siti Masitoh, M.Hum., as my thesis supervisor, who has patiently guided me throughout the writing of this thesis.
2. My beloved parents, Ibu Sunarti and Bapak Matsuro. Thank you for trusting your daughter to go far away alone in pursuit of education. Thank you for never demanding anything from me. Thank you for all the support, love, patience, and endless affection. Being born as your daughter and a Muslim is the thing I am most grateful for in my life.
3. The late Eppak Aminullah, who passed away in 2021, during the second year of my undergraduate studies. I have now completed my undergraduate degree, Pak. I hope to continue with postgraduate studies as you wished. I love you with all of my heart. You will always live within me.
4. To my older sisters, Sitti Fatimah, Rifkatul Aini, and Rusyida. Thank you for all your support and love. Thank you for believing that your younger sister could do it.
5. To my younger brothers, Muhammad Azmi Amin, Ahmad Ilyasa Amin, Rio Afriandi, and Khotim Amin. Thank you for being my motivation in completing this thesis. I always pray that you will be blessed with ease in life. I love you guys.
6. To the extended family of Nenek Pasia, my uncles, aunts, and cousins who have always given their full support to me. Thank you; without your

support, I am nothing.

7. To my friends at Rumah Tahfidz Qonita 3 — Citra, Regina, Indy, Harnum, Dian, Arvisya, Alvina, Yuni — who have always given encouragement and support when I was struggling. Thank you so much for everything.
8. To the inspiring community at UIN Malang — Ustadzah Salma, Ustadzah Fafa, Mba Mila, Mba Nabila, and my halaqah group friends. Thank you for being a place for me to share my thoughts and seek advice during the process of writing this thesis.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Praise and Gratitude to Allah SWT. For His health, blessings and guidance so that the author can complete this thesis. Second, sholawat and salam are always poured out to Rasulullah Muhammad SAW, a great human being who has brought the Light of Islam to the whole world so that the author can be one of the billions of people who can feel the beauty of Islam. This thesis is written to fulfill the requirements to obtain a bachelor of literature degree at Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University Malang.

During the writing of this thesis, the author received a lot of help from criticism and suggestions from the author's supervisor. Therefore, the author would like to express her gratitude from the bottom of her heart to Dr. Siti Masitoh, M.Hum as the author's supervisor. Thank you for the kindness and patience of the supervisor to the author.

The author also wants to thank the author herself, for trying his best from the beginning of the lecture period to the process of writing this thesis. Thank you for not giving up and always trying your best.

The author also wants to thank the author's parents, Eppak, older sisters, younger brothers, all the extended family and friends of the author who always support and strengthen the author. Thank you for the prayers, love and attention you have given. Your presence in the author's life is the most beautiful gift the author has ever gotten. May Allah always protect you, and may we be reunited in His Heaven.

The author has done the best that the author can to complete the writing of

this thesis. But the author realizes that this thesis still has many shortcomings. Therefore, the author really hopes for criticism and suggestions from the readers. The author hopes that this thesis can contribute to the science of literary criticism, especially in the psychological approach that focuses on the hierarchy of needs experienced by the characters in the novel.

Malang, December 9th 2024

The researcher

Nurul Izzah

ABSTRACT

Izzah, Nurul (2024) *Blythe's Hierarchy of Needs Described in Ashley Audrain The Push*. Undergraduate Thesis. Department of English Literature, Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Islam Negeri MaulanaMalik Ibrahim Malang. Advisor: Dr. Siti Masitoh, M. Hum.

Key words: Hierarchy of Needs, Maslow.

Human needs are arranged in stages to form a hierarchy. This hierarchy consists of five levels, ranging from the most basic such as physiological needs to the highest such as self-actualization. Each level of needs can be fulfilled if the previous level has been satisfied. This research aims to explore the extent to which Blythe's basic needs are fulfilled and how the lack of fulfillment of these needs impacts her mental well-being and relationship with her daughter, Violet, and husband, Fox. The analysis in this study is divided into two parts. The first part describes the unmet needs experienced by Blythe Connor before she got married in the novel *The Push*. The second part explains about the needs that were met and unmet in Blythe Connor's life after she got married in the novel *The Push* and how the unfulfilled needs affected Blythe Connor's life in *the novel The Push*. This research uses literary criticism with a psychological approach. In addition, this study uses the hierarchy of needs theory proposed by Abraham Maslow. Researchers identified three needs of Blythe that were not met before she got married, namely, physiological needs, love and affection needs, and self-esteem. Meanwhile, after getting married, Blythe is able to fulfilled some of her basic needs such as physiological needs, love and affection needs, and self-esteem. However, over time almost all of Blythe's needs are unfulfilled, such as physiological needs, safety needs, self-esteem and self-actualization. As a result of these unfulfilled needs, dissatisfaction, internal conflicts, and psychological pressure in Blythe Connor, she also struggles to build a good relationship with her daughter, Violet.

مستخلص البحث

إزه، نورول () 2024 هرم احتياجات بليث كما صُوّر في رواية "الدفع" للمؤلفة أشلي أودرين. أطروحة برنامج
دراسة الأدب الإنجليزي، كلية العلوم الإنسانية، جامعة مولانا مالك إبراهيم الإسلامية الحكومية. مالانج
المشرف: الدكتورة سيتي ماسيته، ماجستير في العلوم الإنسانية
الكلمات المفتاحية: هرم الاحتياجات، ماسلو.

يتم ترتيب الاحتياجات البشرية على مراحل لتشكيل تسلسل هرمي. يتكون هذا التسلسل الهرمي من خمسة مستويات ، تتراوح من أبسطها مثل الاحتياجات الفسيولوجية إلى الأعلى مثل تحقيق الذات. يمكن تلبية كل مستوى من الاحتياجات إذا تم تلبية المستوى السابق. يهدف هذا البحث إلى استكشاف مدى تلبية احتياجات بليث الأساسية وكيف يؤثر عدم تلبية هذه الاحتياجات على صحتها العقلية وعلاقتها بابنتها فيوليت وزوجها فوكس. ينقسم التحليل في هذه الدراسة إلى ثلاثة أجزاء. يصف الجزء الأول الاحتياجات غير الملباة التي عانت منها بليث كونور قبل زواجها في رواية *The Push*. يشرح الجزء الثاني الاحتياجات التي تم تلبيتها ولم يتم تلبيتها في حياة بليث كونور بعد زواجها في رواية *The Push* وكيف أثرت الاحتياجات غير الملباة على حياة بليث كونور في رواية *The Push*. يستخدم هذا البحث النقد الأدبي بمقاربة نفسية. بالإضافة إلى ذلك ، تستخدم هذه الدراسة نظرية التسلسل الهرمي للاحتياجات التي اقترحها أبراهام ماسلو. حدد الباحثون اثنين من احتياجات بليث غير الملباة قبل زواجها ، وهما الاحتياجات الفسيولوجية ، واحتياجات الحب والمودة ، والتحديد الذاتي. وفي الوقت نفسه ، بعد الزواج ، أصبحت بليث قادرة على تلبية بعض احتياجاتها الأساسية مثل الاحتياجات الفسيولوجية واحتياجات الحب والمودة واحترام الذات. ومع ذلك ، بمرور الوقت ، لا يتم تلبية جميع احتياجات Blythe تقريبا ، مثل الاحتياجات الفسيولوجية واحتياجات السلامة واحترام الذات وتحقيق الذات. نتيجة لهذه الاحتياجات غير الملباة ، وعدم الرضا ، والصراعات الداخلية ، والضغط النفسي في بليث كونور ، فإنها تكافح أيضا لبناء علاقة جيدة مع ابنتها فيوليت.

ABSTRAK

Izzah, Nurul (2024) *Hirarki Kebutuhan Blythe yang Digambarkan dalam Novel The Push* karya Ashley Audrain. Skripsi. Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Humaniora, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. Dosen Pembimbing: Dr. Siti Masitoh, M. Hum.

Kata kunci: Hirarki Kebutuhan, Maslow.

Kebutuhan manusia disusun berjenjang membentuk sebuah hirarki. Hirarki ini terdiri dari lima tingkatan, mulai yang paling mendasar seperti kebutuhan fisiologi hingga yang paling tinggi seperti aktualisasi diri. Setiap jenjang kebutuhan dapat terpenuhi jika jenjang yang sebelumnya telah terpenuhi. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengeksplor sejauh mana kebutuhan dasar Blythe terpenuhi dan bagaimana ketidakterpenuhan kebutuhan-kebutuhan tersebut berdampak pada kesejahteraan mentalnya serta hubungan dengan putrinya, Violet, dan suaminya, Fox. Analisis dalam penelitian ini dibagi menjadi tiga bagian. Bagian pertama menjelaskan tentang kebutuhan yang tidak terpenuhi yang dialami oleh Blythe Connor sebelum dia menikah dalam novel *The Push*. Bagian kedua menjelaskan tentang kebutuhan yang terpenuhi dan tidak terpenuhi dalam hidup Blythe Connor setelah dia menikah dalam novel *The Push* serta bagaimana dampak dari ketidakterpenuhan kebutuhan tersebut pada kehidupan Blythe Connor dalam novel *The Push*. Penelitian ini menggunakan kritik sastra dengan pendekatan psikologi. Selain itu penelitian ini menggunakan teori hirarki kebutuhan yang dikemukakan oleh Abraham Maslow. Peneliti mengidentifikasi ada dua kebutuhan Blythe yang tidak terpenuhi sebelum dia menikah yaitu, kebutuhan fisiologi, kebutuhan cinta dan kasih sayang, dan self seteem. Sedangkan setelah menikah Blythe mampu memenuhi beberapa kebutuhan dasarnya seperti kebutuhan fisiologi, kebutuhan cinta dan kasih sayang, dan self seteem. Akan tetapi seiring berjalannya waktu hampir semua kebutuhan Blythe tidak terpenuhi, seperti kebutuhan fisiologi, safety needs, self esteem dan self actualization. Akibat dari tidak terpenuhinya kebutuhan – kebutuhan ini, muncul ketidakpuasan, konflik internal, dan tekanan psikologis dalam diri Blythe Connor, ia juga kesulitan untuk membangun hubungan yang baik dengan putrinya, Violet.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher presents the background of the study, problems of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, and definition of key terms to provide the information for the reader.

A. Background of the Study

Literary works are imaginative representations of human life. According to Lustyantje (2012), literary works reflect a person's personal expression, including experiences, thoughts, feelings, ideas, passion, and beliefs, and contain moral, cultural, and other life values. Literary works can take the form of novels, poems, films, paintings, which involve language and characters in the narrative. Through these literary works, people can gain an understanding of cultures, countries, history, and other things. In addition, literary works have a great influence on a person's mindset regarding life, influencing the view of right and wrong, as many literary works depict unsavory traits. Therefore, readers of literary works are expected to understand, reflect on, and take lessons from such improper behavior or activities.

Literary works are fascinating because they can depict the internal and external conflicts of humans and the journey to fulfill their various needs in life. This makes it a rich reflection of the complexity of human drives. Abraham Maslow developed the hierarchy of needs theory, which organizes human needs in five

levels, ranging from basic or physiological needs to the highest or self-actualization needs. This theory forms the basis of human behavior, assuming that basic needs must be met before humans can move. (Maslow, 1945)

Maslow's hierarchy of needs consists of five levels: needs for self-actualization, needs for esteem, needs for security, social needs, such as love and belonging, and needs for physiological. Basic human needs, such as eating, drinking, and sleeping, are part of physiological needs; without them, humans cannot fulfill other higher needs. Humans will fulfill their physical needs with security, which includes physical, emotional, financial, and health security. Humans will seek social relationships that show a sense of being accepted and loved and having relationships with others, such as friends and family, if these two needs are fulfilled. (Maslow, 1945).

Once social needs are fulfilled, humans will be motivated to achieve esteem needs, which is the need to be valued, recognized and acknowledged for their contributions and achievements. These needs include self-esteem and self-confidence. Lastly, after reward needs are met, humans strive to reach the highest level in this hierarchy, which is self-actualization. Self-actualization is the need to develop full potential and become one's best self, which includes achieving higher life goals, developing creativity, and self-fulfillment in various aspects of life. (Maslow, 1945).

Maslow's hierarchy of needs explains the relationship between needs, where the fulfillment of one need will be the starting point for determining more important needs. In an educational context, this approach helps explain the psychological state

of characters and explains how their needs that are not directly related to their physical or social needs, or their narrative actualization and character development, are met. Literature often criticizes this hierarchy, making it fertile for psychological analysis. (Edward Hoffman, 1988).

Maslow's theory helps analyze the development and motivations of characters in literary works. As a literary genre, novels often feature a character's journey in meeting these needs, from the most basic to the most important. A novel may depict a protagonist struggling to fulfill their physiological needs in difficult situations, facing security issues, or seeking the warmth of social relationships. At a more advanced stage, the character may struggle to gain esteem and ultimately achieve better self-understanding and self-actualization. Literary works depict how characters face and resolve internal and external conflicts to fulfill these needs. This allows readers to reflect on what they need in their lives and encourages them to maximize their potential.

Maslow's hierarchy of human needs has been revolutionized by contemporary ideas about motivation and performance. The integration of life history theory suggests that priorities in the hierarchy may change depending on contextual and situational factors. This flexibility is often seen in the literature, as characters experience difficulties that cause them to experience lower levels of the hierarchy, such as physical or mental needs, before they can rise to the top. This dynamic underscores the applicability of Maslow's universal model in understanding human behavior across multiple contexts. (D.T Kenrick, 2010). When readers understand Maslow's hierarchy of needs through stories and

characters in literary works, they gain a deep insight into human motivation and needs. Readers can see how the needs at each level affect the actions and mindsets of the characters in the story, which reflect real life.

In connection with the things that have been described, the researcher chose the novel *The Push* as a data source, and focused on the main character as the object of research. *The Push* is a psychological thriller novel written by Ashley Audrain in 2021. The novel focuses on a woman named Blythe Connor, who has a deep fear of motherhood as her mother is cold and uncaring to her. However, thanks to her husband Fox Connor, Blythe manages to fight her fears and decides to give birth to a child. However, another problem arose after Blythe gave birth to her first child, Violet. Blythe felt that she had no time for herself, and felt that she was no longer cared for by her husband because he prioritized their daughter too much. (Audrain, 2021)

Conflicts continue to emerge throughout the course of the story, from Blythe's increasing concern for Violet who has a naughty nature and she feels has serious psychological problems, to her husband's infidelity which ends in divorce. In this novel, there are many forms of behavior based on the hierarchy of needs in Blythe's character, these problems can be seen in Blythe's struggle against her insecurity to become a mother, maintain her household, and try to be a good mother for her child. Based on these things, the researcher is interested in examining the forms of hierarchy of needs in Blythe Connor in the novel *The Push*. This research focuses on the forms of hierarchy of needs of the character Blythe Connor in the novel *The Push* by Ashley Audrain.

Ashley Audrain's exploration of the hierarchy of needs in her novel *The Push* is significant because the novel explicitly explores themes of basic human needs in the context of new motherhood, intergenerational trauma, and family relationships. Maslow's theory emphasizes that humans can only achieve optimal self-satisfaction if their basic needs are fulfilled. In this novel, the character Blythe experiences deep dissatisfaction at almost every level of the hierarchy of needs, from physiological needs to self-actualization.

Through this research, it can be seen how the inability to fulfill these needs contributes to Blythe's mental health problems, among others Fear, inadequacy and alienation of children and partners. This provides scientific insight into the importance of meeting basic needs in supporting stable mental health, especially in new mothers facing severe emotional and physical stress. *The Push* examines how past experiences and previous generations of trauma affect how people fulfill their needs for self-love and acceptance. Maslow argued that the needs for love and belonging are important cornerstones of self-development.

However, Blythe's traumatic experiences and his mother's parenting influenced his view of motherhood. This research may expand our understanding of how intergenerational trauma affects an individual's ability to fulfill his or her psychological needs and how it affects the parent-child relationship. Maslow stated that self-actualization is the highest need that individuals can achieve when other basic needs are fulfilled. In this novel, Bryce feels torn between her identity as a mother, wife, and independent individual. (Audrain, 2021)

Before conducting this research, researcher found several studies related to the theory that has been chosen. First, *The Complexities of Motherhood: Understanding the Factors that Influence a Mother's Perspective and Experience in Ashley Audrain's The Push* by Sipos Vivien (2023). Second, *Maternal Identity Reconstruction of Postpartum Depression's Recovery in Ashley Audrain The Push* by Aditya Gilang Rumpaka (2021). Both of these studies have the same subject, *The Push* by Ashley Audrain. Both highlight the character Blythe Connor as the main protagonist in the novel. These studies provide insights into the challenges and psychological experiences of a mother in *The Push*.

Third, *Exploring Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs in Pollyanna Novel* by Fanny Virginia and Robby Satria (2022). *Analysis of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs in the Novel Great Gatsby by Franciss Scott Fitzgerald* by Ritna Bahuwa (2019). Besides, *Miranda's Hierarchy of Needs is Illustrated in Life as We Knew it by Susan Beth* by Hafidhun Annas, Bunga Citra Fredia, Asni Furaida, Benzamin Dzozeff (2023). More, *Representation of Khalid's Hierarchy of Needs Level in the Novel Nyala Semesta by Farah Qonita* by Dhanik, Saraswati (2023). The studies discussed examine the application of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs in various works of literature. They explore how the main characters, as well as other characters, struggle with unfulfilled needs. The research highlights how these characters' psychological development is influenced by the fulfillment or lack of fulfillment of their needs. Each study provides insights into how different characters experience and cope with the challenges of meeting their basic, psychological, and

self-actualization needs, showing the significance of Maslow's theory in understanding human behavior and character development in literature.

Besides, *The Hierarchy of Needs in Angie Thomas' Novel The Hate U Give: Abraham Maslow* by Nursaamah Lubis, Robby Satria (2021). More, *Fulfillment of Elinor's Hierarchy of Needs in the Novel Sense And Sensibility by Jane Austen: A Study of Abraham Maslow's Humanism Psychology* by Imam Ghozali (2020). Last, *Character's Love and Belonging Needs Analysis in Chekov's The Seagull* by Rico Bagus Aditya (2023). These studies discuss various literary works that apply Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs. It analyzed how characters experience and satisfy different levels of needs, such as physiological, security, love/ownership, self-esteem, and self-actualization. It also shows how characters' experiences in fulfilling these needs impact their psychological and emotional development. This research shows the influence of need fulfillment on character motivation and behavior. It illustrates the importance of Maslow's theory in understanding the complexity of human relationships and individual growth in literature.

Previous research often examines individuals in isolation, but a study on *The Push* could delve deeper into how social interactions and the lack of external support affect the fulfillment of Blythe's social and psychological needs. For example, it could explore how emotional isolation or a lack of support in her role as a mother impacts her self-development and feelings of connection with others. In this study, researcher explore different problems by using Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory. The researcher explored Blythe's hierarchy of needs and the effects of these needs on Blythe's life.

Researcher want to explore Blythe's hierarchy of needs and how Blythe overcomes her unfulfilled needs.

B. Problems of the Study

Related to the topic chosen about hierarchy of needs of Maslow in Ashley Audrain's *The Push*, the researcher decided to have two issues that should be answered in this thesis.

1. What are Blythe's hierarchy of needs before getting married described in Ashley Audrain's *The Push*?
2. What are Blythe's hierarchy of needs after getting married described in Ashley Audrain's *The Push*?

C. Significance of the Study

There are two benefits that the researcher gives to the readers in this research. Based on the theory, this research adds insight into how Maslow's theory can be applied in trauma situations and proves that the theory has relevance in various psychological situations. This research can also help identify aspects of Maslow's theory to be updated or adapted for specific contexts.

Then, based on practice, this research aims to provide readers with a new understanding and perspective of *The Push*. In addition, this research has practical benefits that can be provided for the mental well-being of mothers, as well as

practical strategies for health professionals in helping their patients meet basic needs to the level of self-actualization.

D. Scope and Limitation

This research analyzes the efforts of the character Blythe Connor in fulfilling her needs, such as love and affection needs, safety needs, self-esteem needs, and self actualisation in *The Push* by Ashley Audrain published in New York by Pamela Dorman Books/Viking in 2021. The character Blythe Connor was chosen because she is the only one who has data that fits this theory. In analyzing this topic, the researcher used Abraham Maslow's (1954) hierarchy of needs theory.

E. Definition of Key Terms

Associated with the background of this study, there are several key terms that are explained beneath.

1. Hierarchy of Needs: The theory known as the "hierarchy of needs" describes five levels of human needs. The most basic needs are called physiological needs and the highest needs are called self-actualization. (Maslow, 1945).
2. Psychological Needs: Physiological needs are basic needs that are essential for survival, such as eating, drinking, sleeping, and breathing.
3. Safety Needs: Safety needs are human needs for security and protection, including physical security, financial stability, health, and protection from external threats.

4. Love and Belonging Needs: Love and belonging needs are needs for social relationships, including feeling accepted, loved and having bonds with others, such as family friends and partners
5. Self-Esteem: Self-Esteem is a human need for self respect and to be respected by others.
6. Self-Actualization: Self-actualization is the highest level in the hierarchy of needs, where a person seeks to reach his or her full potential. Self-actualization includes personal development, creativity, and achieving greater life goals.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

In this chapter, the researcher offers the theories consisting of: psychological literary criticism, then continues with the definition of Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory consisting of self actualization, self-esteem, love and belonging, safety needs, physiological needs.

A. Psychological Literary Criticism

Psychology is a field that investigates mental processes and human behavior. This definition shows how important it is to understand the mental activity and behavioral responses of humans in the context of their environment and experiences. To understand how and how the human mind functions, Wundt viewed psychology as a field to be studied through scientific observation and experimentation. The goal of Wundt's approach to psychology, known as structural psychology, was to study how the basic parts of the human mind, such as perception, sensation, and feeling, interact with each other and how they function with each other. Wundt defined psychology as not only looking at and analyzing mental phenomena, but also recognizing how important individuals' subjective experiences and interpretations of their world are. (Wilhelm Wund, 1879).

Psychology is a field that investigates human thoughts, emotions and behaviors and their interactions with their environment. More specifically, psychology is the study of how people process, understand, and interpret

information and how this affects their behavior. The hidden psychological approach of the characters, the symbolic meaning behind their actions, and the emotional truths that are added in their struggles. (Dobie, 2011). Psychology encompasses many areas of research, such as neuroscience, human development, social, cognitive, clinical, industrial, and organizational, among others. Psychology looks at how interactions between biological, psychological, and environmental components shape human understanding of behavior. Motivation is an important factor in understanding human behavior, and the difference between intrinsic and extrinsic motivation provides insight into why people behave in such a way. Literature often depicts characters characterized by intrinsic needs that cannot be ignored, such as autonomy or a sense of belonging, which influence conflict and growth. By looking at this through a psychological lens, we can gain a deeper understanding of character and theme development that extends beyond the narrative. (Richard M. Ryan & Edward L. Deci, 2000).

Talking about literature, art has an important role in conveying human reality through the aesthetic use of language. Eagleton states that literature not only tells what happened, but also creates new things by using inventive and imaginative language. In addition, Eagleton states that literature is a representation of the society, culture and historical context in which it is created, not just a collection of words or stories. Eagleton states that literature has the ability to influence people's worldview, expand people's understanding of the outside world, and convey the principles of society, desire, and conflict. Therefore, literature in Eagleton's opinion is a very important medium for storing and understanding various human

experiences and shaping individual identities and groups. According to Eagleton's definition, the role of literature in human life is vast. It also shows how deep and complex the study of literature is in relation to historical, social and cultural contexts (Terry Eagleton, 1983: 3).

Psychological criticism research focuses on the mind because it is a critical approach to literature that uses psychological theories to examine various aspects of literary works with the aim of improving our understanding of the author's mind, characters, themes, and other elements included in literary works. This method assesses literature using ideas from fields of psychology such as psychoanalysis and behavioral psychology. It usually focuses on the motivations, desires, and conflicts of the characters, as well as how these are reflected in the structure and themes of the work. Psychological literary criticism can be used in three aspects. The first is the author's background; this involves studying the author's life and experiences to understand how these aspects influence their work. By understanding the author's background, readers can relate themes, characters, or conflicts in the author's work to significant events in his or her life. For example, an author may reveal a significant personal trauma or experience in his or her writing. (Culler, 1997).

Second, character analysis studies the drives, desires, and conflicts experienced by the characters in the story to understand how their life experiences influence their actions and decisions. This method is useful for evaluating patterns of behavior caused by trauma or certain psychological disorders (Wright, 1992). Third, imagery and symbolism. In this third part of psychological criticism methodology, symbols and imagery are seen as representations of psychological

concepts or emotions in literary works. In stories, certain symbols may symbolize a character's hidden fears, strong desires, or insecurities. According to Jung (1964), visual imagery or repetitive descriptions can describe a character's mental or emotional state. In this study, researchers used the second part of psychological literary criticism, namely character analysis, to explore and understand the motivations, desires, and internal conflicts experienced by the main character. The goal of psychoanalytic criticism is to analyze the main ideas of a text by highlighting the ways in which unintentional desires, fears, and conflicts contribute to the structure of the text. Narrative is the place where strong emotions and unresolved tensions are addressed through characters and plot. (Wright, 2003).

B. Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

Abraham Harold Maslow was an American psychologist who lived from 1908 to 1970. Maslow came up with the hierarchy of needs theory—a psychological health concept known as “Maslow's hierarchy of needs”, which describes a five-level model of human needs for self-fulfillment each of which indicates a different level of priority. The theory states that people must fulfill the lower needs in the hierarchy before they can move towards the higher needs, which are at the most basic level of the hierarchy. At the most basic level of the hierarchy are physiological needs, which include food, water, air and rest. Once physiological needs are met, people will begin to seek security, such as financial security, financial stability, and a safe environment. Next is the need for love and belonging,

which drives people to seek social relationships, gain affection, and join communities or groups.

Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs offers a dynamic model of human motivation that starts with basic physical needs and ends with self-actualization. This model can be applied to various academic fields, such as literature, to examine how characters prioritize tasks and meet their needs. For example, when physical needs or health concerns are not met, higher-than-average levels of motivation, such as self-esteem or self-actualization, become lower. In narratives, this hierarchy can help them resolve their internal conflicts and interactions with others. (Calvin S. Hall & Hall, Gardner Lindzey. 1978).

An analytical framework is needed to investigate a person's psychological experience as depicted in their story. Through Maslow's hierarchy, we can examine how non-essential needs affect character traits and relationships. This method allows researchers to examine the relationship between psychological theories and the lived experiences depicted in literature, providing a deeper understanding of how characters and nascent structures interact. (Shields, D. C. 2001).

Maslow's hierarchy is undoubtedly one of the most important work-related factors in understanding motivation and personality. The development of this model from the need for lack to the need for growth offers a lens through which to analyze motivation and character. This type of writing is quite common in literature, where characters often experience difficulties that test their ability to fulfill their basic needs, strengthen their bonds with others, and learn to be more self-aware. (Duane P. Schultz & Sydney Ellen Schultz. 2016).

The hierarchy of needs not only provides insight into human motivation, but also serves as a diagnostic tool to understand individual struggles. In the spiritual realm, this work ethic explains how a character's progression or deterioration through the aforementioned hierarchy strengthens relationships, conflicts, and resolves them after death. Characters aligned with unmet needs often fail to achieve higher aspirations, leading to tension and depth in the narrative. (Simons, J. A., Irwin, D. B., & Drinnien, B. A. 1987).

Once the needs for love and belonging are fulfilled, people will seek rewards such as recognition, achievement, and a sense of being valued. Maslow's hierarchy of needs provides an overview of how human needs develop and change over time, and assists professionals and individuals in understanding human motivation and behavior. The pinnacle of this hierarchy is self-actualization, where individuals seek fulfillment of their potential, seek meaning in life, and achieve goals that are considered important in life. (Maslow, 1945)



Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

1. Physiological Needs

Physiological needs are essential for everyone's survival. Humans would not be able to survive and develop optimally without these needs. The most basic aspects of these needs include safe shelter, sufficient food, access to clean water, adequate rest, and adequate health care. It cannot be overlooked how important these physiological needs are. Individuals act because of these needs, which stem from the instinct to survive. Failure to fulfill these requirements can jeopardize human safety and well-being. Therefore, to live a healthy and sustainable life, it is imperative to fulfill physiological needs. (Maslow, 1954).

2. Safety Needs

The need for security is an important aspect of an individual's life that involves feeling safe and secure in the surrounding environment. The motivation to achieve this security arises from the drive to have order, compliance with the law, as well as protection from all forms of unexpected and potentially dangerous conditions. Seeking stability and security requires attention to physical security, which involves seeking protection from the elements, risky situations, or possible health hazards and diseases. Maintaining physical security involves proactive efforts, including ensuring one's surroundings are protected from potential threats, taking care of one's health, and avoiding potentially harmful situations. In achieving physical safety, individuals often have to develop skills and strategies to cope with risks that may arise in daily life. This includes strengthening the home or residence,

paying attention to warning signs of danger, and taking preventive measures to maintain personal health. (Maslow, 1954).

3. Love and Belonging Needs

The need for love and belonging includes a person's desire for positive relationships, such as friendship, romantic love, and family ties. Individuals feel the need to be loved and accepted by others and feel that they are recognised and occupy a valuable position within their social group or community. In this context, love is given and received in various forms, including emotional support, attention, and intimacy. People feel happy and fulfilled when they are able to form positive and meaningful relationships with others and feel safe and accepted among their friends, family and community. When the need for love and belonging is not met, a person may feel lonely, isolated or unappreciated. This can lead to feelings of helplessness and a loss of desire to participate in social interactions and form meaningful relationships. Therefore, fulfillment of these needs is considered essential for an individual's psychological well-being and development. (Maslow, 1954).

4. Self-Esteem

The need for self-esteem relates to a person's desire for recognition, respect and status. Once the need for love and belonging is fulfilled, a person begins to pay attention to the need for self-esteem. According to Maslow, there are two categories of respect needs: the need for respect from others and the need for respect from

oneself. First, the need for respect from others includes one's need to be respected and valued by others. Second, the need for self-esteem includes self-respect and esteem; this includes a strong belief in their abilities, positive self-esteem, and pride in progress and achievement. People with strong self-esteem tend to be better able to cope with adversity and failure because they are confident in their ability to Meet the need for self-esteem is essential for personal growth and psychological well-being. The person may become insecure, lack self-esteem, or feel unappreciated if this need is not met. This can affect a person's ability to maximize their potential and hinder overall progress. (Maslow, 1954).

5. Self actualization

In Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs Theory, self-actualization is one level of need that refers to a person's efforts to reach their full potential. It is the highest level in Maslow's hierarchy of needs, where a person strives to become the best version of themselves. After fulfilling the need for self-actualization, a person feels satisfied with their ability to achieve success, progress, and personal development.

At this point, the urge to explore and develop their interests, talents and skills arises. They may pursue goals that are significant and make a big impact on their society. For example, one may strive to be an attentive and caring parent, or they may want to become a financially successful millionaire. Self-actualization also means seeking meaning in life and purpose. At this level, people tend to have a broad perspective on the world and consider the larger impact of the decisions and actions they take in their lives. As part of their efforts to achieve self-fulfillment

and personal advancement, they may engage in creative activities, think philosophically, or explore spirituality.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

The researcher explains how she researched the novel in this chapter. This chapter contains the research design, data sources, how the data was collected and how the researcher analyzed the works.

A. Research Design

This research employs literary criticism as an analytical framework to interpret literary works more broadly. Literary criticism is a method to interpret, analyze, and assess literary works. To analyze the data, the researcher used Abraham Maslow's (1954) hierarchy of needs theory. The literary approach used is a psychological approach because by using a psychological approach, researchers can explore aspects such as character development, inner conflict, and the impact of relationships between characters on the whole story. In addition, this approach also helps to examine how the experiences and psychological background of the characters affect their actions and decisions, thus providing a deeper understanding of the themes and messages that the author wants to convey. Through the application of Abraham's theory, the researcher was able to investigate Blythe Connor's hierarchy of needs and how she deals with her unmet needs in the novel *The Push*.

B. Data Source

The data source of this research is a printed novel with the title *The Push*, written by Ashley Audrain. The novel was published in New York by Pamela Dorman Books/Viking in 2021. The novel consists of 226 pages with a total of 113 sheets. The research data is presented in the form of quotations which include words, phrases, sentences, paragraphs, and dialogue. All data were taken from the novel *The Push* by Ashley Audrain which indicates the existence of Blythe's hierarchy of needs.

C. Data Collection

In the course of this research, the researcher went through the stages of data collection related to Blythe Connor's hierarchy of needs which have been detailed in several steps. The initial stage involved reading and understanding the novel to gain a deep understanding of the storyline. The next step involved annotating the data using outlining and note-taking techniques.

D. Data Analysis

In analyzing the data for this study, the researcher took a series of specific steps. These steps began with identifying the data that had been collected and found. Next, the researcher classified and sorted the data using notes to facilitate analysis. After that, the researcher presents a description, analysis, and description of the data relating to motivation, using the theory proposed by Maslow. The last stage is to

end the research by summarizing the findings and providing answers to the research problems.

CHAPTER IV

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

This chapter provides the result of data analysis to find the answers to the problem of the study about the hierarchy of needs. The researcher analyzes a literary work in the form of a novel entitled *The Push* by Ashley Audrain (2021) using Abraham Maslow's theory of hierarchy of needs. This chapter is divided into two parts. The first part explains what Blythe's hierarchy of needs described in Ashley Audrain's *The Push*. The second part discusses the impacts of the unfulfilled needs of Blythe Connor.

A. Blythe's Hierarchy of Needs Before Getting Married

Blythe Connor is the main character in *The Push*. Blythe is a tragic and conflicted character. Because her life journey was filled with trauma, despair, and emotional struggles. Blythe has experienced emotional instability and neglect since childhood. Their relationship was affected by the mental illness of her grandmother, Etta, and her mother, Cecilia, who never gave her enough love. Trauma passed down from generation to generation made Blythe grow up with emotional pain. Because her family could not provide enough love and support to her as a child, Blythe was prone to insecurity, low self-esteem, and feelings of isolation.

Blythe hoped to end the cycle of family trauma and become a better mother than she was before. However, when she was unable to establish an emotional connection with her daughter Violet and felt that something was wrong with her

child, reality became very difficult for her. Blythe feels more guilt and shame for her struggles to carry out the responsibilities of motherhood. A deep inner conflict occurs between her desire to be a good mother and the fact that she does not feel able to fulfill Violet's emotional needs. Blythe has always doubted her mothering abilities. She didn't know if Violet's problems were the result of correct instincts or just the result of the trauma she had experienced from her family. Blythe is in an identity crisis as she struggles between wanting to give the best for her child and her inability to do so. She feels confused between who she really is and who she wants to be.

Blythe's conjugal relationship with Fox was also a major obstacle to her self-actualization. Fox did not believe in what Blythe felt and experienced having a relationship with Violet. He even often blamed her for what she did. Fox was unable to provide emotional support to Blythe, making her feel isolated and alone in her mother's struggles. When Fox eventually left Blythe and built a new family, the feelings of worthlessness and rejection became worse. Blythe felt she was not needed in her own family life. These feelings made Blythe's struggle to find meaning and happiness in her life even harder.

This happens because she is unable to fulfill her needs. According to Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory, there are five levels in a pyramid of human needs. Physiological needs such as food and water, are the most basic. Safety needs, such as a sense of security and economic stability, are second. The need for love and belonging with family and friends is the third. The fourth is the need for self-esteem, such as self-confidence and respect. The need for self-actualization is the

highest. Referring to Maslow's hierarchy of needs, when the needs cannot be fulfilled then a person will experience dissatisfaction and anxiety in psychological aspects that can affect various aspects of their life. Based on these five levels of the pyramid of needs, nearly all aspects of Blythe's life remained unfulfilled. There were several needs that were fulfilled and others that were unfulfilled in Blythe's life, particularly in the areas physiological needs, safety needs, love and belonging needs, self-esteem and self-actualization.

1. Blythe's Unfulfilled Needs

Blythe's life with her parents, before she got married was not a harmonious relationship. Her parents neglected her, so many of her hierarchical needs were not met and this had an impact on her future life.

a) Physiological Needs

In general, Blythe did not experience serious obstacles in terms of her basic physical needs before marriage. Physiological needs such as food and shelter, were met in a fairly economically stable family. However, her emotional needs were often neglected, mainly due to her mother who was never emotionally present and tended to be indifferent.

My mother was distant, always more interested in her own thoughts than in me. I don't remember her ever telling me she loved me. (p.67)

Blythe revealed that her mother was always “more interested in her own thoughts” than paying attention to her, and she “never remembered hearing the

word love” from her mother. This was a profound admission of the lack of attention and affection she received. Maslow 1945 states that belonging and love require ongoing acceptance and affection, which should be the basis of the relationship between mother and child. When these needs are not met, especially in childhood, a child can grow up feeling insecure and prone to feeling unloved, as Blythe did.

Blythe had a deep emotional distance from her mother, which was reflected in the way she built a relationship with her daughter Violet. Blythe never experienced deep affection, so it was difficult for her to express her feelings of love and have a secure emotional connection with Violet. Blythe may not have had a good example from her own mother, who was more preoccupied with her "own thoughts" than paying attention to her, so she was unable to feel this warm bond.

b) Love and Belonging Needs

In Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory, the need for love and belonging are essential aspects in building strong family bonds. When these needs are not met, particularly in a mother-daughter relationship, the impact can be profound and long-lasting. On page 103 of *The Push*, we see that the absence of affection in Blythe's childhood relationship with her mother created lasting emotional scars. This experience affects the way she interacts with her daughter Violet and further emphasizes the loneliness and isolation she feels in trying to form a maternal bond.

I wanted my mother to hold me, to tell me she loved me. But she never did. She was cold, like her mother before her. (p.103)

The line, “I wanted my mother to hold me, to tell me she loved me,” reflects the basic human need for maternal affection and care. This relates to the need for love and belonging-also known as love and loyalty-in Maslow's hierarchy of needs, which is crucial for a child's emotional development. The fact that this character is so nostalgic for the emotional intimacy she should have experienced as a child indicates a desire to be held and hear expressions of love from her mother. When these needs are not met, the impact can be profound, causing a sense of hopelessness and deprivation that persists into adulthood. The cycle of behavior passed down from generation to generation is shown in the statement “She was cold, like her mother before her.” The main character has a cold and inexpressive mother, like her grandmother before her, which shows a pattern of intergenerational trauma where unhealthy behaviors and parenting are transmitted from generation to generation. If one does not get enough support and affection to meet the emotional needs of their children in the future, they may experience a cycle of emotional neglect.

In addition, this sentence suggests that this character's coldness comes from his mother's life experiences. This suggests that the mother may not be able to take care of her child due to the same upbringing. In other words, we can feel empathy with the mother even though she is portrayed negatively. This happens even though we know that her own experiences influence her behavior. This adds a more complex element to the characterization of the mother, as well as the relationship between the child and the mother. Emotional neglect can have a huge impact. Children who do not receive affection and emotional support from their parents are

likely to experience confidence issues, difficulty in building relationships, and are at risk of depression and anxiety. This quote emphasizes how the main character Blythe has been affected by the emotional neglect she experienced as a child, and how this has shaped her thoughts on motherhood and the way she treats her own child.

Blythe's inability to receive her mother's support and love makes her vulnerable to feelings of being unloved and not good enough, which can lead to internal conflict when she tries to be a mother to her own child, especially if she feels trapped in the same habits she received from her mother. Blythe desperately needed her mother, as shown in her statement, "I wanted her so much to love her, to need me as a child must need his mother." In Maslow's hierarchy of needs, belonging and love are important elements in Blythe's emotional life. The words "so badly" show how badly Blythe longs to be loved and recognized by her daughter. The absence of her desired response suggests deep disappointment and rejection. There was always a distance between them like a wall that could never be breached is a statement that shows the invisible yet obvious barrier between Blythe and her daughter's relationship. The phrase "wall" indicates the emotional distance that separates them from each other. This can be considered a consequence of Blythe's inability to build an intimate and close relationship with her daughter. It shows the feelings of alienation and communication difficulties that often occur in relationships where one party is neglected or alienated.

Blythe became doubtful, frustrated and hurt, feeling that her maternal role was not working as it should, because of this emotional distance. She felt unable to build a mother-daughter relationship with her daughter.

Blythe recognized her need for emotional closeness and shared a longing to be loved by her mother. Her statements that her grandmother was “cold” and her mother “never hugged her, never said love” reveal a pattern of intergenerational relationships that lack emotional warmth. In Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory, the need for love and belonging will never come from a relationship that lacks warmth. This relationship allowed Blythe to grow up without a secure base of emotional attachment. Maslow asserts that the absence of love in childhood can create a lasting sense of alienation and hinder one's ability to fulfill social needs later in life.

Blythe's frustration with the “distance” she felt from her mother, as well as the “impenetrable wall,” reflected experiences that made her feel unloved and unaccepted. This is at the root of her feelings of alienation as a mother, especially when she tries to form a bond with Violet. These memories may also explain her difficulty in consistently fulfilling Violet's need for love and belonging, which is the basis of emotional attachment.

I wanted so badly for her to love me, to need me the way a daughter should need her mother. But there was always this distance between us, like a wall I could never break through. (p.103)

Blythe desperately needed her mother, as shown in her statement, “I wanted her so much to love her, to need me as a child must need his mother.” In Maslow's hierarchy of needs, belonging and love are important elements in Blythe's emotional

life. The words “so badly” show how badly Blythe longs to be loved and recognized by her daughter. There is a deep sense of disappointment and rejection shown by the absence of her desired response. The phrase “there was always this distance between us, like a wall I could never break through” shows that there are invisible yet obvious barriers in Blythe's relationship with her daughter. The phrase “wall” indicates the emotional boundary that separates them from each other. This is a consequence of Blythe's inability to build an intimate and close relationship with her child. It shows the feelings of alienation and communication difficulties that often occur in relationships where one party is neglected or alienated.

Blythe became doubtful, frustrated and hurt, feeling that her maternal role was not working as it should due to this emotional distance. She felt disconnected and unable to build the relationship that should exist between mother and child. Blythe had difficulty building a close relationship with her child because of the cold parenting she experienced as a child. Blythe's mother was unable to provide emotional support and love, which impacted her relationship with her own child. The trauma passed down from generation to generation made Blythe feel incapable of being a mother and made it difficult for her to fulfill her child's emotional needs. In addition, this quote shows Blythe's disagreement with herself. Although she wants to establish a relationship and affection with her child, she feels guilty and incapable as a mother because of the distance. This causes Blythe to constantly question her role and her capacity for motherhood. This guilt adds to her emotional distress, leading to a cycle of hopelessness and inability to cope with the distance. Blythe experienced emotional alienation in her relationship with Violet due to the

inability to fulfill her social needs from childhood. Because she did not have a warm example of affection in her life, she was unable to find a sense of belonging in her maternal role. In wanting to be a mother different from her own mother, Blythe is faced with the daunting challenge of meeting her daughter's emotional needs, while she herself grapples with lingering emotional wounds.

c) **Self-Esteem**

Blythe grew up with low self-esteem due to neglect from her mother. Cecilia not only failed to provide love, but also made Blythe feel worthless and unwanted. The lack of recognition from the mother figure makes Blythe feel like she has no self-esteem, which then affects how she sees herself in the role of motherhood as an adult.

My mother never praised me. She didn't care about my achievements. I never felt like I was good enough. (p.32)

In the sentence “My mother never praised me. She didn't care about my achievements,” it appears that the main character, Blythe, does not receive recognition and support from her mother. Parental validation and acknowledgment are very important in psychology for the growth of a child's self-esteem and confidence. A child can feel that their efforts are useless if they do not receive recognition or praise for what they achieve, which can adversely affect their sense of self-worth in the future. This neglect suggests that Blythe's mother is not emotionally involved with her child's life. She may be emotionally detached due to personal trauma, inability to meet her child's emotional needs, or inherited

parenting. This uncaring and cold attitude creates an environment that does not support healthy emotional and mental growth.

“I never felt good enough” is a phrase that shows how emotional neglect has long-term effects. Blythe always felt inadequate because she did not receive praise and attention from her mother. These feelings can lead to persistent insecurity and difficulty building relationships or trust with others. According to Maslow's theory, cultivating a sense of worth, confidence and achievement cannot fulfill the need for appreciation or reward. A person may feel unworthy of love or recognition if they cannot meet these needs. As a result, Blythe may face feelings of low self-esteem that persist into adulthood and affect the way she builds relationships, especially with her own children.

Intergenerational trauma is demonstrated by Blythe's experience with her mother's abandonment. This pattern of emotional neglect is often inherited. Perhaps Blythe's own mother was a victim of a similar upbringing, which left her unable to give her child emotional praise or attention. In this sense, the quote not only describes Blythe's experience, but also hints at a repetitive cycle that, if not stopped, will continue into the next generation.

It is possible that Blythe experienced imposter syndrome-or the feeling that she was not enough-when she said that she “never felt like I was good enough.” Childhood experiences like this can lead a person to believe that their success or achievements are the result of luck rather than their own efforts or abilities. As a result, Blythe may have difficulty feeling satisfied with what she achieves, always seeking recognition from her mother that she never receives. This feeling of not

being good enough can prevent her from giving the attention and love she yearns to receive.

This experience can cause major problems in her relationship with her own child. Although she tries hard to avoid her mother's mistakes, Blythe is trapped in the same feelings of inferiority and insecurity that she experienced when she was a child. This data illustrates Blythe's difficult life of receiving no praise or recognition from her mother, which made her feel like she was never good enough. This emotional neglect led to deep wounds, fragile self-confidence and feelings of insecurity, which affected her for the rest of her life. In addition to the psychological effects, this neglect can lead to intergenerational trauma, meaning the same patterns can be passed down to the next generation.

B. Blythe Hierarchy of Needs After Getting Married

After her marriage, Blythe Connor experienced a significant change in her needs assessment according to Abraham Maslow's theory. Early marriage is considered to demonstrate emotional stability and, in fact, creates new psychological and emotional insights.

1. Blythe Fulfilled Needs

After marriage, some of Blythe's needs such as physiological needs, love and belonging needs, and self-esteem were well fulfilled.

a) Physiological Needs

In Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory, physiological needs are the base of the human needs pyramid, which includes physical needs such as food, water, shelter, and comfort. These needs need to be fulfilled first before one can focus on higher needs, such as security, love, and self-actualization. Early in her marriage to Fox, Blythe described her life as stable and comfortable, suggesting that her basic needs had been fulfilled. This information can be supported by the following quotations:

“By that summer, we'd rented a bigger apartment with a second bedroom in a building with a very slow elevator.” (p.11)

At the beginning of her marriage to Fox, Blythe's life was stable and comfortable. They lived a fairly settled life with basic needs fulfilled. Moving to a bigger apartment with a second room shows that Blythe and Fox are preparing themselves to meet the basic needs of the family to come. Having a larger space for the baby-to-be is a step towards ensuring physical needs and comfort will be achieved. This reflects an effort to create a safer and more supportive environment for their family. Life is organized and happy as newlyweds in general. This is in line with Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory.

Maslow 1945, states that physiological needs include basic human needs, such as eating, sleeping, and a safe and comfortable place to live. By moving to a bigger apartment and having an extra room, Blythe and Fox indirectly placed a priority on these basic needs. While this may seem like a simple move, the decision to live in a larger space illustrates their readiness to fulfill the physical (physiological) needs of themselves and any children that may come along in the

future. It shows their commitment to providing a stable and comfortable environment, where physiological needs can be well met.

On this page, the description of their new apartment with a “second bedroom” in “a building with a very slow elevator” can also be seen as a practical step towards achieving comfort, although the limitations (such as the slow elevator) suggest that there may be aspects of physiological needs that are not yet fully satisfied. However, their decision to move to a bigger place reflects an attempt to achieve a base of stability in terms of physiological needs, which is the foundation for their efforts in fulfilling higher-level needs in Maslow's hierarchy.

b) Love and Belonging Needs

In the novel *The Push*, the need for love and belonging are instrumental in Blythe's character development. Based on Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory, social needs, such as love, affection, and emotional attachment, are the next stage after physiological and security needs have been met. These needs greatly influence a person's sense of identity and acceptance in social relationships, especially in marriage or family relationships. For Blythe, the marriage with Fox provided an opportunity to build the bond she craved, different from her past experience with her mother. This quote shows that Blythe not only seeks acceptance, but also seeks to fulfill the desire for love and belonging through her role as a wife and mother.

As it described bellow:

“I look back and marvel at the confidence I found then. I no longer felt like my mother's daughter. I felt like your wife. I had been pretending I was perfect for you for years. I wanted to keep you happy. I wanted to be anyone other than the mother I came from. And so I wanted a baby, too.” (p.11)

Blythe began to find confidence in her role as “Fox's wife.” In Maslow's view, love and belongingness needs include the drive to bond and be accepted in relationships. Blythe felt more like “Fox's wife” than “her mother's daughter,” which signaled an attempt to move out of the shadows of her traumatized childhood and create a new identity in her marriage. Her desire to please Fox, even to the point of “pretending to be perfect,” suggests that she is trying to fulfill Fox's expectations and emotional needs in order to feel valued in the relationship.

In addition, the drive to have children is symbolic of Blythe's desire to create a deeper emotional bond, where she hopes to form a warm family, different from her dark childhood experiences. By stating that she “wants to be anyone but her mother,” Blythe demonstrates her desire to fulfill her need for love and belonging in a positive and different way. Her efforts reflect the hope that her marriage will provide a loving and stable life. This underscores the importance of love and belonging for Blythe in her quest for self-fulfillment and identity.

“I didn't notice my tears until they dropped onto her face. I wiped each one from her skin with my pinkie and then tasted it. I wanted to taste her. Her fingers. The tops of her ears. I wanted to feel them in my mouth. I was physically numb from the painkillers but inside I felt lit on fire by oxytocin. Some mothers might have called it love, but it felt more to me like astonishment. Like wonder. I didn't think about what to do next, about what we would do when we got home. I didn't think about raising her and caring for her and who she would become. I wanted to be alone with her. In that surreal space of time, I wanted to feel every pulse.” (p.21)

Blythe describes her curious shock and fascination at seeing her baby girl for the first time. Despite being affected by oxytocin—a hormone often associated with emotional bonding and affection—Blythe felt more “wonder” and “amazement” than pure love. Maslow identified that the need for love does not always appear in

the form of romantic love or a clearly defined relationship, but rather as an intense curiosity and attachment to another person.

Blythe wanted to feel this baby fully, wipe away its tears, even taste it to reinforce this new bonding experience. However, her feelings were complex; she did not think about the future or how she would care for this child. Blythe focuses only on moments of intense physical connection, reflecting the need for unconditional love that she hopes to give - even though she may not feel fully prepared for this role. This need, which comes in the form of a deep desire to embrace the child's physical presence, is also a means for Blythe to feel love and acceptance, something she seems to have never gotten from her past.

This moment is Blythe's attempt to fulfill the need for love and belonging in its most basic form. But since Blythe felt that her attachment was more of admiration than love, this could be a sign of a deeper internal conflict related to her role as a mother. Blythe is in an ambiguity between the hope of fulfilling positive emotional needs and her painful past experiences, which might affect how she builds attachment with her child in the future.

"I began walking with Violet in the morning as soon as you left the house. We'd go for hours. I'd take her all the way downtown to your office, and you'd meet us for coffee. You loved the way Violet squealed when she saw you step off the elevator, and you loved to see me with a rosy-fresh face, looking like I was enjoying myself." (p.43)

In this excerpt, Blythe takes a walk with Violet every morning, showing her efforts to strengthen the mother-daughter relationship. This activity not only brings people together, but also gives Blythe the opportunity to connect physically and emotionally with her daughter. This shows that Blythe has a desire to connect with

Violet and fulfill her own emotional needs even though she faces many difficulties in her mothering role.

When Blythe and Violet meet her husband, he shows affection and appreciation to Blythe. Her husband who likes Blythe when she looks fresh and happy shows acceptance and recognition. This could be a moment where Blythe feels valued as a spouse and mother. This recognition is important to fulfill Blythe's need for belonging and love.

Although this activity seems fun, there is hesitation in the way Blythe handles it. According to this quote, the happiness Blythe feels may be partly due to her need to demonstrate her motherly role in the eyes of her husband, rather than due to her natural bond with Violet. In other words, Blythe's need for love and belonging may depend more on judgments from outside sources, such as her husband's response.

According to this quote, Blythe's need for love and belonging is temporary and fragile. Savoring these moments of happiness might help her relieve the feelings she often feels about being alone and disconnected. Moments like these are not enough to provide a strong emotional foundation for Blythe throughout the novel. Blythe is still trapped in loneliness and emotional vulnerability due to the lack of consistent fulfillment of these needs, especially due to her feelings of insecurity and lack of stable emotional support.

Happy!" she said. As clear as day.

"I got that on film," said your doting dad, holding up his digital camera. Your mother smothered her in kisses and your sister, whom we rarely saw but who had flown five hours to be there, scrunched up tissue paper to make her laugh. Grace, who brought a bottle of

tequila with her, cut and served the cake. We watched them all together from the comfy living-room chair, me on your lap, your arms folded across my chest.

"We did it," you whispered

"Let's get a family picture."

We stood in the natural light from our apartment windows and I held Violet on my hip between us. She felt unusually docile, and I pulled her in for a kiss on her sugary cheek. (p.50)

This quote tells the happy moment of Blythe's family. The family comes together to celebrate togetherness and happiness, showing a strong emotional connection. This is a moment where Blythe feels a bond with Violet and the extended family present. They play an important role in fulfilling Blythe's need for love and belonging, providing a satisfying emotional experience.

Blythe feels a sense of recognition as a mother and part of a harmonious family while watching over Violet amidst the attention of her family. The sense of security and acceptance provided by this social support—from her husband lovingly expressing, “We did it”—increased. This suggests that family support and togetherness met Blythe's need for love and belonging, reinforcing her feelings of being a respected and valued mother. “Me on your lap, your arms folded across my chest” is a phrase that describes Blythe's intimacy with her partner. This physical closeness demonstrates her husband's support and love, which is crucial for fulfilling the need for love and belonging. In addition, this seemingly loving and warm relationship gives Blythe the sense of security she needs.

By hugging and kissing her daughter on the cheek, Blythe shows a strong desire to build a strong bond with her. Violet's “unusually docile” response refers to times when Blythe feels in control of herself and has a calm relationship with her child. This

is particularly important in the context of the need for love and belonging, where the mother-child relationship serves as a marker of Blythe's happiness and her success as a mother. Because she had a large extended family, including her siblings and mother-in-law, Blythe had many people supporting her. She felt part of a community that loved and supported each other. This emphasizes the aspect of belonging, which is an important part of Maslow's hierarchy of needs that allows a person to feel accepted and respected by the group.

c) Self-Esteem

According to Maslow's hierarchical theory, the fulfillment of emotional needs is essential for building supportive relationships. These needs include warm relationships, support, and acceptance. With a traumatic family background, Blythe desperately needed reassurance that she was capable of being a loving and valuable figure in the roles of mother and wife. Her relationship with Fox gave her the impetus to build confidence and the belief that she was different from her mother, which she desperately craved.

You're going to be a good mother, Blythe." You traced a heart on the top of my hand. "You know, my own mother... she wasn't. like yours. She left. She wasn't anything "I know." You were quiet. You could have asked me to say more. You could have held my hand and looked me in the eye and asked me to keep talking. You took my plate to the sink. "You're different," you said eventually, and hugged me from behind. And then, with an indignation in your voice that I didn't expect: "You aren't anything like her."

I believed you. Life was easier when I believed you. Afterward we lay together on the couch and you held my belly like the world was in your hands. We loved waiting for her to move, staring at my stretched skin, the blue-green hue of the veins underneath like the colors of the earth. Some fathers talk to their wife's belly-they say the baby can hear. But as we watched for her to show us she was in there, you were quiet and awestruck, like she was a dream you couldn't believe was real. (p.18)

In this excerpt from page 18, Fox expresses her trust in Blythe that she will be a “good mother.” Through this simple sentence and his loving actions, such as drawing a heart on her hand and hugging her from behind, Fox provides Blythe with her need for love and acceptance. This is an important part of Maslow's theory as it shows the emotional support Blythe needs to believe she is capable of providing the affection she herself lacks from her mother.

However, although Fox listens to Blythe's story, she chooses not to dig deeper into her past trauma. Maslow emphasized the importance of connection and trust in meeting the needs of love and belonging. Fox's disinterest in better understanding Blythe's difficult experiences shows the limits of her emotional support, which could affect how Blythe views herself in this family.

When they were together waiting for the fetus to move and Fox held Blythe's belly with admiration, it showed a moment of strong attachment. Fox's actions provide emotional support for Blythe and hope for them as parents. However, Fox's silence also hints at uncertainty or doubt, which may unwittingly reinforce Blythe's fear of becoming like her mother. By trusting that Fox sees her as “different” from her mother, Blythe can enjoy a temporary calm that allows her to feel accepted and valued in her relationship with Fox and as an expectant mother.

As mentioned earlier, Blythe's needs were not fully fulfilled. Only three of Maslow's five hierarchies of needs are met by Blythe: physiological needs, which are met through the need for security, which is met through the need for safety, and the need for love and loyalty, which is met through the need for love and loyalty. Although limited, security is also necessary, especially in terms of physical

protection and environmental safety. Although these basic needs were met, Blythe still did not meet two important components of Maslow's set of needs: the need for esteem-also known as the need for reward-and the need for self-actualization-also known as the need for self-actualization. Self-confidence, feelings of worth, and the respect of others are all things necessary to be valued. Throughout the story, Blythe often feels unappreciated in her wife and mother role, which causes her to lose her confidence and feelings.

Blythe's unfulfilled needs, however, include all parts of the hierarchy of needs. These unmet needs include the need for self-actualization, which includes fulfilling her potential and becoming her own person. She often experienced feelings of dissatisfaction and was unable to achieve dreams or goals that would have helped her become a better person. Blythe also felt environmental pressures and lack of emotional support that prevented her from fulfilling these needs, which caused her to feel isolated and helpless. These unfulfilled needs are discussed in the following explanation.

2. Blythe's Unfulfilled Needs

The following is a description of Blythe's unfulfilled needs, which cover all aspects of Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory.

a) Physiological Needs

Blythe wanted to be a loving and affectionate mother, but she did not have a strong emotional foundation from her childhood, which made it difficult for her

to feel comfortable and connected in this role. she struggled to build a strong emotional bond with her daughter because she was still stuck in the same situation of alienation. this was a result of her past unhealthy emotional relationships. after Violet's birth, Blythe was physically and emotionally exhausted, she was sleep deprived and had to care for her baby who cried incessantly, which compromised her physical health.

I walked up and down the hallway with her for hours at night. My arms ached from holding her, and my legs throbbed from pacing the floor. I was so tired that I couldn't think straight. (p.32)

This quote describes Blythe's physical exhaustion. She walked around in the hallway for hours while carrying her baby, describing her pain with words like “My arms ached” and “legs throbbed” The extremely high level of fatigue, described as “I was so tired that I couldn't think straight” impacted on her ability to think clearly. This suggests that Blythe faced many difficulties in carrying out her maternal role, especially at night when she was tired and angry. This quote depicts the physical and emotional challenges that Blythe experienced. Mental exhaustion that leads to despair can also be a sign of fatigue that makes her unable to think clearly. Her inability to soothe her baby or deal with sleepless nights suggests that her maternal role is fraught with challenges and may make her feel not good enough as a mother. as recounted repeatedly in the novel, Blythe struggles to understand her maternal role and feels alienated from her emotional connection with her child.

This quote shows that Blythe's basic needs, such as rest, which are physiological needs, are not being met properly. This is seen from the point of view of Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory. She experiences chronic fatigue, which

indicates a lack of rest. The lack of rest made it difficult for her to fulfill her other needs, such as security and social needs. Her unstable emotional and mental state also suggests that Blythe is not comfortable and secure in her maternal role, which impacts her need for self-esteem. In addition, the information mentioned above suggests that Blythe felt isolated and stressed due to her family relationships. Walking back and forth in a deserted night hallway can be described as a mind-trip filled with doubts and uncertainties. This cycle exhausts Blythe physically, but it also illustrates the confusion and uncertainty she experiences in finding meaning and stability in her role as a mother.

Blythe's unfulfilled social needs from her childhood to the present created a pattern of emotional alienation that now carries over into her relationship with Violet. She is unable to find a sense of belonging in her maternal role due to the lack of warm models of affection in her life. In wanting to be a mother different from her own mother, Blythe is faced with the daunting challenge of meeting her daughter's emotional needs, while she herself grapples with lingering emotional wounds.

b) Safety Needs

Meanwhile, in her post-marital life Blythe begins to feel emotionally insecure when she realizes something is wrong with Violet. She feels threatened in her own home and feels like her husband doesn't trust her.

She looked at me in a way no child should look at their mother, with that cold, calculating expression. I knew then that something wasn't right, but Fox kept saying it was just in my head. (p.76)

The sentence, “She looked at me in a way no child should look at their mother”, shows the unusual relationship between Blythe and her child. The common view of how children look at their mothers is in stark contrast to the “cold, calculative” expression used in this quote. A child usually looks at their mother with curiosity, dependence, or love. However, this expression shows the emotional distance and overwhelming sense of discomfort in this situation. This expression shows that Blythe is experiencing an abnormality in their relationship and suggests that something is disturbing in the supposedly warm interaction between mother and daughter. This creates emotional tension for Blythe and confirms her feeling that she cannot fully understand or relate to her child.

The next sentence, "but Fox kept saying it was just in my head", emphasizes the gaslighting aspect of Blythe's relationship with Fox. Gaslighting is a type of manipulation where a person is made to doubt their own reality. Fox indirectly trivializes Blythe's concerns in this regard, making her feel that her feelings are unwarranted and she may be hallucinating or overreacting. This shows that Fox is not providing emotional support to Blythe, which makes her feel isolated and insecure. Fox also ignored Blythe's concerns, which made her feel less confident and alienated. Fox's distrust and Violet's behavior disrupted Blythe's sense of security. Emotionally, she felt more insecure and isolated because she could not get support from her husband.

c) Self-Esteem

Fox said I wasn't trying hard enough. That I needed to be more patient with her. But how could I be patient when every look she gave me felt like a punch in the stomach? (p.148)

Fox put pressure on Blythe with the statement “Fox said I wasn't trying hard enough”. This reflects the social expectation of a perfect and patient mother, but not all mothers are able to deal with such emotional issues alone. Fox seems to put all the responsibility on Blythe in this situation, without knowing or considering her actual mental and emotional state. This shows the gender dynamics that often make women feel guilty if they don't fulfill the requirements of ideal motherhood. Blythe experiences deep internal conflict, as shown by the quote, “how can I be patient when every look she gives me feels like a punch in the stomach?” This phrase illustrates that every interaction she has with her child causes her immense emotional pain, as if she is being attacked. This not only indicates discomfort or stress, but also a larger trauma where Blythe feels her own child is judging or threatening her. In contrast to the conventional image of a loving mother-child relationship, Blythe's reaction, described as a “punch in the stomach”, suggests sharp and painful feelings.

Her child's gaze made Blythe feel pressured, and her reaction showed that she had experienced severe trauma. In childhood, negative experiences or neglect can lead to strong and exaggerated emotional responses in certain situations, especially those related to intimate relationships such as motherhood. Blythe may feel that her child represents a painful part of her past, so every interaction triggers a painful response. This also indicates that Blythe cannot fully control her feelings, which may be worsened by her husband's lack of support.

Fox's statement that Blythe didn't try hard enough reflects judgment and a lack of understanding of Blythe's circumstances. Instead of offering support, Fox

indirectly places the blame on Blythe, which may make her feel even more guilty and pressured. This process creates an imbalance in their relationship, where Fox acts as the voice of society, expecting Blythe to be a good and loving mother without considering the emotional struggles she faces.

d) Self Actualization

In her childhood and teenage years, Blythe did not have the necessary support or guidance to reach her full potential. She did not have the support of her family, especially her mother, so she was unable to pursue her dreams or greater goals. It was as if a family circle of trauma prevented Blythe from finding her self-actualization and true self.

*I never knew who I was supposed to be.
My family was broken, and I felt like I was broken too. (p.54)*

This quote narrates the deep feelings of confusion and identity destruction that Blythe experienced due to her unstable family circumstances. “I never knew who I was supposed to be,” Blythe said, showing her vagueness and confusion. This is a direct illustration of the identity crisis that occurs when a person feels lost and unsure of their identity. Family relationships, especially with parents, often affect one's identity. When these relationships are unstable or broken, as was the case with Blythe, finding one's identity becomes very difficult. The phrase “My family was broken, and I felt I was broken too” suggests that the feelings and relationships between family members are affected by the breakdown of the family structure. Here, family breakdown can refer to various forms of conflict, both physical (such

as divorce) and emotional (such as parental neglect or inability to fulfill a child's emotional needs). Blythe shows how personal feelings and feelings about family are intertwined, linking her feelings of being “broken” to the breakdown of her family.

It also shows feelings of being alone and the inability to build strong relationships. Family is an important pillar of developmental psychology that shapes a child's self-esteem and confidence. A broken family can make a child feel discarded and incomplete, which is what Blythe felt. This feeling of “brokenness” can be caused by a family that does not provide emotional support and security.

The statement, “I feel like I was broken too”, shows a sense of hopelessness and loss of self. Here, the word “broken” is used to indicate imperfection and the inability to feel fixed or “normal”. When someone feels “broken”, it may be because they feel unworthy of love or acceptance, or because they cannot live up to the standards or expectations that others expect. Those who grew up in families filled with emotional tension or abandonment usually experience this feeling of alienation. Because her family was broken, Blythe felt alienated and unable to function. Unstable or conflicted families can lead to negative self-perceptions that are difficult to overcome.

In addition, this quote shows the possibility of psychological trauma that can affect one's behavior and emotional development later in life. These feelings of inadequacy and self-ignorance affect Blythe not only in her identity but also in the way she relates to others, including her role as a mother. The cycle of unhealthy patterns and long-lasting emotional instability caused by a broken family can even

impact how Blythe raises her child. Emotional trauma stemming from unstable or unhealthy family relationships often instills a profound sense of helplessness, which can hinder one's ability to build healthy relationships in the future.

I thought motherhood would bring me joy, fulfillment. But all I feel is emptiness, like something inside me broke and can never be fixed. (p.192)

Blythe could not achieve self-actualization because she was trapped in a role she did not expect. Her past trauma and dysfunctional relationship with Violet made it difficult for her to find meaning and self-fulfillment as a mother. In this excerpt, Blythe expresses profound feelings of disappointment and loss related to her role as a mother. There are many layers of interconnected emotions in this passage, such as dissatisfaction with the expectations of life as a mother, emotional isolation, and an acknowledgment of deep emotional wounds. “I thought motherhood would bring me joy, fulfillment” said Blythe. Many people believe that a life full of joy and happiness is the result of motherhood. Social stories illustrating that motherhood is a very important and rewarding job often influence this expectation. However, the reality is often different, especially for those who face emotional or mental issues while taking on this role. Blythe was angry that the “joy” and “fulfillment” she expected were not being met.

“But all I felt was emptiness,” the words indicate deep emotional uncertainty. This emptiness indicates an inability to feel satisfied or happy, even though motherhood is supposed to do so. Depression or more severe emotional dysfunctions often indicate this emotional void. In situations like this, Blythe may feel distant from herself and her responsibilities as a mother. She may feel like there is something missing that cannot be fulfilled. This can indicate a deep sense of

alienation, an inability to find meaning, or a desire to be a mother, which should bring her joy.

In addition, the inability to fulfill these needs may mean an inability to fulfill deeper emotional needs such as support, connection, and understanding. Although she is physically a mother, Blythe may feel unfulfilled because she is unable to fulfill her emotional needs. “Like something inside me broke and can never be fixed” is a phrase that introduces the idea of a deep, unhealed emotional wound. “Broken” indicates deep damage or destruction, suggesting that these incomplete feelings have reached a point where they cannot be repaired or healed anymore. It can indicate deep emotional wounds caused by trauma or other negative events that continue to haunt her throughout her life. Motherhood under such circumstances does not bring healing or happiness; instead, it only aggravates or worsens the state she is in.

Wounds that “can never be fixed” indicate hopelessness and an inability to find solutions or healing. It is a deep sense of hopelessness where Blythe feels there is no way to handle or overcome the grief. It can indicate that she will never fulfill the expectations placed on her as a mother or that she will never be able to regain a part of herself that she lost.

Feelings of “brokenness” are often associated with deeper emotional trauma, which may stem from unhealthy family relationships or emotional neglect she experienced. Minor trauma or marital problems can leave scars that are difficult to heal, even after parenthood. Due to her maternal role in this situation, Blythe did

not have the opportunity to heal her wounds. Instead, this responsibility keeps her even more trapped in feelings of alienation and incompleteness.

Although Blythe believed that she was supposed to perform the ideal mother role, her feelings of lack indicated that she did not have the emotional or mental strength necessary to perform the role. Even in situations that "should" bring happiness, she is unable to enjoy her life because of her emotional wounds. This causes cognitive dissonance, which is when reality conflicts with her expectations or ideals of a happy family life.

“Like something inside me is broke and can never be fixed” is a statement that can be used to describe a deep sense of alienation, a feeling that something important inside her has been broken and isolated from the outside world or even from herself. The inability to feel happy or fulfilled in her role as a mother led to a strong emotional isolation, which prevented her from connecting with her children and others. This suggests that, because of this sense of disconnection, she is unable to build healthy or positive emotional relationships with her children even though she has completed her mothering responsibilities.

Blythe's unfulfilled needs had a significant impact on her as an individual and as a mother. Blythe often felt alone and separated from others, including her daughter Violet. During childhood, she did not receive affection and emotional support from her mother, which resulted in this isolation. This made her feel lonely and unhappy with her maternal role, making it difficult for her to build a strong and intimate relationship with Violet. Blythe experiences two conflicting feelings as a result of her poor childhood experiences: the desire to love and care for her daughter,

and the fear that she cannot achieve. This uncertainty can lead to inconsistent behavior in their relationship, which leaves Violet confused and insecure. When her mother rejects her, Blythe may experience feelings of guilt for not being able to meet her daughter's emotional needs. These fears can affect her mental health, make her depressed, and make her less confident in her responsibilities as a mother. The absence of affection in her life has the potential to create a cycle where Blythe is unable to provide the same affection to Violet. Without a positive model of a mother-daughter relationship, Blythe may not know how to build healthy emotional attachments, which could repeat a pattern of emotional dissatisfaction across generations.

“I felt like the only mother in the world who wouldn't survive. The only mother who couldn't recover from having her perineum stitched from her anus to her vagina. The only mother who couldn't fight through the pain of newborn gums cutting like razor blades on her nipples. The only mother who couldn't pretend to function with her brain in the vise of sleeplessness. The only mother who looked down at her daughter and thought, Please. Go away Violet cried only when she was with me, it felt like a betrayal. We were supposed to want each other.” (p.24)

This quote from page 24 illustrates the struggles Blythe experiences as a mother who feels alienated and helpless. When she expresses that she feels like “the only mother in the world who won't last,” this suggests a deep sense of isolation and a belief that she is incapable of living up to the role expected of her. Under physical and emotional stress, she feels alienated from the ideal motherhood experience, which should be characterized by love and connection.

The statement that she felt she could not “fight through the pain” reflected unmet physiological and emotional needs. The physical pain of childbirth and the agonizing challenges of breastfeeding created a state in which she could not function optimally. The emotional impact of this experience, however, is much

deeper. When he thought, "Please. Go away," he recognizes that he feels a desire to get away from Violet, which reflects his sense of alienation. A mother-daughter relationship should be built on a sense of need and a desire to be close. When Violet only cries when she is with her, Blythe perceives it as a betrayal, suggesting that the hope of building a warm relationship failed.

Blythe's inability to connect emotionally with Violet shows that she is not getting support and affection in her life, neither from her parents nor from her new role as a mother. This shows in the context of Maslow's hierarchy of needs that an unfulfilled sense of belonging and love can lead to low self-esteem, isolation, and difficulty in establishing healthy relationships.

Caused by these unmet needs, a vicious cycle is formed. Blythe's self-centered feelings make her feel worthless and inadequate, which then prevents her from loving and treating Violet the way she wants to be treated. As a result, Blythe is trapped in a deep sense of failure and sadness, where she feels powerless to build a strong relationship with her daughter, creating a pattern of alienation that can continue for generations.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

The final section of this article includes the results and recommendations of the study. There are two points presented in this chapter, namely conclusion and suggestion. In addition, this section also provides recommendations for readers and future researchers to consider.

A. Conclusion

After analyzing the novel *The Push* by Ashley Audrain using Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory, it shows the complex journey that the main character, Blythe Connor, takes in fulfilling her basic needs. As a new mother, Blythe experiences a lack of physiological, emotional, and social support, and is unable to fulfill her basic needs such as physiological needs, love and belonging needs, Blythe felt happiness and love for her child, but not having these needs fulfilled always led to dissatisfaction and inner conflict.

Before marriage, Blythe's unfulfilled needs included physiological needs, love and belonging needs, and self-esteem. When she got married, the basic needs that were unfulfilled when she was unmarried began to be fulfilled. But over time, almost all of Blythe's needs were unfulfilled, such as physiological needs, safety needs, self esteem and self actualization. This analysis highlights the importance of meeting basic physiological and emotional needs as the cornerstone of a healthy parent-child relationship. As these aspects were unfulfilled, Blythe's dissatisfaction

drove her further away from her husband and children, triggering feelings of jealousy and suspicion, which worsened her mental state. The effect of Blythe's unfulfilled needs can affect her physical and mental health, making her more stressed and anxious. In addition, the inability to fulfill her need for love and affection leads to feelings of alienation and loneliness, especially in her relationship with her child. Blythe also loses self-actualization, which causes a sense of emptiness within her. Her inability to meet her emotional and psychological needs results in prolonged suffering, both in her relationship with her child and with others.

B. Suggestion

Based on the conclusions that have been mentioned, the researcher provides several recommendations for current and future researchers. First, it has been proven that literary works can very well describe real-life situations regarding human psychology. Based on these findings, the researcher makes several recommendations for current and future researchers. First, it has been proven that literary works can very well describe real-life situations regarding human psychology. Therefore, the researcher suggests that readers read more research on literary psychology in order to better understand human psychology in the real world.

Secondly, future researchers can learn more about other human needs, such as biological needs, security, self-actualization, and self-esteem. They can also choose various literary works with extensive data to analyze. Lastly, the researcher

suggests that future researchers should frequently read and develop an understanding of the collection of psychological literature, especially Abraham Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, to facilitate the process of understanding and applying it to the analysis.

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CURRICULUM VITAE



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