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*by* Diana Anggraeni

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## The Esteem Needs in the Main Character of 'Me Before You' Movie

Diana Anggraeni\*  
Herland Franley Manalu  
Desty Anggraini

Department of English Literature, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences,  
Universitas Bangka Belitung, 33172, INDONESIA

### Abstract

Humans have gone through many incidents, both good and bad experiences, and sometimes these experiences are shared with others in the form of stories. The stories, as one of the forms of literary works, would be nothing without the created characters within them because they provide the viewers with a purpose and a reason for us to learn about what happens in the story. Besides, they act as one important element in the movie with various psychological effects. This research aims to analyze the characteristics and the hierarchy of human needs, especially esteem needs, that appear in the main character named Will Traynor in the 'Me Before You' movie directed by Thea Sharrock. This study uses descriptive data analysis which describes a phenomenon and the main character in the movie. The results revealed seven characters comprising the esteem needs hierarchy: sensitive, open-minded, friendly, kind, confident, humble, and stubborn. The esteem needs hierarchy is the desire to have the need to be approved, valued, and recognized to have some self-esteem. This is striking in the movie because of the status of the character, Will Traynor as a lord, and Louisa Clark who is only a maid and has no superiority over Will in her life. The findings imply the personality of humans differ in their characters and psychology as shown from the esteem needs hierarchy in Will's personality expressing the different types of characteristics.

**Keywords:** Character, characteristics, esteem needs, literature, movie.

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\* Corresponding author, email: [dianaanggraeniubb@gmail.com](mailto:dianaanggraeniubb@gmail.com)

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

In literary fiction, a character is the result of characterization made in a certain way which can be seen from the conversation such as the actions that have been chosen by the author to characterize the characters. Characterization is a method, while the character is a product of the method. Accordingly, Bennett and Royle (2004) stated that character is the life of literature which is the object of desire, attraction, affection, dislike, admiration, and even threat. The conversation between one character and another is a medium between the thoughts and actions of those characters. The existence of this dialogue can determine how they feel and behave. In the modern era, the nature of literary analysis has changed since literary works are not just in reading texts or in a piece of writing such as fiction, poetry, drama, and novel. Each picture and culture that can be explained and read is also a text. The movie can also be considered as a book with moving pictures, and hence, it is one of the literary works. In literature, a movie and an adaptation of the novel are usually made to achieve new goals with a new target audience as well.

The adaptation of the novel is mentioned by Villasur (2002) as a memory object from the literature itself and the function of the adaptation is to make it readers easier to understand a novel that has already been read. The characters and the whole context become alive and meaningful. Boggs and Dennis (2008) stated that a film is a unique and powerful art form on a par with painting, sculpture, music, literature, and drama. In other words, a movie has similarities to poetry, drama, and prose. The movie or film also has imagery, a metaphor, a symbol like poetry, with dialogues and actions. Parallel to a novel, a film also has a plot that can freely explore time back and forth.

The theory from Abraham Maslow (1970), the hierarchy of human needs, is a fundamental framework in this study to analyze the character of Will Traynor in 'Me Before You' movie. The hierarchy of human needs theory is used to expand knowledge about human needs problems. Uys: et al. (2017) further stated that humans have different psychological, biological, and social aspects so they have various needs. These needs can vary from one person to another by following a hierarchical order that begins to develop from basic physiological needs to a higher social level and psychological needs. The levels of the hierarchy are psychological needs, safety needs, love and belongingness needs, esteem needs, and self-actualization needs. The character of Will Traynor is depicted in the novel as a rich person but he has a disabled body because of a past motorcycle accident, and this makes him unwilling to communicate with other people except his family. The opponent figure in this film is Louisa who is a poor woman who lost her job, and because of that she applies for a job in Will's house and succeeded to become a maid. This analysis only explained the fourth hierarchy, esteem needs, that appears in the character of Will because the level of caste that is highlighted in the main character with the opponent character is evident.

Numerous studies have been conducted on characters' hierarchy of needs in literary words. Sari (2017) focused on the main character named Rosie from the movie, 'Rosie'. Based on the theory of Abraham Maslow, this research found that her hierarchy of needs was to fulfill her love and belongingness. A number of three out of five stages in the hierarchy of needs were found in the main character, Rosie. It was concluded that Rosie's love and belongingness needs were fulfilled by having someone who loved Rosie sincerely.

This study extends its aim in researching the level of hierarchy to be analyzed in one character. [Ishen Sari \(2017\)](#) only analyzed one level of need, i.e., love and belongingness, this study focuses on analyzing the hierarchical level of esteem needs to see the status gap between the main character and other characters. It seeks to find out the various esteem needs of the main character, Will Trenor, represented in the movie, 'Me Before You', directed by Thea Sharrock.

## 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

### 2.1 Characters

This research used two main theories to analyze Will Traynor's character. The first theory to explain the philosophical elements is by [Stanton \(1965\)](#). He theorized on how to perceive characters in the evaluation of the main character's portrayal and traits. He classified many ways to evaluate a character, for example: looking at the character's words, behavior, conversations with other characters, and action. Meanwhile, in [a movie](#), a character develops his attributes through the script. [Attardo \(2001\)](#) defined a script as a cognitive structure associated by the speaker that provides the speaker with information about how a particular presence is structured, its parts and components, organized relationships, or how an activity is carried out by the speaker, and so on. In other words, it covers all possible relationships between existences including their constituents ([Damanik & Mulyadi, 2020](#)).

The second theory is taken from [Maslow \(1970\)](#) who described the hierarchy of human needs, especially for esteem needs. Accordingly, [Jerome \(2013\)](#) argued that humans require a stable, firm foundation, as well as a high level of self-respect and respect from others. When these needs are met, the person feels more conscious and valuable in the world. On the contrary, needs are not fulfilled when the individual feels inferior, weak, helpless, and worthless.

[Bennett and Royle \(2004\)](#) defined a character as the life of literature which is the object of desire, attraction, affection, dislike, admiration, and even threat. The conversation between one character and another is a medium between the thoughts and actions of that character. The existence of this dialogue can determine how they feel and behave. The many types of characters are such as sensitiveness, open-mindedness, kindness, confidence, humbleness, and stubbornness. These types of characters are defined as follows:

1. Sensitiveness

[Grimen and Diseth \(2016\)](#) defined a Highly Sensitive Person (HSP) as a characteristic that causes a person to be more sensitive to internal or external stimuli, such as emotional and social thresholds, than other individuals. Sometimes, they feel intimidated by the response of others given.

2. Open-mindedness

[Hare \(1979\)](#), as cited in [Siegel, 2009](#)) stated that thought would be open if someone was willing to revise and reconsider one's views, and someone must be willing and able to revise his position if he wants to be open-minded. Open-mindedness is someone who wants to engage with a new perspective ([Kwong, 2015](#)).

3. **Kindness**  
Peterson and Seligman (2004) explained that a character has strengths which are described as a widespread tendency to be kind to others, compassionate, do good to others, look after others, and also care for their well-being.
4. **Confidence**  
Axelrod (2017) stated that self-confidence is formed through complex internal processes of judgment and self-persuasion in which we assign meaning to our personal experiences, particularly our successes and failures in previous performances, and comprehend others' reactions to us. This includes both positive and negative words from the speaker's opponent.
5. **Humbleness**  
Finnestad (2018) described a humble person who would treat everyone with respect. Humility leads us to believe that we are not much better or worse than others; everyone has a great value and everyone deserves to be treated as such. Humble people do not get offended easily by the treatment of others and are quick to forgive. Humility pays attention to the grace it has received and quickly expands it to others.
6. **Stubbornness**  
Parvez (2014) defined stubbornness as a personality trait when someone refuses to change their opinion about a decision they have made. They will not change their mind, even if others believe something is wrong with their decision.  
Maslow (1970, as cited in Andini, 2017) argued that humans possess many needs and they are classified into five levels of basic needs. The first level is the psychological need which is called the basic human need for food, oxygen, and water. The second next level is the need for security which means every human being has an awareness of the importance of feeling safe and secure. The third level is love and affection, which is the need to be possessed by human beings because they cannot live alone and they need to be accompanied to share the love. The subsequent level is the need for appreciation, which means that to receive recognition or evaluation of others, every human being wants to be more recognized for what they did and achieved. The last level is the need for self-actualization, which can also be elaborated as the need to actualize since every human being needs space to actualize himself or herself as a conscious human being who can form different actualizations.

## 2.2 Esteem Needs

This study only used the esteem needs since it only analyzes one level of the hierarchy stages and also the different status between the main character and his opponent's character, which is visible throughout the movie. The genre presented in this film is a romantic drama that usually shows romance, and the differences in status between the main character and the others that are represented in the movie are obvious.

The need for self-esteem is at the fourth level of the hierarchy of human needs (McLeod, 2020). When individuals fulfill these needs, as well as their need for affection and belonging, they may begin to develop positive feelings of self-esteem and act to promote pride in their work and themselves as human beings (Stangor, 2012). Nevertheless, before they can work towards self-esteem, they must feel safe,



confident, and be part of a group in a school or a class. At this level of need for self-esteem, Maslow (1970) classified it in two categories as below:

1. The first category is self-esteem that includes needs for independence, achievement, dignity, and power. A person must believe that they are capable of living their lives independently, having the accomplishments necessary to gain dignity and power, and mastering the tasks and challenges that come with the life they lead.
2. The second category is the need for a desire to gain a reputation or respect from others, such as status and prestige. Reputation is the perception of recognition, fame, and prestige that a person has achieved in the eyes of others, while self-esteem is a person's self-worth and based on more than the reputation which reflects the desire for strength, achievement, sufficiency, mastery, self-confidence, freedom and independence to face the world.

Every human being needs to feel valued and this includes a need to have self-esteem. The desire to have the need to be approved, valued, and recognized also includes the need to have some self-esteem (Fiedhawatie, 2013). At the level of need for self-esteem, it presents a typical human desire to be accepted and valued by others. For example, someone who is involved in a profession or hobby is just doing that to get recognition. This results in someone getting a sense that he or she has contributed and has got value taking part in the activity. If a person considers his self-esteem low or in a condition of inferiority, this can cause the offender to be unbalanced and fail to pass the stage in the hierarchy of needs on this one. Psychological things or imbalances such as depression will also prevent the person from getting a higher level of self-esteem (Hall, 2011).

### 3. METHODS

This research used a qualitative approach, particularly by utilizing descriptive data analysis. The descriptive method aims to characterize a phenomenon and its character, and conduct a detailed description to analyze specific events encountered by individuals or groups. Therefore, observation was used to gather data (Gall et al., 2007).

Creswell (2014) stated that the data collection processes include the setting of the study boundaries, the collection of data, and the method for recording the information. This study had two steps for collecting the data. The first process was watching the movie to configure the main character, Will Traynor. The researchers observed Will's character and took notes for description by using the theory of Stanton (1965). The way to classify and evaluate characters was conducted by observing the words of the character, his behavior, conversations with other characters, and his actions. Secondly, the process of taking observational notes was done by looking up the scenes and scripts from the film to check the accuracy of the characters' conversations.

Meanwhile, the description of data collection was conducted by using the theory of Maslow (1970) on the hierarchy of human needs, especially esteem needs. After that, the character of Will was matched with the hierarchy itself. To do the analysis, the first step taken was mentioning the dialogue or script from Will with other

characters. Subsequently, the words from the conversation were analyzed and described.

#### 4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This study has identified the characters contained in the main character, Will Traynor. The characters found are sensitive, open-minded, friendly, kind, confident, humble, and stubborn. They are elaborated in the next sub-sections.

##### 4.1 Sensitive Character

Grimen and Diseth (2016) explained that sensitivity occurs when internal or external stimuli of a character become emotional. This includes environmental forces such as his or her surroundings and the people he or she interacts with. A sensitive character appeared in Will when he felt uncomfortable with his mother's utterances. The dialog (D) can be seen below, where W is Will, N is Nathan, WM is William's Mother:

<sup>1</sup>

D1 W: Hello Louisa Clark. I am Will Traynor. You appear to have a problem with your skirt.  
N: You're a bad man, Mr. T!  
W: G'day Nathan.  
WM: Right, well I'll leave you to get on. Miss Clark, Nathan will talk you through Will's routines and equipment.  
W: You don't have to talk across me, mother. My brain isn't paralyzed yet.

Will's mother considers that he is unable to do something like normal people do. Will's mother stated, "Miss Clark, Nathan will talk to you through Will's routines and equipment". Will feels sensitive when people think that he is unable to do something and then says to his mother, "You don't have to talk across me, mother. My brain isn't paralyzed, yet". Will's part of the body is no longer functioning because of the motorcycle accident, this made his mother think Will is unable to explain the routine that he has been doing every day. Hence, this strongly confirms that Will does not want to be considered abnormal and unable to do anything else like disabled people. Will also say that his brain is still functioning to think, so he can have a conversation with anyone because his brain is not paralyzed at all. He also feels he can still work like a normal person.

Maslow's (1970) hierarchy addresses two levels of self-esteem. One is the lower level and the other is the higher level. The lower level of self-esteem is directly linked to the ego of the person, which implies there is a deep desire to be valued by others (Poston, 2009). In this situation, Will's self-esteem is activated and he does not want to be demeaned because he is disabled and cannot do anything. As a sensitive person who has a tender feeling which can be easily hurt or disturbed by somebody's remarks, Will is without doubt offended by the lack of his mother's verbal appreciation (Rahayuningsih et al., 2019). Therefore, Will himself denies his mother by saying that he does not need to be represented to speak. It proves that Will wants to be valued and he has a desire to gain respect from others.

## 4.2 Open-minded Character

Siegel (2009) stated that human thought would be open if someone was willing to revise and reconsidered one's views, and someone must be willing and able to revise his position if he wanted to be open-minded. Will starts by trying to open a conversation with Louisa, and also to watch a movie with her. This is the first time Will wants to talk to Louisa again, before that he was very cold and always scolded her. Those actions indicate that Will already wants to open his mind to other people, as depicted in the dialogues below (L is Louisa).

- D2 L: film with a subtitle?  
W: What? Did your school not teach you to read? Sit down. Watch with me, that's an order. (After watching the movie)  
L: Yes, now I get it, being there, gave their lives more meaning, but that's....  
W: But you don't agree.  
L: What? To sacrifice themselves like that. I mean, could you even imagine?  
W: Did you like the film?  
L: I loved it. Oh, if you're laughing at me, I swear to God, I will push you out of that chair.  
W: I am not laughing at you.

In this situation the original character of Will begins to appear, he wants to have a conversation with Louisa, his helper, and he invites Louisa to watch movies with him. Will invites Louisa to watch a film with American subtitles in which she has never done before. After the film ends, they talk like they have known each other before forgetting their social status and debate about the ending of the film that does not fit their expectation. They seem to have gotten along and at the end of their conversation, Louisa says "I loved it. Oh, if you're laughing at me, I swear to God, I will push you out of that chair". It implies that for the first time Will laughs and smiles at Louisa, and this has never been done to her before. Will with an open-minded character always respects, and never stops to respect another as long as Louisa still pays respect to him as well (Rahayuningsih et al., 2019). Nevertheless, in this situation, Will still seems eager to maintain his social status. This occurs when Will says, "Sit down. Watch with me, that's an order!"

Maslow (1970) stated that the level of the hierarchy of esteem needs is a need that has two components: respect oneself and receive respect from others. The character of Will belongs to the type of self-esteem at the second level where he wants to feel respected as an employer of Louisa. He ordered Louisa to sit and watch the film with him, so this hierarchy emerged in his personality. His attitude is buried in the hierarchy of needs, esteem needs, from which he shows the power and position that he owns at his home as a Lord. He treats Louisa like a domestic worker who has no authority over anything and cannot refuse his order.

## 4.3 Friendly Character

The friendly character is emerging in Will's personality. He has an amiable personality who can succeed in the social arrangements with Louisa. He is often engaged in conversations with her because he needs her to sit with him and tell him a nice story. He shows an attitude that makes her comfortable to know him further and even volunteered to spend time with him. She believed and thought he had a friendly



personality. In the next dialogue, she is performing a Malahonkey song that will make him laugh and feel happy.

- 6
- D3 W: No. stay. Tell me, tell me something good.  
L: I used to say that to my Dad! But if I told you what he stated back, you'd think I was insane.  
W: Go on.  
L: He used to sing the Malahonkey song.  
W: What?  
L: The Malahonkey song. I thought everyone knew it.  
W: Trust me, Clark, I am a Malahonkey virgin.  
L: You're gonna make me sing it now? I willillillillished, I lillillillived in the Malalalahonkey land the lalalaland where...so I lalalal-I could plalalalay  
W: You're insane, your' whole family's insane.

Before they have a conversation, Will's condition gradually begins to recover but the weather is in the worst condition because of the blizzard and it makes Louisa unable to return home. He wants her to stay with him and he says, "No. stay. Tell me, tell me something good". It means that she should tell him something good like a story that could divert and forget about his pain. She talks about her childhood, and when she sings the Malahonkey song, at that time, he says, "You're insane, your' whole family's insane". He smiles and even laughs at her singing. Other than that, she tells a story that she loves to use stripes tight with a yellow-black pattern when she was a child. The friendly nature of Will made Louisa even warmer to tell her past with him.

Another friendly incident that Will does when he and Louisa walk in the garden is when he sees the quirky shoes that she is wearing, therefore he begins to advise on what she should do for herself, as in the following script:

- 1
- D4 W: Interesting choice of footwear.  
L: Patrick says, that I make it look like a leprechaun drag queen.  
W: He was being nice.  
L: I don't smile at me like that.  
L: Why not?  
W: Because this is the kind of place people come to when they got tired of actually living. People here believe, think excitement, is a new 'please be quiet' sign going up in the library. You should be out there, claiming the world as your own. Showing your leprechaun shoes to dodgy men.

Will is very friendly that day, through the day he starts to have small conversations with Louisa. From the dialogue in D4, he begins by saying "an interesting choice of footwear" and "he was being nice" implies that he dares to mock her to continue and be confident in wearing the leprechaun drag queen shoes to make men more interested in seeing her appearance than just staying in the castle which is a place for people who are tired of life. At this time, he shows the attitude of hospitality and tries to make her feels comfortable and confident about what she uses and does in life.

Other than that, Will says, "because this is the kind of place people come to when they got tired of actually living. People here believe, think excitement, is a new 'please be quiet' sign going up in the library. You should be out there, claiming the world as your own. Showing your leprechaun shoes to dodgy men", means that a castle is a place for people who are bored to live, just as the sign 'please be silent' in libraries. This bears a pragmatic meaning that a castle is a very quiet place where it is a part of

happiness only owned by people who live there. Besides, he wants Louisa to develop her career not only by working in the castle but also to go outside to see the world to prove that the world is suitable for her. In the end, he tells her to be confident with the shoes she is wearing in front of the men out there. She denies him by saying she enjoys her life in the castle and she condemns him again by imagining herself to be a woman who went to London to marry a man named Rupert. Louisa quips Will because Rupert is the future husband of Alicia, who is Will's ex-lover.

Another hierarchy of human needs that is included in the friendly character is esteem needs when Will advises Louisa for making her more confident in her life. It proves that the esteem needs in him have emerged. Maslow (1970) argued that these needs also describe the pride to build positive feelings not only in the main character, Will but also in Louisa. He influences her to maintain her positive thinking and keep striving to achieve a bright future in life.

#### 4.4 Kindness Character Trait

Peterson and Seligman (2004) stated that the kind character traits describe a widespread tendency to be amiable to others, to be empathetic, to be decent to others, and to look after and care for their well-being. In Will's character, he is not only being kind to Louisa but also to her father and her family. Will has a good personality especially to share his kindness with others when he gives a job to Louisa's father. The following is conversations among Louisa, her mother, and her father (LM is Louisa's Mother and LF is Louisa's father):

- 1
- D5 L: Hello? Whoa! Jesus, Mum, hello! Is it too much? Oh, sod it.  
 LM: I don't care! We are celebrating Lou!  
 LF: I've got a job!  
 L: Oh, Dad, that is fantastic!  
 LF: You are looking at the new head of maintenance at the castle.  
 L: God, that is...  
 LF: I know, I know. Mr. Traynor rang me himself. I'm starting tomorrow morning. A month's trial.  
 LM.: Isn't it brilliant? And it's good money, Lou. And he gets his own van.

Will gives a job to Louisa's father because he knows that Louisa's father does not have a job. In the conversation, Louisa's father stated that "Mr. Traynor rang me himself" which means Will gives him a job to be the chief of the castle that Will owns. Not only giving work to Louisa's father, but he also gives him other things such as a personal car and some money. Will is undisputedly a kind person because he maintains his friendships with Louisa by giving her father a good job. In this case, he repeats engagement with Louisa by allowing his feelings of solidarity and belonging within a friendship (Brown, 1992).

The hierarchy of human needs when Will gives Louisa's father some of his wealth and a new job is the esteem needs, especially type one, that is power. He has power in his houses so he can do whatever he wants for managing his houses and castles. Because of that power and kindness, it is easy for him to recruit Louisa's father to work in his castles. Will is fond of Louisa, so he decides to make her have a better life for what he provides. Not only that, he intends to see her spread her wings out there to show her abilities, which he truly thinks she can do. From this explanation, he is, without a doubt, a very kind person.

#### 4.5 Confidence Character Trait

<sup>4</sup> Axelrod (2017) explained that self-confidence develops through complex internal processes of judgment and self-persuasion in which meaning is assigned to personal experiences and comprehended on how others react to it. This includes both positive and negative statements made by the speaker's opponent. In the film, Will has shown the third character of a very confident person when answering all the hate speech given by Patrick with a smile and an upright body as if he did not feel offended and still had a positive assessment of his interlocutors. He is confident in the physical state that he has. D6 shows an event where Louisa invites Will to come to her house for her birthday, and Patrick, Louisa's boyfriend, is attending the party. Will is unable to eat alone, so Louisa who is still his assistant feeds him and even puts the leftover food into Will's mouth. Patrick is not used to this kind of atmosphere, so he is jealous of Will and tried to embarrass him in front of Louisa's family (P is Patrick).

- <sup>1</sup>
- D6 W: So, Patrick? Louisa told me that you're a personal trainer.  
P: Life coaching, physical training. Motivation.  
LM: Local young entrepreneur of the year, two years running!  
P: Lou told me that you were a bit of an action man, before.  
L: Pat?  
P: I bet you if we got you on a fitness regime, there is a Swedish study that says that you can train muscles.  
L: Patrick.  
P: What? Just trying to...  
L: Yes, but don't.  
W: I will bear that in mind. Thank you.

At that time Will tries to make a conversation with Patrick, he asks about the activities carried out by Patrick as a personal trainer. Patrick says, "Lou told me that you were a bit of action man, before" to allude to Will who is a very active man before he had an accident in which half of his body is now paralyzed. Patrick wants to make Will feel ashamed and helpless when he tries to bring down Will. Furthermore, Patrick says "I bet you if we got you on a fitness regime, there is a Swedish study that says that you can train muscles". Here, Patrick tries to explain matters relating to physical training to Will and advises him to go to Sweden to train Will's muscles that had been diminished because of the accident. Because of Patrick's jealousy of Louisa's treatment of Will, he deliberately drops and offends him with negative words but Will replies, "I will bear that in mind. Thank you". Will is very receptive to the advice given by Patrick, and he tries to consider it. He tries not to be afraid of the wrong words he has replied to Patrick because of the people who have high self-confidence (Axelrod, 2017). He is still tolerable with a sense of jealousy or criticism from others.

Will tries to maintain his reputation by showing the respect and dignity he has. This is shown when he gives a smile with a well-built body posture which shows that he is confident of what he has got. Besides, he replies to Patrick's sarcasm with smiles and other positive sentences. Will wants to show people that he is also able to be like a normal person, such as dancing at a wedding party. Will's experience of being socially esteemed is accompanied by a feeling of confidence that his achievements or abilities will be recognized as 'valuable' by other members of society (Brown, 2012). This character belongs to the second type of esteem needs where Maslow (1970)

mentioned that the need for the desire to get respect, acceptance, and recognition from others that somebody can still do things as others do.

#### 4.6 Humble Character

Finnestad (2018) stated that a humble person is eager to treat everyone with respect. Humility leads us to believe that we are not much better than others; everyone has great values and deserves to be treated well. Humble people are not easily offended by the treatment of others and are quick to forgive. Another humble treatment from Will is when he arrives at Louisa's house and her family welcomes Will warmly. The following is the conversation carried out by Will and Louisa's family:

- 1
- D7 LF: Ah, lads! Welcome! Bernard Clark. (Lends a hand). I am sorry, I didn't, I didn't...  
W: A curtsy will be fine.  
LF: A curtsy, nice one! This is Josie, my wife.  
LM: Hello.  
W: Hello. come on in. Yes, c'mon. Thank you.

Before Will arrives at Louisa's house, her family is waiting for his arrival. Will comes with Nathan. Louisa's father reaches out to Will to shake hands with him. Louisa's father forgets about the paralysis suffered by Will, and so he apologizes to Will, and he says "a curtsy will be fine". He gives a smiling face and remains humble to Louisa's father. He bows to say hello.

Finnestad (2018) stated that humble people exhibit grace and quickly expand it to others. This has been shown by Will when he simply forgives Lou's father. D7 includes the hierarchy of human needs; esteem needs because Will still wants to maintain his social status to be respected by others. He states that bowing is just the same as shaking hands. Maslow (1970) explained that esteem needs involve social interaction to make the person feel comfortable and satisfy the need for self-esteem. This is done by Will when he tries not to shake hands but he just needs to be respected by just bowing.

#### 4.7 Stubborn Character

13 The last of Will's character is stubborn. Parvez (2014) defined stubbornness as a personality trait when someone refuses to change their opinion about a decision they have made. Despite Will is a good man, hence he is also a selfish man. The scene in D8 is when they are on their last night vacation, Will has a conversation with Louisa:

- 1
- D8 W: The doctors know it and I know it. When we get back, I am going to go to Switzerland. So, I'm asking you, if you really feel the things, you say you feel. Come with me.  
L: Yes, I know, but I thought that you were changing your mind.  
W: Nothing was ever going to change my mind. I promised my parents six months and that's what I've given them.  
L: No, no! No. Don't say another word. You're selfish!

Will and Louisa are on a holiday in France, in the light of the stars, Louisa sitting on Will's lap. They are having a conversation, he says, "the doctors know it and I know it. When we get back, I am going to go to Switzerland. So, I'm asking you, if you really feel the things, you say you feel. Come with me". It means that after they both return



from this holiday, Will plans to go to Switzerland, and he is asking her to accompany him. However, she does not want to force him to do crazy things, so she thought Will's idea was to commit suicide. At that moment, Will immediately says that "nothing was ever going to change my mind. I promised my parents six months and that's what I've given them", which means no one can change his mind and his decision. Then she disagrees, she states that Will is very selfish and she does not want to accompany Will to end his life.

Parvez (2014) stated the stubborn people have a strict adherence to their ideas and opinions. They have a strong resistance to change, especially when other people give them a chance. As a stubborn person, Will is reluctant to change the decisions he has made. This character belongs to the second type, the need for power and self-esteem. In the need of power, Will keeps using his power to exercise his right to choose the path of his own future life. The entire happiness that he has spent with Louisa does not make him change his mind. He still wants to end his life. Komninos (2020) stated that Maslow (1970) has distinguished between two versions of the need for appreciation, namely the lower version and the higher version. The first is for the actions somebody takes to get respect from others, while the second is an internal need to respect ourselves. The need for higher appreciation includes a desire for physical strength, knowledge, competence, and freedom. What Will has done in D8 is that he tries to respect himself and tries to keep using the power he has to control and decide what kind of life he will take.

## 6. CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the study, the personality of humans differs in their characters and psychology as shown from the esteem needs hierarchy in Will's personality, which expresses different types of characteristics. The hierarchy of esteem needs appears from the main actor, Will Traynor, as the Lord who exercises his power to Louisa Clark, who is only his helper and has no right or superiority in her life to Will. These needs comprise seven characters in Will's personality. The first character is sensitive, seen when he receives some ill responses from his mother that make him feel less and different from others. The next character is open-minded which can be seen when he starts to open a conversation with Louisa and also watch a movie with her. He also shares his own stories with her regardless of their different social status. The third figure is friendly which is shown by Will who has a friendly personality and the ability to succeed in the social arrangements he has with Louisa. He often has conversations with Louisa because he needs her to sit with him and tell him nice stories. He shows an attitude that makes her comfortable to know him further and even volunteers to spend time with him. The fourth character is kindness. Will has power in these needs and because of that, he gives a job to Louisa's father. The fifth character is the confidence which is possessed by Will when answering all the hate speech given by Patrick with a smile and an upright body as if he did not feel offended and still had a positive assessment of his interlocutors. The next character is humble, which can be seen when Will still maintains his social status to be respected by others and he also gives respect and treats something nice to Louisa's father. The last character is stubborn which is shown by Will when he makes a decision and invites a specialist to



his house to take care of his wealth before he commits suicide. He also still wants to do suicide after he ruins his happy life with Louisa.

Considering the findings, the limitations of the study focus on analyzing the character and the hierarchy of human needs especially for esteem needs in Will Traynor's life in the movie of 'Me Before You'. Therefore, this study recommends future research to use another theory of psychology or concepts related to literary criticism, such as making a comparison to other literary works in the same field or genre by seeing at the dominant hierarchy of human needs contained in one character or more.

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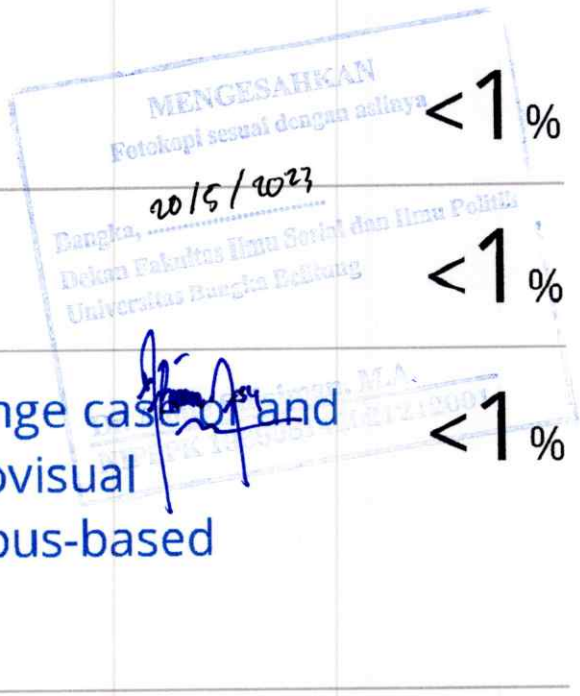
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