

**SELF-ACTUALIZATION OF STARR CARTER IN ANGIE THOMAS
THE HATE U GIVE: A PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH**

A SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATION

Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement
To Obtain *Sarjana Sastra* Degree in English Literature Department
Faculty of Literature, Culture, and Communication
Universitas Ahmad Dahlan



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2024

THE HATE U GIVE: A PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH

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Abstract

This research is entitled Self-actualization development in the main character Starr Carter novel written by Angie Thomas *The hate u give A Psychological Approach*. This novel describes about a girl that has been traumatized in her life time and a journey ahead of her into self-actualization. The researcher aims to figure out the main character, Starr Carter of how trauma affect life experiences towards self-actualization, using both theories trauma by Sigmund Freud and Self-actualization Abraham Maslow. The researcher observes that Starr the main character faces trauma affect in her childhood times and during teenage as well, she claims to face them all with strong desire of changing herself and people around her. Hence, it wasn't easy journey for Starr, she had to face triggers in trauma affect by each step of her life segment. Therefore, Starr came into conclusion of her own thoughts that this must come to an end. Starr decided to speak above the truth and by this realization a sense of Self-actualization came across.

The qualitative methos is applied in this research to analyze the data in paragraphs and sentences. In analyzing the data, the researcher begins to classify and analyze the data, according to the problem formulation. Moreover, to solve the problem the researcher uses five hierachy theory of self-actualization by Abraham Maslow and truma by Sigmund Freud to help the researcher describe the condition and solve the problems.

The conclusion of this research proclaim that the main character can develop her traumatic affect journey towards self-actualization. It helped Starr to be able to speak more and let go of her fear being traumatized, and by speaking and letting other people know might come into great amount of realization for herself and people around her. The main character was affected by each level in trauma and by the needs of five heirarchy needs been completed was able to achieve. And finally the main character was able to face her trauma in her childhood, repression, and in the end by self-actualization she was free from being feeling guilty and more stronger.

Keywords: Trauma affect, Self-actualization, Five heirarchy needs, Psychoanalysis.

INTRODUCTION

In this life we are observed to make a lot of choices since the beginning of time and there are times where some choices and decisions aren't from our hands. Especially when a person had to endure many life experiences and one of it is a case of trauma. Trauma is an emotional reaction that every individual face in their life time such as: a person had in an accident, rape victims, and murderer cases, toxic or abusive family surroundings and also experiences which calls up distressing effects such as fight, anxiety, shame, or physical pain may operate as a trauma" (S. Freud & Breuer, 1961.p.6). People these days claim having stress feeling can conclude to trauma, psychological trauma is the unique individual experience of an event or enduring conditions, in which: the individual's ability to integrate his/her emotional experience is overwhelmed, or the individual experiences a threat to life, bodily integrity, or sanity. (Pearlman & Saakvitne, 1995, p.60).

In case the trauma prolongs it can cause a various type of reactions towards human body for example stress that can lead to increase in blood pressure, increased sweating, increased heart rate and reduced stomach activity loss which leads to loss of appetite. These factors can be normal for a human being to bare but if constantly happening this might lead the person into post-traumatic disorders (PTSD) this

disorder often brings a person remembering flashbacks, nightmares, panic attacks, depression and that might lead to taking drugs, alcohol, anger issues and even negative impact addictions. Therefore, in this novel we are about to identify case a of a main character of how she overcome from trauma events and accroding to affect of life experiences towards self-actualization. Starr Carter the main character from the novel *the hate u give* has to live up with the trauma that causes in some of the occassions facing phobias. In which likely to declare the trauma effect life experiences of Starr Carter and how it is resolved.

The novel *the hate u give* written by Angie thomas in 2017. The novel declares on explanation of how the main character Starr that lives in Garden Heights suburb. Starving for justice in the sake name of her best friend Khalil as he was underarmed and shot by the police officer during the pull over session. Starr is only 16- year old teenager who had witnessed and suffered through many murder cases including her own best friends. Her silence were hidden without sharing it with public as she had her brother Seven were transmitted to different schools. Starr changed herself in the new school as she changes her identity of her own background. But not until one day where her only friend was killed right in front of her eyes.

Therefore, this causes the main character Starr an traumatic event. Trauma can be based in many cases, murderers and it all can calculate in a term of a person that has the interntion to change themselves. There are many similar literary work that talks about trauma, a trauma that causes the main character to suffer until the point to their self-actualization. There are some examples of trauma novels, beloved by Toni Morrison, 1987, untamed state by Roxanne Gay, 2014, the long road home, by Danielle Steel, 1998.

Starr is an African American that lives in between two different lives. The first is the place where she was born and raised and the other is where she hid herself to others in Williamson high school. It is tough for her because she is still a teenager but that's what her parents taught her kids to be. She grew up in a neighborhood where gangsters and drug dealers work but overall, she was never interrupted with their business. Angie Thomas was born and raised in Jackson Mississippi. She was a former teen rapper and one of her great accomplishment article about her was published in *right on!* Magazine. This is her first novel she wrote it due to her own experiences she lives in her neighborhood and she was inspired by Tupac a rapper who influenced many people back then before he was murdered. This rapper gave a lot impact to Angie's life. In one of Wayan Yunitri's article,

she wrote in 2019 is that this novel *the hate u give* main character Starr story is related to Angie's story of where she grew up and how she had to face herself in different school and how she had to hid all her anger within of witnessing many people died without getting any justice (Yunitri's Wayan, 2019).

The researcher analyzes the main character of this novel *the hate u give* by using Abraham Maslow's five hierarchy needs. Which is also called as five humanistic needs. As Starr has been suffering in silence since she was a child and by the time is right she will lead her way to self-actualization. In this theory '*Theory of human motivation*' there are five basic needs of every individual human being, (1) The Physiological needs, (2) The safety needs, (3) The love needs, (4) The Esteem needs, (5) The needs of self-actualization. These needs have different stages that every human need to acquire in their daily lives. In order to understand these one should know their true self and needs to compromise their priorities. Any motivated behavior, either preparatory or consummator must be understood to be a channel throught which many basic needs may be simultaneously expressed or satisfied. Typically, an act has more than one motivation. Pratically all organism states are to be understood as motivated as an motivating. Motivation theory is not synonymous with behavior theory. The

motivations are only one class determinants of behavior. While behavior is almost always motivated, it is also almost biologically, culturally and situation determined as well (Maslow: 1942). Although it's not an easy journey for one to accomplish towards self-actualization. As there are many forms of stages one might face during a healing process. For some it might tend to end in over sadness and tragedy and for some it could challenging and tries to improve themselves into a better person and save people around them. In the matter of fact a person with trauma effect can be stronger than a person who doesn't witness at all. They have the choice to speak up for themselves and people around them. As in the chapter 26 it is declared that, Ms. O'frah calls to apologize for putting Starr in danger and for the grand jury verdict. She claims that she was proud of starr and believes that Starr has a future career as an activism (Angie Thomas: 2017,347). By this case Starr already accepts the fact that there are things cannot be changed from the past but only can changed in the future. Therefore, she declares to not give up and strive for people that are suffering from trauma affect. And so in here where the self-actualization theme works. For

one to have subconscious towards their actions and ready to fulfill the given journey.

The researcher finds this novel quite fascinating and it has been sold worldwide copies and won several best book awards. And it has sold more than 2M over globally copies over the years since first published (The Guardian, Tim Lewis, 2019). The novel talks about a lot of what is happening in today's world not only focusing on the human rights between people who are different skinned or cultures but also it tells a lot how to hear the other side of the story the true events because not everything we hear or see in the media are true. While *The hate u give* is a work of fiction, it resonates with real-world issues and reflects the experiences of many individuals who have faced discrimination and systemic injustice. The novel encourages readers to critically examine their own beliefs and to take against inequality. It emphasizes the idea that by addressing hate and promoting empathy, understanding, and social justice, we can work towards a more equitable and inclusive society. There are many things that are hidden behind the door's untold stories (Angie Thomas, 2017).

LITERATURE REVIEW

In relating to the research focus, the researcher applies psychological approach. In analyzing a literary work, psychology can be used as an approach. As stated by Rene Wellek and Austin Warren in their book *Theory of Literature* (1949: 75), they state that psychology and literature have a connection. The psychology of literature means a psychological study of the author as a type and individual. In other words, the psychology of literature is a study of the creative process or the psychological types in the literary works or the effect of the literary work upon the readers or audience psychology. Wellek and Warren (1949: 88) show that in some cases, psychological insight appears to increase an artistic value. In such cases, it reinforces the important artistic values. Psychology is non-essential to art and it is not in itself of artistic value. Psychology may be strained the main characters sense of reality, sharpened their power of observation or allowed them to fall upon undiscovered patterns. However, psychology is only preparatory to the act of creation; and in the literary work itself; psychological truth is an artistic value only if it increases the coherence and complexity. Wellek and Austin Warren in their book *Theory of Literature* (1949: 75), they state that psychology and literature have a connection. The psychology of literature means a psychological study of the author as a type and individual. In other words, the psychology of literature is a study of the creative process or the psychological types in the literary works or the effect of the literary work upon the readers or audience psychology. Wellek and Warren (1949: 88) show that in some cases, psychological insight appears to increase an artistic value. In such cases, it reinforces the important artistic values. Psychology is non-essential to art and it is not in itself of

artistic value. Psychology may be strained the main characters sense of reality, sharpened their power of observation or allowed them to fall upon undiscovered patterns. However, psychology is only preparatory to the act of creation; and in the literary work itself; psychological truth is an artistic value only if it increases the coherence and complexity. Spiegel's theory of hypocrisy refers to a branch of psychological approach because the researcher applies the theory to find out Clare's hypocritical character. To describe and to find out Clare's hypocritical character it relates to psychological factors.

After all Freud declares that fixation at the moment of the traumatic experience is the basis of a traumatic neurosis.

Suffering from trauma has transformative disorder, be that in religion, poetry, philosophy, or literature and the general understanding of how pain can be beneficial is not a new concept together (Madhuleena Chowdury, 2019). The outcome theory of the analysis is that the general models of psychological and mindset shift view change as a consequence of attempts to cope with life and stress (Janoff-Buhman, 1992). There are two types coping, as the outcome theory states homeostatic.

Five hierarchy needs is a psychological theory originated by Abraham Maslow in his book *Motivation and Personality*. The given theory discusses five hierarchy of human needs. These needs are physiological needs, safety needs, belongingness and love needs, esteem needs, and self-actualization needs (Maslow, 1954: 35-46).

Abraham Maslow was one of the most predominant psychologist of the twentieth century. His famous work also started in the year mid-1940 and that is the concept of self-actualization. His works were focused on humanistic psychology and positive psychology. According to humanistic

psychologist Nelson Geud, “the recent positive psychology movement focuses on themes addressed by Maslow would encourage the scholarly approach positive psychology uses for studying topics such as happiness, flow, courage, hope, and optimism, responsibility and civility” (Goud, 2008, P.450).

METHODOLOGY

After the data are collected, they are analyzed by using a qualitative method and then to analyze the select data that are revealed to psychological condition of the main character in the novel *the hate u give* by Angie Thomas. Trauma can cause a profound and lasting impact towards an individual’s life experiences, affecting various aspects of their life including their thoughts, emotions, behaviors, relationships, and overall well-being. It’s a major point to recognize that trauma affects individuals differently, and the extent and nature of its impact can vary based on factors such as the type, severity, duration, and timing of the trauma, as well as the individual’s resilience, support system, and coping mechanisms (Courtney E. Ackerman, MA:2018). Hence, the researcher reveals the need progress of self-actualization achieved by the main character in this novel. The researcher uses the five stages of human needs by Abraham Maslow’s theory, namely, psychological needs, safety needs, belonging and love needs, esteem needs, and the need for the self-actualization. According to Freud’s statements is

that the word trauma refers mainly mental injury rather than a physical one. Therefore, it is still labeled a double wound such as; psychological and physical. The psychological injury results from a “mental conflict between the ego and itself during the period of incubation, relatively than a conflict between the ego and the Id.” It can occur for a person with traumatic experience to haunt into unforgettable memory chasing one like a ghost. Although the traumatized may forget the details of the given trauma. Hence, they can still suffer from the phobias and obsessions related towards the events that happened in the past. (MacCannell and Maccannell 205).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

the researcher presents research method that used for this study, it consists of type of research, subject and object of the research, data collecting technique, and data analyzing method. This chapter discusses the effect of trauma and self-actualization in *the hate u give* novel. The explanation will be divided into two parts. The first one is the trauma cause effect of the main character. Second, the researcher analyzed from the trauma effect into self-actualization stages of the main character of the given novel.

Since Sigmund Freud was the founder of psychoanalysis in trauma there are few key points he included about trauma, first there is Childhood Trauma, the second is Repression, third is Unconscious Influence, the fourth is Dream Analysis, fifth is Neurosis, and the sixth is the Catharsis and talking therapy (Freud, 1915). Although, these trauma effects that Freud contributes during his research includes some points towards the analysis of each event that happened inside the novel. As for the fourth part about dream analysis is not related with the event that contributes with the main character.

1. Childhood Trauma

Freud believed that early childhood experiences, especially those of a sexual nature, could lead to the development of neurosis and psychological disorders. He emphasized the impact of events during the first few years of life in explaining a person's psyche (Freud, 1915). For it is important to determine the consequence of one's reaction during the phase of their life time. Therefore, it would impact on adult life. Freud believed that unresolved childhood traumas could manifest similar to phobias, neurosis, anxiety disorders, and other psychological symptoms in adulthood. Trauma is generating painful encounters of flashbacks, it deferred and strikes afterwards but it is emptied by any

content. Thus, accounts for appearing paradoxical symptoms, such as rage and numbness or causing the feeling either empty or possessed (J.Roger Kurtz, 2018:144).

A tattooed arm stretched out the back window, holding a Glock. People ran. Not me though. My feet became part of the sidewalk. Natasha was splashing in the water, all happy stuff. Then-
Pow! Pow! Pow!

I drove into a rosebush. By the time I got up, somebody was yelling, "Call nine-one-one!" At first I thought it was me, cause I had blood on my shirt. The thorns on the rosebush got me, that's all. It was Natasha though. Her blood mixed in the water, and all you could see was a red river flowing down the street.

She looked scared. We were ten, we didn't know what happened after you died. Hell, I still don't know and she was forced to find out, even if she didn't wanna find out. I know she didn't just like Khalil didn't (Angie Thomas, 2017:27-28).

In this scenario Starr had a flashback of her past event that happened few years before the other friend incident. Thus, Freud declared that these type of incident might occur in adulthood. According to Courtney in one of her article she mentions that, A powerful emotional response to a distressing event, such as was, the unexpected loss of a loved one, an accident, or abuse. Trauma can take up to cause both emotional and physical symptoms for many years after the event has concluded (Courtney E. Ackerman, 2018).

2. Repression

Repression is the traumatic experiences that could be repressed to shove out of conscious awareness, as a defense mechanism. Repression also helps protect the individual from overwhelming emotional pain associated with the traumatic event. When a person experiences something traumatic or disturbingly distressing, they may attempt to lean those memories or emotions out of their conscious awareness and into their unconscious mind. Freud convinced that these repressed thoughts and emotions could still influence on individual behaviour and mental processes, Al though they are not directly accessible to the conscious mind (Freud, 1915).

“Cause you need to get out of the house. Out that neighbourhood. I want you to at least try, starr. This will sound mean, but just because Khalil’s not living doesn’t mean you stop living. You understand, baby?” (Angie Thomas, 2017:61)

From that scene, Starr mother was demanding her daughter to carry on with life which also contributes with the mechanism of pushing an individual to proceed into doing something good. “yeah” I know she’s right, but it feels wrong (Angie Thomas, 2017:61). Although Starr knows that by isolating herself won’t help her to overcome the trauma but at the same time she feels bad about it.

3. Unconscious Influence

Freud declared that much of human behavior and mental processes are driven by unconscious motivations and desires. Traumatic experiences especially those too overwhelming for a child to process, would be repressed into the unconscious mind, impacting emotional and behavioral patterns in adulthood. It is indeed a powerful influence on a person personality and behavior. Freud argued that unresolved traumas could contribute to various psychological symptoms and issues in adulthood, such as depression, phobias, anxiety and somatic complaints (Freud, 1915).

Momma squeezes my hand. “Breathe.” I didn’t realize I had grabbed hers. I take a deep breath and another, and she nods with each one, saying, “That’s it. You’re okay. We’re okay.” Uncle Carlos comes over, and he and Momma lead me to his desk, where I sit down. I feel eyes on me from all around. The grip tightens around my lungs. Uncle Carlos hands me a sweating bottle of water. Momma puts it up to my lips. I take slow sips and look around Uncle Carlos’s desk to avoid the curious eyes of the officers. He has almost as many pictures of me and Sekani on display as he has of his own kids. “I’m taking her home,” Momma tells him. “I’m not putting her through this today. She’s not ready.” (Angie Thomas, 2017:79).

4. Dream Analysis

Freud considered dreams as the “royal road to the unconscious,” adding that dreams provided a window into repressed memories and desires. Traumatic experiences might surface in dreams in symbolic forms, allowing access to the unconscious material. Freud includes that dreams are expressions of repressed desires and wishes. Dreams allow the mind to fulfill these wishes in a disguised or symbolic form, such as some desires may be added as unacceptable or threatening towards the person conscious awareness (Freud, 1915).

5. Neurosis

The fifth one is Neurosis Freud claimed that, unresolved trauma could give rise to neurotic symptoms. A traumatic experience which can lead disrupt the normal functioning of the psyche, causing to phobia, anxiety, obsessive-compulsive behavior, or other forms of neurosis (Freud, 1915). An individual that suffering from traumatic neurosis are much inhabited in their life with memories of their previous accidents (Zeinab Abd El-Sameea, 2019:716).

We turn onto the street where the courthouse is, and I have one of those weird deja-vu moments. I’m three, and uncle Carlos drives Momma, seven, and me to the courthouse, momma cries the entire drive, and I wish Daddy were here

because he can always get her to stop crying. Seven and I hold momma’s hands as we walk into courtroom. Some cops bring Daddy out in an orange jumpsuit. He can’t hug us because he’s handcuffed. I tell him I like his jumpsuit; orange is one of my favorite colors. But he looks at me real seriously, and says, “Don’t you ever wear this, you hear me?”

All I remember after that is the judge saying something Momma sobbing, and daddy telling us he loves us as the cops haul him off. For three years I hated courthouse because it took Daddy from us (Angie Thomas, 2017:269).

As in this scene stated that Starr was facing one of her Deja-vu about her previous events that happen to occurred while she was three years old. A scene where her father was taken to jail and by this case in an conclusion is that it is simply easy for one to be arrested especially if you are from a dark skin tone person in that neighbourhood. No matter what crimes or suspect you could be it is still proven pointed that a person can be easily arrested. Therefore, as Freud mentioned for neurosis trauma cases a person to have the sense of anxiety and phobias towards something or events that has been occurred in their life.

6. Catharsis and the talking therapy

Catharsis and the talking cure, Freud declared the importance of talking about traumatic experiences as a means of achieving catharsis. By verbal expression and analysis, a person could release repressed emotions and

gain helpful resource into their traumatic past, leading to psychological healing (Freud, 1915). As it is compared to psychotherapy literature, catharsis implies to relive significant traumatic events, mostly from childhood. Eventually, it had not been adequately emotionally processed and can be addressed during the process of therapy (Kennedy-Moore & Watson, 1999). But in this novel case it might turn out a little bit different the more the main character Starr speaks the more her voice don't matter.

I told the truth. I did everything I was suppose to do, and it wasn't good enough. Khalil's death wasn't horrible enough to be considered a crime (Angie Thomas, 2017:312).

Although it took a lot of time for Starr to overcome the tragedy of her friend but it seems it didn't turn out well heard.

Ms. Ofrah slips the photograph back in the folder. "it'll be interesting to see how his father addresses it in his interview tonight."

Hold up. "Interview?" I ask.

Momma shifts a little in her chair. "Um... the officer's father has a television interview that's airing tonight."

I glance from her to Daddy. "And nobody told me?"

"Cause it ain't worth talking about, baby," Daddy says.

I look at Ms. Ofrah. "So his dad can give his son's side to the whole world, and I can't give mine and Khalil's? he's gonna have everybody thinking One-fifteen's the victim." (Angie Thomas, 2017:179).

A wave of awkward silence rolls in. One-fifteen's father is his voice, but I'm Khalil's. The only way people will know his side of the story is if I speak out.

I took out the drive-through window at the car wash next door. Water cascades from a hose, making rainbows against the sunlight like it did six years ago, right before bullets took Natasha.

I turn to Ms. Ofrah. "When I was ten, I saw my other best friend get murdered in a drive-by."

Funny how *murdered* comes out easily now.

"Oh." Ms. Ofrah sinks back. "I didn't- I'm so sorry, Starr."

I stare at my fingers and fumble with them. Tears well in my eyes. "I've tried to forget it, but I remember everything. The shots, the look on Natasha's face. They never caught the person who did it. I guess it didn't matter enough. But it did matter. *She* mattered." I look at Ms. Ofrah, but I can barely see her for all the tears." And I want everyone to know that Khalil mattered too."

"I'll do whatever I can do to make sure you're heard, Starr. Because just like Khalil and Natasha mattered, you matter and your voice matters. I can start by trying to get you a television interview." She looks at my parents. "If you're okay with that." (Angie Thomas, 2017:180).

A. Hierarchy Needs in the Character of Starr Carter

1. Physiological Needs

It is necessary for an individual to fulfill themselves with a basic needs into their daily lives but lack of food, care, safety, love and belongings an individual cannot be satisfied with physiological needs. According to Maslow is that if one needs aren't satisfied enough, and the organism is then dominated by the physiological needs. And all other given needs might come into nonexistent or be thrown into the background (Abraham Maslow, 1954:37). Hence, the best way to adapt into a higher motivations and get a lopsided impact of human capacities and human nature is by making the organism extremely and chronically hungry or even thirsty. Thus, by this attempt an individual might emerge the sense of searching and by that it causes to have higher determination to fulfill their needs. And once it is fulfilled the physiological itself emerge into a higher level of achieving something. Therefore, this means that the basic human needs are organized into a hierarchy or relative prepotency (Abraham Maslow, 1954:38).

It takes an untouched stack of pancakes for Momma to say, "All right, Munch, What's up?"
 We have a table to ourselves in IHOP. It's early morning, and the restaurant's almost

empty except for us and these big bellied, bearded truckers suffering their faces in a booth. Thanks to them, country music plays on the jukebox.
 I poke my fork at my pancakes. "Not really hungry."
 Somewhat a lie, somewhat the truth. I'm having a serious emotional hangover. There's that interview. Uncle Carlos. Hailey. Khalil. De Vante. My parents (Angie Thomas, 2017:212).

As to be considered that is clearly clarified Starr the main character has the potential of fulfilling herself but eventually she chose not to eat due to the consequence of previous activity she had. Eventually, Starr's mother in a company insure that her daughter is taking her meals and by which means not she might come into consideration of questioning towards her daughter of what is going on at that specific event. Therefore in this conclusion might lead to a theory of safety.

2. Safety Needs

Occuring the definition of safety declares a period of time a person feels comfort, relax, mostlikely their personal needs are fulfilled. Maslow's theory declares that each person will prioritize on fulfilling these safety needs after their basic physiological needs are satisfied. If this needs are not yet to meet, an individual might experience fear, anxiety and insecurity, in which can hinder their ability to upgrade to higher levels of the heirarchy, such as love and belonging, self-

esteem, and self-actualization (Abraham Maslow, 1954:39). According to Robert J. Taormina explain sort of safety need for individuals such as, Personal safety compromise protection from physical harm, threats and danger. Eventually, it involves the need for a safe and secure environment in where individuals can feel physically and emotionally safe. This can contribute living in a safe neighborhood, being in a stable home, and having access to secure living conditions. And finally having a good source in social safety creating healthy relationships and being part of a supportive community includes to a sense of social safety. Feeling accepted, valued, and respected by other people is indeed integral towards fulfilling this aspect of safety needs (Robert J. Taormina, 2013).

I'm ugly crying, describing the moment when the shots rang out and Khalil looked at me for the last time; how I held him in the street and saw his eyes gloss over. I tell her one fifteen pointed his gun at me.

"He pointed his gun at you?" she asks.

Yes, ma'am. He kept it on me until the other officers arrived."

Behind the cameras, Momma puts her hand over her mouth. Fury speaks in Daddy's eyes. Ms. O'Frah looks stunned (Angie Thomas, 2017:236).

In this particular scenario Starr was interviewed and there was a sense of past events that made her felt unsafety. By the questions that interviews from the officer that made her feel terrified.

"You wish that more cops wouldn't make assumptions about black people?" she clarifies.

"Right. This all happened because *he*"---- I can't say his name--- assumed that we are up to no good. Because we're black and because of where we live. We were just two kids, minding our own business, you know? His assumption killed Khalil. It could've killed me."

A kick straight to the ribs.

"If officer Cruise were sitting here, "Mrs. Carey says, "What would you say to him?" I blink several times. My mouth waters, but I swallow. No way I'm gonna let myself cry or throw up from thinking about if he were sitting here, I don't have enough Black Jesus in me to tell him I forgive him. Instead I'd probably punch him. Straight up.

But Ms. O'Frah says this interview is the way I fight. When you fight, you put yourself out there, not caring who you hurt or if you'll get hurt.

So I throw one more blow, right at One-Fifteen.

"I'd ask him if he wished he shot me too." (Angie Thomas, 2017:236-237).

By this given statement from the novel is that, Starr had an intense feeling towards the police officer that shot Khalil that night. Furthermore, this intensity made her feel unsafe around the police officers. Therefore, the feeling of being safe around people made her think the opposite way because of the past tragedy that she had to lose her friend in death inspite of the accident that was held murdered. And for last she wished that the officer shot her too, right in this point of view Starr knew people from her race, color and culture

wouldn't be appreciated in the society thus, why not just take her life instead. Hence, as a form of safety needs an individual must have the sense of being appreciated, respected and valued inside ones society.

“Hands on the dashboard!” the officer barks at me. “Don't move!”

I do what he tells me, but my hands are shaking too much to be still.

He pats Khalil down. “Okay, smart mouth, let's see what we found on you today.”

“you ain't gonna find nothing,” Khalil says.

One-Fifteen pats him down two more times. He turns up empty.

“Stay here,” he tells Khalil. “And you.” He look in the window at me. “Don't move.”

I can't even nod (Angie Thomas, 2017:23).

The sense when the officer tried to barks which indicates the meaning towards the victim is shouting. Therefore, the feeling of being secured and saved has a low percentage in this scene. Khalil declares to disobey the Police officer. Thus, by this chaos it relates feeling in more danger for the other company which would be Starr. She defines herself of not able to move herself even nodding in this situation. By this case the conclusion from the given scene would the personal security is in threats and a feeling of harm and danger is dominated (Abraham Maslow: 1954:38-39).

Daddy is moved aside, and Momma wraps her arms around me. She rubs my back and speaks in hushed tones that tell lies. “It's all right, baby. It's all right.”

We stay this way for a long time. Eventually, Daddy helps us out the ambulance. He wraps her arm around me like a shield against curious eyes and guides me to his Tahoe down the street.

Momma hops out and runs around to me. She holds my hair out the way and rubs my back.

“I'm so sorry, baby,” she says.

When we get home, she helps me undress. Seven's hoodie and my Jordans disappear into a black trash bag, and I never see them again.

I sit in a tub of steaming water and scrub my hands raw to get Khalil's blood off. Daddy carries me to bed, and Momma brushes her fingers through my hair I fall asleep.

Nightmares wake me over and over again. Momma reminds me to breathe, the same way she did before I outgrew asthma I think she stays in my room the whole night, 'cause every time I wake up, she's sitting on my bed (Angie Thomas, 2017:26-27).

Both Starr parents held her daughter into self recovering process. Al though, Starr witnessed a death of one of her closest friend Khalil they both tried to provide a sense of Emotional security which indicated of having emotional stability and feeling secure in expressing one's thoughts and feelings without fear or judgment and negative responses (Abraham Maslow, 1954:43). Therefore, the environmental safety declares in a stable household free from dangers or hazards.

2. The belongingness and love needs

Belongingness and love need would be indulged if the physiological and the safety needs are fulfilled (Abraham Maslow, 1954:43). In the past during the hard times an individual extend to a level where they had to meet into a starving level in which it inherits the cause of lack in physiological needs. Therefore, in order to fulfill the needs of safety one must declare to complete the stage of physiological needs (Abraham Maslow, 1954:43).

This particular hierarchy includes the need for affection, love, intimacy, and a sense of belonging. An individual or a group of people desire to form a meaningful and supportive relationships with family, friends, and their romantic individuals. Therefore, they want to feel accepted, valued, and connected towards each other. Fulfilling the need for belongingness and love includes to emotional well-being towards psychological health. While the need is met, one are more likely to experience positive emotions, self-esteem, and a sense of happiness (Abraham Maslow, 1954:43).

In a social belongings an individual involves forming connections with other people to become a part of social group. Human are inherently social beings, and the sense of being needed is to belong to a

community, family, or a group that leads to crucial in well-being. Hence, the intimate relationships focuses the desire of being close towards each other, which can be include as romantic relationships, close friendships, and relationships with immediate family members. And by that these type of relationship can provide a sense of emotional support, companionship, and a sense of emotional security (Abraham Maslow, 1954:43-44). At this stage Starr is in a relationship with his high school friend in Williamson. It is controversial for her parents to agree into this relationship because Starr is dark skinned girl and is already be dating a white skin boy and his name is Chris.

My hands drifts to my pocket, thinking of Chris and his texts shit, I left my phone at home. Needless to say, Daddy doesn't know a thing about Chris. We've been together over a year now. Seven knows, because he met Chris at school, and Momma figured it out when Chris would always visit me at Uncle Carlo's house, claiming he was my friend. One day she and uncle Carlos walked in on us kissing and they pointed out that friends don't kiss each other like that. I've never seen Chris get so red in my life (Angie Thomas, 2017:38).

This scene reclaims that Starr is hiding her boyfriend Chris identity from her Father. In a fear that her father might feel offended or hurt knowing her little girl is dating. And not only a

boy but also a boy that comes from a different background from her. Since Starr living in a neighborhood in where criminals are in high rate. Therefore, Chris comes from a family that is upper middle class level. And the next scene from the reveals Star has a doubt about her relationship with Chris. Due to the reason of her own thoughts of still in remembering Khalil. Al though they were close friends yet somehow one of them had feelings for each other.

“I dunno. He always talked about other girls, not me. It’s weird though. I thought I was over my crush, but sometimes I don’t know.”

Momma traces the rim of her mug. “Munch,” she says, and it’s followed by a sigh. “Baby, look. You’re grieving, okay? That can amplify your emotions and make you feel things you haven’t felt in a long time. Even if you do have feelings for Khalil, there’s nothing wrong with that.”

“Even though I’m with Chris?”

“Yes. You’re sixteen. You’re allowed to have feelings for more than person.”

“So you’re saying I can be a ho?”

“Girl!” she points at me. “Don’t make me kick you under this table. I’m saying don’t beat yourself up about it. Grieve Khalil all you want. Miss him, allow yourself to miss what could’ve been, let your feelings get out of whack. But like I told you, don’t stop living. All right?”

“All right.” (Angie Thomas, 2017:214).

Maslow believes that tremendous and rapid increases as a form in a group where an individual feel lost and in want of

confrontation or closure. For they are always in hunger in validations and that is a source of being a normal human being mindset. For intimacy for belongingness by the need to overcome the widespread sense of feelings and alienation, aloneness and strangeness which can be worsen if not conquered towards realistic closure (Abraham Maslow, 1954:43).

Chris steps out of his chucks and sits at his desk, where a drum pad, a skateboard, and turntables are hooked up to a Mac “Check this out,” he says, and plays a beat.

I prop myself up on my elbows and nod along. It’s got an old-school feel to it, like something Dre and Snoop would’ve used back in the day. “Nice.”

“Thanks, I think I need to take some of that bass out though.” He turns around and gets to work.

I pick at a loose thread on his comforter. “Do you think they’re gonna charge him?”

“Do you?”

“No.”

Chris spins his chair back around. My eyes are watery, and I lie on my side. He climbs in next to me so we’re facing each other.

Chris presses his forehead against mine, “I’m sorry.”

“You didn’t do anything.”

“But I feel like I should apologize on behalf of white people everywhere.”

“You don’t have to.”

“But I want to” (Angie Thomas, 2017:303).

It indicates here that the intimate relationship that is between Starr and Chris is widely growing between them. Feeling of

being love into close friendship, she got the emotional support from Chris as well. As Maslow's hierarchy of this need frameworks that, not everyone follows the exact sequence of needs. Individual experiences may lead to based on their individual personalities, life circumstances, and cultural backgrounds (Abraham Maslow, 1954:44).

3. The Esteem needs

According to Maslow's theory given for esteem is that the society always reclaims a pathological exceptions and has a great desire in pursuing for self-respect, self-esteem and to be given esteem towards others (Abraham Maslow, 1954:45). Supportingly, these needs can be classified into two subsidiary sets. The first one focuses on achieving higher goals and refers to mastery and competence, for confidence and have the independency in freedom. Hence, the second goes for desire to born a self reputation or prestige, which matters to be held as a respect or esteem gaining from other people around. The face this theory of esteem needs stresses Alfred Adler and his followers, and have been neglected by Freud. Eventually, esteem needs are currently in a cenrtal importance among psychoanalysts as well as among clinical psychologist (Abraham Maslow, 1954:45).

Once individuals have fulfills their physiological,safety, belongingness and love

needs, they start to seek recognition, respect, and a positive self-image. Esteem needs refers to the need for a positive self-regard and a sense of self-worth. One may seek to feel competent, capable, and valuable. An individual want to develop a healthy esteem based on their achievements, skills, and abilities. Thus, by meeting these needs it involves recognizing one's own capabilities and accomplishments (Abraham Maslow, 1954:45).

As for the external esteem the aspect involves the desire to be known, respect and approval from another individual. Fulfilling esteem needs is essential for developing a strong sense of self-confidence, self-respect, and a positive self-concepts. When a person receive positive feedback and recognition from themselves and others, they are more likely to go through feelings of self-worth. However, an inability to satisfy these esteem needs can lead to feelings of indequacy, low-self esteem, and a lack of self-confidence (Abraham Maslow, 1954:45-46).

After Starr was interviewed by Miss Ofrah on chapter fifteen now she has become a public figure voice for people like her color skin.

My interview aired yesterday on Diane Carey's *Friday Night News Special*. This morning, John the producer called and said it's one of the most-watched interviews in the network's history.

A millionaire, who wishes to remain anonymous, offered to pay my college

tution. John said the offer was made right after the interview aired. I think Oprah, but that's just me because I've always imagined she's my fairy godmother and one day she'll come to my house saying, "You get the car!"

The network's already got a bunch of emails in support of me. I haven't seen any of them, but I received the best message in a text from Kenya

Bout time you spoke out.

Don't let this fame go to your head tho.

(Angie Thomas, 2017:238).

In this incident it indicates that Starr was proudly presented on an national television and being interviewed by important host. The fact that she received a scholarship from some unknown person. Therefore, this simplifies as external sense of self-esteem. She had gain power, respect and valued for some people that are encouraging her. In conclusion, it's mainly high important that esteem needs can interact with other levels of the heirarchy. (Abraham Maslow, 1954:46). As with all aspect's of Maslow's theory, a person experiences can vary, and not everyone progresses through the heirarchy in the same way or at the same pace.

4. Self-Actualization

Even after all the needs has been fulfilled but that also that doesn't mean the sense of self-actualization appear according to abrahams theory, an individual must train to practice those things they are pursuing after. Such if a musician must make music, an artist focuses on their paintings, a poet must write.

Therefore, one must have the stability in their mind that in order to achieve this all, a person has to connect with their deeper level of self-actualization (Abraham Maslow, 1954:46).

As declared towards autonomy they are self-directed and make choices based on values and beliefs better than confirming to external pressures. Continual growth of self-actualization is a person must have a strong desire for personal development and are comitted to lifelong learning and self-improvement. Thus, they must be emotionally well-being which indicated having a higher level of psychological well-being in experincing positive emotions and a sense of inner peace (Abraham Maslow, 1954:46-47).

It is infact certain that to involve into basic need in satisfaction an individual must assure they are able to have the complete freedom from danger, able to speak in freedom, free for expressing themselves, has the freedom to find justice, fairness, honesty, and orderliness (Abraham Maslow, 1954:47). The researcher would analyze the self-actualization achieve by the main character from the given novel. Be it observed that the amount by saying in another form what we have already described; Furthermore, that self-actualized individual sees reality more clearly: the matter to see aa human natre as it is and not as they would prefer it to be (Abraham Maslow, 1954:156).

Self-actualizing people can all be described as relatively spontaneous in behaviour and far more spontaneous than that in their inner life, thoughts, impulses, etc (Abraham Maslow, 1954:157).

It's a quite ride to seven's Grandma's house.

I told the truth. I did everything I was suppose to do, and it wasn't good enough. Khalil's death want't horrible enough to be considered a crime.

But damn, what about his life? He was once a walking talking human being. He had family. He had friends. He had dreams. None of it mattered. He was just a thug who deserved to die (Angie Thomas, 2017:312).

As to be observed in these statements are authenticity as Maslow explain based on one of the self-actualization theory. Self-actualized individuals are genuine and authentic in their interactions and behaviors. They have no fear to be themselves and express their true selves (Abraham Maslow, 1954:47-48).

“My name is Starr. I'm the one who saw what happened to khalil,” I say into the Bullhorn. “And it wasn't right.”

I get a bunch of “yeahs” and “amens” from the crowd.

“We weren't doing anything wrong. Not only did the officer Cruise assume we were up to no good, he assumed we were criminals. Well, Officer Cruise is the criminal.”

The crowd cheers and claps. Ms. Ofrah says, “Speak!”

That amps me up.

I turn to the cops. “I'm sick of this! Just like you'll think all of us are bad because of some people, we think the same about y'all. Until you give us a reason to think otherwise, we'll keep protesting,”

More cheers, and I can't lie, it eggs me on. Forget trigger happy—speaker happy is more my thing.

“Everybody wants to talk about how khalil died,” I say. “But this isn't about Khalil died. It's about the fact that he lived. His life Mattered. Khalil lived!” I look at the cops again. “You here me? Khalil lived!” (Angie Thomas, 2017:331).

As for Authenticity Self-Actualization refers to be able to express one true self. And they are not afraid of showing their true self and identity, for it contributes to their uniqueness towards their world. Thus, the authenticity extends their thoughts, actions, feelings, and interactions with others (Abraham Maslow, 1954:51). And towards meaningful pursuits it is more clearly to be closed linked in pursuing endeavors that have personal meaning and significance. Self-actualizes individuals engage in activities that resonates with their passions and values, leading for them a sense of fulfillment (Abraham Maslow, 1954:51-52).

Starr proved that the incident just about one person that ha been struggling towards justice, by this it can be identify that self-actualization also can procedure in a case where an individual could evolve by being true

with themselves. Embracing imperfections determines one's flaws and imperfections. Self-actualized person acknowledge their weaknesses and mistakes without fear of judgement or shame (Abraham Maslow, 1954:51). Starr also defines herself as a consistency from the beginning issue towards her friend death Khalil till she had to face amount street demo with presence of thousand people and cops around her. Therefore, the consistency is one sign of authentic between their inner thoughts and feelings and their outward behaviors. In conclusion their actions is a reflection of their genuine selves (Abraham Maslow, 1954:52-53).

“This young lady here made a powerful statement earlier,”

He says, and the camera points towards me. “Are you really the witness?”

I nod. No point hiding anymore.

“We caught what you said back there. Anything else you'd like to add for our viewers?”

“Yeah. None of this make sense.”

I start coughing again. He leaves me alone (Angie Thomas, 2017:334).

Starr was already took courage from being unable to speak and hides her pain from what she had experienced in the previous events. The fact she spoke what was in her heart and that also is a sign of individual's self-actualization. Having no fear or sense of regret, the mindset is already been calculated

of thoughts towards what they are about to do is better for them and for others. Self-actualization inherits of accepting everything and determine to hope make things better around them.

And in final chapter twenty six Starr was far away from the state of street demo she had the other day, despite all the clarity and tragic events she had to face and also her family. Eventually, that has come to an end for now but that doesn't mean the war between two different color skin in United States shall come to an end.

Ms. Ofrah does apologize for putting me in a bad situation and for the way things turned out with Khalil, but she says she's proud of me.

She also thinks I have a future in activism (Angie Thomas, 2017:347).

In this statement Starr has come to realization that she is capable of doing anything and she has the potential to serve justice that needs to be served. Therefore, self-actualization represents the pinnacle of human development and would refer to the realization of one's full potential, personal growth, and the pursuit of fulfilling one's unique capabilities and talents. And it is mainly interferes at the top of of Abraham Maslow hierarchy needs beyond the fulfillment of physiological, safety,

belongingness, and the esteem needs
 (Abraham Maslow, 1954:47-53).

I'll never be quiet.
 I promise (Angie Thomas, 2017:356-357).

Once upon a time there was a hazel-eyed boy with dimples. I called him Khalil. The world called him a thug.

He lived, but not nearly enough, and for the rest of my life I'll remember how he died.

Fairy tale? No. But I'm not giving up upon a better ending.

It would be easy to quit if it was just about me, Khalil, that night, and that cop. It's about way more than that though. It's about Seven. Sekani. Kenya. DeVante.

It's also about Oscar.

Aiyana.

Travyon

Rekia

Michael.

Eric.

Tamir.

John.

Ezell.

Sandra.

Freddie.

Alton.

Philando.

It's even about that little boy in 1955 who nobody recognised at first—Emmett.

The messed-up part? There are so many more.

Yet I think it'll change one day. How? I don't know. When? I definitely don't know. Why? Because there will always be someone ready to fight. Maybe it's my turn.

Others are fighting too, even in the Garden, where sometimes it feels like there's not a lot worth fighting for. People are realizing and shouting and marching and demanding. They're not forgetting. I think that's the most important part.

Khalil, I'll never forget.

I'll never give up.

As self-actualization conceived into honesty and transparency, an individual are open towards of being honest in their communication, both with themselves and with others. They don't pretend to be something they're not or hide their true thoughts and emotions (Abraham Maslow, 1954:53). Therefore, Starr is implied towards her achievements in self-actualization by processing a journey from being fear of speaking up and held couple of years in trauma and she realized by speaking itself can change every situation that needs to be change. According to Willard Mittlelman on his study about Maslow's self-actualization is that, specifically Maslow equates that self-actualization with being a "mature, fully-human" person "in whom the *human* potentialities have been realized and actualized (Willard Mittleman, 1991:4).

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