

A Study of Laura Townsend's Struggle to Live Normally In Catherine

Anderson My Sunshine

A THESIS

Submitted as Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Sarjana Degree of English

Department Faculty of Adab and Humanities UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya.



PERPUSTAKAAN UIN SUNAN AMPEL SURABAYA	
No. KLAS K A. 2013 044 BSI	No. REG : A. 2013 / BSI / 044 ASAL B. U TANGGAL

By:

Agustiya Ermawati

Reg. Number: A33211089

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

FACULTY OF LETTER AND HUMANITIES

UIN SUNAN AMPEL SURABAYA

2015

DECLARATION

This thesis contains materials which have been accepted for the award of Sarjana degree of English Department Faculty of Letter and Humanities UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. And to the best of my knowledge and belief it contain no material previously published of written by other person except where due references is made in the text of thesis.

Surabaya, July 22nd, 2015

Writer,



Agustiya Ermawati

A33211089

A Study of Laura Townsend's Struggle to Live Normally

In Catherine Anderson *My Sunshine*

By: Agustiya Ermawati

Reg. Number: A33211089

Approved to be examined

Surabaya, July 31st 2015

Thesis Advisor



Wahju Kusumajanti, M.Hum

NIP: 197002051999032002

Acknowledged by:



Dr. Mohammad Kurjum, M.Ag

NIP: 196909251994031002

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

FACULTY OF ADAB AND HUMANITIES

UIN SUNAN AMPEL SURABAYA

2015

EXAMINER SHEET

This thesis has been approved and accepted by the Board of Examiners, English Department, Faculty of Humanities, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya on 6th August 2015

The Board of Examiners are:

Head of Examiners,



Wahju Kusumajanti, M.Hum

NIP: 197002051999032002

Secretary,



Himmatul Khoiroh, S.Ag., M.Pd

NIP: 197612222007012021

Examiner I,



Itsna Syahadatud Dinurriyah, M.A

NIP: 197604122011012003

Examiner II,



Abu Fanani, S.S., M.Pd

NIP: 196906152007011051

Acknowledged by :

The Dean of Faculty of Letter and Humanities



Dr. H. Imam Ghazali, MA

NIP: 196002121990031002

TABLE OF CONTENT TABLE OF CONTENT

Inside cover page..... i

Inside title page i

Declaration page..... ii

Dedication page iii

Motto iv

Advisor’s approval page..... v

Examiner’s approval page vi

Acknowledgements vii

Table of contents ix

Abstract..... xi

Abstrak xii

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Study 1

1.2. Statement of the Problem..... 4

1.3. Objective of the Study..... 4

1.4. Significance of the Study..... 4

1.5. Scope And Limitation..... 5

1.6. Method of the Study..... 5

1.7. Definition of Key Term 6

CHAPTER II REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2.1. New Criticism 7

2.2. Definition of Character 8

2.2.1Kinds of Character10

2.3. Theory of Characterization11

2.4. Theory of Motivation14

2.5. Related Studies16

CHAPTER III DESCRIPTION

3.1. Characterization18

3.1.1. Physical Traits of Laura..... 19

3.1.2. Laura’s Speech.....23

3.1.3. Laura’s Characterization Based on Behaviour24

3.1.4. Laura’s Characterization Based on Her Thought and Feeling27

3.2. Factor’s Laura Struggle28

 3.2.1. Physiological Need in Laura’s Life.....29

 3.2.2. Safety Need in Laura’s Life.....32

 3.2.3. Love and Belonging Need in Laura’s Life34

 3.2.4. Self- Esteem Need in Laura’s Life.....38

 3.2.5. Self- Actualization Need in Laura’s Life40

CHAPTER IV CONCLUSION

Conclusion43

WORK CITIED45

AUTHOR’S BIOGRAPHY47

SYPNOSIS49

ABSTRACT

Ermawati, Agustiya. 2015. A Study of Laura Townsend's Struggle to Live Normally In Catherine Anderson *My Sunshine*

Advisor : Wahju Kusumajanti, M. Hum

Key word: Motivation, Aphasia, Struggle.

This thesis focuses on the characterization and the struggle of Laura toward aphasia in Catherine Anderson novel: *My Sunshine*. In analyzing Laura's struggle toward aphasia, this thesis uses theories of motivation by Maslow (1970). The purposes of this thesis are to describe the Laura's characterization and to find out the factors motivate Laura Townsend's struggle toward her aphasia. This thesis uses descriptive qualitative research. The first step done by the researcher is reading the object, the second is selecting the data to analyze, than analyzing the data collected by connecting with the theory and the last making a conclusion based on the analysis. The finding from this thesis showed that the characterization of Laura is reflected through her physical traits, speech, behaviour and thought, it is also found that the factors motivation Laura's struggle toward aphasia is the hierarchy of human beings needs.

ABSTRAK

Ermawati, Agustiya. 2015. A Study of Laura Townsend's Struggle to Live Normally In Catherine Anderson *My Sunshine*

Pembimbing : Wahyu Kusumajanti, M. Hum

Kata kunci: Motivation, Aphasia, Struggle.

Skripsi ini fokus kepada perjuangan Laura untuk melawan aphasia dalam Catherine Anderson : my sunshine. Skripsi ini menggunakan teori motivasi dari Maslow (1970) yang di gunakan untuk menganalisa skripsi ini. Tujuan dari skripsi ini adalah untuk mendeskripsikan karakter dari Laura Townsend dan menemukan factor yang mempegaruhi Laura Townsend untuk berjuang melawan aphasia. Skripsi ini menggunakan penelitian deskriptif kualitatif untuk menganalisa. Di mulai dengan membaca novel, ke dua memilih data untuk di analisis, lalu menganalisis dengan menggabungkan teori dan yang terakhir membuat kesimpulan berdasarkan analisis. Hasil dari skripsi ini adalah menunjukkan bahwa karakteristik Laura di gambarkan lewat ciri fisik, cara berbicara, perilaku dan pemikiran. Yang kedua adalah menemukan perjuangan dari Laura Townsend untuk melawan aphasia, seperti dia belajar berbicara, berjuang mendapatkan pekerjaan yang normal dan terakhir mendapatkan cinta.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the writer will discuss about background of the study which talks about reasons in choosing the topic that later will be analyzed. That is why the writer also includes statement of problem and objective of the study. In this chapter, the writer also discusses the importance of the study. The writer gives limitation of the study in order to make it easier to do her analysis. There are also methodology and presentation of the study.

1.1 Background of Study

Rees (1973:2) stated that literature is writing that expresses and communicates thought, feelings & attitudes toward life. While Boulton (1980:2) defined literature as a functional perspective as the imaginative work that gives us R's; Recreation, Recognition, Revelation, and Redemption. Although all the experts defined literature in a different perspective, the main point is that those definitions can be summed up that literature expresses thoughts, feelings, ideas or other special aspects of human experiences (Ade, 2008). Therefore, it can be concluded that when someone is studying a certain literary work, he or she is learning about the human life. Thus, studying literature is important especially for those who want to understand the human life.

Literature, theoretically is divided into some kinds of genre, here are the division of the literature based on the Edgar (1986:3) perspective:

Imaginative literature is divided into: 1) prose fiction, 2) poetry, and 3) drama. Imaginative literature differs from any written factual reports such as news etc. It doesn't mean that literature is not truthful, but the truth of literature is truth to life and human nature, not necessarily to the world of historical and scientific facts. Three main genres such as prose fiction, poetry and drama have much in common, but they also differ in many ways. Prose fiction or narrative fiction includes, short stories, myths, parables, romances, epics and novels. Poetry in contrast to prose fiction is much more economical in the use of words and relies heavily on imagery, figurative, language, rhythm, and sound. Drama or plays are meant to be performed on stage by actors (Edgar V. Roberts, 1986:3).

In short, literary genre is Prose, Poetry, and Drama. Among the forms of the literary genre mentioned before, novel has been the favorite of both writers and readers for more than two hundred years (Kennedy, 1987:226). Further, Kennedy (1987) defined that novel is a book length story in prose whose author tries to create a sense that while we read, we experience actual life. Clara (1785) declared that the novel is a picture of real life and manners and of the time in which it was written. Thus, novel is interesting to be discussed since it is a kind of real life duplication in a written form.

The novel that is taken to be studied in this research is *My Sunshine*, a novel by Catherine Anderson. Catherine Anderson, born 22 December 1948 in Grants Pass, Oregon, USA, she is an American best-selling writer of historical and contemporary romance novel since 1988. Catherine Anderson's first published books were romance category, under the Harlequin Intrigue romantic suspense line. Her

subsequent single-title work has alternate between contemporary and historical romances. Her novels have a special characteristic that is many of them are talking about a struggle from a certain person who suffered from physical or mental disorder. Thus, her novels are quite inspiring for the readers.

The reason of the writer chooses *My Sunshine* because this novel is picturing a hard living of a girl who is suffered from *aphasia* disorder and her struggle to live normally. This kind of story will inspire the readers to be more thankful to God for His mercies and blessings that God has given them.

My Sunshine is a novel about a love story between a flawed girl Laura Townsend with a very normal and kind man named Isaiah Courter. However, in this novel, the main character is Isaiah Courter. In the novel it is told that Isaiah Courter hate Laura Townsend in the first sight. By the time, Isaiah Courter began to love Laura Townsend because she is beautiful, smart, amusing and hard worker, while Laura is attempting to deny her own feeling. She also loves Isaiah Courter but she is afraid that her weakness would cause any troubles for Isaiah Courter someday, although they get many troubles to live together, finally, Isaiah Courter and Laura Townsend get married and live happily.

My Sunshine explains that Laura Townsend is suffered brain damage *aphasia*. There are two kinds of aphasia, the first is motorik aphasia and the second is receptive aphasia or sensory aphasia that is known as Wernicke aphasia.

Motorik aphasia is a damage that occurs in the dominant hemisphere of the brain that causes motorik aphasia; it can be located on the surface layer (Lesikortikal) Broca area. Sensory aphasia is damage at Lesikortikal in Wernicke area at Hemisferium that dominant. If in Wernicke, areas occur damage, not only hear impaired, but also can disrupt sigh. This sensory aphasia patient will lose the sense of speak and write of language. However, she still has a verbal but she and no one understands it (Chaer, 2003:157-158).

Moreover, the writer chooses this novel to be discussed in this research because there is no previous research has been done to this novel.

1.2 Statement of problem

Based on the background of study above, the statements of the problem are:

1. How does the author characterize Laura Townsend?
2. What factors motivate Laura's struggle in fighting against Aphasia?

1.3 Objective of study

digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id

Based on the statement of the problem above, the objectives of the study are:

1. To describe the characterization of Laura Townsend.
2. To find out the factors that motivate Laura Townsend's struggle in fighting against Aphasia.

1.4 Significance of study

The result of this study is hoped will inspire other English literature students to study more about literature. Besides, the result of this study will ease the readers to comprehend one of the Anderson's novels entitled *My Sunshine*.

1.5 Scope and limitation

The writer will limit the discussion of this study into some topics, those are: Laura Townsend's character, *aphasia* disorder that is suffered by Laura Townsend and the motivation of Laura's struggle in fighting against *aphasia*.

1.6 Method of the study

This study is descriptive qualitative research. In descriptive qualitative how the data are organized depends upon the researcher and how the data were rendered (Lambert 2). Also, it is a library-based study. It means the writer will make use some reference such as books, article, magazines and journal either from hard copy or from online ones. The researches follow the following steps:

- a. Reading the novel of *My Sunshine* by Catherine Anderson Sidney Sheldon as the primary data in order to comprehend and examine it well.
- b. Selecting and collecting the data about the struggle in the novel that I have read. After I find all of the data about the struggle, the writer select the data about it and investigate the factors that trigger Laura Townsend's struggle based on the theory of motivation.
- c. Analyzing the data collected by connecting with the theory.
- d. Making conclusion based on the result of the data analysis.

1.7 Key Terms

1. **Struggle:** Struggle is an energetic attempt to achieve something; "getting through the crowd was a real struggle"; "he fought a battle for recognition".

<http://www.thefreedictionary.com/struggle> (July 28, 2015 at 21:39 by Farlex).

2. **Motivation:** Motivation is broadly concerned with the contemporary determinants of choice (direction), persistence and vigor of goal-directed behavior (Beck 1978:24).

3. **Aphasia:** Aphasia is an acquired communication disorder that impairs a person's ability to process language, but does not affect intelligence. Aphasia impairs the ability to speak and understand others, and most

people with aphasia experience difficulty reading and writing".

<http://index.about.com/index?am=phrase&q=definition+of+aphasia>
(July,28 2015 at 20:31 By Richard Nordquist).

CHAPTER II

Review of Related Literature

In order to make the discussion of this study clearer, this chapter will elaborate some theories needed to support the analysis in the next chapter. Those theories are: the theories of characters, characterization and motivation.

2.1 New Criticism

Formalism criticism sometimes called new criticism (even though it has around a long time) involves the careful analysis of a literary text's craft. Formalism or new criticism are particularly keen on isolating parts of a text for an intensive look the assumption that any small passage can be a microcosm that contains or signals the meaning of the whole, as a single strand of DNA can reveal the genetic code of a whole organism. They tend to pick a few section of a poem or story, assess the writer moves and then try to relate those sections to other sections and to the whole work to determine what principle or theme tied them together. (Gillespie 2010:172).

Formalism is sometimes called new criticism (or practical criticism, close reading, text explication). Regardless of the name all these approaches involves the careful analysis of a literary text's craft. In literature, the focus of this detailed examination or close reading, is the way the components of language, diction, syntax, rhyme, and meter, symbols metaphor, allusions uses of point of view and so forth,

form the completed literary text, which is why we call them formal elements (Gillespie, 2010:175).

In simple, formalism criticism totally pays attention to the draft of the literary works. Literary works become an independent object description, it is description without considering any external factors of the literary work itself such as the author background, the political issue at the time a certain literary work created, etc. The analysis of the literary works through formalism is by description the internal factors of the literary works such as characters, plot, setting, etc.

2.2 Definition of Character

Character is one of the basic elements of a story. It always appears in a story as it is a must for the author to emerge characters in their literary work. As what Potter (1967:1) said, he stated that characters are a basic element in much imaginative literature, and therefore they merit the considerable attention paid to them. It means that character is the important element of a certain literary work that makes the story alive.

Character in literature generally, and in fiction specifically, is an extended verbal representation of a human being, the inner self that determines thought, speech, and behavior. Through dialogue, action and commentary, authors capture some of the interactions of character and circumstance (Roberts, 1986:134). Sometimes, the author emerge a character in a story in the form of animal or even a

thing, somehow, the animal or the thing which is emerged as the character in the story will have a behavior, attitude, or personality as a human being has. It is because the character is actually the representation of the human being included its attitude, behavior, and personality character is interpreted by the readers. This idea is also supported by Holman (1986:81) which states that character is a complicated term that includes the idea of the moral constitution of the human personality, the presence of moral uprightness and the simpler notion of the presence of creatures in art that seem to be human beings of one sort or another. Further, according to Abrams as state in Nurgiyantoro (1995:165) explained that character is a person that is displayed in a story, which is interpreted by the readers, it has a moral quality and a certain tendencies that represented by his/her speech and action.

Based on the definitions above, it can be concluded that character is a basic element in a literary works, it is mostly displayed in form of creature such as human being, animal, etc. and it always has a specific moral quality and tendencies. Without characters, a story will be nonsense.

The existence of character in a certain literary works is a must due to it is the basic element of literary work itself. Although literary works such as novel always presents a character, many people got difficulty in understanding the character. It is stated by Perrine (1959: 83) that understanding character is not easy. He said that character is much more complex, anyone can repeat what a person has done in a story, but considerable skill may be needed to describe what a person is (Perrine,

1959:83). Therefore, character becomes one of the topics chosen by the researcher that will be discussed in the next chapter. It is hoped that the writer's analysis toward character will ease other researcher in analyzing a character in a literary work.

2.2.1 Kinds of Character

Kenney (1983: 46) noted that characters in fiction are divided into two categories: Flat and Round characters. A flat character usually has only one outstanding trait or feature, or at most a few distinguishing marks. Round character, however present us with more facets that is their authors portray them in greater depth and in more generous detail. Such a round character may appear to us only as he appears to the other characters in the story. It can be concluded that round characters play a big role in a story rather than a flat character.

digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id The flat character is characterized by one or two traits, he can be summed up

in a sentences. The round character is complex and many sided; he might require an essay for full analysis. Both types of character may be given the vitality that good fiction demands. Round characters live by their very roundness, by the many points at which they touch life (Perrine, 1959:85). Based on what Perrine (1959) said, it can be summed up that both round and flat characters are needed to be presented in a literary work such as a novel to make a good story. Although the round characters play a big role in developing a story, they are lame without the existence of the flat characters.

Different from flat character, round character, however presents us with more facets that is their authors portray them in greater depth and in more generous detail. The round character is complex and many sided; he might require an essay for full analysis. It is happened because the authors give a greater development for their round characters. The more complex the author develops a character, this character will dominate the story and they will be the central of the story. This kind of central character is usually interesting to be discussed. It is because most authors give special and unique characteristic for their round characters. However, the non round character cannot be neglected. Somehow, the emergence of the flat character is needed to support the wholeness of the story.

Both types of character may be given the vitality that good fiction demands.

Round characters live by their very roundness, by the many points at which they touch life (Perrine, 1966:85). Based on what Perrine said, it can be summed up that both round and flat characters are needed to be presented in a literary work such as a novel to make a good story. Although the round characters play a big role in developing a story, they are lame and weak without the existence of the flat characters.

2.3 Theory of Characterization

There are three fundamental methods of characterization in fiction based on Holman (1978:91). They are:

1. The explicit presentation by the author of the character through direct exposition, either in an introductory block or more often piece-meal throughout the work, illustrated by action.
2. The presentation of the character in action, with little or no explicit comment by the author, in the expectation that the reader will be able to deduce the attributes of the actor from the action.
3. The representation from within a character, without comment on the character by the author, of the impact of actions and emotion upon his inner self, with the expectation that the reader will come to a clear understanding of the attributes of the character.

In reality, people may judge other people through their speech, behavior, and habit. However, characters in a written form could not be seen directly their behavior, speech, and habit. Therefore, besides narrating the characters' behavior, Holman (1978:91) argues that the other fundamental methods to characterize characters are by giving a direct exposition and implicit meaning behind the characters action.

On the other hand, Pooley (1967:538) says that the authors may use any or all of four different methods in characterizing their characters. Those methods are:

1. He may describe the character's physical traits and personality, in terms of physical traits, the author may use the adjective such as beautiful, short, blond hair and etc to describe his character.
2. He may show the character's speech and behavior, in this point, the characterization is shown by the behavior & speech of the character such as when the character speaks in a loud tone, the author maybe want to show the reader that this character is bed-tempered.

3. He may give the opinions and reaction of other characters toward and behavior, in this point the characterization of the character is shown through others' character opinion toward the certain character.
4. He may show the character's thought and feelings, in this point the characterization of the certain character is shown through the character's thought and feeling. For example a certain character always thinks that no one in the world is smart but him, by this thought, the reader can determine that this character is arrogant.

Those four methods are the ways taken by the author to ease the readers depict the characters in their mind and to ease the readers judging the characters' moral value. Some methods are also happened in the real life, the people may judge other people through their actions and other people opinion. Other methods, such as showing characters' thought and feeling is not applicable in the real life because no one can understand what other thoughts and feeling.

In this study, the writer prefers to description the characterization of the characters based on Pooley (1967:538) method. In description Laura's characterization, the writer will asses her physical traits and personality, her speech and behavior, her thought and feelings, and what others characters opinion toward her.

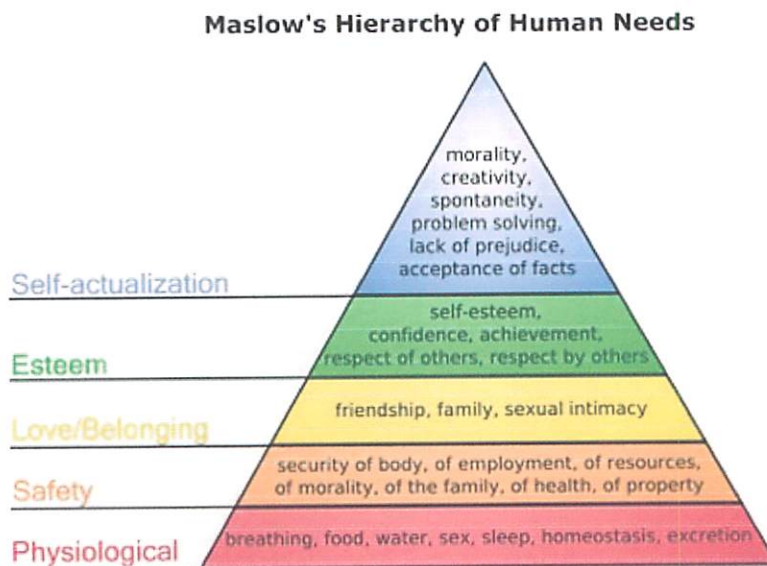
2.4 Theory of Motivation

Psychologists define motivation as an internal process that activates, guides, and maintains behavior over time. Motivation is what gets you going, keep you going and determines where you are trying to go (Slavin, 2000:327). Based on this opinion, it is clear enough that motivation is an internal process, because it is internal, what will motivate someone will be different to someone else. The motivation factors of someone are varied. However, Maslow underlined that human beings have certain basic needs that they must meet before they can fulfill their other developmental needs. These needs can be simply say as the classification of the motivation's factors of every human being.

Maslow (2006:1121) classified the human being needs into a pyramid scheme that broadly known as Maslow's Hierarchy of Human Needs. Here is the Maslow Pyramid that depicts the level of the human needs

According to the pyramid above, there are five hierarchies of needs. The first level of needs is physiological need includes need of food, air, and water. The second level encompasses safety needs. The third level of need is belonging and love. The fourth level is self-esteem. The fifth level is the need for self-actualization, entails maximizing one's unique potential in life, Mary (2006:1121). Related to the theory of the human motivation/need, stated that physiological needs (including needs for food,

water, and sex) and safety needs are two things that fundamentally needed by the human beings.



This is the basic needs from Abraham H Maslow 1970:

1. The Physiological Needs, The needs that are usually taken as the starting point for motivation theory are the so-called physiological drives. Two recent lines of research make it necessary to revise our customary notions about these needs: first, the development of the concept of homeostasis, and second, the finding that appetites (preferential choices among foods) are a fairly efficient indication of actual needs or lacks in the body.
2. The Safety Needs, If the physiological needs are relatively well gratified, there then emerges a new set of needs, which we may categorize roughly as the safety needs (security; stability; dependency; protection; freedom from fear, from anxiety and chaos; need for structure, order, law, limits; strength in the protector; and so on).
3. The Belongingness and Needs, if both the physiological and the safety needs are fairly well gratified, there will emerge the love and affection and belongingness needs, and the whole cycle already described will repeat

- itself with this new center. Now the person will feel keenly, as never before, the absence of friends, or a sweetheart, or a wife, or children.
4. Self- Esteem Needs, All people in our society (with a few pathological exceptions) have a need or desire for a stable, firmly based, usually high evaluation of themselves, for self-respect, or self-esteem, and for the esteem of others. These needs may therefore be classified into two subsidiary sets. These are, first, the desire for strength, for achievement, for adequacy, for mastery and competence, for confidence in the face of the world, and for independence and freedom
 5. Self-Actualization Needs, Even if all these needs are satisfied, we may still often (if not always) expect that a new discontent and restlessness will soon develop, unless the individual is doing what lie, individually, is fitted for. A musician must make music, an artist must paint, a poet must write, if he is to be ultimately at peace with himself. What a man can be, he must be. He must be true to his own nature. This need we may call self-actualization.

Theoretically, based on the classification of human needs by Maslow

(1970:35-46), it can be concluded that each of the level of the needs drawn in the pyramid, representing how importance a certain need toward the human life. The first level means the fundamental needs of the human, the second level means the semi fundamental needs of human and so forth. Therefore, based on the classification of the human needs stated by Maslow, Psychological need is the principal need of human that must be fulfilled. However, other needs are also important to be fulfilled but they are not as urgent as the Psychological need.

2.5 Related Studies

Catherine Anderson is one author you will not forget and fans of this gifted author will welcome the return of her favorite family the Coulters. In *My Sunshine*, Anderson delivers an incredibly poignant contemporary bursting with her usual flare.

This one author continues to push the romance genre forward by blending sweetness with remarkable insight. Isaiah Coulter is the youngest Coulter successful, attractive, and very desirable. Isaiah has his life planned, and his planned life does not include a wife at least not anytime soon! Veterinary medicine is a demanding field

Laura Townsend is attractive and very lonely. Once Laura Townsend was an environmental scientist, today she is happy to be a kennel keeper at the Coulter Animal Clinic. Laura Townsend refuses to dwell on life's 'what ifs' and instead lives each day within a sunny outlook.

Ms. Anderson develops a wonderful, warm romance for Isaiah and Laura. Isaiah realizes his life is empty and little Miss Sunshine is the antidote. Laura would love to be in Isaiah's life, but Laura is also a realist. She has aphasia, five years ago a diving accident damaged her brain's left lobe, and sadly Laura realizes she must deny Isaiah.

What Isaiah needs is an accomplished woman, who can complete his potential, he must not settle for less.

My Sunshine is an admirable read. Catherine Anderson writes with respect and shrewdness for the aphasia condition. Again I discovered Anderson can bring her reader a new understanding for a perplexing condition. Anderson's books are always worthy of notice and *My Sunshine* is very noticeable.

By: Mary Grace Meloche on December 1, 2004

Chapter III

Description

The novel that is taken to be studied in this research is *My Sunshine*, a novel by Catherine Anderson. She is an American best-selling writer of historical and contemporary romance novel since 1988. Catherine Anderson's first published books were romance category, under the Harlequin Intrigue romantic suspense line. Her subsequent single-title work has alternate between contemporary and historical romances.

3.1 Characterization

Based on the categories of the characters presented in the previous chapter before, the writer specifies the discussion of the characters on the main characters of the novel chosen. There are two main characters in the novel chosen by the writer; they are Isaiah Courter and Laura Townsend. However, to make the discussion meet to the objective of the study, the writer will not discuss both of the main characters. The writer prefers to discuss about Laura's character, the second main character of the story. Both Isaiah and Laura are the main characters; they are the major character in the novel because both of them are vital to the development and resolution of the conflict.

In terms of physical appearance, Laura is described as a pretty girl with a good looking face, slim body, and long hair. In terms of personality, Laura is described as an enthusiastic girl, hard worker, kind, and charitable. Therefore, the writer concludes that Laura is characterized as an attractive girl in *My Sunshine* novel by Catherine Anderson.

3.1.1 Physical Traits of Laura

Laura is a beautiful girl. It is clearly described by the author. The following evidence also shows Laura's beauty, which is the author narration toward Laura's physical appearance.

A bewildered look came over her face. And a very pretty face it was, an almost perfect oval with large hazel eyes lined with thick, sooty lashes, delicate features, and a full, lush mouth. Her hair was the color of expensive cognac, streaked with wisps of lighter blond, and was cut in a collar-length, every-which-way style (My Sunshine: Chapter 1:11).

His stomach growled. He could only hope Laura didn't hear the rumble, for in that moment he wasn't sure what appealed to his senses more, the smells or the woman. She wore a red gingham bib apron over a red knit top and snug blue jeans. As he trailed his gaze downward, he noticed that her feet were bare. Normally he wasn't into feet, but hers were small, delicately made, and oddly cute, the tips of her toes as pink as rose petals (My Sunshine: Chapter 2:27).

Here are some evidences that support the writer argument related to the Laura's characterization in *My Sunshine* novel by Catherine Anderson. The first evidence is about the physical traits of Laura, which is described as a pretty and

good-looking girl. The evidences below are the characterization of Laura, which is explain by other character.

Mary smiled. "Laura is her granddaughter. She is a lovely, sweet girl. Almost every day she comes by to see Etta while she's out walking the dogs" (My Sunshine: page 6).

The corners of Mary's mouth tightened. "Laura is such a pretty girl and sweet as can be. Her life would be so much fuller if she had a regular job and could meet people her own age" (My Sunshine: page 6).

"League," Etta supplied. "And that is pure nonsense. You are an intelligent, beautiful young woman. You have a lot to offer any man, Isaiah Coulter included" (My Sunshine Chapter 2:22).

In terms of physical appearance, the author makes Laura to be the most beautiful creature in the novel. Although there are some women as the characters in the novel, Laura is the most beautiful, pretty, and sweet girl. In fact, the reader will forget that Laura has a brain damage because she is depicted as almost has no weaknesses. Even, the author also tries to make Laura becomes a very attractive girl by featuring her with some good personality such as; enthusiastic, hard worker, kind, and charitable.

Besides Laura has a beautiful face, Laura also depicted as a girl with perfectly good looking lips, hair, and eyes.

A bewildered look came over her face. And a very pretty face it was, an almost perfect oval with large hazel eyes lined with thick, sooty lashes, delicate features, and a full, lush mouth. Her hair was the color of expensive cognac, streaked with wisps of lighter blond, and was cut in a collar-length, every-which-way style (My Sunshine chapter1:11).

Laura also described as a charitable girl. She cares to the other people and do love to the animals as if she dedicated her life to do good things for both people and animal. Here are some evidences that prove the writer arguments. The evidence when Laura to help a puppy in the middle of the highway:

*"Laura!" he yelled again when his boots finally connected with the slush covered pavement. Through the downfall of snowflakes, he glimpsed the shimmer of her golden hair. Damn. She was jogging right up the center of the street, heedless of the automobiles that braked and fishtailed to avoid hitting her. "Have you lost your mind? Get back here!" (My Sunshine Chapter 10:132).
..... By the time he arrived at his destination, the cars going in both directions had come to a dead halt, and Laura was scooping an oversize puppy into her arms (My Sunshine Chapter 10:132).*

*"What the hell are you trying to do, kill yourself?" he cried.
"Oh, Isaiah, isn't he sweet?"
Laura was nose-to-nose with the puppy. Before Isaiah could reply that the dog was the homeliest critter he'd ever clapped eyes on, she was making kiss-kiss noises (My Sunshine Chapter 10:132).
"Are you out of your mind?" he cried again.
She gave him a wide-eyed, incredulous look. "He was about to get run over. I had to save him" (My Sunshine Chapter 10:132).
The drivers of the cars backed up in both directions, bumper to bumper, were starting to blow their horns. Isaiah grasped Laura's arm. "We've got to get back in the Hummer. We're blocking traffic" (My Sunshine Chapter 10:132).*

Another good personality given by the author to Laura is hard worker and enthusiastic. Although Laura suffered from a terrible brain damage called *aphasia*, the reader will forget about it because Laura does everything almost perfectly. She is a good kennel keeper, she is good in cooking, she is good in room decorating, and she always goes to work earlier and went home late. The following evidences will prove the writer's argument above:

This is the quotation when Isaiah praised about the Laura's performance on first day she works.

"Nah, nothing so formal as that." He flashed her a slow, crooked grin that made her feel as if she'd just swallowed a dozen live goldfish. "Everyone tells me you're doing great, the best kennel keeper we've ever had. You're well liked. Tucker's people think you're fabulous, and so do mine. You're always eager to work, no matter how nasty the chore. I'm even told that you hang around after your shift is over to spend extra time with the animals" (My Sunshine Chapter 3:41).

Both in terms of physical appearance and personality, Laura is depicted perfectly well. The perfection of the features given by the author toward the main character; Laura, becomes the main imperfection of *My Sunshine* novel according to the writer. However, as stated by Clara (1785) that the novel is a picture of real life and manners and of the time in which it was written. Real life here includes the content of the story, the conflict emerged in the story, and the characters presented in the story. When those aspects in certain novel closely represent the real life, this novel will be alive.

In fact, by presenting Laura as an attractive and good-looking girl with no weaknesses, the author makes her novel far away from the real life. Somehow, human beings in the worldwide have the same similarities that are they have good side (angel side) and bad side (devil side). However, the author does not give any bad components in Laura's character. It is true that Laura is playing a character with a brain damage, but instead of having trouble with her disease, the writer describes that the disease suffered by Laura is not apparent. It is stated in the novel that other

characters in the novel do not realize that Laura is suffered from *aphasia*. Here are the evidences,

This is the example of evidence when Isaiah's mother says if she is not sick until she realized after Etta say.

"But, dear heart, Laura's brain damage isn't that bad. I never even knew something was wrong until Etta mentioned it" (My Sunshine Chapter 1:7).

That is why, the perfection of Laura's characterization in the novel *My Sunshine*, makes this character does not portray the real human being should be. Actually, it is the author's right to determine the moral quality of his/her character in their literary works. However, when the author presents a character, which is not representing the real human beings, the sense of the story becomes tasteless.

3.1.2 Laura's Speech

Since Laura is suffered from *aphasia*, she experienced difficulty in speaking, understanding people's speech and she always speaks very slow because she needs to choose some simple words to say to avoid herself become a stammer.

"Dear Lord," she said softly, "thanks you for this nice day, and thank you for blessing us with plenty. Amen" (My Sunshine Chapter 2:30). Taters. There it was again, her avoidance of words with more than two syllables. Little wonder she talked slowly. It would be difficult enough to learn to speak all over again without constantly having to choose words that were easy to say (Chapter 2:32). "So far I like her fine. She talks kind of slow, and every once in a while she looks at me like I'm speaking Greek. But otherwise I can barely tell there is anything wrong with her" (My Sunshine Chapter 3:37).

..... *"She speaks slowly, like Susan says, and she gets confused if you throw long words at her. But otherwise she does fine. As a favor to me, I had appreciate it if all of you would make a special effort to help her settle in" (My Sunshine Chapter 3:37).*

"Even if I'm thinking the right word," she went on, "I can say the wrong one—and sometimes when I get nervous, even words that should be easy, like my name, just won't come to me" (My Sunshine Chapter 1:15).

In the quotation above it can be said that Laura have category slowly to talk because she difficult to understand if people talk too fast, so Laura speak with slowly to understand the word from people and make the people understand with what they say.

Although she has a brain damage but she is a kind and lovable person so that she has many friends in her office and she is good in making social intercourse.

Laura enjoyed having so many new friends. It felt good to walk through the clinic and have people calling out hello. During coffee breaks she listened to gossip, laughed at jokes she did not get, and enjoyed a sense of belonging that had been lacking in her life for far too long (My Sunshine Chapter 3:40).

.... It was fun, and Laura always felt a little sad when break times ended (My Sunshine Chapter3:41).

Through the Laura's speech and behavior, it can be implied that no matter she has a barrier in speaking; she is good in making social intercourse that finally makes her become a lovable person.

3.1.3 Laura's Characterization Based on Her Behavior

Behavior that is done repeatedly will construct a character. Behavior itself is what is done by the people in terms of action. The action that is done by people will show the person is character and moral. In the novel, it can be said that Laura

characterization based on her behavior is a super kind heroic person where she always consider more on other business and willing to sacrifice to help people and animals.

Laura is a girl who has a good behavior he likes to help his friend, Laura helped her to decorate the room in a clinic without in salary.

"Oh, yes. You're bound to be better at it than me." Val propped her bony elbows on the desk blotter and leaned forward, her expression suddenly pleading. "Please, Laura, please, please, please? Just bring me the receipts, and I'll reimburse you for anything you buy. I hate to decorate."

Laura loved to decorate, and she liked Val so much that she really hated to say no. "I can't promise it'll look good," she tried.

"If I do it, I guarantee it won't."

"It's almost Hallo-ween," she reminded the office manager. "There's not much time."

"Tell me about it. Men. They have no clue what it takes to decorate a lobby. Save me, Laura. Please?" (My Sunshine chapter 3:44).

..... "Okay," she agreed. "I'll try my hand at it. Why not? If you don't like what I do, I'll pay you back for the stuff and use it at home."

"Deal!" Val beamed a grateful smile. "Just be sure to log in the additional hours so I can add them to your paycheck."

"I don't have to get paid," Laura protested. "I'll have fun doing it" (My Sunshine chapter 3:44).

This is evidence that even though Laura have brain damage she still smart to decorate apartment and animal clinic.

"So . . . what do you think?" she asked.

He snapped back to awareness. What did he think? That he was losing his mind was a strong possibility. "I, um . . . it's all great," he said.

"I tried to choose tasteful stuff."

Isaiah had no vision when it came to decorating, but he'd seen Laura's apartment. She had a knack for taking odds and ends, assembling them into groups, and making them look good.

"I'm sure it will all look great when you've finished" (My Sunshine Chapter 5:57).

Isaiah cautiously circled that. He'd been in her apartment, and it was not only spotlessly clean, but charming. She was also a wonderful cook. "I think you'd be a fabulous mom" (My Sunshine Chapter 6:79).

Laura has good behavior he likes to help his friend to decorate the room. She also helped a puppy that was on the highway, this is proof that Laura help puppies in the middle of the road.

Isaiah's shouts never even slowed her down. Leaving the driver door open, he took off after her, shouting her name every few steps. Ahead of him she'd finally stopped, her slender, denim-sheathed legs spread wide, her arms held out at her sides to stop traffic. Isaiah wore slick-soled Western boots and almost fell several times as he raced up the street. By the time he arrived at his destination, the cars going in both directions had come to a dead halt, and Laura was scooping an oversize puppy into her arms (My Sunshine Chapter 10:132).

"What the hell are you trying to do, kill yourself?" he cried. "Oh, Isaiah, isn't he sweet?"

Laura was nose-to-nose with the puppy. Before Isaiah could reply that the dog was the homeliest critter he'd ever clapped eyes on, she was making kiss-kiss noises.

"Are you out of your mind?" he cried again.

She gave him a wide-eyed, incredulous look. "He was about to get run over. I had to save him."

The drivers of the cars backed up in both directions, bumper to bumper, were starting to blow their horns. Isaiah grasped Laura's arm. "We've got to get back in the Hummer. We're blocking traffic" (My Sunshine Chapter 10:132).

Laura feel sorry for an elderly woman who lost her cat, Laura took time during the day to look for a kitten that is similar with Seymour, the evidence that Laura finding a similar kittens.

She cupped a gentle hand over the sleeping kitten. "The shelter was a dead end, so I looked in last night's paper. He was at the last house I checked. And he's a male. Lucky, huh?"
Isaiah felt as if a golf ball had gotten stuck behind his larynx. He stared stupidly at Laura's sweet face. In that moment she seemed to glow, looking more angel than human. He couldn't quite believe she'd spent her whole afternoon combing Crystal Falls for a gray tabby kitten that looked exactly like Seymour. It was such a kind thing for her to have done—and way beyond the call of duty. She had never even met Mrs. Palmer (My Sunshine Chapter 5:64).

Based on the quotation above, it can be concluded that Laura has a super kind and heroic person. It is really rare happened in the reality that there are such as kind person as Laura. In simple, Laura is too much kind to be a human being. She should be an angel.

3.1.4 Laura's Characterization Based on her Thought and Feeling

The last method to characterize the characters in a literary work is by showing the character's thought and feeling. It is done to depict the real thought of a certain character that other characters may not know about it. In the novel, Laura thought and feeling are mostly show that she is a pessimistic girl but become optimist in the end.

She was falling in love with him. Correction: She'd been in love with him for weeks. Laura lectured herself constantly never to let him know. He was a wonderful boss and an even better friend. If not for him, the puppies, each of which she had come to love, would have been put to sleep. She absolutely couldn't abuse his kindness by making him feel guilty for not returning her affection (My Sunshine Chapter 12:162).

..... She'd carefully kept her feelings for him hidden, undoubtedly convinced that he would never return them. She considered herself damaged merchandise. Her ability to be a wife and mother was impaired. What man in his right mind would want a woman who

couldn't write checks, misspelled simple words, and had difficulty talking? (My Sunshine Chapter 12:165).

After analyzing the Laura's characterization through the methods stated by Pooley (1967:538), the writer determines that Laura's characterization in the novel *My Sunshine* by Catherine Anderson is attractive; Laura is described as a very attractive girl. In terms physical appearance, Laura is described as a pretty girl with a good looking face, slim body, and long hair. In terms of personality, Laura is described as an enthusiastic girl, hard worker, kind, and charitable. She also speech with slowly, she have a good behavior and Laura thought and feeling are mostly show that she is a pessimistic girl but become optimist in the end. Therefore, the writer concludes that Laura is characterized as an attractive girl in *My Sunshine* novel by Catherine Anderson.

Although she had a brain damage but she always try to get a normally live.

Laura always struggle to get a real job, to get her love, and etc.

3.2 Factors Laura Struggle

In this sub chapter the writer will discuss about the possibility factors affected Laura's struggle toward her *Aphasia*. Related to this topic, the writer correlate the Laura's struggle with the Hierarchy of Human Needs. Maslow (2006) classified the human being needs into a pyramid scheme that broadly known as Maslow's Hierarchy of Human Needs. Here is the Maslow Pyramid that depicts the level of the human needs.

According to the pyramid, there are five hierarchies of needs. The first level of needs is physiological need includes need of food, air, and water. The second level encompasses safety needs. The third level of need is love and belonging. The fourth level is self-esteem. The fifth level is the need for self-actualization, entails maximizing one's unique potential in life, Maslow (2006).

Related to the theory above, here the writer correlates Laura's struggle with the pyramid of human need stated by Maslow (2006). Therefore, in this sub chapter the writer presents some more sub chapter as follow:

1. First factor affecting Laura's struggle: Physiological needs.
2. Second factor affecting Laura's struggle: Safety needs.
3. Third factor affecting Laura's struggle: Love & Belonging needs.
4. Fourth factor affecting Laura's struggle: Self Esteem needs.
5. Fifth factor affecting Laura's struggle: Self Actualization needs.

3.2.1 Physiological Need in Laura's Life

Physiological needs are the fundamental needs of human beings that willy-nilly must be fulfilled. Psychological needs include the needs of food, sleep, homeostatic, sex, and breathing, water, and excretion. It means, human beings, no matter their condition, they have to fulfill their physiological need because they will die or their life will be incomplete. In *My Sunshine* novel, it is clear enough that

Laura as one of the main characters is suffered from a brain damage called *aphasia*.

Instead of blaming the bad fate she got, Laura gets up and starts up her life.

"I had to learn to talk all over again," Laura went on. "You will notice that I speak slowly. I also have trouble keeping up if people talk too fast or use long words." She gestured at the cages around them. "As for this job, I'm very lucky to get it." She met Susan is gaze. "If I can do the work, I won't be quitting" (My Sunshine Chapter 3:35).

Naturally, human being is an unsatisfied creature where they always try to get more and more, to have more and more, and to reach more and more. In the novel, although in some aspect Laura is depicted as a pessimistic girl, she is sometimes becomes an ambitious girl where she tries to reach more and more. When the *aphasia* affected her ability in math (counting), she will not give up. She tries a method to make her, at least, capable to do a simple counting that is by bringing beans everywhere.

digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id

"Do you have difficulty counting?" "I lose track without my beans" "Beans" She fished in a pocket of her coat and held out her hand. Several dried kidney beans rested on her outstretched palm. "It's—a trick—from rehab. I carry twenty with me. That way, when I have to count, I don't lose track." "What if you have to count to over twenty" She put the beans back in her pocket. "I'm in deep doo-doo" (My Sunshine Chapter 1:16).

In the novel, it is stated that Laura works part time to keep the people dogs to earn money. Here is the evidence:

"Oh, they're (the dogs) not actually hers." Mary's blue eyes went misty. "That's one of the ways Laura supplements her disability income, by walking people's dogs or caring for them while the owners are on vacation. I think she does other things as well, housework, ironing and such. But it's her knack with animals that made me think of you." (My Sunshine page: 6).

"That about covers it," he said, rocking back in the chair. "How soon can you start training?"
"I can come in mornings now. Later in the day will be harder. I do odd jobs. I don't want to quit any of them until I know this job will Last. I need the money" (My Sunshine Chapter 1:18).

An effort to earn money proved that neutrally, Laura consciously or unconsciously would like to fulfill her physiological needs because money is the key to get the foods, home stay, beverages, and etc.

Physiological needs also covered the sexuality need, in the novel, it is told Laura loves Isaiah Coulter but she tries to stop her love feeling due to she has a brain damage. However, when the need of having sex emerged in Laura's mind, this need defeat her fear about her *aphasia* and she believes that she can live normally with *aphasia* in hers. This is the evidence when Laura and Isaiah want do the sex for the first time.

"Or possibly someone who's great with animals?" He leaned closer—so close that she could feel the steamy warmth of his breath on her lips. "Do you love me, Laura?"
Her heart squeezed with yearning so intense it made her bones ache. "I don't want to be a chain around your neck."
He cupped her chin in his hand. "Do you love me? It's a very simple question."
"Yes," she finally whispered (My Sunshine Chapter 12:169).
Before the word had completely passed her lips, he angled his dark head and settled his mouth over hers. Wet silk. The kiss was as soft as a whisper at first, and then he deepened it, making questioning forays with the tip of his tongue. Laura's head spun. She could not breathe. Making fists on his shirt, she clung to him as she surrendered her mouth to him, parting her lips in invitation (My Sunshine Chapter 12:169).
Slowly back to the fire. Laura stared dazedly up at him, aware of his raw masculinity as she'd never been—the decisive tap of his boots with each lazy step he took, the way his broad shoulders worked in harmony with each shift of his lean hips, and the play of muscle in his

thighs under the faded denim of his Wranglers. His eyes burned with desire, turning them the dark blue of cobalt. A tendon along his jaw Bunched with each clench of his teeth (My Sunshine Chapter 12:170).

In conclusion, the fundamental needs of a human being has already fulfilled by Laura. Therefore, she needs to fulfill the second level of the human being's need that is the safety needs.

3.2.2 Safety Need in Laura's Life

Everyone expect a safety living. That is why a normal person with a great wealth and life without any threats will use some life insurances from one or more insurance company to fulfill their need: safety needs. By joining certain insurance, people without any threats even, will feel safe.

In *My Sunshine* novel, it is mentioned that *aphasia* suffered by Laura does not disturb her motoric aspect, but somehow, she join a tai chi class as a self-defense.

This is the evidence when Laura attends tai chi class during in rehabilitation.

During rehab, Laura had studied tai chi to help her stay calm, improve her equilibrium, and strengthen the right side of her body, which had been weakened. One particular technique called Push Hands had taught her how to defend herself nonaggressive, using her weight and balance to upset an opponent (My Sunshine Chapter 15:209).

Because Laura cannot recognize numbers and sometimes got difficulty in reading, some important phone numbers in her mobile phone is set to have a symbol. Such as her parents numbers is symbolized with circle, Isaiah Coulter is symbolized with a dog and etc. Pictures make her understand faster than letters or numbers.

This is the evidence when Etta taught Laura to give symbol on the phone numbers that important as a parent, Isaiah, police station etc.

"What picture should I use?" Etta Parks asked. Peering over her grandmother's shoulder, Laura squinted to see the small cell phone screen. She would come knocking on Etta's door at ten that morning to get the number to the clinic programmed into her phone. "A dog or a cat would be nice" (My Sunshine Chapter 7:91) Etta took a drag from her Winston and exhaled smoke, which drifted up into Laura's face. "You used the dog for Mrs. Kessler and the cat for the Segals. You've got a party balloon, a wineglass"—Etta scrolled down through more choices—"a book, a cake, a printer, a car, and a coffee cup. There are no animals left" (My Sunshine Chapter 7:92).

Because Laura had such difficulty in reading numbers and letters, she had purchased a cell phone with symbols that could be assigned to people she called often. That way she could scroll quickly through the electronic phone book, recognize people's names by the pictures that accompanied them, and make calls without always having to dial numbers. "Use the cake. That'll work" (My Sunshine Chapter 7:92).

Still related to Laura's struggle toward numbers, in her office, to avoid Laura got difficulty to open the safety system, Laura was given a special code with quarter eight. This is evidence when Isaiah gives eight as a security code to Laura.

She lifted her hands in defeat. "I went over the code again and again. It's not a matter of needing more time. I see the numbers wrong at times, and no amount of practice will fix that." "How are you with eights?" "Eights?" she echoed bewilderedly. "Yeah, eights." He traced one in the air. "Upside down, inside out, or sideways, they always look the same" (My Sunshine Chapter 6:84).

During in rehabilitation, Laura learned a Tai Chi as a self-defense. Besides, she also has a special security digit in her office a special facility to a disable person

as Laura. That special digit is a combination of quarter eight, the number that may not make Laura confused.

As a human being, people need to have something as a self-defense or to make them feel safe. It is the nature of the human being because instinctively human beings desiring a safe life. When the safety needs is fulfilled, usually, people begin to try to fulfill the upper needs that is love and belonging needs.

3.2.3 Love and Belonging Need in Laura's Life

Love and belonging become one of the human beings important needs. In some cases, the need of love changes people. In *My Sunshine* novel, love and belonging needs becomes one of the factors that makes Laura have a spirit to fight against her *aphasia*. Love and belonging need is not merely need of love between man and woman as a couple but it can be love and belonging among the friends, family or society.

In the novel, it is showed that Laura really hopes to have a normal job as what a normal person do. She desires to have an office, a work to finish, and friends to share. In the novel, it is mentioned that Laura struggling her job because she feels so happy to have new friends and family.

*"I'll do my best to do a good job," she had said (My Sunshine Chapter 3:38).
Laura enjoyed having so many new friends. It felt good to walk through the clinic and have people calling out hello. During coffee breaks she listened to gossip, laughed at jokes she did not get, and*

enjoyed a sense of belonging that had been lacking in her life for far too long (My Sunshine Chapter 3:40).

"I don't care about excitement. I'd just like a normal job again. I miss working with people and having friends" (My Sunshine Chapter 1:17).

But she wanted this job. It would be so wonderful to work with other people again—to possibly even make friends close to her own age. She craved more human contact—a chance to talk and laugh with others, maybe even enjoy an occasional night out with the girls. She would never have those pleasures in her life if she always played it safe. Change involved a certain amount of risk, and taking chances took courage. It all boiled down to one question: Was she a coward? (My Sunshine Page: 8).

Before Laura got her *aphasia*, she works as an environmental scientist, a brilliant job position. However, after she got *aphasia*, Laura could not get any brilliant job such as her previous job. Then, when she is offered to be a kennel keeper, she is really happy although it may not as exciting as doing an environmental-impact-study, but still, she desires to get this job because kennel keeper is a job that is usually done by a normal person so that when she got the job she may feel like a normal person.

She had once done environmental-impact studies, and now she had to carry beans in her pocket in order to count? He had taken tons of biology courses while studying to become a vet and had a fair idea of what it took to become an environmental scientist. What courage it must have taken for her to pick up the shattered pieces of her life and build a new one. In a very real way, she was a phoenix that had risen from the ashes. Gazing across the desk at her, Isaiah reached a decision guaranteed to please his mother (My Sunshine Chapter 1:17).

Gazing across the desk at her, Isaiah reached a decision guaranteed to please his mother. "Being a kennel keeper won't be nearly as exciting as doing environmental-impact studies" "I don't care about

excitement. I'd just like a normal job again. I miss working with people and having friends" (My Sunshine Chapter 1:17).

The quotation above proved that the needs of love and belonging there in everyone's mind because it is the nature of the human being as a social creature. She is happy to get a new job, and she is happy to get some new friends in the animal clinic Laura's office. This is the example of the evidence that Laura happy friends with the dogs.

Laura had no idea what a loop was. She glanced into the sad eyes of an Irish setter. She had never been wary of strange dogs, least of all pathetic creatures like these. As she walked up the aisle, she yearned to stop at each gate. Tomorrow, she vowed, she would come thirty minutes early so she could give each animal a little one-on-one (My Sunshine Chapter 3:34).

In a hurry to finish and go home, Isaiah almost snapped at Laura when he noticed that she was lingering in each cage to pet the dogs and talk softly to them. In a hurry to finish and go home, Isaiah almost snapped at Laura when he noticed that she was lingering in each cage to pet the dogs and talk softly to them (My Sunshine Chapter 4:52). She truly loved the animals, and they truly loved her. She spent only a minute with each dog before moving on to the next. All totaled she would waste no more than ten minutes, and it would be time well spent. Each and every dog in her care got its share of affection (My Sunshine Chapter 4:52).

From the beginning, she met Isaiah. Laura loves him and feels comfortable whenever she closes to him. Then, Laura's happiness is greater when Isaiah told her that he would to invite Laura to a family dinner in his house, This is the evidence that Laura happy when Isaiah invited to dinner with his family.

Pleasure radiated through Laura, suffusing her whole body with warmth. He wanted to know if she'd be having Thanksgiving dinner at his parents' house. She couldn't help but wonder if that meant he was hoping she might. The thought no sooner came than Laura pushed it

from her mind. Dangerous ground. Where this man was concerned, she needed to keep her feet firmly rooted in reality. He thought of her as a friend, nothing more (My Sunshine Chapter 5:60).

"Gram hasn't said any-thing. But that'd be fun," she heard herself say.

"If you guys decide to be there, you'd better brush up on your checkers game then," he said with a grin "I'm the all-time champion. Laura had always enjoyed checkers and it was one of the few games that she could still play. "I'm not so bad myself" (My Sunshine Chapter 5:60).

The needs of love and belonging are not always love and belonging among the friends and family. It is also the love and belonging between man and woman in a love relationship. Laura has a spirit to fight against her *aphasia* because she loves and want to get love from Isaiah Coulter.

She avoided his gaze by fussing with her coat. "Someday maybe I'll meet a man who won't care about my aphasia. But chances are good that I won't meet him soon. I can't have a baby all by myself" (My Sunshine Chapter 6:79).

Isaiah's heart caught, and he wanted to give himself a swift kick for being such an idiot. A beautiful woman like Laura normally had men standing in line to take her out on dates, and he had just assumed . . . God, he was such an airhead sometimes. The general rules of thumb could not be applied to her. As lovely as she was, her speech alone would put a lot of guys off. She also had a host of other problems (My Sunshine Chapter 6:79).

The brain damage that is suffered by Laura does not make her loss of hope to be a real woman: have a husband and get many children someday. The quotations below show how Laura desires to have husband and children.

"You don't necessarily need a man to have a child nowadays," he reminded her.

Isaiah's heart caught, and he wanted to give himself a swift kick for being such an idiot. A beautiful woman like Laura normally had men standing in line to take her out on dates, and he had just assumed . . . God, he was such an airhead sometimes. The general rules of thumb

couldn't be applied to her. As lovely as she was, her speech alone would put a lot of guys off. She also had a host of other problems. "You don't necessarily need a man to have a child nowadays," he reminded her My Sunshine Chapter 6:79).

"Getting pregnant isn't the worry. It is afterward. I couldn't raise a child by myself."
Isaiah cautiously circled that. He had been in her apartment, and it was not only spotlessly clean, but charming. She was also a wonderful cook. "I think you'd be a fabulous mom." "Thank you. I only wish you were right. But there are too many things I can't do"
Never more than in that moment had Isaiah realized just how drastically that swimming accident had altered Laura's life. All the things most women took for granted might never happen for her—no challenging career, no husband, no kids, no grandchildren. She loved animals and couldn't even have a pet because she lived in a little apartment over someone's garage (My Sunshine Chapter 6:80).

Because of her *aphasia*, Laura, sometimes feels that she may not appropriate to have a normal man as her husband. However, because she cannot stop to love Isaiah, she began to do some efforts to make her life as normal as possible, to prove that she is appropriate to be Isaiah's wife.

3.2.4 Self Esteem Need in Laura's Life

Self-esteem needs include the need to be appreciated by other people. In this novel, it is stated that Laura makes an effort to get a normal life; she also tries to get a common job like what normal people's job.

The corners of Mary's mouth tightened. "Laura is such a pretty girl, and sweet as can be. Her life would be so much fuller if she had a regular job and could meet people her own age."
"Oh, they're not actually hers." Mary's blue eyes went misty. "That's one of the ways Laura supplements her disability income, by walking

people's dogs or caring for them while the owners are on vacation. I think she does other things as well, housework and ironing and such. But it's her knack with animals that made me think of you." (**My Sunshine page: 6**).

Previously, before Laura got her accident, she has a good job in a The Crystal Falls Animal Clinic. Then, after she got a brain damage, she only has a subordinate job as a dog keeper; this job can be done by everyone with low level of education. However, Laura sometimes becomes pessimistic due to her weaknesses so that she earns money through a low level of job. Then, her meeting with Mary rises up her esteem need that she happy she had a real job and she promises if she will work with good job as kennel keeper in The Crystal Falls Animal Clinic not only that but also she want no special favors from Isaiah, this is the evidence.

"I'll do my best to do a good job," she'd said (**My Sunshine Chapter 3:38**).

"I hope so." Laura tucked the phone under her chin so she could take another sip of coffee. The sun had risen higher in the sky, and the light coming at an angle through the trees dappled the blue-gray highway with splashes of gold and shadow. "It'll be fun to have a real job again"

"I'm so happy for you, honey."

"I'm happy for me, too. I just hope it all works out." (**My Sunshine Chapter 2:21**).

"I do understand," Isaiah replied. "No special favors, Laura. If I did not sincerely believe you could do the work, I would not be here. We desperately need good kennel people. They quit almost as fast as we can train them. I think you'll do a great job, and I believe you'll stay, not because you'll have no other opportunities along the way, but because you'll really like the animals" (**My Sunshine Chapter 2:31**).

To get appreciation from other people in The Crystal Falls Animal Clinic, Laura would to get job training, trained by Susan, one of the senior employees of The Crystal Falls Animal Clinic.

She sounded so incredulous that Isaiah chuckled. "No, there isn't. You may need a little extra training before we let you take a shift by yourself, but that's a simple enough thing to arrange" (My Sunshine Chapter 1:17).

"You'll be monitored closely during the training period. If you make a mistake, and I stress the 'if,' the person training you will catch it. At the end of two weeks, we will do a performance review. If you're going to have problems doing the work, it should be apparent by then." Isaiah lowered his foot to the floor and swiveled on his chair to face the desk. "It's only ten dollars an hour to start and we can't offer you full-time. Veterinary clinics require an inordinate number of employees in order to cover all the shifts and give everyone enough time off" (My Sunshine Chapter 1:17).

Based on the explanation described above, it can be seen that Laura has already fulfilled four of five human being needs: Physiological, Safety, self-esteem, and love and belonging needs. Then, Laura, as an ambitious girl, she also has a desire to reach the highest level of human beings needs that is self-actualization.

3.2.5 Self Actualization need in Laura's life

Self-actualization refers to the desire for self-fulfillment, namely, to the tendency for him to become actualized in what he is potentially. This tendency might be phrased as the desire to become more and more what one is, to become everything that one is capable of becoming.

http://psychology.about.com/od/theoriesofpersonality/a/hierarchyneeds_2.htm (7, 2,2015).

In *My Sunshine* novel, Laura also has the Self-Actualization need where she has a tendency to struggle to become who she should be: woman with her wholeness, has a normal job, becomes a wife, becomes a mother, and has a family.

"Gag. Now that Mom's gone, I throw it out. I have a real job now. Did you hear about that?"

"Gram mentioned it. Mom's so busy going to water aerobics and community potlucks that she hardly ever calls me. How do you like it? The job, I mean."

"I love it." Laura listed her job duties and then went on to describe Isaiah and how handsome he was. "I've got a huge crush on him. I know it's dumb, but I can't seem to help myself." (My Sunshine Chapter 6:71).

But she wanted this job. It would be so wonderful to work with other people again—to possibly even make friends close to her own age. She craved more human contact—a chance to talk and laugh with others, maybe even enjoy an occasional night out with the girls. She would never have those pleasures in her life if she always played it safe.

Change involved a certain amount of risk, and taking chances took courage (My Sunshine Chapter 1:8).

Laura desires to actualize her life in terms of some cases: having a normal job that is usually done by a normal person, having many friends as how human beings should be, and the last is, having husband and children. This is the example of evidence that prove Laura succeeded to married to Isaiah, which is proved that Laura is able to actualize herself as how woman should be and should have.

Laura and Isaiah intertwined their arms, gazed deeply into each other's eyes, and took their first sip of champagne together as husband and wife. Laura was almost giddy with happiness. Everything in her world was exactly right after her accident, she'd believed that her life had been destroyed. Now, lost in her husband's shimmering blue eyes, she realized that she'd had to lose her life in order to find it. And

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

This chapter will draw a conclusion based on the discussion in the previous chapters. Based on the analysis done by the writer, the first it is concluded that Laura's characterization is represented through her physical traits, speeches and actions, feeling and thought, and other character's thought toward her. Through those characterizations, it is found that Laura's characterizations are: smart, beautiful, pretty girl, slim body and long hair. Laura is described as a pretty girl. Other character also explains that Laura is a pretty girl, as a Marry and Etta stated in the novel. Laura is also described as a charitable girl. She cares to the other people and do love to the animals as if she dedicated her live to do good things for both people and animal.

The second is finding about the factors motivate Laura to fight against her *aphasia* to get a normally live. Physiological needs include the needs of food, sleep, homeostatic, sex, and breathing, water, and excretion. Laura as one of the main characters is suffered from a brain damage called *aphasia*. Physiological Laura must work to get money to starts up her live, Laura consciously to fulfill her physiological needs because money is key to get the foods, home stay and beverages. Safety needs, everyone needs a safety to keep her, for his safety keep Laura learn tai chi during in rehab to protect herself. Love and belonging needs becomes one of the factors that

makes Laura has a spirit to fight against her *aphasia*. After physiological and safety needs are fulfilled, the third layers of human needs are social and involve feelings of love and belonging. This aspect of Maslow's hierarchy involves emotionally based relationships in general, such as Friendship, intimacy, Family. Self-esteem, all humans have a need to be respected and to have self-esteem and self-respect. Also known as, the belonging need, esteem presents the normal human desire to be accepted and valued by others. It can be concluded that Laura has a passion to get a normally live.

WORKS CITED

Ade, Olaofe, Isaac. *An Introduction to Literature and Literary Criticism*, National Open University of Nigeria: All Rights Reserved. 2008.

Anderson, Catherine. *My Sunshine*. Dastan books. New York. 2005

Gillespie, 2010. *Doing literary criticism*. 2005.

Holman, C, Hugh. *A Handbook to Literature: Third Edition*. United States of America: The bobs-Merrill Company, Inc. 1978.

Holman, C, Hugh and Harmon William. *A Handbook to Literature: fifth edition*, United States of America: Macmillan Publishing Company, a division of Macmillan, Inc. 1986.

Kennedy, X, J. *An Introduction to Fiction*, Canada: little, Brown & Company (Canada) Limited. 1983.

Kennedy, X, J. *Literature: An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, and Drama*. United States of America: All Rights Reserved. 1987.

Lambert, Vickie A and Lambert, Clinton E. *Qualitative Descriptive Research: An Acceptable Design*. Thailand: Pacific Rim Int J Nurs Res. 2012.

Maslow. *Maslow's hierarchy of needs: A framework for Achieving Human Potential in Hospice*. Journal of Palliative Medicine, volume 9, Number 5, 2006.

Maslow, H, Abraham. *Motivation and Personality*. English: Harper & Row, Publishers, Inc. 1970.

Nurdiyantoro, Burhan. *Teori Pengkajian Fiksi*. Yogyakarta: Gadjah Mada University Press. 2002.

Perrine, Laurence. *Story and Structure: Second Edition*, United States of America: Harcourt, Brace & World, Inc. 1966.

Pooley, C, Robert. *Counterpoint in Literature*. United States of America: Scott, Foresman and Company. 1967.

Robert, V, Edgar. *Literature: An Introduction to Reading and Writing*, United States of America: A division of Simon & Schuster, Inc. 1986.

Slavin, Robert, E. *Educational Psychology: Theory and practice*. United States of America: Allyn & Bacon. 2000.

Internet Source:

http://psychology.about.com/od/theoriesofpersonality/a/hierarchyneeds_2.htm (July 6, 2015 at 19:00).

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Catherine_Anderson (July 3, 2015 at 20.11).

<http://www.thefreedictionary.com/struggle> (July 28 2015 at 21:39 by Farlex).

digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id digilib.uinsa.ac.id

<http://index.about.com/index?am=phrase&q=definition+of+aphasia> (July 28, 2015 at

20:31 By Richard Nordquist).