

**AN ANALYSIS ON THE NEEDS OF SIMON IN *ONE OF US IS LYING***

**BY KAREN M.MCMANUS**

**THESIS**



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**AN ANALYSIS ON THE NEEDS OF SIMON IN *ONE OF US IS***

***LYING* BY KAREN M.MCMANUS**

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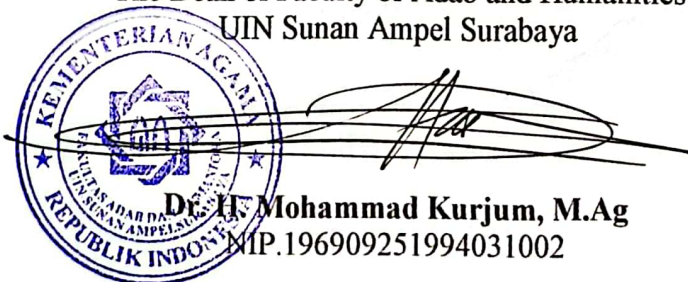
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## ABSTRACT

Syafira, N. H. D. (2023). Analysis of Simon's Needs in the novel One of Us Is Lying by Karen m.mcmanus. English Literature Study Program, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Advisor: Dr. Abu Fanani, SS, M.Pd.

The writer analyzes one of the main characters in the novel One of us is a living. Simon Kelleher, the self-proclaimed narrator of the Bayview High Rumor Factory. Simon Kelleher runs an app called "About It" where Simon always collects the most interesting gossip on campus. In the novel 'One of Us Lies'. This novel tells about 4 students who have a secret that they do and the novel explores the personality and thoughts of each prospective reader to keep guessing who did it until the end. (1) How is Simon Keller's characterization in the novel One Of Us Is Lying.(2) How does Simon Keller meet his needs in One Of Us Is Lying.

This study uses a qualitative approach to obtain a clear and systematic description of the phenomenon being studied. Descriptive studies in textual analysis are applied in this study to analyze conversations between characters to find out Simon's character's perspective on other characters. Data was collected by reading and marking conversations between characters in the novel. The analysis is continued by identifying conversations that describe characterizations related to the theory that the author is researching. Finally, the reasons why the characters need the theory used by the characters in the novel are identified by looking at the setting and the conversations between the characters.

After analyzing Simon Kelleher's hierarchy of needs in the novel One of Us Is Lying by Karen McManus, the researcher concludes that there are five stages of the hierarchy of needs in Simon's characterization analysis. That is, Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory applies to Karen McManus' novel One of Us Is Lying. It can be concluded that the researcher found five levels of demand hierarchy on data sources, physiological needs data, safety needs data, love and belonging needs data, self-esteem needs data, and self-actualization needs data. According to the results, security needs predominate. This is because Simon's school life really makes him an introverted figure who is shunned by his friends because he has a trusted gossip account and always updates the news with sharp and reliable news about the secrets of famous students at Bayview high by writing articles about someone fulfilling his physiological needs.

**Keywords:** hierarchy of human needs, new criticism.

## ABSTRAK

Syafira, N. H. D. (2023). Analisis Kebutuhan Simon dalam novel *One of Us Is Lying* karya Karen m.mcmanus. Program Studi Sastra Inggris, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Pembimbing: Dr. Abu Fanani, SS, M.Pd.

Penulis menganalisis salah satu tokoh utama dalam novel *One of us is a lying*. Simon Kelleher, narator yang memproklamirkan diri dari Bayview High Rumor Factory. Simon Kelleher menjalankan aplikasi bernama "About It" di mana Simon selalu mengumpulkan gosip paling menarik di kampus. Dalam novel 'Salah Satu dari Kita Berbohong'. Novel ini menceritakan tentang 4 siswa yang memiliki rahasia yang mereka lakukan dan novel tersebut menggali kepribadian dan pemikiran pembaca masing-masing calon untuk membuat terus menebak siapa yang melakukannya sampai akhir, Karena itu dalam studi ini penulis akan menjawab rumusan masalah dalam penelitian ini yaitu (1) Bagaimana Simon dijelaskan dalam novel *One of Us Is Lying* (2) Simon memenuhi kebutuhannya dalam novel *One of Us Is Lying*.

Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif untuk mendapat deskripsi yang jelas dan sistematis tentang fenomena yang sedang dipelajari. Studi deskriptif dalam analisis tekstual diterapkan dalam penelitian ini untuk menganalisis percakapan antar karakter untuk mengetahui sudut pandang karakter Simon pada karakter lain. Data dikumpulkan dengan membaca dan menandai percakapan antar karakter dalam novel tersebut. Analisis dilanjutkan dengan mengidentifikasi percakapan yang menggambarkan karakterisasi yang berhubungan dengan teori yang penulis teliti. Akhirnya, alasan mengapa karakter membutuhkan teori tersebut yang digunakan oleh karakter dalam novel diidentifikasi dengan melihat latar dan percakapan antar karakter.

Setelah menganalisis hierarki kebutuhan Simon Kelleher dalam novel *One of Us Is Lying* karya Karen McManus, peneliti menyimpulkan bahwa terdapat lima tahapan hierarki kebutuhan dalam analisis karakterisasi Simon. Artinya, teori hirarki kebutuhan Abraham Maslow berlaku untuk novel *One of Us Is Lying* karya Karen McManus. Dapat disimpulkan bahwa peneliti menemukan kelima tingkatan hirarki permintaan pada sumber data, data kebutuhan fisiologis, data kebutuhan rasa aman, data kebutuhan cinta dan dimiliki, data kebutuhan harga diri, dan data kebutuhan aktualisasi diri. Menurut hasil, kebutuhan keamanan mendominasi. Hal ini dikarenakan kehidupan di sekolah Simon benar-benar membuatnya menjadi sosok introvert yang dijauhi oleh teman-temannya karena memiliki akun gosip yang terpercaya dan selalu update berita dengan berita tajam dan terpercaya tentang rahasia siswa terkenal di Bayview high dengan menulis artikel tentang seseorang memenuhi kebutuhan fisiologisnya.

**Kata kunci:** hirarki kebutuhan manusia, kritik baru.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Cover Page Inside Cover Page .....	i
Approval Sheet.....	ii
Examiner Sheet .....	iii
Declaration .....	iv
Acknowledgment .....	v
Abstract .....	vi
Abstrak .....	vii
Table of Contents .....	viii
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Background of the study .....	1
1.2 Problem Of Study .....	4
1.3 Objective of the study .....	5
1.4 Significance of the Study.....	5
1.5 Scope and Limitation .....	5
1.6 Definition of Key Terms.....	5
CHAPTER II THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK .....	6
2.1.1 Character .....	7
2.1.2 Characterization .....	9
2.2 Hierarchy of Human Needs Theory.....	12
2.3 Previous Study .....	15
CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHOD .....	17
3.1. Research Design.....	17
3.2 Data Collection .....	17
3.2.1 Data Source.....	17
3.2.2 Data Analysis .....	18
CHAPTER IV ANALYSIS .....	19
4.1 Simon’s Characterization.....	19
4.1.1 Ambitious.....	20
4.1.2 Brave .....	20
4.1.3 Vengeful.....	21
4.1.4 Cunning.....	22
4.1.5 Clever.....	22
4.1.6 Smart .....	23
4.2 Simon’s Needs In One of Us Is Lying.....	24





# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the study

The novel is a literary work that is essential to people's lives. Stories lifted into novels are usually about life and life's problems. It has a close relationship with the need to continue life. In meeting the needs of life, behavior determines human tendencies to achieve life satisfaction (Nurgiantoro. 2010, p. 10). This behavior is related to a person's psychology which is a reflection of personality that can be seen in a person's life how to fulfill needs. This behavior requires psychological treatment.

Abraham Maslow built and developed one of the most popular needs theories. According to Maslow, human behavior is determined by individual tendencies to achieve goals so that the individual's life is happier and simultaneously satisfying (Minderope, 2011, p. 280). Based on this belief, A theory of needs called the "Hierarchy of Needs" theory was created by Maslow based on his faith. Maslow specifies five human wants grouped in a hierarchy in his hierarchy of needs theory. The five requirements are met in an order based on the highest priority, explaining the name. Maslow's hierarchy describes how the hierarchy of needs starts from the need to eat and drink that demands to be satisfied.

When this need is satisfied, a need arises for security, such as health needs and disaster avoidance, which are welcomed and returned by the need to have friends and family, etc. The inability to encourage someone to do something else to obtain recognition and attention next is the need to be respected and trusted by others. If a person can meet all the conditions that, if the level is lower, then motivation is directed towards fulfilling self-actualization needs, namely the need for development potential or talent and certain





others. The novel *One Of Us Is Lying* discusses five students who were given a detention sentence because they were caught bringing cell phones into class during class hours, even though the school has indeed decided to prohibit the use of cell phones during the course. Researchers have yet to find research on human needs—the previous study by Putri, K.K.A. (2022). *Cooper Clay's Conflict in One of Us is Lying analyzes* what conflict high school adolescents may face with the people around them and how they will likely face problems. The second research by Andhara, A.S (2019). *Multiple Points of view in Karen M Mcmanus's One of Us is Lying*, which is where the author conducts point of view research. The previous analysis was performed by Ervina Restiana (2022); in her research, the researcher analyzes the identity crisis in a character named Addy. From the three previous studies, there are differences with this research. In this research, the researcher discusses the needs of Simon's character, which has yet to be addressed in previous studies.

### **1.2 Problem Of Study**

Based on the background of the study, the researcher conducted the research question followed by:

1. How is Simon Keller's characterization in the novel *One Of Us Is Lying*?
2. How does Simon Keller meet his needs in *One Of Us Is Lying*?

### **1.3 Objective of the study**

1. To found out Simon Keller's characterization in the novel *One Of Us Is Lying*
2. To found out Simon Keller's needs in *One Of Us Is Lying*



## CHAPTER II

### THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK

In this chapter, the researcher provides a strong explanation of the theories used in the needs of Simon's using the novel *One of Us is Lying*. Moreover, in this chapter, the writer attempts to describe new criticism theory to analyze *One of Us is Lying* by Karen Mc.Manus.

#### 2.1 New Criticism

A philosophy known as new criticism focuses on the text itself. Read recent criticism carefully. New critical research is an organic whole that links formal components like story and characters (Tyson 2006, p. 138). Together, these standard components establish the text's topic. Before going over the legal aspects of nature and the story, the author will introduce a new philosophy of criticism. Recent criticism is a new way of criticizing literature. John Crowe Ransom first raised this term in the book *The New Criticism* (1940) and added it by me.

A Richard and T. S. Eliot. This book, entitled *Understanding Poetry* (1938), became the attention of American academics for two decades. Literary works must be able to understand some of their intrinsic elements (such as characters, characterizations, storylines, backgrounds, themes, and messages contained in the story). Therefore, for new critics, it is essential to look for the meaning of a literary work because by finding the purpose of a literary work, the form of an academic work can also be known. This theory assumes that literature must be approached through structure. As an autonomous structure, literary works must be understood intrinsically, apart from historical background, from himself and the author's intention. New Criticism views literary texts as a system, a complete structure. The design principles are unity, wholeness, roundness, and entanglement (Wholeness, harmony,

complexity, coherence). While reading the material itself, the reader will come across some proof.

The audience provides standard features like metaphors, rhymes, meters, points of view, visuals, symbols, locations, characterizations, plots, images, tones, etc. that are focused on helping the reader read the text. The new criticism theory uses the “close reading” method to assist literary analysis. The emphasis of modern criticism is on “close reading” to interpret the academic work. It concentrates on the written word itself. The material is well understood through new critique through attentive reading and analysis.

According to the new critique, the text’s message and structure cannot be separated. It is interconnected to examine whether the novel has concerns or problems. Recent criticism interprets the text in the context of the text itself, not from external factors; modern criticism emphasizes the attentive reading of the text directly. Critical theory receives a fresh contribution from the new criticism. The New Criticism was a formalist movement in literary theory that Dominated American literary criticism in the middle decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It Emphasized close reading, particularly of poetry, to discover how a work of Literature functioned as a self-contained, self-referential aesthetic object. The Movement derived its name from John Crowe Ransom’s 1941 book *The New Criticism*.

The work of English scholar I. A. Richards, especially his *Practical Criticism* and *The Meaning of Meaning*, which offered what was claimed to be an Empirical, scientific approach, were important to the development of New





they are grouped together due to their reaction against previously established schools of criticism, such as impressionist criticism, the humanist movement, the naturalist movement, and the Marxists, and the fact that many of them taught at Southern universities at the time they created the theory of New Criticism. In addition to rallying against traditional modes of literary interpretations, the most significant contribution made by the New Critics, according to Wellek, was the success with which they established criticism itself as a major academic discipline.

### **2.1.1 Character**

According to Richard Gill (1995, p. 127), “A character is someone in a story or literary work which is described as having an identity that will be formed when seen in the character’s conversation, appearance, name, action, and thoughts that appear in the character’s head when depicted in the story”. It can be seen that a story or literary work cannot be called a work or story when no characters appear in it. Character is the primary aspect of the novel that cannot be replaced. Even if a book or story already has a setting, theme, or plot that can be said to be very good, it will still be pointless if there is no character in the story. In everyday life, an event must involve a character who plays or performs the event, and from that event, a story can occur.

According to Abrams (1999, p. 32), a character is someone in a literary work which has meaning as a person with moral qualities and can be expressed by what the character does in a story or literary work. Character is the central aspect if we talk about the novel. A character becomes crucial in novels since actors are

constantly visible and involved in the plot. Typically, human beings are employed as characters in stories. The characters in the book are real-life representations of people. Characters are the persons depicted in a drama or literary work which the reader interprets as having moral traits and character that are expressed in what they say, how they interact with one another, and what they do (Abrams, 1957:20). Characters are the individuals who appear in a novel as such.

We graded them according to what the authors wrote about them and their actions and words. This is crucial: we must establish everything from textual evidence rather than making broad assumptions about the characters.

Another thing to remember is that the characters are part of a larger pattern; they are people of society, and each character will be presented according to the author's particular perspective on how individuals interact with the community. Details are not included for their purpose but because they are relevant to *One of Us is Lying's* overall structure.

A character is someone who is characterized as having an identity that may be established when observed through the character's speech, look, name, actions, and thoughts that appear in the character's head when they are depicted in the story, according to Richard Gill (1995, p. 127). A literary piece cannot be referred to as a story or academic work if no characters exist.

One of the most crucial elements that a novel must have is character. A book or story is meaningless if there are no characters, even if it already has a setting, theme, or plot that can be deemed excellent. Although a novel or narrative has an ideal environment, concept, or story, it is only meaningful if there

are characters to interact with. A character who plays or performs the event must be present for the event to occur in real life or a tale. A character is a person in a literary work who has meaning as a person who has moral values and can be portrayed by what the character does in a story or academic work, according to Abrams (1999, p. 32).

### **2.1.2 Characterization**

Character in a literary work refers to a person or character portrayed by an actor who occurs in the text as fictional or historical. One of the critical components of literary works, particularly novels, is character. Characterization is the process of creating fictional characters. According to Jones (1968, p. 84), characterization accurately depicts a person in a work. This meaning of characterization can be used to describe a realistic depiction of the characters that contribute to the plot through their actions or what they do. There are various approaches to character analysis, according to Murphy, who wrote *Understanding Unseen* (1972, p. 161-173). According to him, the character can be judged by one's descriptions, as well as by the opinions of others, and one's former incarnations, speech, interactions with other people, and deeds and ideas. Of course, discussing characters will not be done separately from characterizations. Although character and characterization are two distinct concepts, they are connected.

Characterizations are techniques of defining characters, whereas characters are individuals or things in the story. According to Jones (1968:84), characterization is a precise portrayal of a person. Characterization is a technique

for describing the characters in a fictional work, according to Minderop (2005:2). According to this definition, characterization refers to an accurate depiction of the characters who actively engage in the narrative through their behavior. Characterization is a pattern of defining someone that can be perceived from a physical, psychological, and sociological perspective, according to Subandi (in Wijianto, 2012:12). Describe the character's physical attributes, such as age, facial expressions, hair, lips, nose, head shape, skin tone, etc. Characters are portrayed psychologically by using their feelings and thoughts. The social environment is used to describe sociological situations. Therefore, the following factors must be considered when describing characters: physical traits, personality, social status, and social relations. Characterization can be demonstrated in two well-known ways: analytically and dramatically. The two types of definition are dramatic and analytic, claims Jones (1968:84).

The dramatic approach uses the actions and words of the characters as well as their environment and other characters' opinions to characterize them. Analytical, on the other hand, is a means to depict the characteristics of the characters based on their intentions, physical attributes, and mental states. Characters must seem real to maintain readers' interest. According to Keraf (2001:164), the acts and words of the supporting characters can be used to count the narrative features.

The character must play out the part the author has written or developed for them. A character in a story must demonstrate total compliance with what has been determined in an account to align the resulting position with what is

expected of a writer, and the reader or viewer can look at the actual scene. The reader's audience can identify the character's characteristics thanks to good characterization. Characters are then the people who give literary works their shape, and authors utilize description to highlight the traits of readers and observers. In building plots, character rules can be suspended to create primary characters and minor characters or main characters and supporting characters

### **Personal Description**

Personality details contained in character can be used to analyze nature itself. These details are facial features, clothing, skin color, and eye shape, which are essential keys in analyzing characterizations (Murphy, 1972, p. 161). This relates to the author's way of giving specific clues to a character whose appearance is only for themselves.

#### **a. The characters as Seen by Another Opinion**

Viewing other people's descriptions is also a great way to analyze characterizations. Readers can understand and get a picture of a character from the point of view described by other characters in the story.

#### **b. Past Life**

A character's past life in a story can also be used to analyze characterizations. Readers can get clues from studying something that happened in the past life of a character given by the author in a story. Past life can also be seen in the characters' thoughts, through conversations, or media conveyed by other characters.



## **h. Thoughts**

Furthermore, the last characterization can also be analyzed through thought. The author provides information and direct descriptions to the reader about what the character is thinking, what the character is thinking, and what feelings the character is feeling. These nine ways are very concrete and efficient ways to gain an understanding of the characters in the story. Thus the above is a way to help the reader understand the character as a whole.

## **2.2 Hierarchy of Human Needs Theory**

Abraham Maslow, or Abraham Harold Maslow, is a famous figure known by many as the father of humanistic psychology. Another understanding of humanistic psychology is known as humanism; in the 1950s, this study referred to behaviorism and psychoanalysis. Humanistic psychology is psychology that focuses on the potential of each individual and emphasizes the importance of self-actualization. The advantages of humanistic psychology, for example, learning with this theory, are very suitable to be applied to learning material which is the formation of personality from the weaknesses of humanistic psychology.

Abraham Maslow is known to many people through his theory of the hierarchy of human needs; Abram Maslow also believes that every human being has different conditions, and these human needs can meet each other in a particular order. Afterward, Abraham Maslow divided these needs into five layers in a pyramidal shape.

McLeod, (2018, p. 1-3). The first layer, namely the base of the pyramid, is filled with physiological needs; the need for security is in the order of the second



pyramid, the third is filled with the need for love and belongingness need, the need for self-esteem is filled in fourth, and the last layer, namely the fifth at the top of the pyramid, is filled with the self-actualization need. Of the five essentials that must be met from the bottom before moving up to the next layer, the highest is at the top. The conditions in each layer are very vital in personality development.

The five levels of the hierarchy of human needs from Maslow's thinking above have an essential role in the psychological nature of the needs of every human being. According to Reeve (2004, p. 311), The first need in the pyramid of Maslow's hierarchy of needs contains physiological needs that are important for survival and calmness. Furthermore, other needs in the hierarchy of needs are safety needs, belongingness needs, self-esteem need, and self-actualization need are type of psychological human needs.

### **1. Physiological Needs**

The first is the most basic needs Maslow, namely physiological needs.

According to Reeve (2004, p. 36), Maslow argues that physiological needs are the most essential of other needs, such as sex, hunger, thirst, sleep, and oxygen. Here are two compelling reasons why physiological needs must be met. First, physiological needs are a hierarchy of needs that can only be over-satisfied. In other words, people will continue to seek until they genuinely satisfy these needs. Second, these physiological needs have distinctive characteristics which are repeated continuously.

### **2. Safety Needs**

In Maslow's opinion, after the physiological needs are met at the market stage, new conditions will be fulfilled, and so on. The following requirements must be met: safety needs; security needs include stability, physical security, dependability, and protection. Moreover, freedom from threatening forces such as war, terrorism, anxiety, fear, disease, chaos, danger, and natural disasters.

Human safety comes from knowing and understanding their environment and predicting when danger will appear. In contrast, human understands that their environment is safe; they can pursue other needs without fear that someone or something will threaten them well.

### **3. Love and Belongingness Needs**

If the physiological and safety needs are satisfied, humans from young to old must desire to get and give love and belonging. If this need is not met, a feeling of loneliness will arise. We desire as humans to choose a partner, children, friendships, and needs such as family, nation, neighborhood, or club. In the absence of a lover or friends, wife, and children, will motivate people to establish affectionate relationships with people from a group or association of people such as family, and will try to achieve this goal even though humans are very good at hiding their love.

### **4. Self-Esteem Needs**

Self-esteem needs will emerge if physiological, security, and belonging needs are met. Self-esteem needs are the fourth stage of a series of pyramidal theories of Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs. According to Maslow, self-esteem needs are divided into two parts: reputation and self-esteem.



deal with problems. The study results show that Cooper is a coward and is afraid to take risks in what he does because he avoids and delays solving his problems a lot, and even Cooper chooses to run away from issues and is reluctant to face and even solve them.

The second research was conducted by Ayu Sari Andhara (2019), titled *Multiple Points of View in Karen M. McManus' One of Us is Lying*. The finding shows that In the novel *One of Us is Lying*, and four main characters have different points of view. Bronwyn, researchers find all levels of viewpoints. Cooper researchers found five groups: the camera eye, action, perception, thought, and emotion. Addy, the researcher, found all levels of viewpoints. Last, Nate, researchers only saw two groups of perspective, namely, camera eye and thought.

The last research was conducted by Ervina Restiana (2022), with the title *Krisis Identitas pada Tokoh Addy Prentiss dalam Novel One of Us is Lying Karya Karen M. Mcmanus*. The result of this study is that the researcher found four factors behind the identity crisis in the character Addy Prentiss. Namely, adolescence, parental divorce, parental expectations or pressure, and relationship breakups. The second finding is the identity of the character Addy Prentiss, namely identity foreclosure, identity moratorium, and identity achievement.

The researcher found differences from the three previous studies above. No one has analyzed the needs of Simon's character in the novel *One of Us is Lying* using Abram Maslow's theory of hierarchy of needs.

## CHAPTER III

### RESEARCH METHOD

#### 3.1. Research Design

The writer used the descriptive qualitative method to analyze the character. The descriptive qualitative method is a procedure that was applied to describe the data. The current study is took the data from *One of Us Is Lying* novel by Karen M.Mcmanus. This study is non-numeric data, but uses description to analyze the data.

#### 3.2 Data Collection

To collect the data, the researcher used library research. The steps are below:

1. Read and understand the contents *One of Us Is Lying* novel.
2. Inventory, namely recording and scanning the data that has been obtained after analyzing.
3. Record and scan data in the form of sentences related to the problem of this research, when the data has been collected it will be directly classified and recorded in the data table for data analysis interests.

##### 3.2.1 Data Source

*One of Us Is Lying* is a mystery/suspense genre novel by American author Karen M. McManus. Published on 30 May 2017 and 408 page. The data in this research are took from the narratives and dialogues of Simon's character in *One of Us Is Lying* novel, characterization and his needs.

##### 3.2.2 Data Analysis

Data analysis techniques used by researchers in conducting this research are as follows.

1. Data reduction, at this stage the writer will select sentences or quotations from the novel.
2. After data reduction at this stage all data will be described accordingly with the formulation of the problem so that it is easy to analyze. Analysis this is done by comparing, looking for relationships between data obtained starting from the journey from the initial phase of character development until the end.
3. Data Presentation, this stage after data reduction and analysis, then the data that has been obtained is presented in notes such as tables data. Through this data, the data that has been identified will be analyzed according to the formulation of the research problem.
4. This verification is a conclusion that will be carried out during the research. Conclusions obtained is the result of the overall data that has been analyzed



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## CHAPTER IV

### ANALYSIS

This chapter conducted discussion about the data that found in the novel in accordance with the theme of the discussion. The findings will contain the results of descriptive analysis. Meanwhile, the discussion analyze the relationship between the findings and the theory used in this research with the result of previous research as a comparison.

#### 4.1 Simon's Characterization

Simon is a seventeen years old student at Bayview High; he has brown hair and blue eyes. He hates his classmates for being reckless. So he decided he wanted to ruin their lives by creating an app about that. He is also the self-proclaimed “omniscient narrator” and antagonist of the story. Simon is an outcast who terrorizes another student by exposing their darkest secrets. Simon suffers an allergic reaction while in custody and dies. Although he was despised in life, in death, he gained the fame he had always longed for. Simon is depressed and decides to kill himself and take other people with him. He entrusted Jake and Janae with permission and instructions. Hiding the phone in Bronwyn, Addy, Nate, and Cooper's backpack, Simon goes to the detention center with the group. Relying on a fake car crash outside to send Mr. Avery away, he then drinks water with peanut oil in it. After being taken to emergency services, he died within an hour. He blames Cooper for blocking Simon after Vanessa's prom, Nate, because Keely had tried with Nate, and Simon thought he still had a chance with Nate. Bronwyn, because she cheated on chemistry and told Simon the wrong date for the Model UN finals. Addy because she could win Jake's heart by telling him that Addy was having an affair with TJ. Simon's figure is described as a strong,





































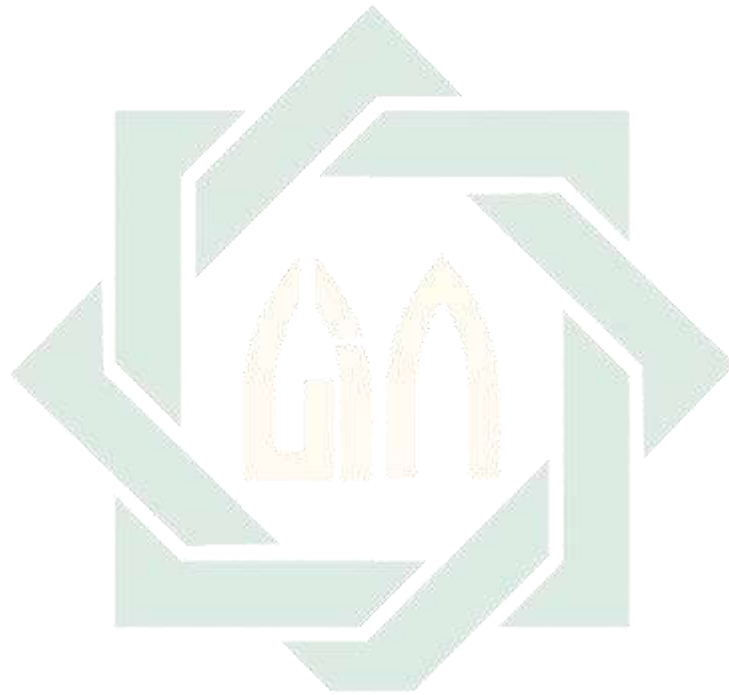








for actualization and acknowledgment that the account or blog is gossip. his is very trusted and always follow the existing secrets. In order to always be the subject of gossip for all residents of Bayview High.



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## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

In this part, after the researcher has analyzed the data using the Hierarchy of the needs theory the researcher draws conclusions from the data in the previous chapter and suggests providing insights for future research on this issue.

#### 5.1 Conclusion

From the intrinsic elements, the writer analyzes one of the main characters in the novel *One of us is a liying*. Simon Kelleher, the self-proclaimed narrator of the Bayview High Rumor Factory. Simon Kelleher runs an app called "About It" where Simon always collects the most interesting gossip on campus. gossip from about that is the news that Bayview High students have been waiting for the most. Even though she covered her tracks using her classmate's initials, it was always clear who was spreading the rumors due to how connected the schools were. Trouble begins when Simon, who feels imprisoned for not having a cell phone in his bag during Mr. Avery's class, Simon dies at the end of the first chapter, allegedly from an allergic reaction.

The four students who were detained with him, Bronwyn, Cooper, Addy, and Nate were immediately named suspects. As the novel progresses, the "Bayview Four" struggle individually and eventually collectively to prove their innocence, piecing together many disparate threads of Simon's story until they uncover the truth a depressed Simon, who hated his life and everything in it, decided to commit suicide and revengefully frames four of the more popular, smarter, and more successful students for his murder. Simon had spent a great deal of time working the dark wormholes of the internet, and was eager to create a show that would impact mass shootings but signal originality and inspire copycats for years to come.





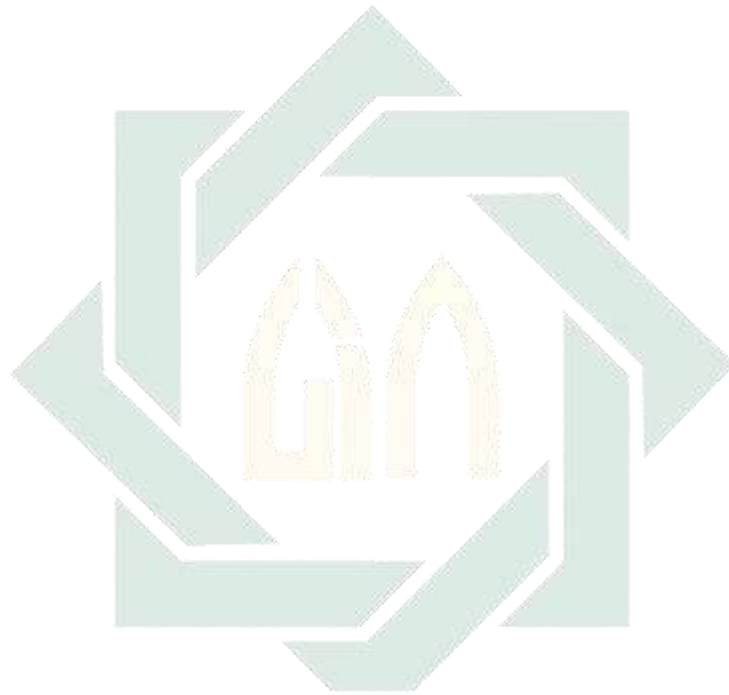


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