

NEEDS FULFILLMENT IN F.SCOTT FITZGERALD'S NOVEL

THE GREAT GATSBY



Presented in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the

Master of Arts Degree in English

at Srinakharinwirot University

September 2012

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This study was conducted to investigate F. Scott Fitzgerald's Jay Gatsby in *The Great Gatsby* in order to answer the following research questions: what kinds of needs does he want to fulfill? Why does he want those needs? Is he successful? What is the result of his fulfillment? Abraham Harold Maslow's hierarchy of needs was employed as a frame work of analysis.

The study disclosed that Gatsby tried to fulfill his physiological, safety, belonging and love needs. First, for the physiological needs, Gatsby tried to fulfill his desires for food and sex because he lacked food when he was young. He succeeded in fulfilling his food need, but he could not fulfill his sexual needs. However, it is natural for him to have sexual relationship, he could not fulfill it. Second, for the safety needs, Gatsby tried many ways to fulfill his social security, financial security and shelter. Gatsby tried to upgrade his social status to gain his place in the society. On the other hand, he fulfilled his shelter by owning a mansion. Third, for belonging and love needs, Gatsby tried to be accepted by other people in the society by hosting luxurious parties; nevertheless, he was not sincerely accepted. Gatsby could not win Daisy heart, so he could not fulfill his love. Since Gatsby tried to fulfill his materialistic needs, he could not acquire esteem needs and self-actualization needs. He lost self and could not find meaningful life.

Moreover, the study found that the causes of his needs were his family background and the influence of the American dream. He thought that wealth would bring him everything, so Gatsby tried to fulfill his needs with material and luxurious items. Consequently, he lost his moral awareness, his self and finally his life.

การเติมเต็มความต้องการในนวนิยายของ F.SCOTT FITZGERALD

เรื่อง *THE GREAT GAYSBY*



เสนอต่อบัณฑิตวิทยาลัย มหาวิทยาลัยศรีนครินทรวิโรฒ เพื่อเป็นส่วนหนึ่งของการศึกษา
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การวิจัยนี้ศึกษา เจย์ แกสส์บี้ ในนวนิยายของ เอฟ สก็อต ฟิตซ์เจอร์รัลด์ เรื่อง เดอะ เกรท แกสส์บี้ เพื่อตอบคำถาม

การวิจัยต่อไปนี้ 1)ความต้องการแบบไหนที่เขาต้องการเติมเต็ม 2)ทำไมเขาจึงมีความต้องการเหล่านั้น 3)เขาประสบความสำเร็จ

ความสำเร็จในการเติมเต็มความต้องการหรือไม่ และ4)ผลจากการเติมเต็มต้องการของเขาเป็นอย่างไร การวิจัยนี้ใช้ทฤษฎี

ลำดับชั้นความต้องการของอับราฮัม ฮาโรลด์ มาสโลว์

การศึกษาพบว่า แกสส์บี้ พยายามที่จะตอบสนองความต้องการทางสรีรวิทยา ความต้องการความปลอดภัยและ

ความต้องการเป็นเจ้าของและความรัก ประการแรก เขาพยายามตอบสนองความต้องการทางสรีรวิทยา แกสส์บี้พยายามที่

จะตอบสนองความต้องการของเขาเรื่องอาหารและเพศ อันมีสาเหตุมาจากการที่เขาขาดแคลนอาหารตอนที่เขาเป็นเด็ก

เขาประสบความสำเร็จในการเติมเต็มเรื่องอาหาร แต่เขาไม่สามารถตอบสนองความต้องการทางเพศได้ อย่างไรก็ตามถึงแม้

ตามธรรมชาติ เขาต้องการมีความสัมพันธ์ทางเพศ แต่เขาก็ไม่สามารถเติมเต็มความต้องการได้ ประการที่สองความต้องการ

ความปลอดภัย แกสส์บี้พยายามทุกวิถีทางเพื่อเติมเต็มความต้องการด้านความปลอดภัยทางสังคม ทางการเงินและที่พักพิง

แกสส์บี้พยายามจะพัฒนาสถานะทางสังคมของเขาเพื่อให้ตัวเองเข้าอยู่ในสังคมชั้นสูงได้ แต่ทั้งนี้เขาเป็นเจ้าของคฤหาสน์ซึ่ง

แสดงให้เห็นถึงการตอบสนองเรื่องที่พักพิงได้ ประการที่สามความต้องการเป็นเจ้าของและความรัก แกสส์บี้

พยายามที่จะได้รับการยอมรับโดยบุคคลอื่นในสังคมโดยการจัดงานเลี้ยงที่หรูหรา แต่เขาไม่ได้รับการยอมรับด้วยความ

จริงใจ นอกจากนี้แกสส์บี้ไม่สามารถชนะใจของเดซี่ได้ เขาจึงไม่สามารถเติมเต็มความรักของเขาได้ จะเห็นได้ว่าแกสส์บี้

พยายามที่จะตอบสนองความต้องการทางวัตถุเท่านั้น เขาไม่สามารถเข้าถึงความภาคภูมิใจในตนเอง และเขาไม่สามารถเข้าถึงการเข้าใจตนเองอย่างแท้จริง แก์สตั๊บบี้สูญเสียความเป็นตัวของตัวเองและไม่สามารถพบชีวิตที่มีความหมายได้

นอกจากนี้การศึกษายังพบว่าสาเหตุของความต้องการเพิ่มเติมในด้านต่างๆ คือ ภูมิหลังครอบครัวของเขา และอิทธิพลของ American Dream แก์สตั๊บบี้คิดว่าความมั่งคั่งทำให้เขาได้ทุกอย่าง ดังนั้นเขาจึงพยายามที่จะตอบสนองความต้องการของเขาทางวัตถุและความหรูหรา ในที่สุดเขาสูญเสียความเป็นตัวของตัวเอง สูญเสียความตระหนักทางศีลธรรม และท้ายที่สุดเขาด้องสูญเสียชีวิตของตนเอง



The Master's Project Advisor, Chair of the Master of Arts Degree in English, Need Fulfillment in F. Scott Fitzgerald's Novel *The Great Gatsby*, as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master of Arts degree in English of Srinakarinwirot University.

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The Master's Project has been approved as partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Master of Arts degree in English of Srinakarinwirot University.

..... Dean of the Faculty of Humanities

(Dr. Wanee Aujsatid)

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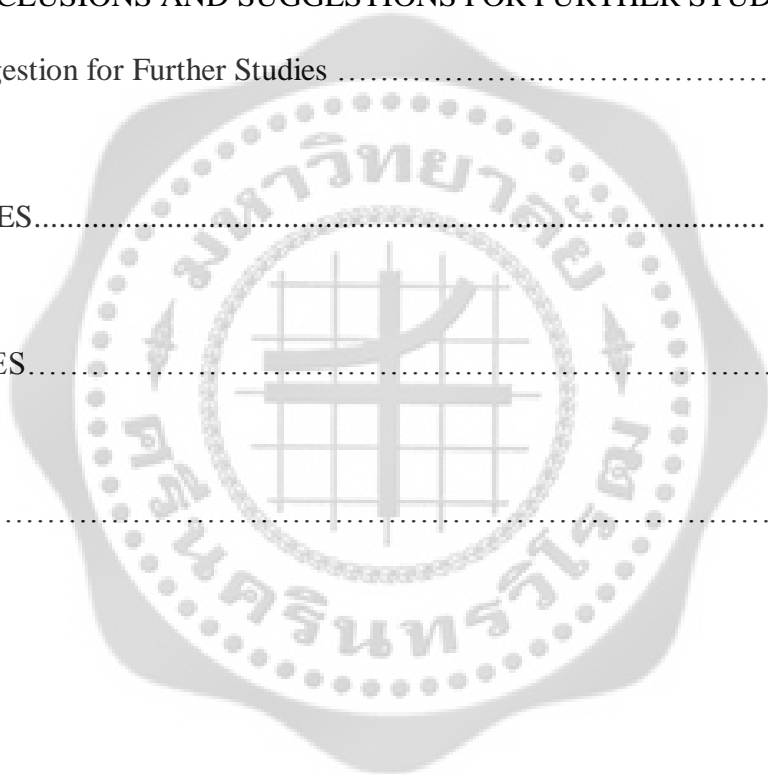
Ritthirong Kongsri

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Background

Literature can be a mirror reflecting life at a particular time. It presents society, culture, traditions and ways of life of people. Characters are representatives of real human beings. Therefore, the ways that characters satisfy their lives are the same as that of real people in the society. In a different period of time, people respond to their needs differently. There are some particular factors relating to characters' lives such as social stereotypes, culture, education and the economy. Similar to characters, these factors can be seen in human life. Therefore, readers can gain knowledge about life when they read a literature. According to Nares Surasith, not only does literature give pleasure to readers, but it also presents how people live through its characters.

While reading novels, some readers may not realize that they are tracing along the life-line of a character. The writer reflects real life in society through their characters. This idea is supported by Ruanruthai Sutchapan:

It made a man recognize what life was like and learn to know more about a society. Besides, a man could learn to solve a problem by reading the novel. He could release his feelings and attitudes toward the view point that the authors pointed out when reading for pleasure.(50)

From this citation, it is obvious that readers can learn about life in a novel that they have read. They can appreciate the belief and culture of the people in the society.

Therefore, it can be summed up that readers, when reading novels, gain not only pleasure but also the knowledge of life and the point of view of the writer.

Furthermore, Richard Taylor mentions that literature can make readers feel like they are part of the story and join in every situation. This is another aspect of the power of literature. Taylor states that this kind of literature is true to life. He says;

Difference in surface details may be from the way things really happen in life, that play does present a dynamic pattern of forces whose workings are actually very true to life: the way people are attracted to one another and the characteristics or circumstances that frustrate their coming together ... instead of telling us about the way people act and feel, it involves us in those actions and directs our response to them.

According to Taylor, readers not only step into experiencing situations and characters but are also left to their own conclusions and evaluations. Some readers evaluate characters' behaviors in order that they get to understand why the characters choose their lives in particular ways. Moreover, readers can link those situations to their own lives, they can also learn from the characters.

Therefore, one of the most important things for the characters, as well as real people, is a pleasant life. They tend to do everything in order to satisfy their own needs; however, not everyone can fulfill his or her needs; in other words, not every need can be fulfilled.

However, there are many factors that prevent a person from satisfying his/her needs. This means, a person, as well characters in novels, must encounter some obstacles when he/she tries to fulfill his/her needs. Therefore, people from different society or social status may choose different ways to fulfill their needs. People in a higher social rank tends to fulfill their needs more easily or successfully than lower

ones. That means sometimes people can use their power to get what they want.

Another factor is the economic issue. This sometimes prevents a person from accomplishing their needs. More importantly, the social stereotype is also a crucial factor. People have to comply with social stereotype or the mainstream of a particular society.

In everyday life, as well as in the literary world, there are some examples the showing the people trying to fulfill their needs. They want to try different types of foods and drinks to fulfill their physical needs. They want to belong to groups such as friends, colleagues and lovers. They want to be accepted as a part of a group. This means their needs for love and belonging are fulfilled. All people want to be loved and cared. Obviously, their needs fulfillment is easy to observe through their daily activities. However, the esteem needs and self actualization are difficult to observe because they are more complicated. A lot of people want to satisfy these needs, but sometimes they fail. The failure of esteem and self actualization leads to a lack of confidence and a feeling of losing self. It is sometimes seen on the news that some people try to commit suicide because they cannot satisfy their needs. To sum up, those who fulfill their needs, feel happy from the inside out. They also feel that they can lead a meaningful life and have self respect and value. In other words, they understand themselves and are also aware of really matters in their lives.

Apparently, there are many famous classic and modern novels which present strong desire for need fulfillment. Toni Morrison's *The Bluest Eye* is a good example of a black woman named Pecola Breedlove, the main character, who tries to fulfill her needs. Firstly, she really wants to learn how to get people to love her. Secondly, she wants to disappear after she is forced to witness her parents' brutal fights. Unluckily, she cannot fulfill her needs. Finally, her life is ruined. Another interesting novel is

Mark Twain's *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. The main character, Huck, does not want to live in a modern city where there are many rules to follow. He loves freedom. Therefore, he escapes to live freely by himself.

Among the famous writers, F. Scott Fitzgerald is a notable one. He wrote many interesting novels such as *This Side of Paradise* (1920), *The Beautiful and Damned* (1922), *The Great Gatsby* (1925), *Tender Is the Night* (1934). Fitzgerald was successful in his novels, but undoubtedly *The Great Gatsby* is his masterpiece.

Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* is so popular that it was translated and published in many languages. It was also made into film. It reflects American society after World War I which was a time of huge social change, prosperity and self-liberation. At that time money seemed to be obtained easily because there were lots of factories and work was easy to find. In the story, Fitzgerald delicately developed his characters to be touching and breath-taking until the end. *The Great Gatsby* has been studied in many ways because it is one of the American literature masterpieces. For example, Mirell L. Walden in *Liberated Woman in American Fiction of the 1920s* studied woman liberation, in Doni Marie Wilson's *Modernizing Love: F. Scott Fitzgerald and the Fictions of Romance* studies romantic relationship and marriage. In addition, Aree Ruangsuksud in *A Study of Adultery Behavior in F. Scott Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby* focuses on adultery.

However, another interesting field which can be studied is the psychological aspect, especially needs fulfillment. Human needs are a natural trait for all human beings such as physical needs, safety needs, love and belonging needs, esteem needs and self-actualization needs. Therefore, the aim of this study is to analyze the characters' needs fulfillment. In this study, Abraham Harold Maslow's hierarchy of needs is employed as a theoretical frame work

Purpose of the Study

The purposes of the study were as follow:

1. To examine what kind of needs the main male character wants to fulfill in his life.
2. To analyze why the main character wants those needs.
3. To analyze whether the main male character fulfilled his needs.
4. To analyze the results of the main male character needs fulfillments.

Scope of the Study

This study focuses on Jay Gatsby, the main male character in F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*.

Procedures

The procedures include the followings:

1. Study of related literature in Maslow's hierarchy of needs, Francis Scott Key Fitzgerald's biography and works and related research on hierarchy of needs and *The Great Gatsby*
2. Analysis of *The Great Gatsby* using Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs.
3. Discussion and conclusion of the findings.
4. Suggestions on interesting topics for further study.

Significance of the Study

This study is another alternative for those who are interested in literature, especially for those who are interested in psychological aspect in literature. It can be

used as a guideline for understanding human's behaviors. Therefore, the significance of this study is as follows:

1. It will promote better understanding of *The Great Gatsby*.
2. Readers gain knowledge of hierarchy of needs.
3. Readers can apply hierarchy of needs in their daily lives.
4. It can help readers understand and be tolerant with other people in the society.

Definition of Terms

The following terms are used throughout this study.

Hierarchy of Needs refer to a humanistic theory proposed by Maslow concerning human needs. In order to live happily, the needs must be satisfactorily fulfilled. There are five stages: physical needs, safety needs, belonging and love needs, esteem needs and self-actualization needs.

1. **Physical Needs** are the basic needs concerning the body and survival.
2. **Safety Needs** are the stage in which an individual wants to have a safe environment.
3. **Belonging and Love Needs** are about being affectionate and intimate with other people. It is a healthy, mutual relationship of trust in which a person is profoundly understood and accepted. In other word, the person feels that he/ she is a part of specific groups such as family, gangs, neighborhood or a professional organization.
4. **Esteem Needs** are the needs for respect. There are two types of esteem needs. First, it is the respect from other people which consists of recognition,

acceptance, status, appreciation. Second, it is self-respect. This consists of competence, confidence, mastery, achievement, independence and freedom.

5. **Self-actualization Needs** are desires to fulfill an individual's highest potential. Self-actualization is unique and varies from person to person.



CHAPTER 2

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter focuses on four parts. The first part provides a concept of Abraham Harold Maslow's hierarchy of needs. The second part consists of American Society in the Early Twentieth Century (the Jazz Age). The third part deals with related research on Maslow's hierarchy of needs. The last part is Researches on *The Great Gatsby*.

Hierarchy of Needs

The hierarchy of needs was originated by Maslow. It belongs to a humanistic theory group. Many psychologists believe that human beings can lead simple lives by just restoring balance or avoiding frustration; however, the humanistic theorists believe differently. The humanistic theory focuses on personal growth and the freedom to lead one's own life, as Halonen and Santrock mentioned;

Humanistic theory is the most widely adopted phenomenological approach to personality. The humanistic perspective stresses a person's capacity for personal growth, freedom to choose one's own destiny, and positive qualities. Humanistic psychologists believe that each of us has the ability to cope with stress, to control our lives, and to achieve what we desire. Each of us has the ability to break through and understand ourselves and our world (391).

It can be seen that the humanistic theory is related to a person's development and ability to cope with any circumstances that arise.

Maslow believed that all human beings are interested in growing. In his view, human beings are a wanting animal. This means that all human beings are desirous of something, the human desire must be satisfactorily responded to. When a human's desire is satisfied, another desire appears to take its place starting from the very basic one to the more complex one. From this idea, according to Maslow, there are five stages of needs, called the hierarchy of needs. It starts from the lowest and most basic one to the highest and most complex one. Followings are the illustrations of the hierarchy of needs.

1. Physical Needs

Physical needs are the first basic needs. According to Maslow, it is the strongest need of all because it is about human physical survival and biological maintenance. The best examples of physical needs include food, drink, sleep, shelter and sex. Apparently, an individual needs to fulfill physical needs in order to live properly. Maslow states that if the physical needs are not satisfied, then the individual will have problems fulfilling other needs.

2. Safety Needs

It is the stage in which Maslow explains that an individual wants to have an orderly, stable and predictable world. Nobody wants to live in an unsafe environment. For example, a helpless child living in an unsafe environment may become anxious and insecure. Furthermore, an adult can feel insecure if he lives in a harmful environment. According to Maslow, if the individual's safety need is not satisfied, then the other need at a higher level will not be able to appear. Therefore, all human beings must feel that they are in a good and safe environment in order to pursue a happy life.

3. Belonging and Love Needs

Maslow mentions that having affectionate and intimate relationship with other people is important for human beings. Moreover, an individual feels that he/ she is a part of specific groups such as family, gangs, neighborhood or a professional organization. This means that all human beings have sense of belonging and love. Maslow proposes that it is difficult to satisfy the need of belonging and love in a dynamic society. It is problematic to live together if a couple does not understand what belonging and love is. Thus, love is not the only factor to tie two people to live together but there should be a healthy, mutual relationship of trust in which the person is profoundly understood and accepted. Clearly, if the needs of belonging and love are fulfilled, the individual can step to a higher level of needs.

4. Esteem Needs

According to Maslow, there are two kinds of esteem needs. The first is the needs for respect from other people which consists of recognition, acceptance, status, and appreciation. The second is the needs for self-respect which consists of competence, confidence, mastery, achievement, independence and freedom. If the two needs are not fulfilled then an individual will be discouraged, weak and inferior. It is important to note that esteem needs are necessary for human's capacities. For example, if a person is recognized from other people in a society, or he/ she achieves in his/ her career, the person's capacity is fulfilled. It is apparent that the esteem needs must be fulfilled in order for a person to live happily in a society.

5. Self-actualization Needs

It is the highest level of human needs. Maslow notes that it is difficult to reach this level, but self-actualization is important for human beings to live happily and peacefully. However, all lower needs must be fulfilled if a person wants to get to this

level. Maslow says that a musician must make music, an artist must paint, a poet must write if he is to be at peace. This saying clearly illustrates the concept of self-actualization. In general, a desire to fulfill an individual's highest potential. Although it is unique, it varies from persons to persons. According to Maslow, if a person cannot fulfill his/her self-actualization needs, he/ she will become discontented and restless.

Moreover, Maslow, in *Personality Theory*, mentions that a person who can reach this level will have efficient perception of reality. This means they can accept self, other people and nature of human. Moreover, they have the traits of spontaneity, simplicity and naturalness. This means that people do not pretend to do things in order to be accepted among other people. They do not lose identity.

Additionally, self-actualizing people are self-confident and live on their own; they tend not to rely on other people. Sometimes, they are viewed as detached, arrogant and cold-hearted. Nevertheless, they tend to reasonably solve a problem according to its real cause.

Furthermore, appreciation and autonomy or independence of culture and environment are other important traits of self-actualizing people. This means they are mature enough to appreciate the dynamic world. They live harmoniously with nature.

Self-actualizing people, on the other hand, do not only live close to nature, but also they are interested in social activities. They have interpersonal relations and democratic characteristics and are willing to help other people. Besides, they can discriminate between means and ends. They can make good judgment in order to reach their goals. In addition, they also have a sense of philosophical humor and creativeness.

To sum up, it is obvious that Maslow's hierarchy of needs is true to all human beings. An individual wants to fulfill his/ her needs in order to have mental balance and a peaceful life. Interestingly, it can be seen that the five levels of needs are related to each other. The low-leveled need must be fulfilled before he/ she can reach the higher one. Undoubtedly, the way an individual fulfills his/her needs reflects his/her personality. Therefore, by looking at his/her behavior, we are able to tell his/her personality and background. This is the reason why Maslow's hierarchy of needs is still one of the popular psychological theories for an analysis of human behavior.

American Society in the Early Twentieth Century (the Jazz Age)

There were many changes during the Jazz Age in the American society. Living was more complex than it was before. The cause of the changes was materialism. American people tried to satisfy themselves with luxurious material. The people were trapped by technology, business and advertisement. According to Leland D. Baldwin, this was the time that American people quested for luxurious life styles. They believed that wealth and material will lead to happiness. Moreover, they wanted to be accepted by other people (420-423). As a result of materialism, American way of life was changed.

First of all, in this period rich people were usually accepted in the society. According to Richard P. Coleman, money was used to judge social status. Therefore, wealthy people were more noticeable and acceptable than the poor (29-33). Moreover, money was believed to bring about good opportunity in life. For instance, rich people could go abroad and buy many luxurious things. As a result, many people worked hard in order that they would be rich. Undoubtedly, there were many nouveau riches – the new wealthy people who came from the middle class. Moreover, Samorn

Nitithanprapart mentions that the new rich people were called “robber barons.”(100, 136). These people earned money from illegal business; however, they liked to donate a lot of money. In doing so, they were usually respected by other people. In addition, they liked to buy big houses and decorated them with many styles of rooms and libraries.

Second, people in this age preferred luxurious life. American people wanted to have comfortable lives. They spent a lot of money on automobiles and facilities. Moreover, they liked to go abroad for pleasure. According to Frederick Lewis Allen, American people preferred to own cars (132). They spent most of the time on the road. They liked to go traveling abroad. Besides, they bought such household facilities as vacuum cleaners, Laundromats and refrigerators.

Third, there were changes in woman’s roles. During this time, woman’s had been dramatically changed. According to Donald A. Ritchie, women had more freedom than before (585). They had both freedom in politics and freedom in private lives. Moreover, according to Frederick Lewis Allen, the women did not have to do chores. They had more time to be with their groups, and they could find work outside the house (97-98).

Finally, there were many clubs and societies for different groups of people. As American people liked to be accepted, clubs and societies were good ways to gain the people admiration. According to Max Lerner (630-641), the clubs and organizations reflected the social status of those group members, and the rich people were usually more respected than the lower class.

Related Research on Hierarchy of Needs

Maslow's hierarchy of needs is considered to be one of the milestones in psychological studies. Therefore, it is often employed by many researchers as a framework of their studies both in a psychological field and in a literary field. This section provides an overview of related research on the hierarchy of needs in a literary field.

In *An Analysis of Mark Twain's Children Characters in Mark Twain's Works*, Sripen Prasertsuk compared the similarities and differences of the children characters in Mark Twain's work. She explored whether the characters were human-like by employing Sigmund Freud's Psychoanalytic theory. Moreover, she studied the characterization used by Mark Twain. It was found that the characters were similar in terms of needs. They wanted to have excitement and adventure. Moreover, they were all orphans but were different in terms of social class. She also found that the characters' behavior was 'human-like because Mark Twain employed his real life experience to create his characters and plots. All of his characters tried to fulfill their needs. For example Huckleberry Finn and Tom Sawyer. Huck could not satisfactorily fulfill his needs, so he faced anxiety and difficulty in his life. Finally, she found that Mark Twain used various characterizations.

In *A Study of Pessimism in John Steinbeck's Novels*, Prapaipan Aimchoo analyzed the pessimism reflected in John Steinbeck's four novels ; *The Grapes of Wrath*, *The Pearls*, *East of Eden*, and *Of Mice and Men*. She found that the characters faced an unsafe environment which led to the difficulty of life. They could not fulfill their needs and therefore became pessimistic.

It is apparent that the hierarchy of needs was employed as a framework in many studies. This study aims at using the hierarchy of needs as a framework to analyze F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*.

Related Research on *The Great Gatsby*

There are many researchers who studied *The Great Gatsby*. For example, Chantana Chaichit, in *The American Literature in Early-Mid of the Twenties: Historical Critic (The Eight Section-Part One and Part Two)*, stated that *The Great Gatsby* is F. Scott Fitzgerald's masterpiece work. His innocent character, Jay Gatsby, represented people in the Mid-West of America. Believing that money could buy everything even love, Gatsby was deluded by the American dream due to his innocence. Due to his inexperience, Gatsby could vividly see the high-class society which was full of luxury, greed, selfishness, shallowness and lie. Therefore, *The Great Gatsby* is a remarkable reflection of American society in the 1920s.

In addition, Aree Ruangsuksud, in *A Study of Adultery Behavior in F. Scott Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby*, investigated the adultery of the main characters Daisy Buchanan, Tom Buchanan and Myrtle Wilson. It was found that female characters committed adultery because they wanted wealth and love. In contrast, the male characters committed adultery because they wanted to show off and excitement.

Furthermore, in *Liberated Woman in American Fiction of the 1920s*, Mirell L. Walden investigated sexually active female characters in famous names. Walden mentioned that the 20th century American novels prominently revealed cultural and historical aspects. Most of the novels' themes at that time were influenced by Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*. Female characters' sexual liberation was viewed as a reaction to the social change.

In addition, in *Modernizing Love: F. Scott Fitzgerald and the Fictions of Romance*, Doni Marie Wilson explored love and adultery in Fitzgerald's novels. Wilson indicated that *The Great Gatsby* did not represent adultery as a moral violation, but it related to psychology and social progression. Marriage and adultery became a more common part of American culture.

Besides, in *The American Eve: Garden, Tragedy, and the American Dream*, Kim Martin Long examined the mythology of Eve in American novels. Long stated that America created the Garden of Eden as a mythology of the American dream. There were many literary works presenting this idea, for example William Faulkner's *The Sound and the Fury*, Herman Melville's *Moby-Dick*, Nathaniel Hawthorne's *Scarlet Letter* and F Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*. These novels presented the idea of the Garden of Eden, however, there is no Eve in this garden because Eve in the new garden fights for her new role. For example, Hester Prynne, in *Scarlet Letter*, wore scarlet letter and did not leave Boston. Furthermore, Daisy, in *The Great Gatsby*, escaped safely away from her house after Gatsby's death.

Alfred Kazin, in *An Interpretation of Modern American Prose Literature*, studied how literature reflected the society. Alfred found that *The Great Gatsby* was like a mirror reflecting the wealth of America. It also reflected American dreams where freedom included opportunity for prosperity and success, and an upward social mobility could be achieved through hard work. People liked to have luxurious lives; the main character, Gatsby, searched for wealth in order to be accepted in society. Gatsby was a symbol portraying his dream and reality.

Moreover, Andrew Turnbull, in *Scott Fitzgerald*, studied Fitzgerald's background. Turnbull found that Fitzgerald's real life resembled that of Gatsby's.

They both love to live with hope. They are ready to follow their dreams, and they both were born poor among rich people.

Surapong Pukdee, in *An Analysis of Leading Male Characters in Francis Scott Key Fitzgerald's Novels*, studied the leading male characters in F.S. Fitzgerald's novels and compared the characters with the author's life. He analyzed five novels: *The Side of the Paradise*, *The Beautiful and Demand*, *The Great Gatsby*, *Tender is the Night* and *The Last Tycoon*. Fitzgerald's leading male characters were analyzed in their personalities and ways of living – economic and social status, education, careers, behaviors, ideas and relationships with other characters. Moreover, the comparative study between the author and his leading male characters revealed that they were similar in their personalities and ways of living.

Preeyanuch Pawanarith, in *The American Notions of Success as Expressed in the Early Twentieth Century American Novels*, analyzed the American notions of success as expressed in Theodore Dreiser's *Sister Carrie*, and F. S. Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*. Her procedure was an investigation of the main characters' notions of success and the other characters' attitudes towards these notions. She discovered that the main characters' notions of success can be categorized as the following. First, they had strong will to succeed – attempt, endurance, and ambition. Second, they had wealth, luxurious life, and material accomplishment. Third, they quested for social recognition. She stated that the means for success are industry, endurance, and strong determination. However, happiness is beyond the reach of the two protagonists due to the illusion about society moral declination, irresponsibility, and selfishness which impeded them from being recognized by society. Besides, Dreiser and Fitzgerald also showed that Benjamin Franklin still had a great influence upon young American people as a model of a successful American self-made man. Moreover, the writers

wanted to point out that material accomplishment alone could not make us happy.

Morality and social recognition were the main parts of satisfied lives.

In addition, John Henry Raleigh, in “*The Great Gatsby: Legendary Bases and Allegorical Significance*,” stated that Jay Gatsby, the main character, was known as the irony of American history and the corrupt of American dream. He also compared Nick to Gatsby. He found that Nick represented real human being who viewed or experienced the world as reality and tragedy. On the contrary, Gatsby represented an imaginative person who transformed the fact as an act of imagination. Therefore, Gatsby pursued the green light as his bright future.

Moreover, Tom Burnan in “The Eyes of Dr. Eckleburg: A Re-examination of *The Great Gatsby*,” stated that the eyes of Dr. T.J. Eckleburg played a great role as a symbol in this novel. They symbolized the eyes of God. They witnessed everything happening in the ash valley. Only the eyes knew who the murderer in the car accident was. The eyes also symbolized Gatsby’s dream which was getting shabby. His dream to be with Daisy was becoming thing of the past.

Besides, Marius Bewley in “Scott Fitzgerald’s Criticism of America,” stated that *The Great Gatsby* revealed the severest and closest criticism of American dream. It means the novel conveyed a criticism of American experiences rather than manners. It disclosed the attitudes towards life. The theme of this novel was the withering of American dream

As discussed above, it can be concluded that *The Great Gatsby* has been studied in many ways because it is one of American finest literature masterpieces. However, the researcher has not found the study of *The Great Gatsby* in psychological aspect yet.

CHAPTER 3

NEEDS FULFILLMENT IN *THE GREAT GATSBY*

F. Scott Fitzgerald's greatest work, *The Great Gatsby*, is not only a great story, but also an insight into the flaws of real life during the American Dream, a time of extraordinary wealth and promise. Fitzgerald's novel presents the truth behind the twentieth century and creates an atmosphere in that time and place it in American literature. This novel gives readers unforgettable characters and events, as well as referring to the problems of American wealth and needs fulfillment.

The characters' needs are prominently presented in this novel. According to Abraham Harold Maslow, human being is a wanting animal. This means that all human beings' desires must be properly fulfilled in order that they can live in the society. Similarly, in *The Great Gatsby*, the main character has his needs. Jay Gatsby is a good example of a person who tries every way to fulfill his needs. His attempt to fulfill needs can be shown clearly.

Physical Needs

According to Maslow, physical needs are normally referred to as surviving needs. It concerns mainly about things to maintain life such as food, water, oxygen and sex. It is the first basic need that everybody must fulfill before they can fulfill the higher-leveled needs.

Gatsby was a son of fairly unsuccessful farmers from North Dakota. He had a suffering life because of the poverty. He did not have good and nutritious food. Moreover, he lacked friends, money and education. As a result, he decided to go away from his family. Fitzgerald delicately portrayed that Gatsby tries to fulfill his physical needs.

Firstly, Gatsby wants food. When he was young, he lived in a poor family, and also his parents were unsuccessful farmers. Absolutely, Gatsby had never been had luxurious food from his parents. At this point, it is implied that the family lack everything a person may need to maintain a healthy life, especially food. Clearly a poor- conditioned family brings about Gatsby's food insufficiency. Then he escapes from his family, tries to work and live on his own, hoping to find better food and living conditions. First he works as a clam-digger and a salmon-fisher. These are unstable and unreliable jobs and do not assure him good food. As a result, food is another prominent factor that irritates Gatsby's life. Fitzgerald clearly depicts Gatsby's difficult life.

For over a year he had been beating his way along the south shore of Lake Superior as a clam-digger and a salmon-fisher or in any other capacity that brought him food and bed (99).

The above statement reveals that Gatsby needs food. Later Gatsby can fulfill his need of food after devoting himself and spending every moments working. Because of his need, Gatsby decides to do illegal business: bootlegged liquor and becomes rich. He has a lot of parties with various kinds of food. Fitzgerald portrayed Gatsby's luxurious parties:

There was music from my neighbor's house through the summer nights. In his blue garden men and girls came and went like moths among the whisperings and champagne and the stars. ...Every Friday five crates of oranges and lemons arrived from a fruiterer in New York—every Monday these same oranges and lemon left his back door in a pyramid of pulpless halves. At least once a fortnight a corps of caterers came down with several hundred feet of canvas and enough colored lights to make a Christmas tree of Gatsby's

enormous garden. On buffet tables, garnished with glistening hors d'oeuvre, spiced baked hams crowded against salads of harlequin designs and pastry pigs and turkeys bewitched to a dark gold (39-40).

The above statement shows a large amount of food consumed at one of his parties. There is no doubt that Gatsby has a lot of food enough for himself and for other people in the party.

Interestingly, Gatsby's party symbolizes his prosperous life. Not only does he fulfill his need of food, but Gatsby also uses his party and his food to show the world how wealthy he is. He uses food as a tool to attract people to come to him and make them forget about his background. Therefore, it can be said that his physical need of food is properly fulfilled.

Secondly, sex is another physical need that Gatsby wants to fulfill. According to Maslow, sex is one of physical needs. Mating is another natural trait for all human beings; it is a way to maintain their races.

Clearly in the story, there is evidence showing that Gatsby wants to have had an intimate relationship with Daisy for long time. When he was young, he knew that Daisy belongs to a wealthy family and many men fell in love with her. He felt the value of Daisy although he had nothing to give her. Therefore, he took Daisy away from her house.

Fitzgerald portrays;

She was the first "nice" girl he had ever known. ...It excited him, too, that many men had already loved Daisy—it increases her value in his eyes. ...he was at present a penniless young man without a past, and at any moment the invisible cloak of his uniform might slip from his shoulders. So he made the most of his time. He took what he could get, ravenously and unscrupulously—

eventually he took Daisy one still October night, took her because he had no real right to touch her hand (148-149).

This citation reflects that Gatsby regardless of appropriateness tries to have an intimate relationship with Daisy. It can be said that Gatsby showed his sexual desire toward Daisy.

Moreover, Gatsby sexual desire is revealed when he has to leave Daisy for the military. Fitzgerald describes:

Her porch was bright with the bought luxury of star-shine; the wicker of settee squeaked fashionably as she turned toward him and he kiss her curious and lovely mouth.....he sat with Daisy in his arms for a long silent time ... The afternoon had made them tranquil for a while, as if to give them a deep memory for the long parting the next day promised (149-150).

This extract reveals the sexual desire between Gatsby and Daisy. They love each other and want to have a happy life together. However, Gatsby has to leave his lover for security and stability life. He hopes to come back and marry her when he achieves his goal.

At this point, it is clearly seen the power of materialism on Gatsby. At that time, American people believed that the social acceptance and place in the society were more important for people. This idea also has influences on Gatsby. He believes that being in the will help him to be rich and accepted in the society. Therefore, he decided to leave Daisy.

According to the story, there are two things that Gatsby wants to fulfill in physical needs: food and sex. However, only desire for food is fulfilled.

Safety Needs

Safety need is important for all human beings. According to Maslow, safety need is the state where a person wants to be protected and secured. It is the stage that an individual needs to have an orderly, stable and predictable world. Nobody wants to live in an unsafe environment. If the individual's safety need is not satisfied, the other needs at a next higher level will not appear. Therefore, all human beings must find themselves in a good and safe environment at all time in order that they can pursue a happy life.

Gatsby is in search of his safety needs. He wants to have social, financial and shelter security respectively. According to the story, it is clear that Gatsby quests for security all of his life because he comes from a poor-conditioned family. His desire for safety needs is slowly disclosed.

At the beginning of his life, Gatsby is nothing within the society. He is poor and uneducated. Therefore, he dedicates himself to the military. Gatsby is full of hope to improve his status. His military status attracts Daisy. Fitzgerald portrays that Gatsby's appearance is more important than his background. Gatsby successfully utilizes his uniform as one of the tools to attract Daisy. They like each other. However, when he goes into the military service in World War I, Daisy decides to marry Tom Buchanan because she wants a luxurious life. Through Daisy, Fitzgerald reflects the power of materialism toward marriage life. Daisy could not resist the mainstream belief of the American society. For Daisy, love from Gatsby was not enough to ensure her luxurious life style. As a result, marrying with Tom was a good choice for her. On the other hand, Gatsby still have the same goal. His goal is taking Daisy back after coming back from the military. Fitzgerald displays;

He did extraordinarily well in the war. He was a captain before he went to the front, and following the Argonne battles he got his majority and command of the divisional machine-guns....He was worried now—there was a quality of nervous despair in Daisy’s letters. She didn’t see why he couldn’t come. She was feeling the pressure of the world outside, and she wanted to see him and feel his presence beside her and be reassured that she was doing the right thing after all.(150-151)

This extract shows the progress in Gatsby’s status. He is a successful soldier. Undoubtedly, he has reached social security. However, his success in the military is worthless to Daisy. She chooses to marry with Tom. There are two main reasons for Daisy to concern for herself. Firstly, Daisy wants Gatsby to be with her but cannot wait any longer. Secondly, Tom is a rich man and he can support everything she wants. After hearing about the marriage, Gatsby transfers himself into illegal business in order to earn money and come to get Daisy back.

In addition to social security, Gatsby tries to fulfill his financial stability. Jay Gatsby finds that military does not provide him with wealth and love.

However glorious might be his future as Jay Gatsby, he was at present a penniless young man without a past, and at any moment the invisible cloak of his uniform might slip from his shoulders.(149)

Clearly, this excerpt shows that there is nothing can assure Gatsby’s future in terms of social and financial status. The military service does not give him any financial stability.

Moreover, Gatsby has so serious financial problem that he does not have enough money to buy himself any new clothes. Therefore, he usually wears his uniform to go everywhere. He says,

A young major just out of the army and covered over with medals he got in the war. He was so hard up he had to keep on wearing his uniform because he couldn't buy some regular clothes (172).

Obviously, from the extract, although Gatsby is a soldier, but he is financially unsecure. As a result, Gatsby decides to join business with Mr. Wolfsheim, a Jewish man whom Gatsby describes as a gangster and gambler. He was the man who changed Gatsby's life because he introduced Gatsby to an illegal business. In the 1920's, drinking was against the law, but people who sold alcohol during this time to the right group of people could become very rich fast. It is also called Bootlegging.

After joining this business, Gatsby becomes a very successful businessman. He has a lot of money and becomes well-known in the society. This business helps Gatsby to fulfill his financial security.

In addition to social and financial security, Gatsby fulfills his shelter security. At the beginning of the story, Fitzgerald puts Gatsby in a poor environment within a materialistic society. Gatsby does not like his family because of their social and financial instability.

Moreover, Mr. Wolfshiem mentions about Gatsby's poor living conditions before he accepts Gatsby to join his work.

“Did you start him in business?” I inquired.

“Start him! I made him.”

“Oh.”

“I raised him up out of nothing, right out of the gutter” (172).

After meeting Mr. Wolfshiem, Gatsby becomes a successful businessmen and fulfills his shelter security by owning a big house. A big house is the symbol of Gatsby's safety fulfillment. Gatsby's large house is described by Nick, the novel's narrator.

The one on my right was a colossal affair by any standards—it was a factual imitation of some Hotel de Ville in Normandy, with a tower on one side, spanking new under a thin beard of raw ivy, and a marble swimming pool, and more than forty acres of lawn and garden. It was Gatsby's mansion.(5)

Fitzgerald depicts that Gatsby's house is big and located by the sea. It has a large garden and a swimming pool. In the mainstream of the American dream, this represents a luxurious life. Not only does his big house show off his wealth, but it also symbolizes safety. At this point, it is clearly seen that Gatsby feels safe in his house.

Apart from trying to fulfill his social security, financial security and shelter, Gatsby makes up a story about his life in order to protect himself. There is evidence that Gatsby tries to protect himself by lying. When someone asks him about how he obtained his fortune, Gatsby always tells a lie. For example, one time, he says, "I am the son of some wealthy people in the Middle West all dead now (63 -64). This speech reveals that Gatsby tries to conceal his background because he is afraid of losing his status. Lying is the only way that he can maintain his social status and feel safe in the society.

Belonging and Love Needs

According to Maslow, affectionate and intimate relationship with other people is important for human beings. Moreover, an individual should feel that they are part of specific

groups such as family, gangs, a neighborhood, or a professional organization. This means that all human beings have a sense of belonging and love.

Interestingly, Gatsby quests for his belonging and love needs. These needs play a major role in Gatsby's life. He does not want to be nothing in the society. He actually wants to be accepted in his firmly in a materialistic society. In addition, he longs for love from Daisy.

Living in a materialistic society, Gatsby thinks that he will be accepted by other people if he has good background, good education and money. Therefore, Gatsby conceals his background by telling lies about his story. According to the story, Fitzgerald reflects that the story take place in a high class society from the Jazz Age, the era of the American Dream of wealth and luxury. Other main characters, such as Nick and Tom are from the upper class, except Gatsby. Wanting to be accepted in this society, Gatsby hides his background and tell lies. For example, Gatsby tells Nick that he is the son of some wealthy people in the Middle West all dead now (63 -64). Interestingly, Gatsby creates a disastrous family scenario, whereby both of his parents have died. It implies here that Gatsby feels ashamed of his poverty and has never accepted his family: "his imagination had never really accepted them as his parents at all" (99). Anyone who listens to his story usually believes him and doesn't want to find out about his background. At this point Gatsby succeeds in hiding his background from people in society.

Secondly, Gatsby wants to fulfill his wealth and reputation. His believing is effected by the American Dream, the time was materialism. Gatsby thinks that he will be accepted if he has money and reputation. In order to have a lot of money, Gatsby trades in alcohol by opening drug stores.

Thirdly, to be accepted in this society, Gatsby tries to show that he is educated. It can be seen that education is another factor that has irritated him for a long time. He is surrounded by people who are educated. Therefore, Gatsby thinks that in order to be accepted in the society, he needs to have a good educational background. Therefore, when he is asked about his education, he tells more lies.

“I was brought up in America but educated at Oxford, because all my ancestors have been educated there for many years. It is a family tradition.... And with this doubt, his whole statement fell into pieces.” (65)

The above statement shows that Gatsby is making up a story about his educational background and cannot tell the story smoothly.

Moreover, Gatsby has a big library in his house to show that he is an educated man. It can be seen from the story that Gatsby has collected many books to his library. Fitzgerald portrays;

On a chance we tried an important-looking door, and walked into a high Gothic library, panelled with carved English oak, and probably transported completely from some ruin overseas.

Absolutely real – have pages and everything. I thought they’d be a nice durable cardboard. Matter of fact, they’re absolutely real. Page and – Here! Lemme show you.

Taking our skepticism for granted, he rush to the bookcases and returned with Volume One of the (45-46).

It can be seen that Gatsby has a big private library with various books. Obviously, this library symbolizes the education the owner has had. Although Gatsby does not have a high degree of

education, he tells everyone he is educated and has a big library. Also, by having a library in his house, nobody really wants to find out about his educational background. However, Tom does not believe his story and tries to find out the truth.

Then Gatsby buy a big house. Fitzgerald reflects that the house is really a symbol of wealth for Gatsby. Not only is it big, but it is also well-decorated.

The one on my right was a colossal affair by any standards—it was a factual imitation of some Hotel de Ville in Normandy, with a tower on one side, spanking new under a thin beard of raw ivy, and a marble swimming pool, and more than forty acres of lawn and garden. It was Gatsby's mansion (5).

At this point, Nick, the narrator, is fascinated by Gatsby's house. He compares it to a big beautiful hotel. The enormous size and expensive décor represents Gatsby's taste and overall wealth.

In addition to owning a big house, Gatsby always spends lots of money on luxurious items. Fitzgerald depicts that Gatsby tries to be accepted by spending a lot of money on parties and buying things. Every week Gatsby has a big party in his house, where many people came to join his party, a lot of them without an invitation. Nick says:

“I believe that on the first night I went to Gatsby's house I was one of the few guests who had actually been invited. People were not invited — they went there” (41).

Undoubtedly, this extract shows that Gatsby has to spend a lot of money to prepare enough food for everybody who goes to his party. He does not know how many people come to his parties. It also reflects the values of people in this society at that time: they liked luxurious parties. For instance, Lucille, who is Daisy's friend and always goes to Gatsby's party, says

“I like to come...I never care what I do so I always have a good time (43).” Obviously, they do not care whether they are invited or not. They just want to take advantage of the parties.

Moreover, Gatsby shows his wealth by buying luxurious things for people. For example, he offers to buy dress for Lucille. Lucille. Lucille says,

“I got a package from Croirier’s with a new evening gown in it...It was gas blue with lavender beads. Two hundred and sixty-five dollars” (43).

It is obvious from this extract that Gatsby uses money as a tool to achieve other people’s acceptance. Gatsby thinks that he will be accepted by these people if he is wealthy.

In addition, Gatsby dresses himself properly in order to be accepted. Fitzgerald depicts Gatsby’s luxurious dresses:

I’ve got a man in England who buys me clothes. He sends over a selection of things at the beginning of each season, spring and fall.”

He took out a pile of shirts and began throwing them, one by one, before us, shirts of sheer linen and thick silk and fine flannel, which lost their folds as they fell and covered the table in many-colored disarray. While we admired he brought more and the soft rich heap mounted higher-shirts with stripes and scrolls and plaids in coral and apple-green and lavender and faint orange, with monograms of Indian blue (93).

Obviously, Gatsby has many a good quality clothes. He orders colorful clothes according to different seasons. Undoubtedly, the tasteful and colorful clothes which he buys represent Gatsby’s quest for acceptance. He was always well-dressed anytime and anywhere. At this time in America, people liked having luxurious clothes. More importantly, People are usually interested in his clothes more than his true self.

In addition, Gatsby want to be accepted not only by other people in the society, but by his own family. Fitzgerald portrays that Gatsby chooses to run away from his home. In fact, he wants to prove himself to his family. Therefore, when he becomes a wealthy man, he supports his family. This is revealed when his father comes to Gatsby's funeral.

He comes out to see me two years ago and bought me the hoe I live in now.

Of course we was broke up when he run off from home, but I see now there was a reason for it. He knew he had a big future in front of him. And ever since he made a success he was very generous with me (174).

Actually, Gatsby wants his parents to accept, believe and trust in his ability to improve his life. When nobody understands him, he runs away from home. Gatsby still wants his family to accept him. Therefore, when he becomes rich, he goes back to help his father. He proves himself to his family. Moreover, from his father's speech, it is prominent that Gatsby is already accepted by his family. His father is really proud of him as Nick explains:

Jimmy was bound to get ahead. He always had some resolves like this or something. Do you notice he's got about improving his mind? He was always great for that (175).

From this above statement, it is clearly seen that Gatsby's father is proud of his son.

Although Gatsby disappoints his family, his father knows that Gatsby will do good things and accepts him, but it is too late for him to know this feeling because he is killed.

In addition, Gatsby tries to fulfill his love need. Maslow mentions that a person needs to have love or to be loved. Gatsby quests for love because he lacks the love from his family and a lover. Therefore, he tries to fulfill his long lost love.

It is obviously seen that Gatsby's family does not provide him with love, care and understanding. As Maslow mentions, the feeling of love and being loved is important for a person to live happily in that society. Clearly, Gatsby does not have a good relationship with his family. Fitzgerald portrays: "His parents were shiftless and unsuccessful farm people — his imagination had never really accepted them as his parents at all (99)." As a result of this family relationship, Gatsby runs away from a life of his own. After becoming rich, Gatsby tries to gain love from his family by buying a house for his father. This shows that Gatsby wants not only acceptance from his father, but also love. In fact, his father loves him and feels proud of him, but Gatsby does not realize this.

The most important love Gatsby wants is from Daisy. Love between Gatsby and Daisy is separated by the difference of social and economic status. While serving in the military, Gatsby loses Daisy's love because she chooses a luxurious life and status and marries Tom Buchanan, who is a wealthy and well-educated man. At this point, Fitzgerald portrays the power of the American dream through Daisy. She wants to rely on the one who can provide her with a luxurious life. Unlike Gatsby, Tom can provide her with everything she wants.

However, Gatsby does not want to lose his love for Daisy. Therefore, to fulfill his love and get Daisy back, he dedicates everything even his life. Apparently, love is the most important and powerful thing in Gatsby's life. Gatsby lives and does everything because he hopes to get Daisy back whom he loves for all his heart and soul. It is longing for love from Daisy that has greatly influenced Gatsby and leads him to tragedy.

It can be seen from the story that Gatsby and Daisy love each other, but for Gatsby his love is from his heart. By contrast, Daisy loves Gatsby because of the wealthy image that Gatsby promises her. Nick comments "...he let her believe that he was a person from much

the same stratum as herself—that he was fully able to take care of her. As a matter of fact, he had no such facilities (149).” However, Daisy likes a comfortable and luxurious living style. Fitzgerald describes “She vanished into her rich house, into her rich, full life, leaving Gatsby—nothing (149).” At this point, Fitzgerald conveys that the power of materialism is more powerful than love. Fitzgerald also portrays the power of American dream through Daisy. She wants to rely on the one who can provide her with a luxurious life.

However, when Gatsby comes back, he is full of hope to reunite with Daisy. Gatsby buys a house in West Egg so he can be across the lake from Daisy. When he is out alone at night, he is reaching towards the green light of Daisy's dock. The green light represents Gatsby's dream of being with Daisy. Gatsby also buys the house because it is huge and shows off his new money. This is another attempt to impress Daisy and win back her love. Nick says:

for he [Gatsby] gave a sudden intimation that he was content to be alone - he stretched out his arms towards the dark water in a curious way, and, far as I was from him, I could have sworn he was trembling. Involuntarily I glanced seaward - and distinguished nothing except a single green light, minute and far away, that might have been the end of a dock. When I looked once more for Gatsby he had vanished, and I was alone again in the unquiet darkness (21-22).

It is obvious that Gatsby reaches out for the green light in a worshipping manner. Later in the story, it is disclosed that this green light is at the end of Daisy's dock. Importantly, it is a symbol of Gatsby's dream and hope in the future. Green is the color of promise, hope, and renewal. Undoubtedly, the green light represents Gatsby's dream for the future with Daisy.

To gain Daisy back, Gatsby buys a big house by the sea, which is opposite to Daisy's house.

Gatsby bought that house so Daisy would be just across the bay

He wants her to see his house (76-77).

This shows that, in fact, Gatsby wants Daisy to notice his big house so that she may come to his house someday. He thinks that wealth can help him to get Daisy back. At this point, it can be said that Gatsby understands Daisy's nature, she is materialistic. Therefore, the eye-catching big house can interest her. Then he invites Daisy to go to his house. When Daisy is in the house, she is really impressed by its elegant decorations.

"I want you and Daisy to come over to my house," he said, "I'd like to show her around."

Instead of taking a short cut along the Sound we went down to the road and entered by the big postern. With enchanting murmurs Daisy admired this aspect or that of the feudal silhouette against the sky, admired the gardens, the sparkling odor of jonquils and the frothy odor of hawthorn and plum blossoms and pale gold odor of kiss-me-at-the-gate. It was strange to reach the marble steps and find no stir of bright dresses in and out of the door, and hear no sound but bird voices in the trees (91-92).

Therefore, Gatsby furnishes his home with tasteful decorations as a tool to convince her and hopes that she will like it and finally love him. Gatsby is very excited and feels his dream have come true when Daisy is with him in his house.

Furthermore, Gatsby has lots of luxurious parties in his house because he hopes Daisy will come. I[Nick]think he half expected her to wander into one of his parties, some night,

(76-77). It shows that Gatsby wants to use luxurious parties as a way to win Daisy's heart. He hopes she will come and see his glorious life as he once promised her.

In addition to his house and parties, Gatsby tries to win Daisy's heart by wearing a white suit on the day of their meeting arranged by Tom. Fitzgerald explains, An hour later the front door opened nervously, and Gatsby, in a white flannel suit, silver shirt, and gold-colored tie, hurried in (84-85). IN this scene, Fitzgerald portrays that Gatsby tries to impress Daisy by wearing a white suit, tie and shirt. The color of his clothes is also significant. The white suit reflects his pure heart and true love for Daisy. It signifies that Gatsby still loves her. By wearing a golden tie, it shows Daisy his wealth. Apparently, Daisy was impressed with his clothes and his looks. Fitzgerald explains:

He took out a pile of shirts and began throwing them, one by one, before us, shirts of sheer linen and thick silk and fine flannel, which lost their folds as they fell and covered the table in many-colored disarray. While we admired, he brought more and the soft rich heap mounted higher-shirts with stripes and scrolls and plaids in coral and apple-green and lavender and faint orange, with monograms of Indian blue. Suddenly, with a strained sound, Daisy bent her head in to the shirt and began to cry stormily (93).

Another thing that Gatsby does to win Daisy's heart is that he tries to take care of Daisy. It is clearly seen from the story when Daisy kills Myrtle. One day, Tom decided to go to New York together. Nick rides with Jordan and Tom in Gatsby's car, and Gatsby and Daisy ride together in Tom's car. After arguing between Gatsby and Tom at night, Daisy is confused and furious about them. She decided to drive to calm her nerves and Gatsby sits beside her.

Myrtle ran into the road thinking that Tom was still in that car. Daisy had no idea who Myrtle was she tried to swerve, but there was a car in the other lane so she had to swerve back and hit Myrtle.

“Was she killed?”

“Yes”

“I thought so” I told Daisy I thought so. It’s better that the shock should all come at once. She stood it pretty well.

He spoke as if Daisy’s reaction was the only thing that matter. (144)

It shows that Gatsby cares about Daisy’s feeling. He does not pay attention to the victim of the accident. At this point, the story reflects the darker side of people. Both Gatsby and Daisy are selfish, and the loss of life is nothing compared to his love for Daisy.

Furthermore, Gatsby uses his aggressiveness to get attention from Daisy. Gatsby and Tom encounter each other during a tea party. Tom insults Gatsby about his ambiguous background. Because of this, Gatsby shows at him stating that Daisy? does not love Tom, but she still loves him.

“I want to know what Mr. Gatsby has to tell me.”

“Your wife doesn’t love you,” said Gatsby. “She’s never loved you. She loves me.”

“You must be crazy!” exclaimed Tom automatically.

Gatsby sprang to his feet, vivid with excitement.

“She never loved you, do you hear?” he cried. “She only married you because I was poor and she was tired of waiting for me. It was a terrible mistake, but in her heart she never loved anyone except me!” (131)

This excerpt shows Gatsby’s aggressiveness. In the only hope of getting Daisy back, he dares to tell his feelings to Tom aggressively. Moreover, through this point, Fitzgerald successfully reflects the corrupt state of American moral awareness. Gatsby publicly dares to say that he loves someone else’s wife. It can be said that moral is not more important than self-satisfaction.

At this point, it is obvious that belonging and love needs are the most powerful influence on Gatsby’s life. He is clearly trapped by the delusion of belonging to high society and the emptiness of delusive love from Daisy. Finally, he himself is a victim of the society he lives in. Gatsby is just a tool for everyone’s pleasure. Moreover, Nobody is sorry for his death.

Esteem Needs

According to Maslow, there are two kinds of esteem needs. The first is the need for respect from other people which consists of recognition, acceptance, status, and appreciation. The second is the need for self-respect which consists of competence, confidence, mastery, achievement, independent and freedom. If the two needs are not met, an individual will be discouraged, weak and inferior. For example, if a person is recognized by other people in the society, or he achieves in his career, that person is fulfilled. It is apparent that the esteem needs must be satisfactorily fulfilled in order for a person to live happily in the society.

However, Maslow mentioned that although an individual has reached esteem need, he/she can regress to the lower level if he/she encounters difficulties in the lower need satisfaction.

Obviously, it can be seen that Gatsby quests for esteem needs include both self-respect and respect from other people. However, he cannot properly fulfill his esteem needs. There are some situations in the novel showing that he longs for esteem needs.

First, he wants respect from other people. The story depicts that Gatsby is from a poor and low class family. He thinks that money will make other people give him respect. As a result, he does well in the military and is promoted.

He did extraordinarily well in the war. He was a captain before he went to the front, and following the Argonne battles he get his majority and command of the divisional machine-guns (150).

At this point, it can be seen that he is a successful soldier. However, he finds that it is not enough for him to be respected in a high society. Therefore, he gets into an illegal business, and from this business he becomes very successful.

Secondly, Gatsby buys a big house furnished with expensive decorations symbolizing his wealth. People in the materialistic year or era of the Jazz Age tend to admire rich people. Therefore, Gatsby thinks that he will be admired too.

Moreover, his parties are another example that he wants to be respected. In the story, it is portrayed that people of this society enjoy going to parties. At these parties they like to eat, drink, dance and have fun. Because Gatsby wants to be in the high class society, he uses his wealth to organize lots of parties and hopes that people will respect him.

Furthermore, his dressing is another example to show that he wants to be admired. The story presents that Gatsby always dresses in formal suits and shirts. These clothes show

his wealth, symbolizes the covering up of his bad side. Gatsby wants people to admire him from his looks. Through Gatsby, Fitzgerald deliberately reflects that the people of the Jazz Age judge other people only by appearance.

However, Gatsby attempts to be respected is not successful. Gatsby cannot gain respect from other people; they are not truly sincere to him. They do not care about Gatsby or anybody else, they only care about themselves. They like to satisfy themselves with luxurious things. There are some evidence disclosed Gatsby's failure.

The gossiping is a good example showing Gatsby's failure to gain respect from other people. People like to gossip about Gatsby even though they are in his house enjoying the party.

Somebody told me [Gatsby's party guest] they thought he kill a man once. I don't think it's so much that, argued Lucille skeptically; it's more that he was a German spy during the war. (44)

Moreover, people come to the party without even knowing who Gatsby is, but they enjoy themselves like in an amusement park. Nick says, "They conducted according to the rules of behavior associated with amusement parks. Sometimes they came and went without having met Gatsby at all (41)." This shows that Gatsby's party is like an amusement park that anyone can come and take advantages of it.

More importantly, when Gatsby dies, nobody comes to attend his funeral. Normally, a funeral is considered as a special time for people to share grief and express their relationship to the dead person. Nick is the only one who takes care of Gatsby's funeral trying to contact the people who know Gatsby. Clearly, Gatsby knows a lot of people, and many people have come to his parties. However, these people refuse to come to his funeral. For example, Mr.

Wolfsheim send a letter to Nick saying that he feels sorry for Gatsby, but he cannot come and gives the excuse that he ties up in some very important business. (166-167). In addition, Mr. Wolfsheim's letter shows that he admire Gatsby although he and Gatsby work together. At this point, it can be said that wealth cannot bring Gatsby's sincerity.

Worst of all, the statement below shows that Gatsby has less value than a pair of shoes. This is a good example of his failure. Mr. Klipspringer calls Nick at night after Gatsby's death. Thinking that Mr. Klipspringer will come to Gatsby's funeral, Nick feels relieved. However, he does not come and asks for his shoes. The story shows;

Well the fact is—the truth of the matter is that I'm staying with some people up here in Greenwich, and they rather expect me to be with them tomorrow. In fact, there's a sort of picnic or something.

What is called up about was a pair of shoes I left there. I wonder if it'd be too much trouble to have the butler send them on. You see, they're tennis shoes, and I'm sort of helpless without them (169-170).

This above statement asserts that Gatsby is worthless after his death. The picnic and shoes are more important than Gatsby's life. Obviously, there is no sympathy for Gatsby. Since he cannot give anyone pleasure, he is nothing. This shows their lack of sympathy towards Gatsby's death, and these people only care about themselves. It can be concluded that Gatsby fails to gain respect from other people.

Moreover, Gatsby cannot fulfill his self-respect. According to Maslow, the self-respect consists of competence, confidence, independent and freedom. It can be seen that all of these traits of self-respect are not found in Gatsby. First of all, Gatsby loses his competence in the case that he cannot manage his life properly. He loses self by only

following the stream of materialism. Moreover, Gatsby loses his confidence. This is seen by his love for Daisy; he dares not to meet her and not to ask Nick to arrange a meeting for him. Nick describes Gatsby's gesture:

An hour later the front door opened nervously, and Gatsby, in a white flannel suit, silver shirt, and gold-colored tie, hurried in. He was pale, and there were dark signs of sleeplessness beneath his eyes. ...Gatsby looked with vacant eyes through a copy of Clay's Economics, starting at the Finish tread that shook that kitchen floor, and peering toward the bleared windows from time to time as if a series of invisible but alarming happening were taking place outside.
(84-85)

This citation shows that Gatsby loses his confidence because he feels excited in the presence of Daisy. His excitement is so obvious that other people can notice.

Besides, Gatsby does not achieve independence and freedom. It can be seen from the story that he is trapped by social main stream and love. Gatsby tries to step up to a higher level of the society in order to be equal to Daisy's. Without realizing that it is a disaster, innocent Gatsby is deluded and exploited by materialism. Furthermore, love from Daisy is the only thing that he wants, but he never succeeds. He loses his freedom because he binds his life to Daisy.

Self-actualization Needs

According to Maslow, a self-actualizing person is the one who maintains self and understands self-potential, and achieve what they need to. Self-actualization is difficult to

reach unless all the lower needs are satisfactorily fulfilled. Gatsby is a good example of a person who cannot fulfill his self-actualization.

Gatsby's failure in self-actualizing is prominently shown in the novel. He cannot accept reality. At the beginning of the story, Gatsby cannot accept his family and runs away because he cannot adjust himself to harsh lifestyle.

Moreover, as mentioned earlier, he loses self-respect which is very important if a person is to reach self-actualization. It can be seen that Gatsby lives for other people. The best example of this is that he cannot accept the truth about Daisy's marriage. He still believes that Daisy loves him instead of Tom and quests for a wrongful love without realizing that he will never get it. Finally, he dies because of this love.

Another situation showing that Gatsby loses self-actualization is when he wrongly protects Daisy when she causes the death of Myrtle, George's wife and Tom Buchanan's mistress. He does not want Daisy to be arrested, so he suggests her to leave town for a while. This proves that love has more influences on Gatsby than righteousness, and therefore, it is no doubt that Gatsby cannot fulfill his self-actualization because he cannot make judgment between good or bad.

Moreover, Maslow mentioned important traits of a person who can achieve self-actualization. A person who can reach this level will have efficient perception of reality. This means they can accept and respect themselves as well as others. Moreover, he/she has the traits of spontaneity, simplicity and naturalness. This means that he/she does not pretend to do things in order to be accepted among other people. They just do things for their pleasure.

From the story, it is obvious that Gatsby cannot accept reality because he wants to have the same status as high class people. He pretends to do things in order to be accepted by

other people. In fact he is not happy. For example, Nick explains Gatsby's behavior in his big house:

(Gatsby) was standing with his hands in his pockets regarding the silver pepper of the stars...he stretched out his arms toward the dark water in a curious way, and, far as I was from him, I could have sworn he was trembling (21).

In fact, Gatsby is lonely. He has many parties because he wants people to come to his house and see how rich he is. Moreover, he wants Daisy to come to his parties. This shows that the parties are just a tool for Gatsby to reach his dream of Daisy.

In addition, a self-actualizing person does not lose identity. However it is obvious that Gatsby loses his identity because he is an ambitious boy at the beginning of his life and a pioneer of the American dream. He eventually becomes trapped by his dream of Daisy which leads him to tragedy.

However, a self-actualizing person does not violate the mainstream of traditions. Although Gatsby's action, does not violently harm the society, his morals are more harmful. Without moral awareness, Gatsby wants to live with other person's wife. In fact, he tries to follow the main stream of society. People admire the rich, high class and educated. Gatsby makes all of these real to him, but Gatsby is exploited by the materialistic society and is finally destroyed. Through Gatsby, Fitzgerald shows the moral corruption in the American society.

In addition, self-actualizing people are self-confident and live on their own. They tend not to rely on other people, and they tend to reasonably solve the problem according to its

real causes. However, Gatsby loses his confidence because he cannot live without the acceptance of people in society and from Daisy.

Furthermore, continued freshness of appreciation and autonomy or independence of culture and environment are other important traits of self-actualizing people. This means they are mature enough to appreciate the dynamic world and live harmoniously with nature.

However, Gatsby cannot adjust himself to live happily although he is wealthy.

From the above discussion, it is obvious that Gatsby tries to fulfill his needs. Innocent Gatsby is destroyed by the society and his dream. Gatsby always dreams of his luxurious life in materialistic society. Moreover, his dream of recovery and love with Daisy is a trap that Gatsby cannot escape. Being trapped by material and love, Gatsby does not realize that happiness comes from inside, and consequently he loses self, and more importantly he loses his life.

CHAPTER 4

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION FOR FURTHER STUDIES

Jay Gatsby in F. S. Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* is a good example of a person who tries every way to fulfill his needs. However, trying to fulfill his needs, Gatsby loses his self and his life.

Prominently, it is found that Gatsby wants to fulfill his physical needs, safety needs and belonging and love needs. Gatsby wants to fulfill his physical needs, which are food and sex because Gatsby's family background is the cause of these needs. He does not have luxurious food. Gatsby in later life is successful in fulfilling his need of food. He has plenty of food and many parties. However, he does not succeed in sexual fulfillment. Gatsby loves Daisy and wants to spend the rest of his life with her, but this dream never comes true because she doesn't love him and only wants a luxurious life. For this reason, Gatsby tries many ways to get Daisy back.

Moreover, his safety need is not fulfilled. Gatsby wants social security, financial security and shelter. It is obvious that Gatsby wants to fulfill his social security. He wants a place in the society and to be recognized. As a result, he attends military service where he did very well and therefore gets promoted. However, his success in military service is not enough for him in a materialistic society. He believes that money will bring him everything. Even though he is successful from his illegal business and has acquired a mass of wealth, he still cannot buy happiness. Moreover, he wants to have safety and shelter. When he was a child, he ran away from his house, and had to earn his own living. When he had enough money, he

bought a big house. This shows that he tries to protect himself. Unfortunately, he fails since he is killed in his own house.

In addition, the need for belonging and love is not satisfactorily fulfilled. Gatsby wants to be in the high class society, and he wants Daisy's love. The belonging and love are crucial factors that control Gatsby's life. Gatsby wants to be accepted by high class people. He wants to be equal to Daisy. He has done many things in order to try and become like people in a high class society. For instance, he buys a big house fully furnished with a large garden and a private library. Moreover, he often has big parties in his house. There are many people joining his parties but these people do not accept him sincerely. He believes that money will bring Daisy back to him. He wrongly tries to win Daisy's heart without moral awareness. It can undoubtedly be said that love destroyed Gatsby's life. Obviously, belonging and love bring about Gatsby's life disasters.

Furthermore, Gatsby loses esteems which are self-respect and respect from other people. He loses self-respect because he cannot control himself from loving Daisy. He tries to please her, and he tries in every way to get close to her. For example, he buys a house opposite to Daisy's. Moreover, his purpose for having such big parties is to interest Daisy in the hope that she will join them some time. All this proved that Gatsby had lost self-respect because he was doing it for other people. Besides, nobody respects Gatsby sincerely although they like to come to his luxurious parties. At his funeral, none of these people attended.

More importantly, his self-actualization is not fulfilled. Gatsby does not know what is good for him. He lives for Daisy whom he wrongly loves. He cannot adjust himself to live in the society. Moreover, Gatsby does not realize what makes a meaningful life.

Apparently, it is important to look at the factor relating to Gatsby's failure. A materialistic society plays a great role in Gatsby's life and is the cause of Gatsby failure for need fulfillment. Fitzgerald shows that people in the society, as well as Gatsby, tends to satisfy life with materials and luxurious appliances. Not many people understand what makes a meaningful life. Gatsby is just the victim of the society who wrongfully thinks that with a luxurious life he will have everything including love. Gatsby is destroyed from his own belief and loses everything including his life.

Undoubtedly, Gatsby is a good example for people in our society nowadays. Through Gatsby, Fitzgerald succeeds in portraying and teaching about life. Materialism is overwhelming in our society, but most people want a luxurious life. People tend to fulfill their lives with materials such as communication gadgets, big houses, food, etc. Some people believe that these things can bring them happiness. Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* is a good novel showing readers that trying to fulfill need can bring both happiness and sadness to an individual life.

Suggestion for further studies

1. There should be a study of need fulfillment of other characters in the *Great Gatsby* such as, Daisy, and Nick.
2. There should be a study of need fulfillment between characters of the opposite sex.
3. There should be a study of need fulfillment in other novels.



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APPENDICES

Plot Summary

Nick Carraway grew up in the Midwestern United States and went to school at Yale University. After this, he was stationed in France during World War I. Returning home after travelling a great deal, he is discontent and decides to move to the East at the beginning of the Summer of 1922. He rent a ramshackle house in Long Island's West Egg section. He begins working in nearby New York City as a bondsman and it is here that his story begins.

Jay Gatsby is a wealthy neighbor living next door in a lavish mansion where he holds many extravagant weekend parties. His name is mentioned while Nick is visiting a relative, Daisy, living in the East Egg section on the other side of Long Island with her millionaire husband, Tom Buchanan. As it turns out, Jay Gatsby had met Daisy five years before while in the military and was rejected by her due to his lack of wealth and because he had been sent so far away in Europe for the war. Daisy was attracted by Tom's riches and his distinguished family background and married him. Meanwhile Gatsby spent all of his effort after the war to buy his mansion through shady business dealings in order to be nearer to Daisy in the hope that she would leave Tom for him. Nick is chosen to be the "matchmaker" and arranges a reunion for the two at his home. Daisy is impressed by Gatsby's wealth and the two begin spending much time together, raising the suspicions of Tom who had also upset Daisy by carrying on an affair with a gas station owner's wife, Myrtle Wilson. Jay no longer holds his weekend parties since Daisy hadn't liked them and he allows her desires to control his actions. Nick distances himself from this mess by becoming close to Jordan Baker, a long time friend of Daisy.

While in a New York City hotel room one evening late in the summer with Jordan, Nick, Daisy, Tom, and Gatsby, there is a massive confrontation during which Tom exposes Gatsby's corrupt business dealings. Jay and Daisy leave to drive back to Long Island together with her driving Gatsby's car "to calm her down" until she accidentally hits and kills Tom's mistress running out in front of the gas station after her own jealous husband had locked her inside. The car doesn't stop after the accident and speeds on towards Long Island. Gatsby's charm has faded with his exposed corruption while Tom refocuses on Daisy since his mistress has been killed, assuming Gatsby to have been the car's driver. Nick is disgusted by this entire mess of love affairs and even ignores Jordan, worried about Gatsby since he continues to yearn for Daisy even though it is clear that he has failed. While Nick goes off to work in New York City the next day, the dead woman's vengeful husband, assuming Gatsby to have been driving his car that night and told that it had been Gatsby's car by a vengeful Tom Buchanan, shoots Gatsby to death in his own swimming pool and then kills himself.

Gatsby's funeral has few in attendance aside from Carraway and Jay's father who has come all the way from the Midwest where Jay grew up. Disgusted that so few had come, including Tom and Daisy who had abruptly moved away, and the hundreds who had attended Gatsby's parties, Nick distances himself from Jordan for good. Finally, tired of this gross scene of wealth and pettiness, he moves back home to the Midwest. His fond memories of the East remain only of Gatsby, and it is for him that this story is told.



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