



An Analysis of Lady Christian Nimmo's Characteristics in Kate Foster's *The Maiden* through Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

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Abstract: This study employs Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs to analyze the characteristics of Lady Christian Nimmo in Kate Foster's *The Maiden* to identify the levels in Maslow's pyramid that the main character most and least fulfills, as well as how those fulfillments influence the main character's round characteristics. The qualitative descriptive approach was used to collect the data for this study, and the results were obtained by applying close reading. According to this study, the female main character's character development is also impacted by the connections between the five levels of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs. This study shows that even when the need for security is met, it does not ensure that the subsequent needs—love and belonging—are also met. Lady Christian's experience, in which she receives security but not love and belonging, impacts her self-esteem and ultimately prevents her from reaching self-actualization. It will afterward emphasize certain characteristics of the character development that the story's female lead has gone through, namely noble, intimate, free-spirited, brave, confident, and vulnerable.

Keywords: *Lady Christian Nimmo, Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, character development*

INTRODUCTION

Humans are social and biological individuals with needs to be fulfilled and desires to be achieved. They have them because they are necessary for their existence and the survival, well-being, and evolution of their kind. This meeting of needs and realization of wants can be examined by looking through the character's characteristics and their relation with motives. According to Kriszner and Mandell (2003), understanding the characteristics of an individual requires recognizing their motivations and personality traits, which can be demonstrated through speech, behavior, or thought. Literary characters need motivations for their actions in order to determine if they should struggle with choices, resist or give in to temptation, make blunders, ask questions, look for

clarification, dream or hope, celebrate or sorrow. This motivation contributes to character building, in this case, the main character. Low motives will result in flat characters that are "barely developed or stereotypical" characters. While high motives will result in round characters which "well developed and closely involved in and responsive to an action". Hence, motivations are profoundly anchored in the satisfaction of needs.

This paper takes Kate Foster's *The Maiden*, to become the main object of the research, as it features a main character who embodies the needs. This historical fiction book, set in the 17th century and based on a real-life case, narrates the narrative of a Scottish aristocracy in Edinburgh in October 1679. After being taken into custody, Lady Christian Nimmo is accused of killing James

Forrester, her lover who happens to be her uncle. Broadsides Society Papers are flooded with headlines detailing her incarceration and trial, leaving little space for interpretation: Adulteress. Whore. Murderess. Christian lived a privileged and respectable life a year earlier, with a loyal husband and caring family. She did, however, risk everything for an affair because of something. Not only was she not the only lady in Forrester's life, but there were plenty more who could have had good reason to wish him dead.

The social, psychological, physiological, and existential elements of human existence are all included in the needs. Reflecting on the story, *The Maiden* shows how the main character, Lady Christian, fulfills her desires and needs revealed by her speech, behavior, and thoughts. In the story, her need to be secure is implied in her speech, which states, "But I do wish, sometimes, that we ladies could wander freely in town without a guardian,...(p.34). This indicates that guards always protect her to ensure her safety. While her physical needs are satisfied by her behavior of exercising every morning with her sister to maintain her health. Also, from her thoughts stated in the text, Why did he not try to kiss me? Or touch me?....Or was there something wrong with me? (p.68), can be inferred that her lack of fulfillment stems from her self-doubt about her deservingness of her husband's love and her longing for affection and a sense of belonging.

Along with the development of needs, Abraham H. Maslow comes with his ideas of the "Hierarchy of Needs." This idea, a variation of Maslow's theory of motivation, is also discussed in his book *Motivation and Personality* (1954). This idea primarily discusses how various desires always drive human beings. It is the way that human motivation dictates that each person's basic requirements must be addressed. A person can not easily satisfy his wants if he can not meet his fundamental needs. The standing pyramids are divided into five levels: physiological needs, safety needs, needs for belonging and love, needs for self-esteem, and self-actualization.

Considering the dynamic and constantly evolving needs of Lady Christian, this theory is well suited for further analysis of how the main character of *The Maiden* fulfills her needs. Several studies have explored the use of Maslow's theory in various characters, such as Virginia and Satria (2022) in the *Pollyanna Novel*, Bahuwa (2018) in

The Great Gatsby, and Citra et al. (2022) in *Passengers*. Virginia and Satria (2022) found that Pollyanna's characters meet self-actualization, love, belonging, and physiological needs. Still, the main character's unmet needs include safety and self-esteem since she doesn't have a decent room at Ms. Polly's home and doesn't feel valued because she is tasked with caring for Pollyanna. Bahuwa (2018) found that while the five Maslow's needs were met, actualization needs were unmet due to unfulfilled needs for safety, love, and belongingness. Citra et al. (2022) examined Jim Preston's character in the film *Passengers*, finding that while he met all five requirements, he also faced lower-level needs. Safety concerns arose when a meteor struck a spaceship, causing multiple damage.

Although various studies have examined literary works using Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory, the majority of studies focus on identifying and categorizing characters' experiences at each level of the hierarchy. However, these studies frequently ignore a more in-depth examination of the specific features, actions, and psychological responses that emerge as a result of meeting or failing these needs, leaving a gap in our understanding of how these needs impact character development and story dynamics. For that, the researcher wants to look deeper into this matter.

The researcher also infers from the story that the main character's needs drive her decisions and actions. The need to satisfy psychological needs is important since the level of the need pyramid has demonstrated how humans must also meet their physiological wants. This reflects the interdependence of the pyramid's parts. Since each need influences the others, the person will not fully experience the others if one is less fulfilled. According to the story's protagonist Lady Christian, one of these needs is not entirely met, affecting her other needs. Based on this argument, the researcher is interested in analyzing the characteristics of Lady Christian Nimmo in *Kate Foster's The Maiden* using Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs to determine the levels in Maslow's pyramid that are most and least fulfilled by the main character and how those fulfillments shape the round characteristics of the main character based on the theory.

METHOD

A qualitative method was used in this paper. Creswell (2014) describes the qualitative method



as “an approach for exploring and understanding the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to a social or human problem.” The research process involves emerging questions, participant context data, inductive analysis, and researcher interpretations. The customizable report supports inductive inquiry, personal meaning, and capturing complexity in situations. Furthermore, Kumar (2011) explains that the main objective of qualitative research is understanding, explaining, exploring, finding, and clarifying circumstances, feelings, perceptions, attitudes, values, beliefs, and experiences of a group of people.

The collection and analysis of the data was carried out in stages. The first was to apply close reading techniques to get a good comprehension of the novel and focus on Lady Christian Nimmo as the main character in *The Maiden* story, written by Kate Foster. The data was gathered in the form of quotes, statements, and actions by the main character. All the data collected were to be clustered according to the needs of Maslow's theory. The researcher determined the traits that those analyses indicated by applying character analysis. Following that, the data analyzed will be interpreted and elaborated to explain the findings.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This section discusses the result and discussion of Lady Christian's characteristics through the hierarchy of needs. Five needs are revealed in the novel enclosed with the analysis of the main character.

Lady Christian's Needs Fulfilment

Physiological Needs

Food and shelter are among Lady Christian's most basic needs. Because of her status, she lived in a respectable home with staff to care for her needs.

Roseburn House was the grandest home for miles, its chimneys and attic rooms towering over the Water of Leith and the wives washing their sheets and their feet in its dark rush. The lintel on our doorway had a carving that read 'Hope Lies Within', and that was never truer than on the days I spent at my window, following the river with my gaze. (pp.10-11)

Lady Christian's house has amazing architecture and an eye-pleasing river view from Lady Christian's window. Naturally, having a lovely view from her bedroom window and a

pleasant living location makes Lady Christian feel content and at peace. Undoubtedly, she is fortunate to live in a charming house where she can spend all of her days as a lady.

She also enjoys her morning walk and has access to food at all times to keep herself healthy.

Exercise keeps the thoughts pure, so they say. Each morning, after making sure we ate all our porridge and drank all our milk, Mother sent Johanna and me out for fresh air. We would circle the garden, always in the same direction..... It took around forty-five minutes, although Mother called it our exercise hour and would often watch from her window to make sure we did not skip any corners. (p.9)

This is how Lady Christian and her sister Johanna generally do it, with their mother watching to ensure they complete every step. They will circle the yard according to a routine they are already familiar with. Because Lady Christian walks about the house every morning with her sister, she engages in physical activity, which is why her health is fulfilled.

Lady Christian's basic needs are also satisfied when she gets to live at Carrick House after marrying Andrew Nimmo who is a fabric merchant. She gets to enjoy all the beautiful views not to mention the fancy food she receives.

"This is all yours now, Christian. I am looking forward to walks in the woods with you when I am not away on business."

"I will enjoy sketching it, and the flowers in the glasshouse,"...

We arrived to a small feast of calf's head with oysters, a trifle made with cream and rosewater, and Burgundy wine.... (pp.65-66)

The narrative above demonstrates that her primary needs as a person, especially as a Lady, have been fulfilled by providing a cozy home, exquisite meals, and good health.

Unfortunately, Lady Christian is not satisfied with her married life with Andrew Nimmo because she does not give Christian physical satisfaction.

Why did he not try to kiss me? Or touch me?....Or was there something wrong with me? (p.68)

I never felt uglier than in the early days of my marriage. In the first weeks Andrew did

not reach for me once. I kept expecting that he would.... All in all, the marriage bed was a disaster. Some nights he pleaded he was too full up from roast dinner or too tired, or there was and order to deliver first thing, or I had approached him too delicately enough. He enjoyed his diners.... Every pleasure except his wife. (pp.85-86)

Out of Lady Christian's expectations, her wedding night turns into a miserable one as "he grew still and gently began to snore" (p.68) Her wedding night is without kiss and touch. This leaves her wondering if there is something wrong with her and considers that a disaster. The above passage clarifies that Lady Christian longs for an intimate connection with her husband. When she doesn't obtain it, she feels insecure and starts to wonder if she is to blame for her inability to experience physical fulfillment. Her biological requirement is therefore unmet.

Safety Needs

Lady Christian's needs for protection were satisfied, allowing her to remain in Roseburn. His father's younger brother was supposed to inherit all the riches, but it was jeopardized when he passed away.

Father, two years deceased, had let the family's wealth slip at the gaming tables. When he died, his title went to his younger brother, but when all the money problems came out, we were pitied and given permission to remain at Roseburn. (p.14)

Regarding the circumstances, they ultimately succeeded in obtaining a home and stable finances. From a financial standpoint, Lady Christian is secure in this instance since her father's younger brother, her uncle, takes care of her, her mother, and her sister by providing them with property and possessions.

Naturally, you need to travel with a companion if you wish to go as an honorable lady. Nonetheless, Lady Christian states in the story that she occasionally wishes to travel alone to fulfill her wants.

Then he asked me about my painting and my embroidery.... for despite its wonderful dressmakers, Edinburgh was not place where ladies dread tread unchaperoned. "But I do wish, sometimes, that we ladies could wander freely in town without a guardian,...Just as

some do on horseback around countryside, so long as they do not stray too far from their homes." (p.34)

His mother and sister, Johanna, responded with surprise to this, and their supper became uncomfortable for a moment. On the contrary, Andrew, who was invited to eat together at the table, seemed intrigued. This can only mean, that Lady Christian has the protection she had from her servants and her husband, and it would be silly if she let wander alone.

Another scenario is when Reverend Brodie questions her to look into the case and notes that Lady Christian has all the security she requires, "*What possible need do you have for protection, my lady, when you have a husband and servants to accompany you everywhere and keep you perfectly safe?*" (p.230)

The chaperone's constant presence at Lady Christian's side, shielding her from harm wherever she goes, implies that she is secure. Hence, since she was constantly accompanied by her servants, she didn't have to worry about danger approaching her. Her spouse was prepared to take care of her as well.

Lady Christian's safety was at risk when she confronted the danger due to her uncle's abusive behavior. The urge to protect herself and her helpless maids forced her to fight back.

"You have not killed him, Lady Christian," she said, shakily. "But now is your chance before he ruins us all. Before he puts Oriana in the branks and me in the whorehouse, and beats you to death for slashing his good shirt, and tells your husband and all of Edinburgh what a desperate whore you were for him.".... (p.316-317)

She received encouragement from her servant slash a whore James hired to stay in Corstorphine Castle, Violet, that if James was not killed, James would make herself and Oriana suffer. Those words provoked Christian to take a step and finish him before he finished her and the maids.

And so I grabbed his sword before anyone else could.... Violet was right. We were all in danger. I dropped my own sword as he made to take it from me, and stabbed him with his blade until he stopped moving.... I did not just stab him once, I did it again and again, as though I had to finish what I had started

and finish the deed properly. (p.317)

It is clear from the conversation above that Lady Christian's need for safety was satisfied by confronting her miserable uncle. Not only will she be affected if she doesn't do it, but Violet and Oriana will as well. She also believes that if she lets James survive, it will have a much worse effect on the maids. Her determination to carry out this action is reinforced by external encouragement in addition to her survival instinct. Even so, her emotional side overrides her, and she brutally stabs James out of rage.

However, this way of obtaining safety needs is in contrast with the other study examined by Lubis & Satria (2021). They employ the same theory in Angie Thomas's Novel *The Hate U Give*. Their article explains how Starr and Khalil sought sanctuary by leaving after a shooting happened at the Big D's Spring Day party.

"Khalil grabs my hand 'C'mon.' There are way too many people and way too much curly hair for me to catch a glimpse of Kenya, 'But Kenya-' 'Forget her, let's go!' He pulls me through the crowd,...I look for Kenya among the panicked faces, but still no sign of her. I don't try to see who got shot or who did it.... Cars speed away outside, and people run into the night in any direction where shots aren't firing off. Khalil leads me to a Chevy Impala parked under a dim streetlight. He pushes me in through the driver's side, and I climb into the passenger seat. We screech off, leaving chaos in the rear view mirror." (Thomas, 2017 Chp 1. page 14)

In the passage above, they are attempting to save themselves from a bullet to achieve their safety requirements. As a result, we can conclude that a person has two options for meeting their safety needs: fight or flight. Both share the same goal: to save themselves. Despite this, it's also evident that one character appears to put their own needs ahead of those of other characters. This is in contrast to Lady Christian's character, who is considerate of others.

Love and Belonging Needs

When someone feels loved and taken into consideration, their need for affection and belonging can be satisfied. Lady Christian experiences this when she is a part of her family, specifically her mother and sister Johanna. When Johanna came to visit after she and her husband got married, Christian was thrilled and

felt loved.

Johanna was paying a visit. Married life suited her. ... We were in Johanna's old bedroom to escape Mother, on the pretext of packing the last of her trinkets. We were at the dressing table, putting hair pins and ribbons into a box, and a tarnished hairbrush that Johanna would never use, but insisted on taking because she wanted all her memories with her.... She smelled foreign, of the musk of sharing a bed with a man. I missed her. (p.62-63)

It's clear from that previous sentence that they take pleasure in their time together. Even though Johanna's stay was brief, Christian finds comfort in her presence as a cure for his need. She was missing her tremendously.

Aside from that, Johanna visited Christian while she was behind bars in Toolbooth Jail despite her husband's prohibition against it and brought her marzipan as a token of Johanna's affection for her sister.

I am torn from my wretchedness by a visit from Johanna. I have not seen her since the trial, when she sat on a bench at the back of the courtroom with Mother, never taking her eyes off me and trying to soothe me with motions of prayer.... Our fingers touch at the bars. "How is my new Nephew?".... "I have come in secret,"... "Robert has forbidden me from coming here..." "Nonsense. Look, I have brought you marzipans,"... "To bring you some sweetness. ...". "You are my sweetness," I say, brushing her fingers. "You are all the joy I need." (pp.339-340)

From the context above, despite the storms of challenges she faced, Lady Christian was fortunate to have her mother and sister provide her with love and support. Even though Johanna had to go to prison without her husband knowing secretly, this shows that she really loves her sister and wants to be there with her when she is in a difficult situation. Her question about her nephew shows how much she also cares about her younger sister. So, this need is fulfilled.

Nevertheless, Instead of getting love and intimacy from her husband, Andrew Nimmo, Christian felt like she didn't feel a deep connection with his husband. In their first wedding night not only does she lack sex, but also love from her husband. As Christian explains that he is, *"so preoccupied with his*

fabrics and his sailings that he quite forgets his wife at times." (p.104). Initially, this marriage was supposed to bring joy, unfortunately, now she found it *"unsettling"* (p.131) and the worst part is she felt no further yearnings for her husband (p.143). Surprisingly, she feels more connection to her uncle, James Forrester as she feels seen, and accepted, and with him, she feels whole.

"You are beautiful tonight, Christian. This silver gown and silver hair comb suit your complexion so magnificently. Has Mr Nimmo ever said you are beautiful?" My face burned. "I cannot recall," I said.... He had never told I was beautiful. My own husband had never made love to me. (p.105)

It was clear that James' praise immediately made Christian flattered and fascinated. Because she felt that she had never been praised by her husband, the praise from her uncle made a big impression on her.

I had believed myself to be in love with Andrew. Now I realized it was nothing of the sort. Love between a man and a woman is more than wedding vows and gentle conversation and gifts. It needs intimacy, to keep the bond strong. (p.129)

Christian's previous statement displays how much she longs for an intimate, deep bond between a husband and wife. Since she and Andrew have never engaged in sexual activity, it is crucial that Christian's experience that to perceive love and acceptance.

Our skin and the sheer strength of him. Everything warm and sweet and lavender-scented, and Johanna was right and it was also very unladylike, but what did I care? For that night, for the first time, I was not a lady. I was a woman. (p.116)

The narrative above is the first time Christian experienced an intimate relationship with James and she truly felt deep love and passion.

Shreds of evidence above show how Lady Christian felt accepted and loved as a result of her connection with James. She believes a deep connection is made when she senses an intimate relationship between two people. When Christian can fulfill his marriage responsibilities, she feels like a whole woman. James's praise made her feel more valued because she was never treated the same way in

her marriage. Christian's yearning for intimacy forces her to play dirty behind her husband's back because she is frequently left behind by Andrew's busy life. As a result, it is clear that instead of getting her love and belonging needs from her husband, Christian gets it from James, her uncle, her lover.

Self-esteem Needs

To determine whether someone's self-esteem demands are met or not, one must consider their need for respect, their reputation, and their desire to be accepted and valued by others. Unfortunately, these needs become less fulfilled due to the complicated circumstances experienced by Lady Christian regarding her relationship with her husband, Andrew Nimmo. In the story, it is explained that on their wedding night, Lady Christian hoped to experience intimate relations with her husband Andrew. However, her expectations were shattered because Andrew seemed to show little interest in doing so. The next night she tried to take the initiative to start but Andrew still didn't respond the way she wanted and leave her to sleep.

He slept facing away from me in bed, so one night I curled myself around him and gave him gentle strokes on his arms,.... "I am so exhausted from all my work today, ... Let us just lie close for a while."... The next night I stripped to nothing,... I ensures my breast were exposed and he saw them, but said nothing. ... "Let us take our time,..." ... Was I even a real wife yet. (pp. 85-86)

The previous quotation actively illustrates that Lady Christian lost confidence in herself as a result of her initiative, which did not receive the expected response from Andrew. By opting to sleep rather than engage in sexual activity with his wife, who had attempted to initiate him, Andrew implicitly rejected Christian. Christian thinks she is not fulfilling her role as a wife to serve her husband, and this rejection makes her wonder if she is loyal to him. Therefore, this need is less to be fulfilled due to the lack of acceptance and cherished from her husband regarding her marital duty.

In contrast, this self-esteem need is most fulfilled by Lady Christian having her secret relationship with her uncle, James Forrester. She feels truly like a woman and feels whole when she engages in an intimate relationship with James. She and Andrew haven't had their



marriage consummated for three months. She seemed to have a strong feeling about James after she was captured in the moment kissing him beneath the sycamore tree.

I tilted my face up and kissed him and when I did, I heard a sigh escape from me..., and that kiss was like nothing I had felt before. Like me, it was beautiful. (p.105)

And James was the right man. Older and more experienced....He was a perfect gentleman. I felt passion for him. (p.109)

This feeling of passion shows signs of self-confidence that arise because Christian feels seen and appreciated by James. These feelings are the seeds for Christian's actions and decisions regarding his relationships.

It also made Lady Christian bolder, meaning her self-esteem increased because she felt appreciated by James. After the incident, she slept with James, and she also felt brave to meet James again.

Yet nothing would have stopped me from opening my chamber door again to James Forrester. (p.124)

Lady Christian made that previous declaration following her hidden relationship with her uncle James. Christian has already had an intimate experience with her here, and she feels drawn to repeat the experience. She feels deserving and disregards the fact that she strayed from her husband since she feels valued and accepted.

The situation of Lady Christian having an affair with James affects her reputation. Her act of secretly going to Corstorphine Castle to meet James is discovered by Johanna, Christian's sister. Rumors are circulating about the issue of their relationship.

"But Robert heard from one of the burgesses that you have been spending your days at Corstorphine Castle." "Indeed,"... "Painting with Aunt Lillias." "But how could you paint with her when she is not there?....which means you have been alone with our uncle." (p.155)

The quote above shows that Christian's situation is not good. The rumors would affect her, and in a matter of time, the news would spread, and people would talk more about it. Johanna is worried about this, and she has warned Christian. So, in this case, she has a

terrible reputation due to James Forrester's scandalous behavior.

Self-actualization Needs

Due to the lack of fulfillment of needs at the previous level, namely love and belongingness which affects self-esteem, this also has an impact on Lady Christian's achievement of self-actualization. Because she took risks and was involved with her uncle, Lady Christian was unable to achieve a lasting marriage with her husband.

I wonder again at the point at which things could have been different...If my husband had made love to me like the men in the marriage manual? If James had not promised me a brighter world, then mocked my leap of faith by kissing Violet under the sycamore tree?...But I don't have any more time for questions, now. (p.362)

The story that follows is a self-talk that Christian did while she was being held at Toolbooth Jail before her execution the next day at The Maiden. Her internal monologue suggests that she regrets her actions and wishes she could go back in time. She questioned whether things would be different if she had her wish fulfilled. Time, however, cannot be undone. She is unable to maintain a positive relationship with her spouse and must accept the consequences of her behavior. Certainly, Christian could not achieve her self-actualization by not being a good wife to Andrew.

Lady Christian's Characteristics

Out of the fulfillment of Lady Christian, it can be seen that some of her fulfillment is not truly fulfilled. From the fulfillment we can conclude her characteristics as follows:

Noble

Lady Christian possesses the image and habits of a dignified nobleman, which is evident in her character. Living in a huge, comfy home with stunning views serves as evidence of this. Other than that, she doesn't have to worry about meeting her bodily demands because she will always be able to enjoy tasty meals because of her position as a Lady. Take into account the waiters who attend to their needs day and night for her. This further demonstrates that Lady Christian is a refined nobility.

Intimate

The fact that Lady Christian loves spending time with her mother and sister, in particular, speaks something about her character. She still

goes to see her sister, or vice versa, even though her sister got married first. Christian imagines herself and her husband, Andrew, enjoying time together. But Andrew is a merchant, and he is seldom home since he is too busy traveling to sell fabrics. Christian still desired her husband's presence despite Andrew's letters and souvenirs.

Free-spirited

She also hinted over the dinner table that she had a free-spirited personality and occasionally just wanted to explore new things and occasionally deviate from the rules. This is addressed in the dialogue at dinner, which is *"But I do wish, sometimes, that we ladies could wander freely in town without a guardian,...Just as some do on horseback around countryside, so long as they do not stray too far from their homes."* (p.34). Because she was always accompanied by her servants, she felt like she wanted to be free to do whatever she wanted once in a while. Remembering that as a nobleman she had to follow the rules and maintain her attitude, so she wanted to be free for once.

Brave

Lady Christian's character is visible in her decision to cheat on her husband. Instead, she was having a secret relationship with her uncle, James. She was very brave to take this risk. She thought she could maintain a relationship with her husband, but her feelings were tied to James and in the end, she took risks to fulfill her desires. This further demonstrates Christian's risk-taking act.

Considerate

Lady Christian has a loving character, this is proven by her asking how her sister and nephew were doing when her sister visited her secretly in Toolbooth jail. This character is most visible when she tries to kill James because she wants to protect herself and Violet and Oriana. Even though she was angry with James because he had an intimate relationship with the two maids, here she felt that Violet and Oriana had to be protected from James.

Vulnerable

Lady Christian's character emerged when she did not receive the need to be loved and accepted by her husband. The companionship she needed, and her obligation as a wife to serve her husband were not fulfilled so she felt satisfied when she first got it from James. She felt a desire to always

be loved and appreciated by James, so she decided to have an affair. As a result, she is a vulnerable woman who finds it difficult to be faithful to her husband in their marriage.

It can be concluded that she has a round character as she develops and gives active responses to different circumstances. The development and emergence of Lady Christian characters can be classified into positive and negative characteristics. Positive characteristics appear such as being noble, intimate, free-spirited, and considerate. Her needs of physiological and safety are mostly fulfilled so triggers these positive characteristics. However, due to the lack of fulfillment of the love and belonging needs experienced by Lady Christian regarding her problem of lacking acceptance from her husband, the negative characteristic appears. Her traits of being brave here show up because she seems to be trying to get affection and acceptance from James instead of her husband Andrew. This makes her vulnerable, dare to take risks, and follow her strong desire to be loved. That leads her to do reckless things and stimulates Lady Christian's character to cheat on her husband.

CONCLUSION

Every person has objectives and motivations that drive their choices of behavior. Meeting their needs is connected to this as well. In *The Maiden*, Lady Christian, the lead female character, goes through this. Using Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs theory, Lady Christian has both most fulfilled and less fulfilled needs. The five levels of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs are physiological, safety, love and belonging, self-esteem, and self-actualization. In the story, Lady Christian's basic need which is physiological needs is not fully fulfilled because her desire to have intimacy with her husband is not fulfilled as her husband is often away and avoids engaging in sexual activity. However, the second level is most fulfilled because she gets financial stability, and security from the chaperone, and protects herself from James's harm. Additionally, in the safety needs category, there is a comparison that indicates efforts to obtain safety, specifically fight or flight, in which Lady Christian fights to get safety.

Meanwhile, in Angie Thomas' novel *The Hate U Give*, Starr and Khalil must escape or 'flight' to get secure. On the third level, her needs for love and belonging are less fulfilled



because she doesn't get acceptance from her husband. It affects the next level of needs which is self-esteem which appears to cause her needs to not be met. She loses her confidence because of her husband's rejection and having an affair with James also gets scandal from her actions. As a result, she can't reach self-actualization due to less fulfilling her previous needs. These needs also stimulate her character which is noble, intimate, free-spirited, brave, considerate, and vulnerable. The emergence of positive and negative characters depends on fulfilling Lady Christian's needs.

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