

Motivation Analysis of Jennie's Dream as Seen in Janet Quin-Harkin's California Girl

Hastri Firharmawan

Universitas Ma'arif Nahdlatul Ulama Kebumen, Indonesia

Email of corresponding author: hfirharmawan@gmail.com

Abstract

This study deals with Janet Quin-Harkin's novel entitled "California Girl". It was aimed to see the main character's motivation in achieving her dream. It's a qualitative study which employed psychological approaches. The primary data were in the forms of written expressions found in the narrations, dialogues, sentences and paragraphs in the novel showing the character's behaviour and motivation in pursuing her dream. Data analysis applied procedures, namely data collection, data reduction, data serving, and drawing conclusion. To validate, data sources triangulation was used. The researcher read some related theories through books and articles. The study concluded that: First, Janet portrayed Jennie as a girl who was tall and skinny for her age with short mid-brown hair. She didn't have a good physical outlook. She was introvert; and, therefore she had problem with social relationship. She was emotionally unstable and worried about losing her chance to make the Olympic team. Second, Jennie achieved her dream by trying to fulfil her fundamental needs for priorities. She ate enough food for her physical calories. After that, she fulfilled her psychological needs. She found love in Mark and never let him down. She also wanted to be accepted by her mother. Besides, swimming was her chosen sport to show that she was worth appreciating.

Keywords: Analysis, motivation, dream

INTRODUCTION

During her life time a person experiences different situations and difficult conditions. When experiencing different situations and difficult conditions, she has to adapt herself in order to be able to survive as well as meet her goal of life. However, adaptation is not always simple to everyone to do. For example, to adapt herself to new environments an individual may have problems such as economic, family, social, and other possible problems.

As an individual, everybody deserves to reach her own dream in life. It may start from realizing her want, making an effort to realize that want, and deciding which way to go. All of these are given free to her as choices; for example, to develop talents, to extend intellectual capacities, to strengthen interpersonal skills, to actualize physical capacities, and to become she can possibly be. In short, making choices is one of the potential factors of every person; and, acquiring personal growth shows how somebody presents herself as a self-actualizing person.

Self-actualizing persons are those who have already fulfilled the highest point of human needs. They are psychologically capable of achieving, maintaining, and developing their

potentials during the process of self-actualization. To become people that are self-actualized is, therefore, essential. It becomes the most value in human life. These people have a deep desire to help others and, thus, establish interpersonal relationships that are harmonious and profound (Chang, 1991:5).

“California Girl” tells us about Jennie, a sixteen-year-old swimmer with Olympic inspirations. When Jennie’s coach moves to Texas, Jennie’s family and Jennie follow him expecting that Jennie’s training is possible to be continued. Unfortunately, Texas is a far cry from Jennie’s former home state which positions Jennie as a strange girl due to her devotion to her chosen sport. Luckily, she finds a new friend, an injured football player namely Mark, who helps her train for achieving her dream.

The researcher is interested to study “California Girl” since he has a belief that all people have a dream in their life. Janet presents a strong will of somebody’s efforts in achieving her dream. In this case, Jennie, the main character of the novel is inspired of becoming an Olympic swimmer. Although she is viewed as a strange person does devote her life on her chosen sport in her new Texas home, she remains to be consistent. The focus of the discussion is the description of Jennie’s characters and how she has been motivated to pursue her dream. Through the analysis, the researcher applies both theories of character and characterization and theories of psychology.

Based on theories of psychology all human beings need to feel competent, to win approval and recognition, and to sense that they have achieved something (Maslow: 1995). He places achievement motivation in the context of hierarchy of needs that all people share. There are three levels in the hierarchy of needs namely, fundamental needs, psychological needs, and self-actualization needs. The fundamental needs consist of physiological and safety needs. Physiological needs are the needs to satisfy hunger, thirst, and sex drives. In order to live, somebody needs to assert other people to satisfy these fundamental needs. If a person is hungry, for example, most of their activities will be motivated by drive to acquire food and his functioning on higher levels will be hindered. Safety needs are the needs to feel secured, safe, and out of danger. The psychological needs consist of two kinds of needs. They are the needs to belong and to give and receive love, and the needs to acquire esteem through competence and achievement. These needs can be fulfilled only by outside sources. A lack of love or esteem makes people anxious and tense. There is a driven quality to the people’s behaviour such as desperate or sometimes maladaptive activities to ease the tension. The self-actualization needs are at the top needs. They may include the pursuit of knowledge and beauty or whatever else required for the realization of one’s unique potential. Therefore, an individual has a tendency to become a person that he or she wants to become and to reach the peak of his or her potentials. For example, a singer must sing a song well and a salesman must sell products as many as possible. In short, people must achieve what they must achieve. It is believed that although relatively few people reach this level, they all have these needs. Maslow adds to his motivation theory the idea that some needs take precedence over others and with the suggestion that achieving one level of satisfaction releases new needs and motivations.

Jung (1974:4) explains that motivation should include terms like desires, wishes, plans, goals, intents, impulses, and purposes. Motivation can also involve the persistence of behaviour over time so that continued efforts can occur if obstacles or setbacks occur. Apart from Jung, Beck (1978: 24) says that motivation is broadly concerned with current determinants of choice (direction), persistence, and vigour of goal-direct behaviour.

Abrams in “A Glossary of Literary Terms” s (1981:32) said that characters are the persons presented in a dramatic or narrative work, who are interpreted by the reader as being endowed with moral, dispositional, and emotional qualities that are expressed in what they say in the dialogue and what they do in the action. The ground in the character’s temperament, desires, and moral nature for their speeches and actions are called motivation. Another definition of characters is proposed by Stanton (1965: 17) who defines characters in two ways. First, character is defined as the individual who appear in the story. Second, it refers to the mixture of interests, desires, emotions, and moral principles that form the individual. Apart from Abrams and Stanton, Henkle (1965:60) classifies characters into major and minor characters. A major character is the most important and complex character in a novel that is used by the author to communicate their qualities and guide the reader to understand the main themes of the novel. He or she becomes the main focus in the story. In reverse, minor characters have limited performance in the story. They are less important than the major character. However, both are essential to build the whole story. Murphy (1972:61) explains that to view characters and personalities described in a novel the author is possible to use nine ways. They are personal descriptions, character as seen by another, speeches, past life, conversations of others, reactions, direct comments, thoughts, and mannerism. To sum up, it is clear that character is an important element in a story. It is an element to describe a person portrayed which build up the story. The way to describe the character in order to narrate the story smoothly can be done through some ways.

METHOD

The subject matter of this research is a novel entitled “California Girl” written by Janet Quin-Harkin. The story tells us about Jennie an Olympic swimmer who has to move to Texas from California. In California, swimming was important and Jennie was determined to be an Olympic competitor. But at her family's new home in Texas, football is all anyone cares about. Jennie is alone, an outsider and viewed as a weird California girl. Then she meets Mark. He was a football star until a serious injury left him on crutches. Nobody pays much attention to Mark since his accident, but Jennie. She's seen his beautiful drawings and is falling in love with his artistic soul. They finally build relationship on which Jennie finds supports.

Janet Quin-Harkin is a popular author of more than one hundred books, most of which were geared for teen readers. She was born on September 24, 1941 in bath, England. She immigrated to the United States in 1966. Quin-Harkin’s series include “Sweet Dream, Sugar and Spice, Heartbreak Café & Cute, and On Our Own”. “California Girl” was included in the sweet dream series which was written in 1981.

There are five approaches that can be applied in relation to a literary work, Rohberger and Wood Jr. (1971:6). Those five approaches are the formalist approach, biographical approach, sociocultural-historical approach, mythopoeic approach, and psychological approach. The psychological approach was used to conduct this study as the focus of discussion relates to psychological aspects. Psychological approach covers efforts to locate and demonstrate certain recurrent patterns. The psychological approach was applied in order to find out how Jennie, the main character of the novel in *California Girl* tried to pursue her dream. Rohberger and Wood Jr. (1971: 6) said that psychological approach will give understanding in depth of the character's behaviour and thought.

This research was qualitative research which employed psychological approaches. Kothari (2004; 100) stated that a qualitative research concerns in analyzing what the reasons as the motives beyond human behaviour. While psychological approach is one of the approaches that is used in order to analyze elements of literary work by applying theories of psychology. The researcher used Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory in order to support his analysis in this study.

The primary data in this research are in the forms of written texts expressed by the character, such as narrations, dialogues, sentences and paragraphs that showed Jennie's behaviour and motivation in pursuing her dream. Besides, the researcher used some books and articles from journals as secondary data to find theories such as theories of characterization and theories of psychology to supports the analysis of the novel. There were several steps for the researcher to take in order to collect the data of the research. He read the novel thoroughly several times to understand the motives, behaviour, and other events in the novel. After reading the novel, he took any important notes from the expressions, statements, or similar proofs to best describe the character's motivation, behaviour, and traits.

For the data analysis, the researcher applied the theory proposed by Miles and Huberman (1994:10) which say that data analysis in a qualitative research can be divided into procedures, namely data collection, data reduction, data serving, and drawing conclusion. Data collection is the process of collecting the data. Data reduction is process of selecting, focusing, simplifying and reducing inappropriate data from data collection. Data serving is the process of organizing or classifying the appropriate data into data display to be analyzed. Drawing conclusion or verification is a process of making a clear conclusion based on the final appropriate data to answer research problems. To validate the data, data source triangulation was used. The researcher read some related theories through books and journal articles.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

1. The Descriptions of Jennie's Characters

Based on the author's point of view Jennie, the main character in the story is described as a girl who is always tall and skinny for her age; and, she seems to trip

over on her own feet. Instead of describing the character directly, the author also describes Jennie through the eyes and opinions of other:

“My father tells me kindly that I am a late developer and that I’ll surprise everybody one day. But then my father is always the kind-hearted one, so I expect he is just trying to make me feel good. My mother, the practical one tells me that I can thank my lack of figure for my good swimming time. She’s right of course. My mother is nearly almost right. There was this girl in California who used to be my main competition in the hundred fly. Then suddenly around thirteen she developed this large bust and quietly dropped out of swimming. Being flat-chested may be good in my chosen sport, but still, I would give a lot for a few curves in the right places.” (7)

This description shows that Jennie grows up not proportionally like other girls does. She is a late developer and flat-chested. Actually, she does not accept herself physically. Her want that she would like to be the one with a few curves in the right places shows that she wants to have more perfect physical appearances and refuses her physical weaknesses. In other words, implicitly she may feel unconfident with her appearances.

Another Jennie’s physical appearance is that she has short mid-brown hair. Her hair style seems to be intended to match her swimming activities. She doesn’t like wet hair dripping down her back after swimming. Therefore, she always keeps it short:

“...My hair is just blah. I bet if you asked me who knew me to describe my hair, they wouldn’t be able to. It covers the top of my head. That’s about all you can say about it. I wear it as short as possible because I can’t stand cold, wet hair dripping down my back when I get out of the pool in the winter. Its’ colour could be described most kindly as mid-brown. (8)

The description above shows that Jennie doesn’t have a good-looking physical appearance. It is seen from her comment that people wouldn’t be able to describe her hair. It indicates how terrible the hair is. In reverse, she just wants to feel comfortable with her body if required to do swimming. Cutting her hair short can give her physical comfort.

Jennie’s lack of physical appearance can also be seen through other characters’ conversation. In human life, people do talk about other people and on their conversation, somebody can have personal impressions of other people. Jennie’s imperfect figure that is considered not nice for everybody to look at is reflected in the conversation below:

“You wouldn’t think to look at her, would you?” She said. “She doesn’t have big muscles.”

“She doesn’t have a big anything!” another said. They all collapse in giggles as they went through the swinging door. (9)

Another way to see one's personalities and characters is through her speeches. Whenever a person speaks, whenever she is in a conversation with others, whenever she puts forward an opinion, she is giving us some clues her characters. The following speech shows that Jennie doesn't tell Mark the truth; and, she tries to hide her identity before him. In other words, it reflects Jennie as a non-trustworthy person:

“How come you don't swim on the high school team?”

How could I say that my coach didn't think that the high school team would be good enough for me and he didn't want me to waste my precious practice time or wear myself out swimming in useless meets. Instead, I said “I might next year. But this year I didn't get here in time for my try outs.” I gave myself top marks for that lie. (32-33)

Another thing to reveal Jennie's characters and personality is her past life. Murphy says (...) that by letting the reader learn something about a person's past life the author can give clues to events that have shaped a person's characters. This can be done by using direct comments from the author, through a person's thought, through his conversation or a medium of another person. It seems that Jennies always remember her past life in California and compares it to her present life in Texas:

“Back in California, swimming was an OK thing to do. Most kids had been on a swim team at sometimes in their lives, and the other kids at school thought that winning the Junior Nationals was a pretty neat thing to do. They didn't worship me or think that I was Superwoman or anything. They understood, though, that I had to spend most of my life training and the rest of it sleeping, eating, and competing. But Texas, that was another story. (7)

Understanding the context of the event, it is implied that Jennie has a happy life in the past. She enjoys her days with friends in California which is now different situation in Texas where she finds few friends. It is difficult for her to adapt in her new place, Texas. Although there are a lot of people around her, for example, she is unable to get along with them. Instead of having a chat with them, Jennie chooses to sit alone in the corner of the room in every lunch time. She is a very reserved person and quiet. The following description reflects Jennie as an introvert person. Introvert persons are those who are thoughtful, reserved, passive, unsociable, and quiet (Richard A. Kasschau: 1995).

“As I look around, it seemed that everyone else in the whole cafeteria was busy talking and laughing. Everyone else was sitting with their friends. I was the only one who knew nobody and sat alone like Cinderella in the corner. This was how it had been every lunch since we moved to Texas. (1-2)

The author also describes a person directly through the author's comment like the following comments:

“I don’t ever remember feeling more helpless and defenceless. How I longed for some way to prove my worth to them. But I knew it was useless. Even if I won the Olympics, these girls would think I was hot stuff. Hot stuff was looking like them and being a Golden Girl and dating a football player. Outside of those things, nothing else mattered. Little Jennie Webster, who dated nobody, was a great big zero. (9)

The description above tells that Jennie actually wants to become an important person in the surroundings where she lives. However, the place where she lives now seems to have different culture from her former place; and, she is considered strange. As a result, she builds her pessimistic world through it. She feels to be useless in her life. Maslow (1995) said that the psychological needs consist of two kinds of needs. They are the needs to belong and to give and receive love, and the needs to acquire esteem through competence and achievement.

Based on the conversation between Jennie’s parents, it is also known that Jennie doesn’t like staying in Texas after her family movement. Her father thinks that she is not happy in Texas. She is always sad. However, her mother’s words that tell she has been aiming for her goal for long seem to show that Jennie is very obsessive. She wants to be an Olympic swimmer. This becomes the reason for her family to let her go on her training. The following conversation between Jennie’s father and mother implies that Jennie’s obsession:

“I can’t see that we’ve helped her at all by bringing her out here. She doesn’t seem happy to me.” I told you my father was the kind-hearted one.

“It’s not a question of being happy, “said my mother. “We had to let her go on training with Tod. She’s been aiming for a goal for so long, we couldn’t let her down now that she’s almost reached it. It means more to her than anything in world.” (27)

From the character’s reaction, the author can also give clues to a person’s character by letting one knows how that person reacts to various situations or events. Through the story, it is seen that Jennie feels afraid of falling down the boy’s drawing. It is indicated through her rising up eyes and her trembling voices. She’s also stammered when she knows that it is her that the boy was drawing. In short, Jennie is described as an easily nervous person.

My eyes rose up to meet the boy’s. “Is this yours?” I asked, and I heard my voice trembles.

He nodded and took it back from me. “You’re an interesting subject to draw,” he said. “I hope you don’t mind.”

“You draw very well. It took just like me,” I stammered. (11)

Another of Jennie’s character is that she is dutiful and organized. Although she seems not to enjoy her swimming workout, she is dedicated to completing her job

and manage her responsibility given to her. This is implied from Jennie's habits described below:

"I was now in my third year of morning workouts. I had learned how to wake up the part of me that was needed to get dressed, get me to the pool, and swim, while the rest of me stayed a sleep. I found it quite possible to get up and down, my arms and legs moving mechanically, while the rest of me dozed in comfortable private daydream. (4)

To summarize, based on the clues in the story Jennie is described as someone who is always tall and skinny for her age. She has short mid-brown hair. She doesn't have a good physical outlook. She has less in confidence and becomes an introvert person. She is not emotionally stable and worried of losing her dream. However, she is an organized person who always tries to manage her responsibility.

2. How the Main Character, Jennie Pursues her Dream

Jennie and her family move to Texas to follow Tod Milner, Jennie's coach in swimming. Jennie's expect that Jennie would make the Olympic team. Unfortunately, Jennie doesn't improve her swimming after moving to her new place, Texas. She thinks that the way she swims is tough. Then she tries to make up her mind whether she wants to go on or quit swimming after Spring Nationals. This is implied from her statement:

"When I shut the door again, I had made decision I'll give myself a time limit. If I don't do well at Spring Nationals, I'll quit." (31)

It seems that Jennie actually doesn't want to quit swimming. She is just afraid if she cannot fulfil her parents' expectation instead. She wants to hide her desperate feeling in case she fails the competition:

"The more I thought about it the worse I felt. I could just imagine my mother next summer after I had blown my chance at the Nationals. After all we have done for you, moving away from home, your daddy giving up his job and taking a new one he hates, and you let us down!" (30)

Jennie's thought above shows her worry if she cannot prove her esteem before her parents. It seems that she tries to fulfil her esteem need by winning her swimming competition. She wants to be accepted by her parents. Therefore, she tries to make the time limit at Spring Nationals. Psychological needs function in much the same way that biological needs do and that they can be filled only by outside sources. A lack of love or esteem makes people to feel anxious and tense (Maslow: 1987). In the story of "California Girl", Jennie, the main character feels to be anxious of her mother's blaming on her if she loses her chance at the Nationals. She is afraid not to be able to show her pride to her mother and this supports her to continue her training in swimming. She continues training since she has pride on it. She finds herself meaningful of it. She can show her competence and esteem to others. What

more, she can fill the emptiness of her psychological needs. This is implied in her statement below:

“What will you do if you quit?” a nasty voice nagged inside my head. “You’ll just be a nothing. No good at anything. No friends. No ambitions”. (31)

Jennie tries to keep her friendship with Mark and to understand Mark’s life. She finds herself to feel the same thing as Mark does. She wants to be a star. She is frightened of being nobody if she quits swimming. However, she keeps secret her feeling to Mark because she is afraid to lose her friendship with him, which means she doesn’t have someone to show her esteem. This motive can be seen when Mark comes to see how she was swimming.

“I swam well that day, one of the few times I had swum well since leaving California. Of course, I wanted Mark to see me at my best, so I did every set flat out, and Tod didn’t have to yell at me once. In fact, as I got out of the pool, Tod came and put an arm around me.” (60)

Jennie always eats a lot of food. She tries to fill her physical needs up because she has to swim for hours every day. She needs a lot of calories for her swimming. Although most girls in general are likely to be afraid of being overweight to eat a lot, Jennie is never. She doesn’t care her physical outlook because swimming will automatically keep her not to be an overweight girl. She looks serious for her workouts and just wants to focus on it. She believes that she has to work hard in order to pursue her dream. This is reflected through the following conversation between Mark and Jennie:

“How come you eat so much?” he asked.

“I get hungry.”

“Don’t you worry about getting fat? I thought all girls are worried about getting fat”

“I swim five hours a day. That burns up a lot of calories.”

“Five hours a day? Boy, you must be pretty serious about swimming.”

I nodded and went on eating.

“You’re going to win the Olympics or something?” he asked. He sounded like he was making fun of me, and I blushed.

“You have to train hard if you want to be good at something,” I said. (33)

The main Character, Jennie is also considered to have a strong will. Her strong will to continue her swimming workout is even clearly seen when she is in a terrible condition in a few time by the time all-star meet. Although she can’t move her arms in the winter, she decides to continue workout. To see the motive, it seems that it is because she feels worried if she cannot prove her esteem to her mother. She needs to be accepted and to feel proud of herself before her mother. Therefore, she never

cares of other's criticism. She almost decides to skip her swimming practice when she is sick, but she doesn't. She thinks that dedication and the thought of a long argument with her mother let her go swimming. This is shown in the following conversation:

"I have no choice," I said. "I have to go on swimming, heater or no heater. I only have few months until Nationals and if I don't do well, my mother will tear me limb for limb."

"Yeah, that mother of yours," Marilyn sighed. "She's worse than mine, and that's saying a lot. Why don't you tell her to get off your back? Tell her you're going to quit."

"But I don't want to quit," I said. (64)

Jennie likes swimming very much. She spend almost the whole life to work out on swimming. Therefore, she doesn't want to quit from doing that. It indicates her needs to dig out her potentials in her own creative way. This can be seen from the following conversation with Mark:

"Don't you like swimming?"

"I suppose I do, or I'd probably quit. But you know, I've spent most of my life working out every day. I really can't imagine what it would be like having nothing to do in the evening." (75)

After Jennie loses at the all-stars meet, her mother doesn't speak a lot to her. Jennie was very afraid to meet Tod. She feels that no one understands her. She tries to hide her feeling of sadness by going to bed. However, this shows that as human being she really needs to be understood. She needs love from other people around her, but she doesn't have it. Her going to bed indicates her desperate behaviour toward her failure. She wants to reduce the tension of failure through having a rest:

"I'm going to bed, I had suffered enough for one day. And no one seemed to know or care that I was sick." (87)

Protesting is also done by Jennie to Tod since she feels like other social human being that she wants to have friends. She wants to socialize with other people for it is a basic need. She even makes a threat to Tod if she is not allowed to have friends and see them, she will give up swimming. Jennie's threat is likely to show that she tries hard to fulfil her belongings and love needs first before her esteem needs. In reverse, she lets her esteem needs fulfilled later after her love needs. Maslow said that some needs take precedence over the others and that achieving one level of satisfaction releases new needs and motivation (1995). In this case, Jennie needs Mark as a friend who can give her love and support.

Although Jennie threatens that she wants to quit swimming, actually the threat is only a way to tell other people that she is already a grown-up person; and therefore,

she wants to be responsible for her own life. She wants her dream to come true and make her own choice in life. In short, she wants to be a self-actualized person:

“Don’t worry, Tod,” I said quietly. “I don’t really want to quit. I just want you to understand that I’m a big girl now. I want to run my own life. You know I’m sensible, I’m not about to go to any all-night parties or start smoking pot. Just let me do what I think best.” (89)

Two months before the Nationals, Tod calls Jennie into his office for she hasn’t improved her swimming. He suggests that Jennie goes back to California and join Mission Viejo if she wants to win Nationals. He considers that Texas is not competitive environment for her swimming. Knowing Tod’s suggestion, Jennie doesn’t tell it to her parents, but Mark Waverly. She needs his advice for considering what to do. However, contrasting with Mark’s suggestion, she wants to keep staying in Texas where she can stay closer with Mark and show to him that she has pride to a person whom she loves:

“I think you should go,” he said at last.

“You want me to go?” I asked, feeling confused and hurt.

“Of course, I don’t want you to. It’s the last thing in the whole world I want. But I don’t want to stand in your way, either. If winning National means a lot to you and you are really not improving here, then you should go where you can improve. I’m just trying to look at it calmly and logically.”

“But, Mark, I want to be where you are. If I was far away from you, you don’t think I could swim well, do you?”

Mark smiled. “Typical woman,” he said. “Much too emotional.” (115)

Mark joins the swimming team and helps Tod to coach Jennie. Jennie feels the difference in her swimming. She begins to enjoy her swimming. At the end of January, she enters a senior meet in Louisiana and wins everything that she swims. She knows that everyone is pleased with it. There is snow in Texas which is very cold, but Jennie tries to continue her work out to tell Mark her esteem.

“Of course, I know it snowed,” I said in a very superior voice.

“Have just woken up? I’ve already been to morning work out!” (121)

Nationals come, and Jennie goes to it in March. She knows that her mother is worried to let her go alone to Nationals. However, she convinces her mother that she will be alright with Tod. Jennie has also understood her mother’s wish and tries to do her best at the competition. She has now clear motivation to achieve her dream and let her mother know that she can do it. It is her chance to prove her mother that she’s worth appreciating. This indicates the emptiness of esteem in Jennie’s life: “I’ll do my best, mom,” I said. (137)

Arriving in California, Jennie phones her boyfriend many times. She needs him to give support for her in the competition. Mark finally comes and gives his support. Jennie swims at her best to prove her esteem. She finally achieves her dream as she is successful to become an Olympic champion. Therefore, she becomes a self-actualized person. This is shown through the following statement:

“My whole body became tense, a bullet waiting to be shot from a gun barrel. Mark had come to watch me swim, and I was not going to let him down. Even before the starter’s gun had died away, I exploded outward and hardly noticed the water as it came up to me. Watch out, America. Here comes the new National Champion!”
(152)

CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis of the novel, it can be concluded that Jennie is described as someone who used to be tall and skinny for her age with short mid-brown hair. She didn’t have a good physical outlook which made her less confident and being an introvert person. She’s emotionally unstable, non-trusting, worried about losing her dream. However, she’s an organized person who always tried to manage her responsibilities. Jennie was inspired of becoming an athlete for the Olympic team because of several reasons. First, she wanted to feel competent. She knew a lot that to be good at something, everybody had to train hard. She tried to organize her swimming even though she found that Texas was a different environment from that of her former home place. Second, she wanted to get some kind of recognition from other people, to do that she kept her relationship with her boyfriend in order to get motivation from him. Besides, she had a chance to prove her esteem before the boyfriend. Third, Jennie wanted to achieve something in her life. She dedicated her life to her chosen sport. Although she knew the fact that other people considered her as strange with her inspiration, she remained consistent with her own choice. In her struggle to achieve her dream, Jennie tried to prioritize her fundamental needs first. She ate enough food in order to have a lot of calories. After that, she fulfilled her psychological needs. She found friends who could accept and motivate her to pursue her dream. In this case, she made use of Mark Waverly as a motivator to fulfil her psychological needs. Besides, Jennie also made her mother and coach understand her wants and feeling by making a protest for their unwise decision to her. Finally, Jennie achieved her dream and proved her esteem to people whom she loved. This proves Jennie as a self-actualized person.

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