

ANALYZING SELF-ACTUALIZATION OF JONAS CHARACTER IN *THE GIVER* NOVEL

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ABSTRACT

This study concerns with Self-Actualization in *The Giver* novel. Aiming to find the character and personality of Jonas through the Self-Actualization described in the novel. The source of data is taken from *The Giver* novel by Lois Lowry. This study used Self-Actualization theory by Abraham Maslow. The researchers was employed that Jonas has bravery, sensitive feelings, and intelligence. The results of this research showed that self-actualization found in Jonas are: 1) objective perception, (2) general acceptance of nature, others and oneself, (3) spontaneity, simplicity, and naturalness behaving, (4) needs for privacy and independence, (5) autonomous functioning, (6) freshness of appreciation, (7) mystical or “peak” experiences, (8) concern in social interest, (9) interpersonal relations, (10) recognize discrimination between means and ends, good and evil, (11) present creativeness. When Jonas gets the memories from *The Giver*, then he shows his self-actualization. The memories open up his mind to think, and to realize that the real world is much beautiful with the difference between one and another. Thus, Jonas is a dynamic character. From Jonas self-actualization, he tries to recognize his own self, develop his ability, his personal uniqueness, and to actualize his potentials as a human being that capable of becoming what he wants to achieve.

Keywords: Jonas character, *The Giver* novel, character, self-actualization

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini fokus mengenai aktualisasi diri karakter Jonas dalam novel The Giver. Tujuan dari penelitian ini untuk menemukan karakter dan kepribadian Jonas melalui aktualisasi diri yang dijelaskan di novel. Sumber data yang diambil berasal dari novel The Giver oleh Lois Lowry. Penelitian ini menggunakan teori aktualisasi diri oleh Abraham Maslow. Peneliti menemukan bahwa Jonas mempunyai keberanian, perasaan yang sensitif, dan cerdas. Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa aktualisasi diri yang ditemukan pada Jonas adalah: (1) persepsi yang objektif, (2) penerimaan terhadap diri sendiri dan orang lain, (3) spontanitas, kesederhanaan dan kewajaran, (4) membutuhkan kesendirian, (5) otonomi, (6) kesegaran dan apresiasi yang berkelanjutan, (7) gaib atau pengalaman puncak, (8) kesadaran sosial, (9) hubungan interpersonal, (10) mengenal diskriminasi antara yang baik dan buruk, (11) Menghadirkan kreativitas. Ketika Jonas mendapatkan memori-memori dari The Giver, lalu dia menunjukkan aktualisasi dirinya. Memori-memori itu pun membuka pikirannya untuk berpikir, dan menyadari dunia nyata lebih indah dengan perbedaan antara satu dan yang lainnya. Demikian, Jonas adalah karakter yang dinamis. Dari aktualisasi diri Jonas, dia mencoba mengakui diri sendiri, mengembangkan kemampuannya, keunikan pribadinya, dan aktualisasi potensialnya sebagai seorang manusia yang mampu menjadi apa yang ingin dia capai.

Kata kunci: tokoh Jonas, novel *The Giver*, karakter, aktualisasi diri

A. INTRODUCTION

The novel entitled *The Giver* by Lois Lowry was published in 1993, this novel was the winner of the Newbery Medal award for excellence in children's literature. The Newbery Medal was named for eighteenth-century British bookseller John Newbery. The Newbery medal was awarded once a year by the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association, to the author of the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children (ALA American Association Library). Lois Lowry's *The Giver* is also one of the novels that often discussed in a class of elementary school in America, and it is because this novel made an imagination more developing for children and also for young adults. This novel is one kind of a young adult dystopian literature.

The researchers choose Lois Lowry's *The Giver* as the subject of analysis because the story of the novel tells about the sameness in that community without the difference between one and another then erase all of the memories. It makes the researchers curious how deep Lois Lowry as the writer described sameness is not the best choice for the community. From this novel, the author gives me a reason why the difference is better than the sameness. The difference itself makes people develop, and get the highest potential called 'Self-Actualization'. The purposes of this study are to find the character of Jonas portrayed in *The Giver* novel and to find personality of Jonas through the Self-Actualization described in *The Giver* novel.

B. RELATED LITERATURE

Every human has different personality between one and another. Human has unique characteristics, and it creates personality. As human, they are free to choose whatever they want as long as it is good for their life. It makes people have their rights to be just the way they are.

1. Brave

Brave creates when people do the right thing even they must do something different to get new experience. According to Peterson and Seligman in *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification* that bravery is usually considered doing what is right, including confronting the status quo or opposing an unhealth idea, and as such, it takes on a moral tone (19). That statement clearly shows that people can do anything even they have to against the rule to get it right.

After they do the right thing even they have to do the opposite and they will facing challenge. When facing challenge, people usually have to take a risk and choose the different way. According to Peterson and Seligman in *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification* that facing challenge often brings out pre perseverance, ingenuity, mutual aid, cohesion, and social support in a community. Social psychologists, like psychoanalysts, have concluded that bravery is present as part of people's daily ability to face challenges.

Bravery does exist in people's daily ability to face challenges. Challenge makes people aware that they must to choose. Whether they choose the good way or the bad way to take a responsibility that life is about facing so many challenges in the world. According to Ferguson in *Natural Bravery: Fear and Fearlessness as a Direct Path of Awakening* states that bravery here means being brave enough to encourage the goodness of others, courageous enough to draw out underlying goodness in any situation. It's the bravery seeing and feeling environmental goodness (160). Bravery is not about brave doing something new or something different, it is also brave to see and feel goodness in the other people.

After seeing and feeling environmental goodness, it can conclude that brave is a feeling. Based on Ferguson in *Natural Bravery: Fear and Fearlessness as a Direct Path of Awakening* that

here are some steps in this process. We could begin with feeling the ground, touching in with the feelings of the group (160).

When brave is about feeling ground, and touching in with the feelings, brave also feeling confidence and fearless to do something new. According to Cahn in *Classics of Western Philosophy, 8th Edition* that bravery is about feelings of confidence and fear—not, however about both in the same way, but more about frightening things (299).

Feeling confidence and fearless to do anything, even more about frightening things, it creates brave person. Based on Cahn in *Classics of Western Philosophy 8th Edition* that for someone is brave if he is undisturbed and in the right state about these, more that if he is in this state about things inspiring confidence (299).

It does not matter to be different, but important to be confidence and brave to take a new experience. According to Sosik in *Leading with Character 2nd Edition: Stories of Valor and Virtue and the Principles They Teach* that bravery has been linked to favoring and looking out for others, feeling connected with others, entering and sustaining high quality relationships with others, self-confidence, self-efficacy, reflection, tolerance for ambiguity and uncertainty, ability to assess risk, and whistle blowing (57).

2. Sensitive Feelings

Sensitive person has a sensitive feeling and easily to feel what the others feel and easy to be offended by others too. According to Marian Mission in *Primer on Personality* that a sensitive person has a tender feelings which can be easily hurt, offended, or disturbed by remarks or treatment by others. He can also be attuned to the pain and suffering of others (45). It is just sensitive person has a tender feeling, it makes them really easy to feel what the others feel.

The important thing of sensitive persons, that they difficult to deal with a joke or something that they cannot accept like an insult. The sensitive person, on the other hand, may cringe at the slightest glance from someone or may be readily offended by a joking remark or by lack of verbal appreciation by others (45). It makes sensitive person's easily to get hurts, only one word can ruin everything.

Sensitivity implies a certain vulnerability. A sensitive person hurts inwardly more easily than an insensitive person. He feels for others more readily and often has the capacity for empathy, for feeling sympathy (45). The advantage of people who has a sensitive feeling is they have so many friends. Because people with sensitive feelings, who have a pure heart to share and care to the others.

As sensitive person has a pure heart, it makes they really care without doubt. According to May in *Sharing Responsibility* that the sensitive person can care about another's suffering even though he does not endorse the expressed wants of another (58).

3. Intelligence

From a billion people in this world which is not all of people has intelligence. Intelligence is a gift from God to the lucky person that He chooses. Also God creates people with intelligence for a purpose. According to Stemberg in *Wisdom, Intelligence, and Creativity Synthesized* that people's everyday judgements of each other's intelligence always have been and continue to be much more strongly guided by their implicit theories of intelligence than by any explicit theories (5).

Judgements about intelligence are strongly guided by the implicit theories about intelligence than the explicit theories. According to Peterson and Seligman in *Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification* that intelligence refers to the ability to think abstractly—to understand similarities and differences among things, to recognize patterns,

and to see other relations (19). People with intelligence have a critical thinking to think everything that happens in their life.

Beside intelligence person have a critical thinking, they also have ability to plan and pay attention. According to Stenberg in *Wisdom, Intelligence, and Creativity Synthesized* states the idea is that intelligence requires the ability to plan and to pay attention. It also requires the ability to attend to many aspects of stimulus, such as a picture, simultaneously, or, in some cases, to process stimuli sequentially, as when one memorizes a string of digits to remember telephone number (32). Intelligence also require capacity to remember, easy to remember what they see, what they heard and so on.

Intelligence person have a critical thinking, ability to plan, ability to pay attention, and easy to remember. According to Cattell in *Intelligence: Its Structure, Growth, and Action* that perceiving intelligence as “the capacity to learn”(11). People with intelligence always learn, and never stop to learn as long as they still can learn. Because from knowledge is always open up mind to see beyond.

4. Self-Actualization Theory

The four needs required to achieve Self-Actualization that stand lower in the Maslow’s hierarchy are psychological needs, safety needs, belonging needs, and esteem needs. Those are basic survival are the first priority, and the highest potential follow on when other needs have been met. And the potential one is called Self-Actualization.

There are specific characteristics that described a self-actualizing person. Self-actualizing persons perceive objects and person in the world around them objectively. They have an efficient perception of reality that enables them to perceive reality as it is. Self-actualizing persons acquire a general acceptance of nature, others, and oneself. It is a matter of accepting oneself, their shortcoming, and their strength; without complaint or worry. Self-actualizing persons are those who attain spontaneity, simplicity, and naturalness in behaving. They do not hide their emotion but can display them honestly. Self-actualizing persons have a focus on problems outside themselves. They give concerns on the works they are doing.

Self-actualizing persons have needs for privacy and independence. They have a strong need for detachment and solitude. Their behaviors and feelings are strongly self-centered and self-directed. It means that they have the ability to make up their own minds, reach their own decisions, and exercise their own motivation and discipline. Self-actualizing persons are autonomous functioning. If a person is an autonomous functioning, she or he has realized that satisfaction of the growth motives comes from within. Self-actualizing persons have a continued freshness of appreciation. Self-actualizing persons continually appreciate certain experiences, no matter how often they are repeated, with a fresh sense of pleasure, awe, and wonder. They take little for granted but continue to be thankful for what they possess and can experience.

Self-actualizing persons experience mystical, or “peak” experiences. It is when the self is transcendence and the person is gripped by a feeling of power, confidence, and decisiveness, a profound sense that there is nothing he or she could not accomplish to become. Self-actualizing persons concern in social interest. They possess strong and deep feeling of empathy and affection for all human beings, as well as a desire to help humanity. Self-actualizing persons acquire the interpersonal relations. They are capable of stronger relationship with others than are persons of average mental health. They are capable of greater love, deeper friendship, and more complete identification with other individuals. Self-actualizing persons have democratic character structure. There is no certain limitation on building relationship with people, such as social class, level of education, political or religious

affiliation, race or color. They hold the essence of equality that every person has the same opportunity to know others.

Self-actualizing persons are capable to recognize discrimination between means and ends, between good and evil. The self-actualizing persons hold that they are enjoying the process of achieving something as well as the goals they achieve. Therefore, they give consent both on the means and the ends. In addition, they have well defined understanding on good and evil so that they cannot be easily influenced by confusing situation that enable them to make decisions. Self-actualizing persons acquire sense of humor. This characteristic deals with the ability of persons in making fun of humanity in general, not in specific individuals.

Self-actualizing persons can present his or her creativeness. This means that they are original, inventive, and innovative, although not always in terms of producing an artistic creation. It is more of an attitude, an expression of psychological health, and is concerned more with the way people perceive and react to the world than with finished products of an artistic nature. Self-actualizing persons have resistance to enculturation. They are able to resist social pressures to think or act in certain ways. They maintain an inner detachment, an aloofness from their culture, guided by themselves rather than by others.

C. METHOD

1. Research Design

This research is categorized as a descriptive qualitative research. The researchers used content analysis. According to Krippendorff that content analysis is a research technique for making replicable and valid inferences from texts (or other meaningful matter) to the contexts of their use (25). The researchers chose a theory of humanistic psychology by Abraham Maslow, and it was because his subject tells about Self-Actualization, which related to Jonas's self-actualization. The result of the data is presented in forms of words and sentences instead of numerical data.

2. Data and Source of Data

The researchers got all of the data are from all of the words that are written in *The Giver* novel by Lois Lowry. Data that the researchers analyzed was only from the main character of Lois Lowry's *The Giver*, Jonas. So, all of the describing acts and behaviors, in the forms of narration from the main character Jonas that the researcher took from the novel were included of the data. Other sources were from the undergraduate thesis, the newest journal which was related to this thesis, and also the source on the internet that contains all of the information that useful for this thesis to analyze Lois Lowry's *The Giver*.

3. Data Collection

In order to collect the data, the researchers did some steps. First, the researchers read the novel repeatedly and carefully. Then, the researchers took a note to make a mark on words, sentences, dialogues, and narration which were related or indicated self-actualization of main character Jonas in the novel.

4. Data Analysis

In analyzing the data, the researchers made the list of data to collect the valid data. The first step was data reduction. The researchers selected, focused, classified, which indicated self-actualization of the main character Jonas in the novel. Then, the researchers displayed the data. The second step was displaying the data. In the data display the researcher organized and compressed assembly of information that permits conclusion. The data firstly about main character Jonas' portrayed in the novel. The researcher took the theory from Mary

Rohrberger and Samuel H. Woods Jr stated in *Reading and Writing about Literature*, that there are two ways characterization. The researchers also took the theory of Self-Actualization by Abraham Maslow to answer the second of research problem. Then the researchers analyzed the data based on the theory in review related literature to answer the research problem about Self-Actualization of the main character Jonas in the novel. After that, the researchers took a conclusion of the research after considering the relevant data and evidence.

D. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. Jonas' Character Portrayed in *The Giver* Novel

The researchers try to attain the descriptions of the main character, Jonas. The researcher has found three characters of Jonas in novel, which is different from the other citizens in his community. His characters are brave, sensitive feelings, and intelligence. Those characters also make him get his self-actualization. And to perceive the characteristics, the researchers observe the character according to the context of situation in the novel.

...so had let it pass. But suddenly Jonas had noticed, following the path of the apple through the air with his eyes, that the piece of fruit had—well, this was the part that he couldn't adequately understand—the apple had changed. Just for an instant. It had changed in mid-air, he remembered. Then it was in his hand and he looked at it carefully but it was the same apple. Unchanged...Jonas had been completely mystified...He had tossed it several times across the room, watching, and then rolled it around and around on his desktop, waiting for the thing to happen again (29-31).

From *The Giver*, the concept of sameness is used in controlling the community seems to be succeeding for all of people in the community. Bravery has seen when Jonas tosses the apple several times and he sees the apple had changed. That process is captured as an interaction between Jonas and his circumstance, the apple itself. Then, the process is determined Jonas's thought in searching the truth from what he has just seen through the incidence. Jonas is a brave person for he brings the apple home meanwhile the rule of the community states that it is forbidden to bring anything out of the recreation room. Related to his determination of thinking, Jonas is considered as a good learner in which he cannot stop to search what surely happens with the apple.

With his new, heightened feelings, he was overwhelmed by sadness at the way the other had laughed and shouted, playing at the war. But he knew that they could not understand why, without the memories...but they could not feel it back, without the memories...Jonas knew with certainty that he could change nothing (169-170).

Jonas has special characteristics from his capacities to be the Receiver of Memory. He is much better if compared with others in the community. The condition of the community illustrated in the novel has ironically developed Jonas's characteristics. It is not possible for anyone in the community to have any kind of freedom while Jonas grows within a depth of life. Jonas really cares about the conditions of his own environment, because he has a very sensitive feeling than anyone in his community. He really cares to all of his friends, and also family, also to the entire members of the community.

With her hand still firmly on his shoulder, the chief elder listed the qualities. "Intelligence," she said. "We are all aware that Jonas has been a top student throughout his school days."

"Integrity," she said next. "Jonas has, like all of us, committed minor transgressions." She smiled at him

"We expect that. We hope, also that he would present himself promptly for chastisement, and he has always done so.

"Courage," she went on. "Only one of us here today has ever undergone the rigorous training required of a receiver. He, of course...(78).

The community is controlled by a concept called the Sameness. And it makes all of the members are grown in the same way, without the difference. Then, their experiences are almost same in every aspect of life, such as creativity, and also freedom of choice. The chance of having the special characteristics is almost none. But, there are a few people who have that kind characteristics, Jonas is an exception. From Jonas's precision in language shows his intelligence. Furthermore, to be selected as a Receiver, some qualities are needed, and Jonas is known as an intelligent person. He is top student during his school days.

2. Jonas' Self-Actualization in the Novel

According to Maslow, the first form in which self-actualizing people capacities was noticed was as an unusual ability to detect the spurious, the fake, and the dishonest in personality, and in general to judge people correctly and efficiently (153). Self-actualizing persons perceive objects and person in the world around them objectively. They have an efficient perception of reality that enables them to perceive reality as it is.

Always, in the dream, it seemed as if there were a destination: a something—he could not grasp what—that lay beyond the place where the thickness of snow brought the sled to a stop. He was left, upon awakening, with the feeling that he wanted, even somehow needed, to reach the something that waited in the distance. The feeling that it was good. That it was welcoming. That it was significant. But he did not know how to get there (111-112).

Objective perception of Jonas was shown when he was in dreams. He dreams about the destination that full of snow. Jonas absolutely knows where there is a place in which he can find something more valuable. Something that he wants to achieve but it is limited in the community. Even he does not know what is in the distance. But he considered which he really wants to get there. He realizes that he must to make a hard effort to reach the place.

According to Maslow, self-actualizing people can accept their own human nature in the stoic style, with all its shortcomings, with all its discrepancies from the ideal image without feeling real concern (155). Self-actualizing persons acquire a general acceptance of nature, others, and oneself. It is a matter of accepting oneself, their shortcoming, and their strength; without complaint or worry.

And he has funny eyes like yours, Jonas!" Jonas glared at her. He didn't like it that she had mentions his eyes...

...Jonas had simply never bothered to look at himself very often even when he found himself in a location where a mirror existed. Now seeing the new child and its expression—what was it? *Depth*, he decided; as if one were looking into the clear water of the river, down the bottom, where things might lurk

which hadn't been discovered yet. He felt self-conscious, realizing that he, too, had that look (25-26).

Jonas is able to recognize the new child's eyes. The boy named Gabriel has the same eyes color like Jonas. In the community, mirrors so hard to find because it is forbidden, and there is no need to see themselves in the mirrors. It comes when he was looking himself into clear water in the river. Then he felt self-conscious which his eyes the same with the newchild's eyes. This is Jonas's integrity to accept the nature of other. It is clearly that Jonas never worried to know his own eyes, now, and also recognize that his eyes the same with the newchild's eyes without complaint or worry.

Self-actualizing persons are those who attain spontaneity, simplicity, and naturalness in behaving. According to Maslow, self-actualizing people can all be described as relatively spontaneous in behavior and far more spontaneous than that in their inner life, thoughts, impulses, etc. Their behavior is marked by simplicity and naturalness, and by lack of artificiality or straining for effect (157).

"Pow! You're hit again!"...He had a sudden choking feeling, as it were difficult to breathe..."Asher," Jonas said, he is trying to speak carefully, and with kindness, to say exactly what he wanted to say (167-169).

Jonas really knows about the war and the game which they have been played in the field. Jonas feels so terrible when their friends play that game. He is getting a sudden choking feeling and tries to explain about the war to his friends. Something that he wants to say to his friends is considered as his spontaneity and simplicity. As the emotion makes him breathe heavily, he expresses it honestly.

Self-actualizing persons have needs for privacy and independence. According to Maslow, self actualizing people stick by their own interpretation of a situation rather than to rely upon what other people feel or think about the matter (160).

**...he said, "it will be painful. But it need not be painful yet."
"I'm brave. I really am." Jonas sat up a little straighter.
...he said, "Well, since you asked the question—I think I have enough energy for one more transmission...Jonas obeyed cheerfully. He closed his eyes, waiting...Restlessly he moved one arm, bending it, and felt a sharp pain in the crease of his inner arm in the elbow. "Ouch," he said loudly, and shifted on the bed. "Ouwwww," he said, wincing at the shift..."It hurt a lot," Jonas said, "but I'm glad you gave it to me. It was interesting (108-109).**

Facing the next transmission, Jonas obeyed The Giver's instruction cheerfully. One painful memory for that day has been chosen by Jonas as his growth choice seems to be stronger than fear choice. Absolutely it is a brave person who makes that kind of choice. Jonas's bravery is qualified enough for creating independence. On the other hand, Jonas cannot create his privacy because of his community is under control of the Chief Elders. They have to know everything about the citizen in the community.

According to Maslow, one of the characteristics of self-actualizing people, which to a certain extent to crosscuts much of what we have already described, is their relative independence of physical and social environment (162).

“I’m feeling apprehensive,” he confessed, glad that the appropriate descriptive word had finally come to him.

“Why is that son?” His father looked concerned.

“I know there’s really nothing to worry about,” Jonas explained, “and that every adult has been through it. I know you have, Father, and you too, Mother. But it’s ceremony that I’m apprehensive about. It’s almost December” (12).

Autonomous functioning in Jonas’s case was shown when her father asked him about his feelings. He is dealing with his family, and Jonas has to set a right word to represent his feeling about what happen in the coming of December. It is an example that this precision of language has been a medium for the idea of saving his feeling about the coming of December. It is when Jonas searching a right word for representing his feeling is an example of his quality of life. Then, Jonas’s behavior has maintained that life should be meaningful.

Self-actualizing persons have a continued freshness of appreciation. According to Maslow, self-actualizing people have the wonderful capacity to appreciate again and again, freshly and naively, the basic of good life, with awe, pleasure, wonder, and even ecstasy (163).

Comprehending all of those things as he sped downward, he was free to enjoy the breathless glee that overwhelmed him: the peed, the clear cold air, the total silence, the feeling of balance, and excitement and peace...and he pushed with his body, moving it forward, not wanting the exhilarating ride to end (103-104).

Starting the training with many experiences given by The Giver, Jonas has enthusiasm to face both enjoyable and painful experiences. Following the enjoyable memory that The Giver gives to him, Jonas wants The Giver gives it again. The feelings that Jonas experiences seem to be new things for Jonas as the community is governed by the concept of “sameness” in which any kind of those things above are released. Not only does Jonas want the experiences to be repeated but also, he continues to be thankful for what he possess, and further, of course to experience more.

Self-actualizing persons experience mystical, or “peak” experiences. According to Maslow, there were the same feelings of limitless horizons opening up to the vision, the feeling of being simultaneously more powerful and also more helpless than one ever was before, the feeling of great ecstasy and wonder and awe, the loss of placing in time and space with (164).

...It would not be uphill anymore. “We are almost there, Gabriel,” he whispered, feeling quite certain without knowing why. “I remember this place, Gabe.” And it was true. But it was not a grasping of a thin and burdensome recollection; this was different. This was something that he could keep. It was a memory of his own (223-224).

From this novel, Jonas feels quite certain to accomplish his journey. He does not know why he feels strong to continue his journey. His statement to Gabriel, “We are almost there, Gabriel,” shows that Jonas has the power to face any challenge next to him. The fact, he finds the real hill. It is from his memory of hill actually. He is gripped by feeling of power, confidence, and decisiveness, a profound sense that there is nothing he could not accomplish to become.

Self-actualizing persons concern in social interest. According to Maslow, the self-actualizing people have for human beings in general a deep feeling of identification, sympathy

and affection in spite of the occasional anger, impatience, or disgust describe below. Because of this they have a genuine desire to help the human race (165).

...You have the capacity to see beyond. You'll gain wisdom, then, along with colors. And a lots more."

Jonas wasn't interested just then, in wisdom. It was the colors that fascinated him. "Why can't everyone see them? Why did colors disappear?" (120).

Being aware of something what he wants to be, it is possible for someone to think about his environment; his friends, his family, even the whole members of his community. Jonas has reached this awareness that he loves all of people around him. Jonas has shown his determination in struggling meanwhile he has deep feeling of empathy and affection for all human beings. Jonas has different perception about life. He imagines that people should have something similarly what he has now. There are many colors in the world. The world should be colorful as the life should be. However, the fact that people in the community has not known nothing about the colors.

Self-actualizing persons acquire the interpersonal relations. According to Maslow, self-actualizing persons acquire the interpersonal relations. They are capable of stronger relationship with others than are persons of average mental health. They are capable of greater love, deeper friendship, and more complete identification with other individuals (164).

...well, I can see that it wasn't a very practical way to live...I was thinking, I mean feeling, actually, that it was kind of nice, then. And that I wish I could be that way...The family in the memory seemed a little more... "I do understand that it wouldn't work very well. And that it's much better to be organized the way we are now. I can see that it was a dangerous way to live (158)."

Jonas has experienced many kinds of memories during his life time. Being apart from the involvement of memory that is given by The Giver, Jonas himself has many special characteristics that make him realize the deeper need for living. It is love that Jonas wants to have. Jonas has integrity that he can confess the difficulty of living. Something that he wants to have is not easy as it seems. To show his love to all of his friends, his family, and his community is to make a change for them about the way of living. He clearly knows that the way they live now is terrible. There is, actually, a nice way. However, his confession is not showing his startled looking. He does understand the problems.

Self-actualizing persons are capable to recognize discrimination between means and ends, between good and evil. According to Maslow, self actualizing people are strongly ethical, they have definite moral standards, they do right and do not do wrong (168).

Finally, he steeled himself to read the final rule again. He had been trained since earliest childhood, since his earliest learning of language, never to lie.... "I'm starving." Immediately he had been taken aside for a brief private lesson in language precision. He was not starving. It was pointed out. He was *hungry*...To say "starving" was to speak a lie. An unintentioned lie, of course. But the reason for precision of language was to ensure that unintentional lies were never uttered...He had never, within his memory, been tempted to lie (89).

Jonas is one of the special people described in the novel. It is also shown in his attention towards any matter of life. A process of searching can be something interesting for Jonas, even it is out of his consciousness, and to find a correct decision. The process goes well that Jonas is not easy to be influenced by that kind of statement. Since he is not easily influenced by the confusing situation this part shows Jonas's recognition about means and ends, good and evil.

Self-actualizing persons can present his or her creativeness. According to Maslow, all we can say of the self-actualizing people is that they seem to be specially endowed with a drive and a capacity that may have rather little relationship to the rest of the personality and with which, from all evidence, the individuals seem to be born (170).

**"...his name's Gabriel?" ...He grabs toys when we hold them in front of him...
"But now that I can see colors, at least sometimes, I was just thinking; what if we could hold up things that were bright red, or bright yellow..."
"He might make wrong choices."
"Oh," Jonas was silent for a minute. "Oh, I see what you mean. It wouldn't matter for a new child's toy. But latter it does matter, doesn't it? We don't dare to let people make choices of their own." ...But when the conversation turned to other things, Jonas was left, still, with a feeling of frustration that he didn't understand...and he was angry at himself, that he could not change that for them (123-124).**

This actualizing attitude which is shown by Jonas that he wants an innovative act comes from the whole community. Talking about an innovative act, or even an inventive act, it is related with his creativeness. Jonas's reaction towards the world needs much freshness of thinking. There is no one well practiced in a matter of freedom of life. Knowing that there is no one knows about colors in the community, Jonas has reaction which indirectly shows his desire to have the world with full of color. He wants the people lives within it that means they will know the quality and the meaning. There should be many choices of life.

E. CONCLUSIONS

Based on the findings and discussion, it can be concluded that the character of Jonas that found in Jonas in *The Giver* novel that Jonas is different from the other in his community. The researcher finds that Jonas is brave, has a very sensitive feeling than anyone in his community, and a smart boy, with high intelligence. As a result of self-actualization, the researcher found eleven characteristics that described the self-actualization of Jonas in *The Giver* novel. there are; 1) objective perception, (2) general acceptance of nature, others and oneself, (3) spontaneity, simplicity, and naturalness behaving, (4) needs for privacy and independence, (5) autonomous functioning, (6) freshness of appreciation, (7) mystical or "peak" experiences, (8) concern in social interest, (9) interpersonal relations, (10) recognize discrimination between means and ends, good and evil, (11) present creativeness (153-174). Jonas tries to recognize his own self, develop his ability, his personal uniqueness, and actualize his potentials as a human being that capable of becoming what he wants to achieve.

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