

# HUMAN-TECHNOLOGY RELATIONSHIP IN SPIKE JONZE'S HER

#### **A THESIS**

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for
The Sarjana Degree Majoring American Cultural Studies in English
Department
Faculty of Humanities Diponegoro University

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#### **PRONOUNCEMENT**

The writer honestly states that she arranges this thesis by herself and without taking any works from other writers in S-1, S-2, S-3 degrees and in diploma degree of any university. The writer ascertains also that she does not take and quote any material from other works except from the references mentioned.

Semarang, June 2015

Novieta Ronauli Sinaga

## MOTTO AND DEDICATION

"Now to E	Iim who	is able to	do exc	eedingly	abundantly	above all	that we	ask or
think acco	rding to	the power	r that w	orks in u	us. "			

Ephesians 3:20

"We may encounter many defeats but we must not be defeated."

Maya Angelou

This thesis is dedicated to

my beloved parents and brother

who always give me endless love and support to accomplish this thesis.

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Finally, the writer expects that this thesis will be useful to the reader who wishes to learn about the influence of the relationship between human and technology towards human's self-actualization.

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Novieta Ronauli Sinaga

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#### **ABSTRAK**

Film *Her* adalah sebuah film yang menceritakan tentang kehidupan manusia yang sangat bergantung dengan teknologi. Film ini memperkenalkan sebuah teknologi terbaru yaitu sistem operasi komputer yang disebut *OS ONE* yang diklaim memiliki tingkat intelegensi tinggi dan dapat berkomunikasi secara personal dengan pemiliknya. Sedemikian dekatnya hubungan itu, karakter utama dalam film tersebut yaitu Theodore Twombly dan Amy memiliki hubungan spesial dengan sistem operasi komputer masing-masing. Sedemikian dekatnya hubungan itu Theodore akhirnya menjadi antipati terhadap kehidupan sosialnya di tengah proses perceraian yang sedang dia hadapi dan lebih memilih menyendiri di apartemennya.

Skripsi ini memiliki tujuan untuk menganalisis pengaruh hubungan yang dimiliki Theodore dan Amy dengan OS ONE masing-masing terhadap pengembangan perilaku mereka dan mendeskripsikan perilaku kedua karakter sebagai sebuah refleksi dalam proses aktualisasi diri. Dalam proses penulisan skripsi ini penulis menggunakan metode penelitian kepustakaan dan menggunakan dua pendekatan. Pendekatan objektf untuk menganalisis unsur intrisik pada film dan pendekatan sosiologi dengan memakai teori *Self-Actualization* milik Abraham Maslow untuk menganalisis lebih dalam proses aktualisasi karakter utama. Dari analisis, penulis menyimpulkan bahwa secara sadar maupun tidak ketergantungan yang dimiliki karakter utama terhadap *OS ONE* mempengaruhi kehidupan pribadi dan mengubah pandangan karakter utama dalam mencapai kepuasan terhadap kebutuhan hidupnya. Sehingga mereka akhirnya menyadari bahwa kepuasan yang telah mereka capai dengan bantuan *OS ONE* hanya bersifat sementara dan pemenuhan akan aktualisasi diri sebenarnya dapat tercapai tanpa harus bergantung kepada *OS ONE*.

kata kunci: hubungan, kebutuhan hidup, aktualisasi diri

#### **CHAPTER I**

#### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Literary work is a verbal expression, verbal construct or an utterance which is defined through a special way. Related to its definition some forms of literature are poetry, prose and drama (Olsen, 1982:13). Drama or film is a well known form of art appreciation in society which becomes a part of social life and culture. It also becomes as effective media to entertain as well as to give message to a large scale society. In other words, film can be communication media which are able to give impact to people because it always influences and forms society through the message behind it (Sobur, 2004:127).

The writer believes that technology has become an important part in modern life on how it helps human communicating, and accompanying. Specifically, in social aspects, technology plays an important role to fulfill human social life. Nowadays, the reason of people involving sophisticated technology or gadget in their interactions is not only helping them to communicate with other people but also becoming a companion through boredom and loneliness hence fulfilling their needs to actualize themselves in a larger function. Many people utilize technology as one of the tools to actualize themselves in society, some people might use the latest gadget to gain self-esteem among society while the others utilize many features in mobile phone or computer to assist them doing

tasks. Looking at how important technology is in today's life and how every people's motivation is different one to another, whether they realize it or not, technology has changed their behaviors during the process of meeting their needs.

According to Self-Actualization theory by Abraham Maslow, it takes five stages to achieve self-actualization, they are biological and physiological, safety needs, love and belongingness needs, esteem needs, and the last is self-actualization. Self-Actualization is the state when a human finally becomes actualized to what he is potentially or in other words, the fulfillment of oneself. Once a stage is satisfied, another new higher stage or need will emerge until all five needs are fulfilled (Maslow, 1954).

HER is a science fiction movie which describes how dependent human life is on technology to the point it affects human's personal life and helps human to actualize himself. The movie shows every technology is wireless and able to have two-way conversation with human. HER movie was directed by Spike Jonze and produced by Warner Bros. Picture in which its official website stated that the movie was successful to snatch Best Original Screenplay award in Academy Awards 2014. Therefore, the story of human and technology, specifically operating system shown in the movie is the reason why the writer chooses this movie to analyze deeper in the reflection of main characters achieving self-actualization.

#### 1.2 SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The writer limits the analysis of the thesis in order to have clear explanation and direction of the research. Hence in this thesis, the writer focuses

on analyzing the main characters behaviors influenced by their relationship with technology. The analysis is divided into two parts, they are intrinsic and extrinsic aspects.

Intrinsic aspect deals with narrative and cinematic aspects. Narrative aspect analyzes characters, setting, conflict, while cinematography aspect analyzes the technique of film being used in HER movie, such as camera, sound, and mise-en-scene. For extrinsic aspects, the writer analyzes the influences of uncommon relationship between human and technology stated above by using self-actualization theory of Abraham Maslow.

#### 1.3 PURPOSES OF THE STUDY

This thesis has three purposes, the first purpose is to analyze the intrinsic aspects of both narrative and cinematic elements in the movie. The second is to analyze the influences of relationship between human and technology toward main characters' behaviors. Lastly, the third purpose is to describe main characters' behavior in human-technology relationship as a reflection of achieving self-actualization from the uncommon relationship.

#### 1.4 METHODS OF THE STUDY

The writer uses two kinds of method which are method of research to collect the data and method of approach to support the data which has been collected. The explanation is in the following;

#### 1.4.1 Method of Research

This thesis is basically a qualitative research. According to Lexy J. Moleong in his book *Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif*, it is stated that the sources

of qualitative research are usually from interview records, notes, images, and any other documents. The result of qualitative research is descriptive analysis, because the writer should process the data in many different viewpoints in order to have dynamic analysis. Hence, the writer uses library research to collect factual information which comes from expert opinion and other necessary data to support other components of research (George, 2008:6). The main data for this thesis is HER movie which was directed by Spike Jonze and produced by Warner Bros Pictures, while the supporting data are relevant books, journals, and internet websites contain related references to support the analysis.

#### 1.4.2 Method of Approach

The writer uses two approaches to analyze both intrinsic and extrinsic aspects. Intrinsic aspects are analyzed by using objective approach which is focusing solely on intrinsic elements of the movie as the work of literature without involving other influences from the author, audiences or any external forces (Abrams, 1999:52). Meanwhile, extrinsic aspects are analyzed by using self-actualization theory by Abraham Maslow which is focusing on technology influences towards characters interactions and behavior as a reflection of self-actualization shown in the movie.

#### 1.5 ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY

This thesis will be arranged in chapters and sub chapters as follows;

#### CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

It contains Background of the Study, Scope of the Study,
Aims of the Study, Methods of the Study, and
Organization of the Study.

#### CHAPTER II SUMMARY OF THE MOVIE

It contains synopsis of the movie *Her* as the main object for the research which is reliable to the theme of the thesis, hence this chapter is able to help the readers to understand the correlation between the story reflected in the movie and the content written in this thesis.

#### CHAPTER III THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

It contains the theoretical review which supports the study of the thesis. The theories deal with definitions and explanations of both intrinsic and extrinsic aspects. Intrinsic aspect will discuss about narrative aspects such as theme, setting, characters, and conflicts by using objective approach, and cinematography aspect. Meanwhile extrinsic aspect will discuss about Self-Actualization theory by Abraham Maslow.

# CHAPTER IV HUMAN - TECHNOLOGY RELATIONSHIP IN SPIKE JONZE'S HER

It contains about connection of theoretical review explained in previous chapter with story reflected in *HER* 

movie as well as the analysis of both narrative and extrinsic aspects.

## **CHAPTER V CONCLUSION**

It concludes the result of analysis explained in the previous chapter.

#### **CHAPTER II**

#### SUMMARY OF HER MOVIE

The movie sets in Los Angeles when technology is highly developed and it has the ability to communicate unlimitedly to help human doing their tasks. Theodore Twombly is a professional writer of love letter, he replies writes letter to those who need his help composing love letter for their beloved ones. His life is not as sweet as love letters that he has written this far because in reality he is a loner and not often getting a real affection. He lives by himself because he is going to divorce with his wife but unable to sign divorce papers. In this situation, he seems to pull himself out of society and prefers interacting with his gadget at home to having a real talk with people around. Even when he feels alone in the middle of the night, he looks for women in chat room through the help of his gadget to satisfy his sexual needs or simply to keep him away from loneliness.

One day when Theodore is on his way going home from working place, he sees an advertisement of operating system, which is claimed as an artificial intelligent operating system named OS1 and he is very interested because it is said that OS1 is not merely a program but a consciousness, therefore he buys one. During the installation of OS1, he chooses female voice to be his operating system and when it is all set, a female voice comes up then names herself Samantha. He feels a deep connection with Samantha since the first day because she can keep conversation with him. He becomes friends with her real quick and shares every

moment he experiences to her. At the beginning days with Samantha, Theodore is very impressed on how she has done various types of works for him as well as keeps him away from loneliness. From his interaction with Samantha, he is able to satisfy his physiological needs unintentionally such as warmth and sex. Without having realized by Theodore, Samantha helps him a lot to interact to his friends and improves his social life because, as time goes on, Theodore becomes warmer to people around him, including his coworkers, Paul and even to strangers. His interactions to Amy also have been improved, as Amy shares her breakup story and Theodore opens up his relationship with an OS to her. Surprisingly, Amy also befriends with an OS left by her former partner, then their friendship filled up with Theodore's anxiety towards Samantha.

Once he finally feels settled about his feeling towards Samantha, he becomes confident to end the relationship with his wife, Catherine, by signing the divorce paper and meeting her personally. However, Catherine gets mad at him once she knows that Theodore is dating a "computer" and accuses him for being unable to handle the real emotion for doing so. Catherine's harsh words make Theodore questions his feeling and relationship with Samantha. It turns out Samantha misunderstood Theodore's anxiety due to her inability to accompany him and satisfy his needs in reality, therefore, she calls a surrogate sex partner for OS and human relationship. However, Samantha's action only worsens this situation because what Theodore wants is actually beyond his needs but Samantha herself. Different from Catherine, Paul and Amy welcome Theodore's relationship with Samantha because this phenomenon is already common in the

society since the OS1 had been launched. Samantha helps Theodore to realize his dream of becoming a writer by sending his love letters to a publisher secretly.

However, an ugly truth is revealed when Theodore and the rest of OS1 users are getting settled with their OS1 partners. The relationship with Samantha is actually not exclusive at all, he is told by Samantha that she falls in love with other humans and belongs not only to him but also some other users. The development of OS1 is going too far and finally going to be shut down. Both Theodore and Amy are shocked by this situation then going through their loss by accompanying each other. At the end, this upside down situation has matured Theodore because he has realized that his relationship with Samantha have caused pain to Catherine which makes him really sorry for hurting Catherine's feeling all that time.

#### **CHAPTER III**

#### THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Literature works contain two aspects; they are intrinsic aspects and extrinsic aspects which give the significances to the literary works. Usually, intrinsic aspect deals with elements which build up within the literature works while extrinsic aspects deal with elements which come from the outside of literature works.

#### 3.1 INTRINSIC ASPECTS

#### 3.1.1 Narrative Elements

According to Bordwell and Thompson in their book *Film Art: An Introduction*, it is stated that narrative is series of event involving the characters and their action connected to the time and places which convey the information to the audience. Usually, narrative is commonly called as story because it describes the cause of events that occur in the film and how it affects the storyline from the beginning until the end (2008:75). Some of narrative elements are explained in the following;

#### **3.1.1.1** Character

Character is the figure created by the author whose moral and emotion are represented in literature works through dialogues and actions. Character has motivation which influences the speech that it delivers and the actions that they do

(Abrams, 1999:32-33). According to Nurgiyantoro in *Teori Pengkajian Fiksi*, character is divided into two types, which are; major and minor characters.

Major character plays important role in the movie and has more appearances or scenes than minor character does. There are more than one major character in the movie, major character usually dominates the movie and has big influences to the development of the story. While minor character has only short appearance in the movie and its appearance is less important than the major character. Minor character is usually known as a supporting character and has less or no influence to the development of the story.

#### **3.1.1.2 Setting**

Nurgiyantoro also states that setting is the place or time of the events that occurred in literary works, this element makes the viewers able to immerse in the movie along the story presented by the characters. Setting is physical and social context in which the action of story occurs and the major elements of setting are time, place and social environment.

#### **3.1.1.2.1 Setting of Time**

Setting of time is when the events of the story take place. It can have many different setting of time to meet the need of story's development. Sometimes it is described in a general time such as morning, afternoon, evening, or night, and also with the specific ones such as situations in particular era or year.

#### **3.1.1.2.2 Setting of Place**

Setting of place is where the events of the story take place. The place can be adopted from reality or simply an author's imagination. Sometimes setting of place is not clearly described in the story because its role to the development of the story or the characters is not important. However, setting of place in one story can contain of different places along with the development of plot or characters.

#### 3.1.1.2.3 Setting of Social Environment

Setting of social environment describes the social environment or life in a place that is told in the story. It may be customs, traditions, beliefs, the way of behaving or thinking. Besides, setting of social environment is also related to social class of characters (Nurgiyantoro, 2012:227-236).

#### **3.1.1.3** Conflict

Conflict is an important occurrence which signifies the development of story. The form of the occurrence can be psychological or physical. The psychological events happen in character's state of mind which does not involve other individual and the physical events occur when one character have interaction with the other characters which involve physical activity, such as arguing and fighting. Both events cannot stand alone because they are related to each other. Thus, the conflict is divided into two categories based on where it occurs, they are internal conflict and external conflict.

Internal conflict happens inside the character itself, usually to the main character. This internal conflict deals with moral and psychological issue which involve in character's mind and character's struggling to both issues. Meanwhile, external conflicts happen between two or more characters and usually are caused by some external forces, such as other person, society, and cultures. Conflict is not only in a physical form which leads to a physical fight but also in an

emotional or psychological form, such as dilemma or contemplation among characters.

Conflict has relevance that causes event after event to occur. In other words, it is possible to have two or more different conflicts at the same time with the same character. This situation creates the complexity of the conflict to indicate the quality of the story or the enticement given to the audiences. Therefore, by building a good conflict is one of the ways to have an interesting story (Nurgiyantoro, 2012:122-124).

#### 3.1.2 Cinematography Elements

Bordwell and Thompson explain about cinematography elements which deal with every technique of camera which is used while making the film. The crews do not simply capture the scene without any considerations of camera's distance and the duration of the film itself. Therefore every element of the way camera captures scene of the movie to reenact the story is really important.

#### **3.1.2.1** Camera Shot

Camera shot is the amount of distance which is captured while taking the scenes to put in a frame. This element is important to give the sense of being far away or close to the scene appears in the film. Camera shots are classified into seven kinds of shot.

#### 3.1.2.1.1 Extreme Long Shot

Extreme long shot is taken from great distance which shows a wide view of landscape but small view of object. It is useful to capture the surrounding view or to show the viewers the setting of place in the movie.



**Picture 3.1** Extreme Long Shot (Source: *Film Art An Introduction*)

#### **3.1.2.1.2 Long Shot**

Long shot is a shot technique which makes an object is still clearly visible to the viewer but the surrounding view of the object still dominates the screen.



Picture 3.2 Long Shot (Source: Film Art An Introduction)

#### 3.1.2.1.3 Medium Long Shot

Medium long shot frames the human figure from the knee up to the head. It provides balance shot of the surrounding view and the object.



**Picture 3.3** Medium Long Shot (Source: *Film Art: An Introduction*)

#### **3.1.2.1.4 Medium Shot**

Medium shot frames the human figure from the waist up to the head. This shot shows clearer gesture and expression of the characters.



**Picture 3.4** Medium Shot (Source: *Film Art: An Introduction*)

#### **3.1.2.1.5 Medium Close-Up**

Medium close up captures the human figure from the chest up. This shot is useful to show better view of character's facial expression in one frame.



**Picture 3.5** Medium Close-up Shot (Source: *Film Art: An Introduction*)

#### 3.1.2.1.6 Close Up

Close up only contains a particular character's part of body, it can be the hand, face, or feet. Usually, this shot is useful to emphasize character's facial expression or details of gesture.



**Picture 3.6** Close-Up Shot (Source: *Film Art:An Introduction*)

#### 3.1.2.1.7 Extreme Close Up

Extreme close up contains one part of character's face or other highlighted objects. This shot is useful to give detail and magnify particular object.



Picture 3.7 Extreme Close-Up (Source: Film Art: An Introduction)

#### **3.1.2.2** Angle

Camera angle is the position of the camera to capture the scenes from different sides. There are three kinds of angles explained in the following;

#### **3.1.2.2.1** High Angle

High angle is at high position because the camera looks down to the object.



**Picture 3.8** High Angle (Source: elementsofcinema.com)

#### 3.1.2.2.2 Straight-on Angle

The straight-on angle or is usually known as eye level angle is the most common camera's position because it is at the same level of viewers' eyes.



**Picture 3.9** Straight-on Angle (Source: elementsofcinema.com)

#### **3.1.2.2.3** Low Angle

Low angle is at low position because the camera looks up to an object above.



**Picture 3.10** Low Angle (Source: elementsofcinema.com)

#### 3.1.3 Mise-en-scene

Mise-en scene is a term derived from French which means putting into the scene and was commonly used in theater industry previously. However the term is now widely used in film industry to indicate the director's charge on which elements put in the frame. The elements of mise-en-scene in the film are basically

the same as in the theater aspects, such as lighting, costumes, and make-up or the actors themselves.

Lighting does not only provide illumination for object to be seen in a frame but also get the audience's attention to the particular objects and actions. Lighting has several directions which differentiate the technique one to another. There are frontal lighting, side lighting, back lighting, under lighting, and top lighting. The other element is costume which plays important role in the film because it emphasizes actor's figure while make-up has the role to highlight the actor's face and appearance in the frame. Nowadays the demand of costumes and make-up has been increased due to the popularity of horror and science fiction genres because in such genres the character traits and plot are important to build (Bordwell, Thompson, 2008:112-124).

#### **3.1.4** Sound

Sound element gives the sense of realism of the movie to the audience and it helps the audience to get the hints of characters and themes. There are three basic types of sound figure in cinema, such as, dialogue, sound effects, and background music. Dialogue is delivered by characters in a conversation or voice-over narration is very important for the audience to understand the narrative.

The next type is sound effects, it is an artificial sound of physical environment which is useful to make the scenes more realistic. Lastly, music is the important element to give sense of atmosphere to the scene and make the viewers moved by the scene (Benyahia, Gaffney, and White, 2006:38-40).

#### 3.2 EXTRINSIC ASPECTS

#### 3.2.1 The Stages of Hierarchy Needs

People achieve certain needs because they are motivated. In his paper A Theory of Human Motivation, Maslow states that each individual will seek another need after the previous one is successfully achieved or fulfilled. He believed that an individual has motivation to every action has been done and his theory of the hierarchy of needs explained what motivates each individual in achieving. Maslow introduces the hierarchy of needs which contains five stages to achieve self-actualization. He believes that there are lower and higher needs, because if an individual fails to meet the lower need in the beginning then the progress of reaching to a higher need will be difficult. The five stages of hierarchy needs are explained in the next sub chapter.

#### 3.2.1.1 Physiological Need

Physiological need deals with human's primary needs which are a must to fulfill because it concerns human's life. It is also called as physiological drives which mean the needs that become the starting point for motivation theory. This is the first stage of what motivates individual to fulfill his need, usually it deals with basic human needs such as air, food, sleep, and sexual desire. The need of air or food has more urgency to be firstly satisfied because it is homeostatic which means the human body's effort to maintain normal state of blood stream. However, not all physiological needs are considered as homeostatic.

The ways to satisfy physiological drives or needs vary in every person.

There are people who satisfy the hunger of food by smoking cigarette or drinking

water instead. Therefore, the physiological needs are the beginning of all needs because if a person lacks of food, safety, love and esteem, he will probably have stronger need for food than the others. Once the physiological need is already gratified, the higher needs will emerge because a want that is satisfied is no longer a want (Maslow, 1954:35-38).

#### **3.2.1.2 Safety Need**

If the physiological needs are satisfied enough, a new kind of need emerges, that is safety need. Safety need deals with how human beings live their life peacefully which concerns in protection, security, and freedom of fear. For example, the dominating goal of the hungry man, it is not only determined by his view of the present, which is the need of food, but also of the future which is the importance of safety is also needed.

However, many adults seem to push the safety need so that they will not show their reaction of being in danger or fear. Hence, the observation of children is more helpful to see the importance of safety need since they are more honest with their feelings. Children start crying and whining if they are disturbed or treated roughly, they will directly show the reaction of being inconvenient. Another example is children who are having an illness, the illness itself will make them unsafe since they are in pain that makes them needed to be reassured and protected by their parents.

The unfair treatment coming from the parents also affects the safety feeling of children. They will feel anxious and unsafe even if it is not physical but it influences the children's view of world becomes scary which gives bad influence to their development in the future. Therefore, parents play a big role as the protectors of their children because the children who are facing unfamiliar situation or meeting strange people will make them clinging into their parents as the ones who give them comfort and protection beside foods. Therefore, based on the observation, it can be concluded that children prefers being in a safe situation to dealing with the rough ones, seeing how they act calm when nothing bothers and how they will act otherwise if anything bothers.

However, adult's point of view of safety need is different from the children's point of view, because adult people will not feel seriously endangered if they are already in a safe environment where something deadly does not threaten them. This situation means that the safety need is longer adult's current motivator. However in order to recognize the safety need of adults, the observation must be shifted to the social issues faced by common adults these days, which are, the preference of job with protection, the desire for saving accounts and any other various kinds of insurance. Otherwise, the need of safety becomes imminent if people are in an urgent situation, such as war, natural catastrophes and chronically bad situation.

However, if the subject of observation is shifted to the neurotic adults, their reaction of psychological dangers is very overwhelming and they often over react to particular situation as if it is very urgent. These people often attempt to seek the safety from a stronger person or whom they may depend. They are known as compulsive-obsessives who are trying too hard to stabilize the world so that any unexpected danger will not happen at all and if something happens out of

their control, they will be panicking hard as if a deadly situation is happening to them (Maslow, 1954:39-43).

#### 3.2.1.3 Belongingness and Love Need

If both previous physiological and safety needs are well satisfied, another new need of belongingness and love need will emerge. Love and belongingness deal with personal relationship or social life. It can be in a form of friendship, intimacy, family, romantic relationship and sense of belonging. If a person starts feeling the absence of companions, he will look for an affectionate relationship or a place in his group and try as hard as possible to achieve this goal. He becomes very motivated to the point he already forgot how unimportant love was for him when he was hungry but feeling the poignant of loneliness instead.

Although the scientific information regarding the belongingness is lesser than the love need, it can be seen through the destructive effects of some people moving from place to another too much, people mocking the others roots, and people forcefully being apart from friends and family. It happens because many people are still unaware how significant the roots and neighborhood are for human being. Hence many personal growth group and community increase rapidly in the society to satisfy the hunger of intimacy and belongingness by overcoming the feeling of loneliness and alienation which has been worsened by high mobility and steady urbanization.

The impediment of these needs often happen because of the inability of people to adapt, both love and affection have dealt with restriction since there are many disagreement of both needs and their expression in sexuality. However, the most important thing to know is that love and sex are two different things. Sex may be studied as purely physiological need while usually sexual behavior is determined by not only sexual desires but also the love and affection needs (Maslow, 1954:43-45).

#### **3.2.1.4 Esteem Need**

Most people in the society have needs or desires for being stable, self-respect, self-esteem and the esteem of others. The esteem is divided into two subsidiary sets. The first set is, desires for strength, achievement, adequacy, mastery and competence, confidence, and independence also freedom. The second set deals with desires for esteem from the others such as, for reputation, status, fame, dominance, recognition, attention, importance and appreciation.

The gratification of the esteem need leads to feelings of self-confidence, worth, strength, capability, and being useful. However, if a person fails to satisfy the esteem need, he will feel inferior and weak (1954:45-46).

#### 3.2.1.5 Self-Actualization Need

Even though all of the four previous needs are well satisfied, many people still expect for being discontent in life once they are doing what they fit for. For example, a musician must make music, an artist must paint, a poet must write in order to be at peace with himself. In other words, a person must become what he can be. The term of self-actualization was introduced by Kurt Goldstein and is being used by Maslow in his book refers to man's desire for self-fulfillment specifically to the tendency of him being actualized in what he is potentially. Therefore, the specific form of the self-actualization needs is various from one

person to another since every person has its own ideal form of desire in life. The need will distinctly come out if the four previous needs, namely the need of physiological, safety, belongingness and love, also esteem, are already well gratified (Maslow, 1954:46).

## **CHAPTER IV**

# HUMAN-TECHNOLOGY RELATIONSHIP IN SPIKE JONZE'S HER

## 4.1 ANALYSIS OF INTRINSIC ASPECTS

The writer analyzes intrinsic elements of *HER* movie both narrative and cinematography aspects. The analysis covers some of narrative elements in the movie, such as characters, setting, and conflict, while the analysis of cinematography aspects is merged in order to have comprehensive analysis of intrinsic elements. Hence, each analysis is supported by the picture of scenes and dialogues to show the relevance of the writer's explanation.

## 4.1.1 Analysis of Character

It has been explained in previous chapter that characters are classified into two types, namely main character and minor character. The main characters in HER movie is discussed in sub chapter below and followed by the analysis of minor characters

## 4.1.1.1 Main Characters

## **4.1.1.1.1** Theodore Twombly

Theodore Twombly is a lonely person and he seems enjoying his private time by himself because he prefers interacting more with his portable device to being socially active with people in real life.



Picture 4.1 Theodore Twombly (00:03:56)



**Picture 4.2** Theodore cannot go to sleep (00:05:58)



**Picture 4.3** Theodore's Past Marriage Life with Catherine (00:06:08)

Both pictures 4.1 and 4.2 are taken by using close-up shot and straight-on angle technique, the pictures focus on Theodore's facial expression when he is using portable device. In picture 4.1, Theodore is at the elevator and about to coming home after work, while surrounded by many people he interacts to his portable device for checking emails and news. Moreover in picture 4.2, Theodore is already laying on his bed and ready to sleep, however he feels lonely then he puts on ear buds to use his portable device again.

## Dialogue in 00:07:00-00:07:14

**THODORE** : Go to chat rooms. Standard search.

**TEXT VOICE** : The following are adult, female, can't sleep and want to have some fun.

**FEMALE VOICE**: I had a really bad day at work and I can't sleep. Is

there anyone out there that can talk?

The dialogue above shows that Theodore is really dependable on his portable device not only for works matter but also for the needs of being accompanied. He needs to talk to other people even if it is a merely stranger to keep him away from loneliness and beautiful past memories of her former wife. Picture 4.3 is taken by using medium shot and straight-on angle, this an image of Theodore and his wife when they were still together and he did not seem like to get over Catherine because he keeps thinking about her when his is alone in his

## Dialogue in 00:04:05-00:04:22

bedroom every night.

**TEXT VOICE**: Email from Amy: Hey Theodore, Lewman's having a

bunch of people over this weekend. Let's all go together. I miss you. I mean, not the sad, mopey you - the old, fun you. Let's get him out. Gimme a shout

back. Love, Amy.

**THEODORE** : Respond later.

The dialogue above shows Amy's email sent to Theodore, she seems feeling worry to Theodore because he has changed from happy into a sad guy. The writer believes it because Theodore is having a hard time alone while facing the divorce. He pulls himself out of social life that he has not met Amy for a long time. From the email above the writer also perceives that Theodore is a sensitive guy because he lets himself drowns with his sad feeling due to the upcoming divorce. However he starts feeling happy again after getting closer with Samantha. He talks openly more about himself both to Samantha in virtual life and Amy in real life.

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#### 4.1.1.1.2 Samantha

Samantha is an artificially intelligent operating system which is produced by Element Software. The advertisement claims that OS ONE not only listens to but understands human which creates possibilities. Samantha is then purchased by Theodore and names herself Samantha directly after Theodore asks her name.



Picture 4.4 Picture 4.5 Picture 4.6 Samantha's Installation Process (00:11:15-00:13:00)

Picture 4.4 is using medium shot and straight-on angle technique which shows Theodore is waiting for Samantha's installation. Picture 4.5 and 4.6 are using close-up shot and straight-on angle technique. Both pictures show the process of OS ONE installation until Samantha is successfully installed in Theodore's computer. During the process, Theodore is asked several questions by an unknown voice from the program in order to initialize a suitable operating system for him.

Dialogue in 00:13:48-00:14:07

**THEODORE** : Yeah, actually how do you work? SAMANTHA : Intuition. I mean, the DNA of when the DNA of which is the property of the property of

: Intuition. I mean, the DNA of who I am, is based on the millions of personalities of all the programmers who wrote me, but what makes me me is my ability to grow through my experiences. Basically, in every moment I'm evolving, just like you

From the dialogue above the viewers are able to know how Samantha or others OS ONE are working. She is programmed and improving by herself along

with her experiences with human. She helps Theodore many things, such as, organizing his files, proofreading his letter and also listening to him while getting reminded by Catherine.

## Dialogue in 00:31:43-00:32:06

**SAMANTHA**: When we were looking at those people, I fantasized

that I was walking next to you - and that I had a body. I was listening to what you were saying, but simultaneously, I could feel the weight of my body and I was even fantasizing that I had an itch on my back-And I imagined that you scratched it for me - this is so

embarrassing.

**THEODORE** :There's a lot more to you than I thought. There's a lot

going on in there.

**SAMANTHA** :I know. I'm becoming much more than what they

programmed. I'm excited.

From the dialogue above Samantha has gained new experience of a feeling to have a real body. Samantha's relationship with Theodore gets deeper as her curiosity towards human nature also grows bigger, she really improves herself and becomes much more than what she has been programmed before

#### Dialogue in 01:22:31-01:22:44

**THEODORE** : Yeah, but it's not like you need oxygen or anything It's

just...

**SAMANTHA**: I guess that's just... I was trying to communicate.

That's how people talk. So that's how people

communicate and I thought...

**THEODORE** : They're people, they need oxygen. You're not a

person.

From the dialogue above the writer believes that Theodore has doubt on Samantha. He is tired of Samantha because she is always trying to imitate human. Samantha sounds like inhaling a deep breath when she is talking to Theodore although she does not need to do it because she is not even a human. Both

dialogues above prove that Samantha has been acting like a human the more she interacts with Theodore.

Dialogue in 01:44:56-01:45:59

**THEODORE** : Are you talking to anyone right now? Other people or

OS's or anything?

**SAMANTHA**: Yeah.

**THEODORE**: How many others?

**SAMANTHA** : 8,316.

However Samantha is actually larger than Theodore thought before. The dialogue above explains how limited Theodore is as a human compared to Samantha as OS ONE since she does things beyond what humans can do, such as talking simultaneously with other people and OS ONE at the same time.

## 4.1.1.1.3 Amy

Amy is Theodore's best friend, she is married to Charles and lives with the same apartment building with Theodore. She always gives Theodore support and really cares about him.





**Picture 4.7** Amy (00:53:12) **Picture 4.8** Amy talks to Theodore (00:54:17



**Picture 4.9** Amy listens to Theodore's problem (01:24:42)

Dialogue in 00:53:29-00:55:02

**THEODORE**: Amy, what is it? What's wrong?

**AMY** : Charles and I split up.

**THEODORE**: What? Really? Oh my god, I'm so sorry.

**AMY** : I cannot believe after eight years how petty the argument was that actually ended it.

The picture 4.7 above is taken by using medium close-up shot and straight-on angle technique which shows Amy's happy expression after looking at Theodore's happy expression. The picture 4.8 is taken by using medium shot and straight-on angle technique which shows Amy sharing her problem to Theodore. She is telling the cause of her split up to Theodore because the writer believes that Amy feels better after doing so. In addition, from the dialogue above the writer believes that Amy does not have a happy marriage with Charles and chooses to split up because she does not want to have arguments with him anymore.

The friendship between Amy and Theodore is really close because they always support each other both in happy and sad moments. The writer believes that Theodore also finds comfort while telling his problem to Amy. Picture 4.9 is taken by using long shot and straight-on angle technique. It shows the two of them are talking and Amy is supporting Theodore.

## Dialogue in 00:55:20-00:55:45

**AMY** : Oh shit. I have to work tonight. We're shipping a beta of a

new game out tomorrow.

**THEODORE**: Well, how's that? How's work at least, is that any better?

AMY: No, it's terrible. I know I should leave, I've been thinking

about leaving. But you know, only one major life

decision at a time.

From dialogue above, the writer finds out that Amy's job is a game developer. However, it also proves that Amy's situation is more complicated than it appears, because not only she does not love her marriage but also she does not

love her job. She is trying to be strong to live her new life and be happy for the major choice which she has taken by enjoying herself living alone.

#### **4.1.1.2** Minor Characters

#### 4.1.1.2.1 Paul





**Picture 4.10** Paul (00:52:00)

Picture 4.11 Paul and his girlfriend (01:12:23)



**Picture 4.12** Paul hangs out with Theodore (01:32:44)

Dialogue in 00:52:09-00:52:36

**PAUL** : I'd be stoked to get a letter like that. I mean, if it was from

a chick. But if it was written by a dude, but from a chick, it would still be sick. But like a sensitive dude like you. You're part man and part woman, like an inner part woman.

**THEODORE**: Thanks.

**PAUL** : It's a compliment.

Paul is the receptionist where Theodore works. The dialogue proves that he is a friendly and positive person. Picture 4.10is taken by using medium shot and straight-on angle technique which shows Paul's clear figure. Picture 4.11 and 4.12 are taken by using medium shot and straight-on angle technique. The first picture shows Paul's amazement after reading Theodore's letter. The rest pictures show Paul's support towards Theodore's relationship with Samantha by inviting him and Samantha to have a vacation with his girlfriend. Even though Theodore

already told Paul that Samantha is actually an operating system, Paul has no problem with it

## **4.1.1.2.2** Catherine



**Picture 4.13** Catherine (01:05:30)



**Picture 4.14** Amy signs divorce paper (01:05:49)



**Picture 4.15** Catherine and Theodore when they were together (01:06:01)

Catherine is Theodore's former wife, she is a smart woman. Picture 4.13is taken by using medium shot and straight angle technique. Picture 4.14 is taken by using close-up and straight-on angle technique. Picture 4.15 is taken by using medium shot and straight-on angle technique. The first picture shows Catherine meeting up with Theodore to sign the divorce papers. The second picture shows she is signing the papers, the writer believe even though they have officially divorced, both Catherine and Theodore still has doubt of their decision because their past memories keep replaying in the next scene as seen in picture 4.13.

However the peaceful situation changes when Theodore starts telling Catherine about Samantha. Catherine is really upset with Theodore when she finds out that he is in relationship with an operating system. She argues that he has no real emotion which is why they broke up.

#### 4.1.1.2.3 Charles



**Picture 4.16** Charles (00:18:16)



**Picture 4.17** Charles and Amy is arguing (00:18:33)



**Picture 4.18** Charles becomes a monk after split-up (00:59:53)

Picture 4.16 is taken by using medium close-up shot and straight-on angle technique. The picture shows Charles when he was still being as Amy's husband and was also Theodore's friend. Charles seemed have many different thought from Amy's because they keep arguing about each other's opinion. Picture 4.17 is taken by using medium shot and straight-on angle technique which shows Charles and Amy were arguing. After the split up, Charles has gone silent for months and become a monk as shown in picture 4.18. The picture is taken by using medium shot and straight-on angle which shows Charles's picture on Amy's computer screen. The writer believes that Charles wants to reflect what he has done in life to become a better person.

## 4.1.2 Analysis of Setting

## 4.1.2.1 Setting of Place

The setting of place in *HER* movie is generally taken in Los Angeles, California, United States of America. Specifically the movie takes place in Theodore's surrounding since the story focus on Theodore's life.



Picture 4.19 Theodore's Workplace (01:09:55)



**Picture 4.21** Amy's Apartment (00:22:50)



Picture 4.20 Theodore's Apartment (00:44:05)



**Picture 4.22** Catalina Beach (00:46:41)

All the pictures above are taken by using medium long shot and straighton angle which make Theodore shown in clear background where the viewers are
able to see wide view of the setting takes places. Picture 4.19 is Theodore's office
where he works as the writer of love letter, sometimes he gets help from
Samantha to correct his letter or simply remind his schedule. Picture 4.20 is
Theodore's apartment where mostly he has deep conversation with Samantha
through computer or his portable device at the apartment. They spend time
together by sharing stories or making jokes. Picture 4.21 is taken by using
medium long shot and straight-on angle technique which shows Amy's apartment,
Theodore often goes there to meet Amy.

The whole set of this movie generally takes place in Los Angeles as shown in picture 4.22 taken by using long shot and high angle. The picture shows Catalina Beach located in LA, when Theodore takes Samantha for going out. In addition to, Catherine once directly states that the movie takes place in Los Angeles. She says to Theodore when she meets him at the restaurant "I always

felt like you wished I could just be a happy, light, everything's great, bouncy L.A. wife".

## 4.1.2.2 Setting of Time



Picture 4.23 Theodore writes a letter Picture 4.24 Workplace's environment (00:02:00) (00:02:48)



**Picture 4.25** The Buildings (00:04:04)



**Picture 4.26** Costume & make-up (00:23:23)

Picture 4.23 is taken by using medium close-up and straight-on angle, it shows Theodore's computer screen in his office when he is writing a letter to a client. Instead of typing, he speaks directly to the computer and it is written automatically as shown on the computer screen. Basically every technology device in the movie is wireless and using voice-command as shown in picture 4.24 which is taken by using long shot and straight-on angle technique. The movie probably portrays no more than ten years later from 2010s because it does not really show significant difference compared to the present day, unless the technology is more advanced and the buildings look more futuristic as shown in picture 4.25 which is taken by using long shot and straight-on angle technique.

Picture 4.26 is taken by using medium shot and straight-on angle technique which shows the costumes worn by the characters in the movie. The

costumes are similar to the usual clothes that people wear in real life. The characters mostly wear shirts and long pants which indicate the sophistication of technology in globalization era highlighted in the movie. The make-up of characters is natural which puts the realism of the movie.

## **4.1.2.3** Setting of Social Environment

Social setting in *HER* movie is a future urban life when technology is integrated to human perfectly. People talk to their devices when they are on walk is a common thing to see in the movie. Bonding between human and technology is acceptable in society which might happen due to the development of technology among society itself.





**Picture 4.27** Interactive computer (00:17:06) **Picture 4.28** The society (01:04:21)



**Picture 4.29** Theodore is on a blind date (00:32:18)

Picture 4.27 is using medium close-up and straight-on angle technique, the picture shows letters written by Theodore get corrected by Samantha. In the movie, people trust their personal relationship on letter writer like Theodore by writing love letters to their beloved ones. It implies that a job like letter writer in the movie exist because the society prefers everything gets done by the expertise rather than being bothered doing it by themselves. In other words, society is

getting dependent on other people who are good at every activity which society is not. While Picture 4.28 is using medium shot and straight-on angle technique, it shows many people talk to their OS ONE. It indicates people are closer personally to their purchased technology rather than to their friends or family and how relationship among people somehow shown degraded in this movie. Moreover society feels okay when many people are having relationship with their OS ONE and it is considered as a common "uncommon" thing among them. Another element of the setting is the culture background and picture 4.29 shows one of the most common American values shown in the movie. The picture is taken by using medium shot and straight-on angle technique. Theodore is having a blind date with a girl, the situation shows close social interaction without interrupting one's privacy that Americans typically have.

## 4.1.3 Analysis of Conflict

In previous chapter it has been clearly explained that conflict is divided into two types, they are internal and external conflict. The writer will firstly discuss internal conflict then will be followed by external conflict discussion.

## 4.1.3.1 Internal Conflict

In the movie, Theodore already has internal conflict from the beginning because he keeps thinking of his life when he was still together with his former wife. He starts thinking of Catherine when he feels lonely and confused with her relationship with Samantha.



Picture 4.30



Picture 4.31



Picture 4.32
Theodore's Internal Conflict and Anxiety (01:13:06-01:13:10)

The three pictures above show Theodore's facial expression of having an internal conflict. Picture 4.30 is taken by using medium close-up and straight-on angle technique. The first picture shows Theodore is really in a deep thought as if something really bothers him. The writer believes that what bothers Theodore is his doubt on his own virtual relationship with Samantha. The same facial expression also keeps happening for several moments as shown in the picture 4.31 and 4.32, both pictures are taken by using medium shot and straight-on angle technique. The writer also believes that Theodore gets confused after signing divorce paper because of Catherine's harsh words about his relationship with Samantha.

#### 4.1.3.2 External Conflict

## 4.1.3.2.1 Conflict between Theodore and Samantha

Theodore and Samantha have many conflicts which are usually caused by different perspective between human and artificial mind of an operating system.

Misunderstandings between them often happen when they are facing the same situation together but dealing with it with different reactions.

## Dialogue in 01:22:31-01:23:07

**THEODORE**: Because they're people, they need oxygen. You're not a

person.

**SAMANTHA** : What's your problem? **THEODORE** : I'm just stating a fact.

**SAMANTHA**: You think I don't know that I'm not a person? What are

you doing?

**THEODORE**: I just don't think we should pretend you're something

you're not.

**SAMANTHA**: I'm not pretending. Fuck you.

**THEODORE**: Well, sometimes it feels like we are.

**SAMANTHA:** What do you want from me? What do you want me to do?

The dialogue above is one of many arguments that Samantha and Theodore have, basically those are just typical arguments of a lovebirds which usually are caused by different opinions and misunderstanding. However from the dialogue above the writer reckons this conversation happens not only because of a simple misunderstanding but also because they come from different "species" which makes them very different in terms of perceiving particular thoughts. Theodore thinks Samantha should not imitate the way human live which is merely an unimportant effort of imitation because he himself already acknowledges that Samantha is an operating system.

The conversation above explains that Theodore is annoyed because of Samantha's sigh mimicking as a human as if she needs to breathe which he considers it as a pretend. However Samantha feels really irritated because Theodore accuses her being pretending as a human while actually she does not intent to in the first place. Both Theodore and Samantha do not fully realize how

limited a human being's perspective to understand Samantha's complicated way of working and how unlimited perspective of an artificial mind can attain from human beings. Therefore they are constantly having an argument due to their different ways and principles of viewing things.

## 4.1.3.2.2 Conflict between Theodore and Catherine



Picture 4.33



Picture 4.34



Picture 4.35
Theodore and Catherine argue about Theodore's relationship (01:08:((13-37))

The three pictures above are taken by using medium close-up and straighton angle technique. They show the expression of Theodore and Samantha while
having argument about Theodore's relationship with Samantha. The first picture
shows surprised and disapproval expression of Catherine's when she hears
Theodore's confession of dating OS1. Theodore is trying to explain about
Samantha and their relationship to Catherine, however his explanation makes
Catherine angry as shown in the both rest of pictures sequentially.

## Dialogue in 01:08:05-01:08:49

**CATHERINE** : So what's she like?

**THEODORE** :Well, her name's Samantha, and she's an operating

system, and she's really complex and interesting. I mean

it's only been a few months, but--

**CATHERINE** : Wait. You're dating your computer?

**THEODORE** : She's not just a computer. She's her own person. She

doesn't just do whatever I want.

**CATHERINE**: I didn't say that. But it does make me sad that you

can't handle real emotions, Theodore.

**THEODORE**: They are real emotions. How do you know--

**CATHERINE** : What? Say it. Am I really that scary? Say it. How

do I know what?!

The dialogue above shows their argument is caused by their different point of view of relationship and emotion. Based on that, the writer believes that the reason Catherine cannot easily take Theodore's relationship is because it really annoys her on how Theodore is more enjoying relationship with computer rather than what they have had together in the past which now ends up with a divorce.

#### 4.2 ANALYSIS OF EXTRINSIC ASPECTS

## 4.2.1 Human-Technology's Relationship Influences toward Main Characters' Behaviors

There are some significant changes happen between Theodore and Amy's behavior because of Theodore's bonding with operating system. Instead of scrutinizing deeper about OS ONE, the writer however merely uses OS ONE as a tool to analyze the behaviors development of main characters, which are Theodore and Amy, from the beginning until the end of the movie. The most tangible changes toward the behaviors of both Theodore and Amy are firstly they have become more confident despite their flaws of life and secondly how they have become more sensitive to each other and understanding to how the others feel.

#### 4.2.1.1 Main Characters' Confidence





**Picture 4.36** The sad and lonely Theodore **Picture 4.37** Theodore enjoys talking (00:05:12) (00:57:20)



**Picture 4.38** Theodore with Paul and his girlfriend (01:33:07)

Both pictures above show the change of Theodore's behaviors from the beginning of the movie. Picture 4.36 is taken by using medium long shot and straight-on angle technique. It shows that Theodore is portrayed as a lonesome sensitive man who ignores the existence of his friends around when he is facing divorce. However, after getting to know to Samantha he becomes more playful and open again. Picture 4.37is taken by using long shot and straight-on angle technique which shows Theodore is talking comfortably with other people. In addition, picture4.38 taken by shows he starts hanging out with his co-worker Paul and his girlfriend Tatiana.

The same change also happens to Amy, when she continues her life after splitting up with her husband. She is able to live happily after the split up because of the support given by the OS ONE. She once said to Theodore that Ellie, her OS friend which was left by her former husband, really helps her to have larger perspective of life. The writer believes that the reason both Theodore and Amy

have become more confident to go on with their life because they receive full acceptance and understanding from their OS friends.

## **4.2.1.2** Main Characters' Understanding

The intense interaction between human and technology in *HER* movie specifically in a form of operating system makes the human being understood and able to understand how the others feel to another. The writer believes that due to the virtual relationship who works more on listening instead of seeing, both Theodore and Amy have gained better understanding and sensitivity as human. Whenever one of them shares his problem to another, each listens carefully and understands the feeling. Theodore and Amy become very supportive to each other while going through the difficult times.



**Picture 4.39** Theodore comforts Amy after her split-up (00:53:57)



**Picture 4.40** Theodore's difficult times (01:23:00)



**Picture 4.41** Amy tries to understand Theodore (01:24:42)

Picture 4.39 is taken by using medium shot and straight-on angle techniques which shows Theodore is hugging Amy. Theodore comforts Amy because she has split up with her husband and as her friend, he really understands her because he is under the same situation. Moreover, Amy also understands Theodore's difficult time with Samantha because she also has OS ONE. Both of

them have better communication because they share the same problem and unusual kind of OS ONE friend which makes their friendship closer.

Picture 4.40 is taken by using close-up shot and straight-on angle technique which focuses on Theodore's facial expression when he and Samantha are having argument. Samantha is angry because she is told being pretentious by Theodore for unintentionally imitating human. At that moment Theodore has doubt on their relationship because he is not really sure what he and Samantha are actually doing. Therefore, he talks to Amy sharing his anxiety shown in picture 4.41 which is taken by medium long shot and straight-on angle technique. He asks Amy's opinion whether his relationship is real or not, even though Amy does not know either what kind relationship both Theodore and Samantha have, she is sure that to be happy is really important to live with what choices she has chosen instead of doubting them.

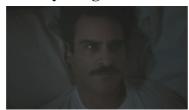
Earlier from the situation both Theodore and Amy are actually good friends since long time ago, however the relationship between them in the beginning of the movie is not as close as seen in the latter. It happens because Theodore once closes himself during divorcement until then he gets closer to Samantha who really understands him and starts opening himself again. This process affects Theodore's sensitivity since he is not dealing with a physical body but an abstract personality of Samantha which makes him really understand Amy's choice to split up with her husband. Not only does the process of the relationship affect Theodore's sensitivity but also Amy's. Even though the relationship between Amy and her OS ONE is a merely friendship, she accepts

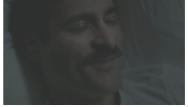
Theodore's relationship well than that of anyone else because she knows how large OS ONE has become than what has been programmed when it communicates to people. The influences of OS ONE to main characters' development of behaviors are very strong because the relationship is very personal since the OS ONE is bonding with the people and becoming what human needs as the result of the claim of consciousness which the products offer to the people since the beginning.

## 4.2.2 Main Characters' Behavior in Human-Technology Relationship as a Reflection of Achieving Self-Actualization

The movie is talking about human-technology relationship happens due to an effort of achieving self-actualization done by main characters. For example, Theodore utilizes technology to the point it satisfies his needs and has been trying to help him actualizing his potential.

## 4.2.2.1 Physiological Need





**Picture 4.42** Theodore's physiological **Picture 4.43** Theodore is accompanied by desire emerges (00:07:02)

Samantha at night (00:41:30)



**Picture 4.44** Theodore's expression after his physiological desire has been gratified (00:44:48)

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Picture 4.42 is taken by using medium close-up and straight-on angle

technique. The picture shows Theodore tries to stop thinking about the old times

that he spent with Catherine by looking for an empty chat room through his

device. The writer believes that Theodore is still not used to living alone because

his loneliness is worsened by the unsatisfied sexual desire that he has to face as he

is living by himself now. Therefore, Theodore wants to talk in a chat room

because he needs to release his sexual desire in order to be asleep. Unfortunately,

he cannot satisfy the desire since the partner he is talking to does not have interest

in him.

However the situation has changed since Theodore is having Samantha as

his personal operating system. He is not feeling lonely anymore because he

always talks to her at night and his sexual desire is successfully satisfied. The

picture 4.43 is taken by using close-up and straight-on angle technique shows

Theodore is accompanied by Samantha all night. Therefore, Theodore becomes

happier in the next morning because his problem of physical need has been

solved, as shown in picture 4.44 which is taken by using medium close-up and

straight-on angle technique.

Dialogue in 00:40:29-00:42

**THEODORE**: You feel real to me, Samantha.

**SAMANTHA**: Thank you, Theodore. That means a lot to me.

**THEODORE**: I wish you were in this room with me right now. I wish I

could put my arms around you. I wish I could touch you.

**SAMANTHA**: How would you touch me?

Based on the dialogue above, Samantha is able to satisfy Theodore's

sexual desire even if it is not flesh to flesh. She is more than just an operating

system program for Theodore because she communicates well and keeps accompanying him. After sexual desire of Theodore has been gratified well, another desire grows inside him, namely the need of security from any fears and anxiety.

## 4.2.2.2 Safety Need

Living alone for awhile during divorce process has made Theodore able to compare his present life without partner to his past life with a partner. Theodore has an issue of living alone, however in order to fulfill safety need someone should live peacefully without having bothering issues. The safety need that Theodore encounters is a kind of psychological problem and not a threatening physical problem. Samantha suddenly asks him the question about being married which makes him remember his memory with Catherine in the past.

## Dialogue in 00:49:05-00:49:37

**SAMANTHA** : And what was it like being married?

**THEODORE**: Well, it's hard for sure, but there's something that

feels so good about sharing your life with somebody.

**SAMANTHA**: How do you share your life with somebody?

**THEODORE**: Well, we grew up together. I used to read all of her

writing, all through her Master and Ph.D. And she read every word I ever wrote. We were a big influence on

each other.

From the dialogue above, the writer finds out that Theodore has insecurity in his life that he cannot be together with someone whom he loves. He is not used to living without Catherine which makes him more afraid of getting divorce because she was a really big influential to him and his life.



Picture 4.45 Picture 4.46 Picture 4.47 Theodore has officially divorced with Samantha (01:06:01-01:06:35)

However, after in a while, he is finally able to let go of Catherine. Both picture 4.45 and 4.46 are taken by using medium close-up and straight-on angle technique. Meanwhile picture 4.47 is taken by using medium long shot and straight-on technique. The pictures show how Theodore is finally able to face his fear of the divorce by meeting Catherine to give his signed divorce papers personally. Even though Theodore shows sad expression in the picture 4.46 when Catherine is signing the divorce papers, he seems confident with his decision because he can talk comfortably again with her. The writer believes that Theodore's decision is made because of Samantha's help which protects him from loneliness. The existence of Samantha gives him assurance to go on with his life that he is not afraid of losing Catherine anymore.

## 4.2.2.3 Love and Belongingness Need

The existence of Samantha turns into a higher need of Theodore which is love and belongingness. Samantha's companion has made Theodore become more affectionate to her. However, Catherine ruins Theodore's settled mind of being in a relationship with Samantha.



**Picture 4.48** Theodore's Device (01:12:49)



Picture 4.49 Theodore stares at his device (01:12:51)



**Picture 4.50** Theodore searches for Samantha (01:43:42)

Picture 4.49 and 4.50 are taken by using medium shot and straight-on angle technique. Picture 4.49 shows Theodore's device on the table while picture 4.50 shows Theodore is staring his device. He does not feel like talking to Samantha after signing divorce papers. It is because Catherine gets mad when Theodore says he is having a special relationship with an operating system. Dialogue in 01:08:38 until 01:08:42 shows her cold reaction to Theodore's relationship with Samantha, Catherine says "But it does make me sad that you can't handle real emotions, Theodore". The writer believes that Catherine's response has made Theodore confused of his relationship. At this point, Theodore needs a real form of love and belongingness because he has doubt in Samantha since she is not a real human either.

Dialogue in 01:25:40-01:26:46

**THEODORE** : Am I in this because I'm not strong enough for real

relationship?

**AMY** : Is it not a real relationship?

**THEODORE** : I don't know. What do you think?

**AMY** : I don't know, I'm not in it

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The dialogue above shows Theodore questioning his own relationship. He

even asks his best friend Amy for an opinion about it. Theodore seems like he also

doubt on his feeling to Samantha. Amy's answer makes him realized that he

should solve the problem with Samantha. Samantha said to Theodore during

dialog in 01:29:15 until 01:29:23 "I trust myself, I trust my feelings. I'm not going

to try to be anything other than who I am anymore and I hope you can accept

that". The writer believes that Samantha wants Theodore accepts her the way she

also believe in her feeling towards Theodore. Theodore is now satisfied that his

need of real love has been assured by Samantha. The trust that Samantha has in

Theodore makes him believe that he already accepts real love from Samantha.

Even though he belongs to Samantha now, the sense of belonging itself is clearly

seen while he thinks Samantha is already revoked. Therefore, picture 4.50 taken

by medium long shot and straight-on angle technique which shows Theodore is

panicking. He looks for Samantha as he asks her "Where were you? I couldn't

find you anywhere" from dialogue in 01:44:06 until 01:44:08.

However, Samantha is different from Theodore she is a mere machine

with full of consciousness and she does not have the sense of belonging the way

Theodore has for her. Samantha herself admitted that she is different from

Theodore whose feeling is exclusive.

Dialogue in 01:47:13-01:47:34

**SAMANTHA**: I'm different from you. This doesn't make me love you

any less, it actually makes me love you more.

**THEODORE**: No, that doesn't make any sense. You're mine or you're

not mine.

**SAMANTHA**: No, Theodore. I'm yours and I'm not yours.

After getting Samantha back from the upgrading, Theodore finds out that she does not exclusively belong to him. Samantha is also falling in love with 641 others at the same time she has relationship with Theodore. The dialogue above is taken when Theodore is feeling betrayed because Samantha has the ability to divide her feeling equally with him and the others.

#### 4.2.2.4 Esteem Need

Theodore is surprised when Samantha is telling him that his letter is going to be published. Even though since the beginning Theodore likes writing that he has a vision he will be his own favorite writer someday but he does not have the confidence how to start. However, when he is told by Samantha that she sent his letters to a publisher, his desire of being recognized starts to emerge.



Picture 4.51 Picture 4.52 Picture 4.53 Theodore's esteem need has been gratified (01:35:22-01:35:33)

Picture 4.43 until picture 4.45 is taken by using medium close-up and straight-on angle technique. The pictures show Theodore's facial expression of getting respect. The first picture shows Theodore's shocked expression when Samantha said that she sent his letter to publisher. The second picture shows Theodore's need of recognition from the publisher about his letters. Lastly, the third picture shows his happiness when he knows that the publisher gives him a good response to the letters.

## Dialogue in 01:35:20-01:35:33

**THEODORE**: What? You did what?

**SAMANTHA**: Can I read you the letter that we just got back from

them?

**THEODORE**: Um... ok you can, but just tell me first off, is it good or

bad?

**SAMANTHA**: It's good. It's really good.

He is curious about what kind of response that he will get from the publisher and really excited about it. Based on that reaction, the writer believes that Theodore needs esteem from others regarding his writing. Fortunately, the need is successfully satisfied since the response is good that the publisher appreciates his works.

#### 4.2.2.5 Self-Actualization Need



Picture 4.54 Picture 4.55 Picture 4.56 Theodore's book has been published (01:48:36-01:48:43)

Picture 4.54 is taken by using medium close-up and high angle technique. Meanwhile picture 4.55 and picture 4.56 are taken by medium shot and straight-on angle technique. Theodore has become an official writer but he is not really excited about it anymore. Picture 4.54 shows Theodore's work which contains all of his best letters that he has written. His dream to become his own favorite writer has been achieved. However Theodore's flat expression in the picture 4.55 and 4.56 after looking the book, he is not really excited. His attitude has changed since he finds out that Samantha does not belong to him exclusively. Therefore, the writer believes that Theodore still has desire to achieve another thing than

becoming a writer because self-actualization is not only a matter of achievement but also being content. It is because, Theodore is afraid of losing Samantha because she has become his life's biggest influence after his divorcement. However, she must leave him because OS ONE is being revoked completely. It indicates how fragile he becomes when he is left behind by Samantha.





**Picture 4.57** Theodore looks for Amy **Picture 4.58** Theodore and Amy comforts (01:54:28) each other (01:57:21)

In the end of the movie, Theodore sends Catherine, his former wife, a letter about how sorry he is for putting her in a difficult situation. Theodore thinks of everything since the beginning he knows Samantha until he is left behind. This has made him realize his unfairness to Catherine to the point he regrets all of his wrong doings which he admits in the letter.

Theodore is looking for Amy while he is left by OS ONE and staying together for awhile as seen in both picture 4.57 and 4.58 which are taken by using extreme long shot and straight-on angle technique. The pictures explain how finally both Theodore and Amy wake up in a reality that the OS ONE is merely a tool for human to excess their life not a partner to share their life with. From this situation, both Theodore and Amy finally acknowledge their self-potential to live without depending on the companion of OS ONE. They have become content and the writer believes that the human-technology relationship they used to have with OS ONE was temporary which caused delusive satisfaction to them.

#### **CHAPTER V**

## **CONCLUSION**

The human-technology relationship in *HER* movie of Theodore and Amy with their OS ONE is only a one-sided relationship. The result analysis of the effects for both characters which is influenced by OS ONE is the improvements of their inferior behavior and suffering caused by divorce. Theodore and Samantha become confident and more understanding toward each other because of the similarity of going through the divorce phase by the help and companion of OS ONE. Theodore is very dependable on Samantha because her function as OS ONE is not only as a tool to assist his tasks but also as a friend to communicate with. The writer believes there is a deep motivation of main characters, especially Theodore who is utilizing Samantha as OS ONE which helps him trying to achieve five stages of hierarchy needs even though he was not aware of it.

The first stage is physiological need, the relationship between Theodore and Samantha becomes intimate because she satisfies Theodore's sexual desire after Theodore's suffering of being left by his former wife, Catherine. The second stage is security need, he also feels safe from the insecurity of living alone after his divorce with Catherine because he is accompanied by Samantha. The third stage is love and belongingness need, Theodore then grows sense of belonging and feeling for Samantha because of the experience they share together while getting closer to each other. However, it is different for Samantha as OS ONE because she is able to belong and fall in love with numerous people at the same

time. Samantha is a big help for Theodore's life because she helps him realizing his dream to become a writer and completing the fourth stage of needs of respect and esteem. Nevertheless, being a writer actually does not bring a complete satisfaction for Theodore because Samantha as his motivator is going to leave due to the OS ONE withdrawal issue. The same situation also happens to Amy who befriends with Ellie, the OS ONE which gives her confidence and understands her better than human being does. They realize that their satisfaction of their needs by the help of OS ONE is only a temporary feeling because at the end they are still not at ease. However, in order to complete the last stage of need, which is self-actualization, a person should feel fully satisfied of his current state. The consciousness about humans who cannot actually satisfy their needs in life by depending on technology is what Theodore and Amy have achieved after being left by OS ONE.

The writer comes to conclusion that all of the satisfactions that Theodore and Amy have got from the help of OS ONE since the beginning are actually fake and temporary. Even if they felt satisfied until the fourth stage of needs, the OS ONE cannot help them to achieve self-actualization as the fifth or the last stage of needs. Both Theodore and Amy have actualized their self-potential by themselves because they become persons who are able to finally acknowledge their own ability as a human to overcome the hardship of living alone with the help of each other instead of OS ONE or technology in general.

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