

**PROTAGONIST'S BASIC NEEDS IN JOJO MOYES'
NOVEL *ME BEFORE YOU***

A THESIS

BY:

RIKA ALVIONITA SARI

Reg. No: 71190411034



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UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM
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**SUBMITTED TO
THE FACULTY OF LITERATURE
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM SUMATERA UTARA
IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS
FOR THE DEGREE OF *SARJANA SASTRA*
IN ENGLISH LITERATURE**

Supervisor,

Dr. Devi Pratiwy, S.S., M.Hum.

Dean of Faculty,

Head of Department,

Dr. Purwanto Siwi, S.S., M.A

Zulfan Sahri, S.S., M.S

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2023**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim,

Alhamdulillahil'alamin

Praise to **Allah SWT** who has given mercy, opportunity, health, and grace so that this thesis can be completed. and don't forget to send blessings and greetings to our great **Prophet Muhammad SAW** so that he will get his intercession on the last day.

In the preparation of this thesis, many people have provided motivation, advice, and support to me. In this precious opportunity, my gratitude to the Dean of the Faculty of English Literature, **Dr. Purwanto Siwi, S.S, M.A** who has provided motivation and approval so that this thesis can be completed.

I also send my thanks to the Head of the Department undergraduate program of English Literature, UISU, **Zulfan Sahri, S.S, M.S**, who has given motivation, and suggestions for completing this thesis. And my deepest gratitude to my supervisor **Dr. Devi Pratiwy, S.S, M.Hum.**, for help, guidance, suggestions, advice, corrections, ideas and time for me to supervise me to finish this thesis.

My biggest gratitude to my beloved parents, **Sarino** and **Sri Elviana** who always care for me, pray for me, listen to all my complaints, and give me full supports so that I become an independent and strong child. And my thanks to my one and only beloved sister **Dwi Putri Lestari** who gave all her supports, motivation, and prayers to me.

In addition, I would say thanks to my beloved friends **Sri Kesuma Ningsih, Massya Yuridha, Ayu Annisya Rachman Nasution, Uci Lubis, Fachrur Rozi, Joni Krisman Laowo**, for their time, support, and motivation so that I can finish this thesis.

Next, my thanks go to all the lecturers who are very friendly and kind in helping me in learning and gaining knowledge, as well as to all the staff of the Faculty of English Literature who are very kind in helping me with the administrative process patiently.

Last but not least, I want to thank me, I want to thank me for believing me, I want to thank me for doing all this hard work, I want to thank me for having no days off, I want to thank me for always strong and patient, I want to thank me never quitting, for just being me at all time.

At the end, I hope this thesis can be useful and add to the knowledge related to literature for readers, especially for students of the Faculty of English Literature in Islamic University of North Sumatera, Medan.

Medan, 08 March 2023

The Writer

**RIKA ALVIONITA SARI
(7119011034)**

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APPENDIXES

Appendix A

Biography of Jojo Moyes

Pauline Sara Jo Moyes (born 4 August 1969), known professionally as JojoMoyes, is an English journalist and, since 2002, a romance novelist and screenwriter. She is one of the few authors to have twice won the Romance Novel of the Year by the Association of Romantic Novelists and has been translated into twenty-eight languages. Moyes lives on a farm in Great Sampford, Essex, with her husband, journalist Charles Arthur, and their three children. She enjoys riding the racehorse, Brian, as well as caring for many of the animals on his family farm, including the Nanook, or 'Big Dog', a 58 kg Pyrenean mountain rescued female dog.

Pauline Sara-Jo Moyes was born on 4 August 1969 in Maidstone, England. Prior to college, Moyes held several jobs: she was a typist at NatWest typing statements in braille for the blind, a brochure writer for the 18-30 Club, and a minicab controller for a short time. As an undergraduate at Royal Holloway, University of London, Moyes worked for Egham and Staines News. Moyes won a scholarship funded by The Independent newspaper which enabled him to undertake a postgraduate newspaper journalism course at City University in 1992. She then worked for The Independent for the next 10 years (except one year, when she worked in Hong Kong for Sunday Morning Post) in various roles, becoming Assistant News Editor in 1998. In 2002 he became Arts in the newspaper and Media Correspondent.

Early in her writing career, Moyes wrote three scripts, all of which were initially rejected. With one child, another baby on the way, and a career as a

journalist, Moyes committed to himself that if her fourth book was rejected, she would drop out. After submitting the first three chapters of her fourth book to various publishers, six of them started a bidding war for the rights.

Moyes became a full-time novelist in 2002, when her first book *Sheltering Rain* was published. She continued to write articles for *The Daily Telegraph*. Moyes' publisher, Hodder & Stoughton, did not pick up the novel *Me Before You* and Moyes in 2012 sold it to Penguin Books. It sold six million copies, peaked at number one in nine countries, and revived its catalog so that three of its novels were on the *New York Times* bestseller list at the same time. Moyes would go on to write two sequels starring Louisa Clark, the protagonist of *Me Before You : After You* in 2015 and *Still Me* in 2018.

In 2013, it was announced that Michael H. Weber and Scott Neustadter had been hired to write an adaptation of *Me Before You*. In 2016 a film adaptation of *Me Before You* was released and the screenplay was written by Moyes.

Moyes now looks back at the first seven novels written before *Me Before You*, and how it was discouraging to have seven novels on the market that didn't do well. After *Me Before You* took off, Moyes said that "people turned to backlisting" (those first seven books) and started buying and reading them too, giving Moyes a sense of fulfillment and satisfaction.

In 2020, Moyes attended the launch of Quick Reads which she supported with £120,000 of her own investment where she spoke to *Icon London Magazine* about the Quick Reads initiative.

Moyes first won the Romantic Novelists Association Award for 2004's Award for Foreign Fruit and again in 2011 for *The Last Letter from Your Lover*. She is one of the few (needs clarification) writers who have received this award twice.

Me Before You reached the New York Times Top Ten best-selling chart in 2016 and spent 19 weeks on the chart. *Me Before You* was nominated for Book of the Year at the UK Galaxy Book Awards.

As a child, Moyes remembers reading *National Velvet* by Enid Bagnold and how it made her feel that, as a child, she could achieve greater things than he had thought possible at the time.

Behind the Scenes at the Museum by Kate Atkinson is a book that Moyes calls the book that really changed how she felt about writing as she matured and grew in her career. She cites it as one of those books that keeps readers invested, and it's what she says propelled her to become a better and stronger writer.

Moyes cites Nora Ephron's use of intelligence to present the business of love and being human. Jonathan Tropper is a writer whom Moyes cites as someone he greatly admires, noting that she tries to "read better writers than him" because it pushed her to become a better writer.

Jane Austen is a writer who Moyes admires for her ability to write about what really influences love and what makes love stories realistic (i.e. what makes them different, not what unites them).

Appendix B

Jojo Moyes Literary Works

1. Sheltering Rain, AKA Return to Ireland (2002).
2. Foreign Fruit, AKA Windfallen (2003).
3. The Peacock Emporium (2004).
4. The Ship of Brides (2005).
5. Silver Bay (2007).
6. Night Music (2008).
7. The Last Letter from Your Lover (2008).
8. The Horse Dancer (2009).
9. Me Before You series:
 - a. Me Before You (2012).
 - b. After You (2015).
 - c. Still Me (2018).
10. The Girl You Left Behind series:
 - a. Honeymoon in Paris (2012), novella.
 - b. The Girl You Left Behind (2012).
11. One Plus One (2014).
12. The Giver of Stars (2019).

Appendix C

The Summary of the Novel

Twenty-six-year-old Louisa Clark lives with her working-class family. Unambitious and with few qualifications, she feels constantly outshone by her younger sister, Treena, an outgoing single mother. Louisa, who helps support her family, loses her job at a local café when the café closes. She goes to the Job Center and, after several failed attempts, is offered a unique employment opportunity: help care for Will Traynor, a successful, wealthy, and once-active young man who has quadriplegia as a result of a pedestrian-motorcycle accident two years earlier. Will's mother, Camilla, hires Louisa despite her lack of experience, believing Louisa can brighten his spirit. Louisa meets Nathan, who cares for Will's medical needs, and Will's father, Steven, a friendly upper-class businessman whose marriage to Camilla is strained.

Louisa and Will's relationship starts out rocky due to his bitterness and resentment over being disabled. Things worsen after Will's ex-girlfriend, Alicia, and best friend Rupert reveal that they are getting married. Under Louisa's care, Will gradually becomes more communicative and open-minded as they share experiences together. Louisa notices Will's scarred wrists and later overhears his mother and father discussing how he attempted suicide shortly after Camilla refused his request to end his life through Dignitas, a Swiss-based assisted suicide organization. Horrified by his attempt, Camilla promised to honor her son's wish, but only if he agreed to live six more months. Camilla intends to prove that, in time, he will believe his life's worth living.

Louisa conceals knowing about Will and Camilla's agreement. However, she tells Treena, and together they devise ways that will help convince Will to abandon his death wish. Over the next few weeks, Will loosens up and Louisa begins taking him on outings and the two grow closer.

Through their frequent talks, Louisa learns that Will has traveled extensively; his favorite place is a café in Paris. Noticing how limited his life is now and that he has few ambitions, Louisa tries to motivate Will to change.

Louisa continues seeing her longtime boyfriend of 7 years, Patrick, though they eventually break up due to her relationship with Will. Meanwhile, Louisa's father loses his job, causing more financial difficulties. Steven Traynor offers Mr. Clark a position. Louisa realizes that Will is trying to help her secure her freedom from her family. The two attend Alicia and Rupert's wedding where they dance and flirt. Will tells Louisa that she is the only reason he wakes in the morning.

Louisa convinces Will to go on a holiday with her, but before they can leave, Will contracts near-fatal pneumonia. Louisa cancels the plans for a whirlwind trip. Instead, she takes Will to the island of Mauritius. The night before returning home, Louisa tells Will that she loves him. Will says he wants to confide something, but she admits that she already knows about his plans with Dignitas. Will says their time together has been special, but he cannot bear to live in a wheelchair. He will be following through with his plans. Angry and hurt, Louisa storms off and does not speak to him for the remainder of the trip. When they return home, Will's parents are pleasantly surprised by his good physical condition. Louisa, however, resigns as his caretaker, and they understand that Will intends to end his life.

Back at home Louisa is miserable and her mother is outraged when Louisa tells them everything about Will. The media and journalists arrive at the house having been tipped off by Patrick and the family become isolated. Treena then finds a message from Camilla Traynor requesting Louisa to come to Switzerland. Louisa accepts despite her mother forbidding it and flies out to see Will. Once reunited again at the clinic they agree that the past six months have been the best in their lives. He dies shortly after in the clinic, and it is revealed that he left Louisa a considerable inheritance, meant to continue her education and to fully experience life. The novel ends with Louisa at a café in Paris, reading Will's last words to her in a letter, that tell her to 'live well'.

Appendix D

The Characters of the Novel

1. **Louisa Clark** – a 26-year-old woman who is creative, talented, and funny but underestimates herself and has few ambitions. Her life changes when she begins working as a caretaker for a paralysed man. Over time, she learns to harness her capabilities and step out of her limited comfort zone.

2. **William (Will) Traynor** – a 31-year-old man who became *quadriplegic* after being hit by a motorbike. He is intelligent and wealthy, but his impairment has left him moody, angry, and bitter. Unable to accept never being the active and adventurous man he once was, he wants to end his life.

3. **Camilla Traynor** – Will's mother who has a strained relationship with her son. She is severe and strict but she cares about her son's well-being.

4. **Steven Traynor** – Will's father who was mostly absent from his children's lives; Camilla Traynor blames him for destroying their family. He wants to divorce Camilla.

5. **Katrina (Treena) Clark** – Louisa's younger sister who is a single mother to son Thomas. Treena works at a flower shop, and has always been regarded as the most intelligent sibling.

6. **Patrick** – Louisa's boyfriend who works as a personal trainer. He is obsessed with sports and diet.

7. **Nathan** – Will's nurse and caretaker who is also his friend.

8. **Bernard Clark** – Lou's father, worked as a furniture craftsman before being laid off and ultimately works maintenance for the castle

9. **Josephine** – Lou's mother, who spends her days caring for Thomas, Treena's son, and cleaning

10. **Alicia Dewar** – Will's ex-girlfriend who marries his colleague, Rupert. She is beautiful and delicate, but lives her life according to the standards of upper society.

11. **Georgina Traynor** – Will's sister who lives and works in Australia, she resents Will for his desire to die

12. **Rupert Freshwell** – An old friend of Will's from work. He marries Will's old girlfriend, Alicia.

13. **Frank** – Louisa's previous employer at the bakery where she worked before meeting Will.

14. **Thomas** – Louisa's young nephew and the son of her sister Katrina, a single mother.

15. **Major Timothy Dewar** – Alicia Dewar's father.