

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This study examines and explains about the hero's journey and every character archetype within the hero's journey in *The Lost Hero* 2010 by Rick Riordan. This chapter consists of research background, statement of problems, research objectives, research significances, definition of literary terms.

### 1.1 Research Background

The notion of hero is the understanding upon a person, real or mythical, who overcomes difficulty by displaying courage, fortitude, or inventiveness in the face of peril. Hero is frequently used to refer to either gender, unlike other historically gender-specific expressions (like actor), while heroine is only used to describe women. Classical epics' initial heroes typically carried out such deeds for the sake of honor and glory. In etymology it followed the Greek word *hērōs*, which meant "demigod," is where the word "heroism" originates (Franco et al., 2018). Since a person who displays exceptional bravery and valor is known as a hero, their deeds are regarded as heroic deeds. Heroism is exhibited when the will overcomes fear, when duty lays down the law to fate, and when honor scorns to make a deal with death.

However, in dealing this construction, hero, and it is obvious to justify upon its structure becomes the value upon reality even as the norm in a certain way. Through this notion of hero, it shown that hero and its heroism has come to the face of social contribution, as regarded that and would not be too much to say that the myth of hero is the secret opening through which the inexhaustible energies of the cosmos pour into human cultural manifestation and performance (Butler, 2016). Religions, philosophies, arts, the social forms of primitive and historic man, prime discoveries in science and technology, the very dreams that blister sleep, boil up from the basic, magic ring of myth (Campbell, 2017, p. 3). Thus, it determines the consequences of how the narrative may thrive in such structure.

Therefore, the status of literary work emerged as the genuine and become one of the main forms of hero representation as a character. Whereby followed the stance of literary works has mimetic as theoretical foundation (Nurachman, 2017, p. 21). Yet the form of representation will never leave to the core of the element intrinsic. This statement followed to the understanding that by the “work of arts” in the narrow sense, it means works created by special techniques designed to make the words as obviously artistic as possible (Nurrachman, 2019, p. 68). The representation may regenerate the condition of how narrative linking the section of reality.

Moreover, following those statements this thesis pursues the heroism status, as the form of alternative virtue projection principle in dealing social problem. In radical point of view the tribute of heroism will rejoice human civilization to contemplate the attribute understanding hero which can be signified in the behavior honor, honesty, and sacrifice to the deal in suffering (Campbell, 2017, p. 33). Shortly, this identified construction signifier are very close with the reality where those become the principal to the deal the reality and its problem. As regarded the understanding that Heroism is a social attribution, never a personal one; yet the act itself is often a solitary, existential choice. It is historically, culturally, and situationally determined, social heroism, in contrast, typically does not involve immediate physical peril (Mutz, 2004). It is nonetheless associated with considerable risk and personal sacrifice in other dimensions of life, including serious financial consequences, loss of social status, possible long-term health problems.

In this part, the developing about the notion of heroism remains the exploration about its form and function. It also remarked where hero has become such thing in the consciousness and its behavior. By this background, the research proposes the novel by Rick Riordan in the title *The Lost Hero* 2010. The novel has genuine exploration about hero as the synthesize in dealing social problems, in certain way the character of Jason Grace and its development facing trouble with bravery upon the social problem in urban modern with a power of demigod such as democracy, social policy, helping the weak, and defending the truth. Using the fantasy of Greek mythology, this work deserves to be observed for the sake of continuity literature as a discourse (Spector, M., 2001). In certain

point, this novel promotes the invitation to be inspected and gain the construction where heroism as the synthesized understanding about dealing social problems.

By doing so, in certain area of understanding. This thesis regarded the theory which is based on popular literature. The term of popular literature can be followed as the notion theory of “popular” thus not only delineates the common taste of a majority of people but also always connotes accessibility and “of the populace” the people’s choice (Muta, 2000, p. 792). It also followed upon the theory of hero journey and its archetype by Joseph Campbell which generated the understanding as follow interest of studying assimilated are precisely those that have inspired, throughout the annals of human culture, the basic images of ritual, mythology, and vision (Campbell, 2017, p. 17). Followed by the notion enclosure of structuralism theory which discussed that individuals are passive recipients of social and cultural structures, rather than active agents who can shape and transform those structures (Klarer, 2013). Thus, this grand theory may rejoice as the bridge to start researching the gap and the interest upon this study.

The following capacity of research, this thesis projected the literary criticism in the form of objective enclosure. The objective enclosure however promotes the inspection upon literary work the critic about instead of describing the effects of a work, focuses on the features, devices, and form of the work by which such effects are achieved (Abrams, 1999, p. 5). Thus, it will be designed as the qualitative descriptive method where the thesis deploy about its function to analyze a straight forward descriptive summary of the informational contents of the data that is organized in a logical manners (Nassaji, 2015 p. 130), of structuralist, where the aim is to identify characteristics, frequencies, trends, and categories (Diah Supatmiwati, 2013 p. 144). Nonetheless the sequence of those property is tangible.

This thesis has inspired by the previous study from Zeno, Allison, Kinsella, and Ari, where the credit to the title of research *Heroism Research: A Review of Theories, Methods, Challenges, and Trends* 2016, and it discussed about places the growing discussion on heroic action in a humanistic perspective, as heroism aligns with ethical self-actualization in its highest form, personal meaning making, and social good, and can also involve profound existential costs. The second was inspired by Franco in the credit research of

*Heroism: A conceptual analysis and differentiation between heroic action and altruism* 2011. The research contributed to the understanding about explore three apparent paradoxes that surround heroism-the dueling impulses to elevate and negate heroic actors; the contrast between the public ascription of heroic status versus the interior decision to act heroically; and apparent similarities between altruism, bystander intervention and heroism that mask important differences between these phenomena. The third is obvious research about the context about archetype entitled by *The Hero Archetype in Today's Digital Era* by Joanne Saxon in 2015. This research discussed in certain area about archetype which focused on the archetype of the hero has appeared throughout literary and film history in many guises and continues to appear today in comic books, video games and other digital products. The appeal of the hero is due to the psychological significance with which this archetype holds for individuals of all ages, sexes, and cultures. This paper will examine the hero archetype and its transition into today's digital age.

Therefore, there is distinguish as a matter of novelty and authentic which based on structured determination. This research is aimed to explores the hero's journey and archetype function within the context of a specific literary work, the other research draws inspiration from various sources, delves into the analysis of hero's journey and archetype function as portrayed in Rick Riordan's novel "The Lost Hero" published in 2010. Including 'Heroism Research: A Review of Theories, Methods, Challenges, and Trends 2016' by Zeno, Allison, Kinsella, and Ari, 'Heroism: A conceptual analysis and differentiation between heroic action and altruism 2011' by Franco, and 'The Hero Archetype in Today's Digital Era' by Joanne Saxon in 2015. These sources discuss heroism and archetype in a broader and more multidisciplinary perspective, encompassing different forms of media and exploring the psychological significance of the hero archetype across cultures and digital platforms.

As sequences background above, this thesis searched the aim upon the inspection about the formula of hero and its projection to deal in the novel *The Lost Hero* 2010 by Rick Riordan. Hereby, the background may rejoin the consideration where hero journey analysis may provide the significant notion of formula. It follows with certain function of

archetype to signify its causality principle of how the character being represented. Thus, the status of how the novelty of hero journey and archetype may rejoice such a pattern of understanding from the novel of *The Lost Hero* 2010 by Rick Riordan.

## **1.2 Statement of Problems**

The novel *The Lost Hero* 2010 by Rick Riordan has the certain form of heroism formula in dealing social problems within the story. Hereby the researcher states the problems upon finding the hero formula and its form as overcome to social problems. From the background in this research above, the researcher concludes that there are two questions that will be the main focuses on this research, those are:

1. What is the form of hero journey in the novel of Rick Riordan's *The Lost Hero* 2010?
2. How do the function of identified character archetype support adventure formula in the novel of Rick Riordan's *The Lost Hero* 2010?

## **1.3 Research Objective**

The purpose of the research is to achieve a particular result. Based on the statement of problem above, the purposes of the following research, are as follows:

1. To identify the form hero journey formula in the novel of Rick Riordan's *The Lost Hero* 2010
2. To identify the function of identified character archetype support adventure formula in the hero's journey in the novel of Rick Riordan's *The Lost Hero* 2010

## **1.4 Research Significance**

The result of the study is expected to bring theoretically and practically benefits:

1. Theoretically, the results of this study are expected to be useful for researchers especially for students in academic to the culture and humanity faculty which

especially to literary major and other people in general who want to know about the study of popular and contemporary literature. especially about using structuralism. improve the analysis about heroism.

2. Practically, the researcher hopes that this research can provide benefits or be a reference for other researchers, giving more knowledge to students who study special courses and generally to people in academic and creative practitioner in developing to make the literary product, and directly to the ministry of education and culture to make the policy and program in creative hub.

## **1.5 Definition of Key Terms**

As the capacity and necessary to avoid misunderstanding, this thesis provide the definition of key terms which hold the intensity topic or theme along in this thesis.

### **1. Hero's Journey**

Hero's journey is the discourse which theorized by Joseph Campbell which inspired by Carl Jung psychological archetype. Upon hero's journey, it defined where all heroes journey has sticked formula which follows as the story line, where it started from departure, initiation, and return.

### **2. Character Archetypes in Hero's Journey**

Along with the journey, the story of hero also follows a set formula of character and its characterization which deployed as functioned to define the scheme of hero as a genre. It sticks with hero, mentor, herald, threshold guardian, shadow, trickster, and shapeshifter.

### **3. Structuralism Inspection**

This term is cored as the enclosure of the study which hold as the tool to qualify the quality of the object form as literary works. Instead, it based the stand where structuralist critic claims that criticism's purpose is to concentrate on the work as a generated aesthetics which constructed and contain a core structure which build to do so in order to be called as.