

# **CHAPTER ONE**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background of Study**

Literature has many forms, and each form has its own unique structure in telling a story. According to Kafimbwa (2005) argues that the difficulty in defining literature lies in the fact that literature exist in many form. Therefore, scholars have failed to come up with one definition that will be embrace all the types of literature in their varying forms and degrees. The existence of the different types of literature has made it difficult for scholars to come up with one working definition that exist now all have deficiencies. This is because the body of literature is wide, has many forms. When studying, teaching, or learning about narration in literature, it is also important to understand its underlying arrangement. Means that besides to understand it also to know how the way arrangement or how the way to analyze in good order or steps by steps. Narrative structure used for epics and some myths, legends, folktales, and fairy tales is often the "Hero's Journey". According to Rebecca Ray (2017) The Hero's Journey is a recurring pattern of stages many heroes undergo over the course of their stories.

Heroism is a natural identifying feature in every human According to Webster's New World Dictionary defines a hero as (1) any person admired for qualities or achievements and regarded as an ideal model, (2) any person admired for courage, nobility, or exploits, especially in war, (3) the central figure in any important event or period, honored for outstanding qualities. Another definition of hero is

the chief character of a work, on which our interest centers (Abraham, 1970: 128). A hero is defined by Joseph Campbell as “someone who has given his life to something bigger than himself.” The hero may set off on the adventure intentionally, like Beowulf, or the hero may be thrown into the adventure. However, the hero is always prepared for the journey. The hero’s life lessons have prepared him/her for the trials that will be faced while on the journey. From those definitions, they give more supporting arguments about the hero and by knowing the writers more convinced to say once more that people need or want to be a hero in their own life.

As in Abraham’s book, he said that the hero is the chief character of a work, on which our interest centers (Abraham, 1970: 265). It becomes a phenomenon and it does happen in the real practice. For example when people watch film or read novels especially with heroism theme inside, people are focused on the hero himself as the main character. People are focused what the hero does, what the hero acts, and what are the hero’s sensations during the storyline. It is not a wrong phenomenon and it is wise, but there is another wise thing too besides concerning the main hero as a main character only, they are stages of the hero’s journey. All stories consist of common structural elements of stages found universally in myth, fairy tales, dreams, and movies (Vlogger, 2007:xxviii). They are some stages that compose the hero’s journey that will be coming along to analyze in the discussion chapter using Joseph Campbell’s patterns.

According to Ray (2017) Joseph Campbell, is an American mythologist, writer

and lecturer, created this cycle after researching and reviewing numerous myths and stories from different times and regions of the world. What he found was that they all share the same fundamental principles. Campbell's most well known with his work *The Hero with a Thousand Faces* (1949) also known as the Monomyth. The most basic version has 12 steps, while more detailed versions can have up to 17 steps. Since the publication of *The Hero with a Thousand Faces*, Campbell theory has been applied by a wide variety of modern writers and artists.

The term of hero very familiar with us. Call it a hero like Hercules who came from Greek mythology or superhero figures. More modern super hero is like Superman, Batman, Spiderman, and another of the hero figures. Hero figures are mentioned before was only a small part of the hero figure. Great, handsome hero figure and always ready to help others often a favorite as well as a role models for children. The hero figure has this extraordinary power as if to impact the readers. In this modern era there are many parents also encourage their children to reads book or novels with the theme of heroism because of the moral message contained in it, like good will win against evil. Steven D. Greydanus mentioned that children need heroes as symbol of courage, compassion, and sacrifice to be exemplary. Because hero has a good example like always help other, kind, so if children watch film or read books with heroism theme it will give impact for their development. Charlotte Huck also stated that the story of heroism *gives children an understanding of a particular culture; but more importantly it provides them with models of greatness through the ages* (Hourihan, 1997:3). In all those ancient

narratives, the heroes must take series of quests in which they encounter tests, obstacles, and dangers in order to reach certain goals.

*Miss Peregrine's home for peculiar children* this is one of the novels which portrays about human existence using an imaginative genre and specifies it through fantasy storyline. Ransom Riggs is a writer from USA. His first novel is *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*, born out of his love for vintage photography and bizarre stories in June 2011. From this, the author's imagination can be seen, how he developed the story based on a collection of vintage photos that look odd. His novel is also interesting because the presence of the main character, Jacob Portman, who experiences a major change in his life. Jacob Portman, 16 years old boy, wishes to free himself from his grandfather's past that made him fidgety. He looks for the truth of his grandfather's past by going to Wales, there was an orphanage where his grandfather lived, in order to restore his peaceful and normal life. However, after he found out about his grandfather's past and world inside the loop, contrary his life is in danger because he knows that he is not an ordinary boy. He has supernatural power; it is called peculiar like his grandfather. As a peculiar, Jacob's life will be more dangerous in normal world, there are hollowgast that is ready to eat peculiar's soul. He is also trapped by a weight that incognito as his psychiatrist, Dr. Golan, this condition makes him in very awry situation. His hope for a peaceful life as before has been shattered. He realizes that his life has changed. He faces unexpected condition. His life is confronted with the choice that must be immediately decided; back to normal world or stay in a world inside the loop. No one can help him to face it and no

one understands his unrest at the time. It makes him feel hopelessness. Jacob does not give up with his unexpected condition. Finally, he continues his life and faces it by choosing stay in a world inside the loop, leaving his parent behind. His choice is purely of himself according to what he wants. He helps his new peculiar friends to rescue their self from wights and hollowgast rather than come back to the normal world like giving up his life to death without any effort.

In particular, the writer would like to analyze the stages of being hero by using Joseph Campbell theory in *Miss Peregrine Home for Peculiar Children* novel. The writer chooses this novel as the object of analysis because this novel tells about Hero's journey. So then the writer want to inform to the reader that inside the story there are some steps that Hero's should be passed before they are finally declared as a hero.

## **1.2 Research Question**

In case to figure out what the concern points in this research, the writer categorizes a questions that will be answered in the discussion:

What are the stages of Jacob to be a hero as seen in Rigg's *Miss Peregrine's Home For Peculiar Children* based on Campbell's theory ?

### **1.3 Research Objective**

Based the statement of the problem explained above, the objectives of the study as follow:

To reveal what are the stages of being hero as seen in Rigg's *Miss Peregrine's Home For Peculiar Children* based on Campbell's theory.

### **1.4 Uses of The Study**

In doing this research, the writer does expect that the case of *Miss Peregrine Home For Peculiar Children* novel. The uses of this research are :

#### **1.4.1 Theoretical Use**

This study is expected to give a better understanding to other researcher in another research with the same context such as theme, theory or object of studying literary works especially in the novel of *Miss Peregrine Home For Peculiar Children*. This study also is expected that in the future can be one of source references in analyzing literary works about narrative structure and hero's journey.

#### **1.4.2 Practical Use**

This study is expected to be such an inspiration for academic practice especially for analyze narrative structure and being a hero through literary work. This study also expected to support and give contribution for the readers who are intersted in

analyzing novel by using monomyth concept. Hopefully student will consider more about the values of literary works.

### **1.5 Scope of Study**

This research will focuses to narrative structure or story in the novel which describe hero's journey, which is from Jacob journey he can be declared as the hero by using Joseph Campbell Hero's Journey Theory.