

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Study

Nearly all literary works, such as novel, movie, and drama, deals with the journey of the main character, addresses as the hero, and his confrontation with the villain throughout the plot of the story. Philip Zambardo on his essay *What Makes a Hero?* published in 2011 coined that whether a person can be categorized as a hero or not is largely based on his willingness to demonstrate altruism—a practice of selfless concern for the well-being of others. He further describes that, the key to heroism is a compassion for other people in need—a concern to defend a moral cause, knowing there is a personal risk, done without expectation of reward. Therefore, it can be put into conclusion that a hero is someone who took others welfare into utmost importance, even at the price of putting themselves at risk. On the other hand, villain is often pictured as the complete opposite of the hero. On literary perspective, villains are described as the *evil* characters intent on harming others (Miyamoto, 2015), in which the term is used to portray a cruelly malicious person who is involved or devoted to wickedness or crime. The live journey of a hero in many literary works has long been studied by many researchers, though, in contrast, far less attention has been devoted to analyze the journey of the villain. Whereas the villain is the essential part of the story and the presence of villains and the obstacles posed by them is the one who determines the hero's journey. Nearly every journey of the heroes in literary works has a pattern

that have similar aspects. Hence, many researchers have long been analyzed the journey of the hero and try to find out the pattern that all heroes undergo.

One of the most notable researchers that studied the hero's journey is Joseph Campbell, an American mythological researcher, who found a theory of hero's journey called Monomyth through his book titled *The Hero with a Thousand Faces* (1949). Campbell studied the path followed by heroes of several cultures and traced a pattern that is common to all of them with slight variations. According to Campbell, all storytelling, follows certain outline in which its existence has been present since the ancient form of story-telling customs. He further stated that all stories, from the crudest jokes to the highest flights of literature, can be understood in terms of the Hero's Journey: the 'monomyth' whose principles he lays out in the book (Campbell, 1949; Vogler, 2007)

From this work, Campbell developed the classic Hero's Journey. The Journey is constructed of eighteen stages, although not every story has every stage. The book *The Writer's Journey* (2007) by Christopher Vogler refines Campbell's original structure of a hero's journey. In it, Vogler narrows three Campbell's phases, defining twelve stages that make it up, which were then adopted by most of Hollywood's screenwriters. Vogler (2007) has stated that the Hero's Journey "at heart, despite its infinite variety, the hero's story is always a journey. A hero leaves her comfortable, ordinary surroundings to venture into a challenging, unfamiliar world "(p.7).

The heroes are separated from their ordinary world and begin their adventure reluctantly. They enter to the other world fraught with danger, underwent many tests and trials, got help from unlikely sources, and often distracted by many temptations. At the end, the heroes overcame a great obstacle, returned to their ordinary world as a person transformed and they became the master of both ordinary world and the other worlds. That is a timeless story pattern which has assumed countless forms in hero tales across the globe.

In accordance, the writer chooses one of literary works that shows vivid similitude of the hero journey in the female counterpart of hero character, addresses as *heroine*, in the novel Red Queen by Victoria Aveyard. The story begins along with a dystopian world created by Victoria, where the hierarchy of society was separated by blood. Silver and Red. The silvers are the owners of powers such as telkies (users of telekinesis), nymphs (manipulators of water), strongarms (possessors of superhuman strength), swifts (possessors of extraordinary physical speed), greenwardens (manipulators of nature), and many others, they live in clans that are distinguished by their strength. In the hierarchy of this world, the silvers Occupies the top position, as a Royal families and nobles. Power and luxury are birth rights that always surround the lives of the Silver. The silvers, incarnation of the god. On the other hands, the reds is an ordinary human who lives under the shadow of the power of silver, an easy target for their supernatural powers. In contrast to the Silver people whose lives are always

in wealth and power, the red people must live in poverty, which is forced to they lived, as servants and slaves for people who considered themselves gods, Silvers.

This story begins in Norta, a country that was blessed with technology and strength, led by a silver king, Tiberias VI the Burner, a fire controller. The story is told directly by the main character, Mare Barrow, a seventeen-year-old girl who lives in a small village in a kingdom of Norta, the fourth daughter of five siblings. Living as a pickpocket was the way Mare chose to help her family while waiting for her time to be picked up for war. As the rule in Norta, that all red residents who were eighteen years old and did not have jobs were required to go to war between the Norta and Lakeland kingdoms. Because of an unexpected event, Mare entered the silver palace and became a servant. When the king was looking for potential fiancee for prince Maven, the venue for the election of the Silver Queen had revealed the extraordinary power hidden in Mare. The power that she herself does not know she has. Mare can release lightning from her body. This invited the attention of the royal family. This caused Mare to discard her true self, making her a leading role in the story written by the king and queen. If he still loves his life and his family, he must become the Lady Mareena Titanos, the daughter of a war veteran, General Ethan Titanos. A real silver who accidentally was raised by red people. In the end of the story, because the reds already knew about the issue of Mare, which was rumored to have power, a red rebellion began which was getting closer to the capital. This is the right time after so long oppressed, the reds rise. The Reds chose to fight rather than be oppressed for hundreds of years.

In addition, the writer chooses this literary work is not only because of the story line is interesting to be discussed, but also because the novel has achieved some awards, such as Goodreads Choice Awards 2015: Debut Author Winner and Young Adult Fantasy & Science Fiction, Amazon.com Best Books of the Year 2015 : Teen & Young Adult, and Children's Book Committee Bank Street College of Education : 2016 Best Children's Books of the Year, Fantasy. In accordance, this paper present analysis on Hero personality on Mare Barrow, the main character in the *Red Queen* novel. According to Wellek and Warren (1967), "Literature must always be interesting: it must always have a structure and an aesthetic purpose, a total coherence and effect." Based on the quotation, the writer concludes that each literary work has certain purpose, whether it is about social conditions, culture or history. Literature was written in a specific moment of time, therefore making it a work of the past. Literature in itself is a pinpoint in history. Some would believe that works of fiction such as dystopia and fantasy have no link to its cultural environment, but this is not true. The story itself reflects the nature of the author who was influenced by an age or era. The relationship between history and literature will always be pervasive because one is the collection of happenings and the other is the reflection of human nature in its ever shifting form. Together, both make up the portrait of humanity. Accordingly, the writer is attempting to analyze the Hero's Journey experienced by the main character by using Christopher Vogler's Theory.

The reason why researchers are interested in doing this research is because the Hero's Journey is a great framework of character's journey from being summoned from ordinary life to carry out certain missions to returning home as a hero. This conceptual framework is found in almost all the world's mythological stories, folklore, religious stories, modern fiction stories, especially fantasy and science fiction genres. And also this is repeated again in this story, although it does not cover all stages. However, what's interesting here is that not just anyone can become a hero, in becoming a hero, there are stages, there is a process. Therefore, researchers identify the main character Mare Barrow has a heroic figure in herself.

1.2 Research Question

Concerning to the idea presented in the background of research, the writer formulates the research question as follow:

How is hero's journey described through the character of Mare Barrow in Aveyard's Red Queen?

1.3 Research Objective

Based on the research question above, the purpose of this paper is to analyze the Hero's Journey that can be seen from Mare Barrow character in *Red Queen* novel.

1.4 Uses of Research

Following the objective of the study above, the writer divides the uses of the study in two parts; those are theoretical and practical uses as follow:

1.4.1 Theoretical Use

The writer looks forward for this analysis to become one of references for other researchers that will do an analysis about heroine or the female hero character by using the theory of Christopher Vogler.

1.4.2 Practical Uses

Practically, the writer attempts to make this research able to enrich the reader knowledge especially in understanding about heroine character. Also, by reading this research, the writer gives contribution for other researchers who are interested in similar topic to do a comparative study.

1.5 Scope of the Study

In order to answer the formulated problems appropriately, the writer needs to limit the analysis. The research scope is adjusted in an attempt to maintain focal point on the main topic, which is to analyze the hero's journey of Mare Barrow, the main character of Red Queen novel.