

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the study

Archetype embeds and occurs with the same pattern on a story. A reader can easily understand the various characters and their respective roles in the story. It is because archetype as the universal pattern makes possible the shared experience of storytelling being recognizable to everyone. As cited by Vogler (1998) in his book *The Writer's Journey* that the time the readers enter the world of fairy tales and myths in a story, they will be aware of the recurring character types and relationships. The heroes play role as protagonists and fight against the villains. Meanwhile the villains are the characters who try to destroy the heroes.

The archetype itself aims to ascertain that the literary text gives imaginative focus to pre-existing social forms of representation and meaning. As Landman (2006) stated, in the example of characters that later become known all over the world is not only because the author defines it in every stories but also constructs the characters' roles against the backdrop of a complex social and cultural literary landscape. The characters therefore stand out as originals.

Since the concept of archetypes is a tool that really needed for understanding the purpose or function of characters in a story, Vogler stated in his book that the readers have to grasp its function which a particular character is expressing. So they can easily determine if the characters are pulling their full weight in the story. The archetypes are part of the universal language of

storytelling and can also be regarded as personified symbols of various human qualities (1998).

The writer chose the topic of archetype because of its important role in a story such as the patterns and types that make commonality around the world. The writer then would like to know whether or not the differences exist in a story. By using the present theory of archetype, the writer chose to conduct the archetype in a story.

Since the archetypes occur in many aspects of a literary work that can be characters, situation, images, themes and motifs as well. Then, the writer chose hero archetype as one of the archetypal characters. As Vogler stated that the hero is aimed 'to give the audience a window into the story'. The readers in the early stages of the story are invited to identify the Hero, 'to merge with him and see the world of the story through his eyes'. The archetype of the hero is one that is, in essence, on a quest for truth; and in doing so, is forced to make choices and decisions that would not otherwise have to be made. As Campbell stated that a hero is "someone who has given his life to something bigger than oneself" (1949). The hero then must accept his fate of having and facing supernatural control or powers and events for better or for worse, when it comes to taking on the quest (Duff, 2015).

As for the heroine who is the female hero who plays dominant role in a story. Even though hero and heroine have dominant role yet they have different characteristics or journey in achieving the goal. As a study conducted Deborah L.

Duff entitled *INDIVIDUATION IN CHILDREN'S LITERATURE: THE CHILD HERO'S JOURNEY AND COMING-OF-AGE*, in this case is child heroine. She imparts in general that child heroine much more willing to carry out the journey than the male child hero because she is bored, curious, or both. The heroine also possesses the involvement of the mother/daughter split, integration of the masculine, and the healing of the wounded self that concerns re-connecting with the feminine as other variances from the male hero.

The study entitled *The Journey of the Villain in the Harry Potter series: An Archetypal Study of Fantasy Villains* conducted by Paula Soares Faria. This study analysed the connecting between protagonist hero and the villain by using hero's journey theory from Joseph Campbell and archetype theory by Carl Jung. The result of this study showed that both the hero and the villain had similar journey. So, the villain archetype is an essential part of the development of a hero figure.

Another study is entitled *THE ARCHETYPE OF THE HERO'S JOURNEY IN ODYSSEY* conducted by Mohammad Taheri and Ronak Jalaly from Persian Language and Literature, Bu-Ali Sina University, Hamedan, Iran. This study showed that mostly of the characters in *Odyssey* followed an archetype such as the main character, Odysseus, the Galliant and intelligent hero, Athene the mentor, the sirens as 'femme fatals' and Posidon as the antagonist. Using Joseph Campbell and Carl Jung theory of hero archetype, Odysseus has to overcome and battle through in order to achieve his final goal of reaching his home and his loved ones, from the Call to Adventure to the Freedom or Gift of living.

As a study conducted by Johanna Sörensen entitled 'Archetypes and Stereotypes in J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter Series*'. This explores the archetypal hero and gender stereotypes in J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter* series. This study uses Archetype theory by Northrop Frye and will mainly focus on Harry Potter and Hermione Granger for the analysis.

Archetype of the hero appears in many genres of novel such as fantasy, dystopian including young adult fiction. For the explanation above, the writer has interested in conducting archetype in fantasy and young adult novel *The Alchemyst* by Michael Scott. The novel tells a story of a twin, a boy and a girl. They are sibling and forced to face different situation from ordinary world to unusual world like magical and fantastical world. Throughout the story, the sibling faces not only the fantastical situation but also experience to be hero. They also meet with many kinds of mythological creature such immortals and others. From being innocent youths, they must face the different world with different journey. *The Alchemyst* is the book one of six serial novels and the writer chose it for the analysis.

Therefore, the writer wants to know the characteristics of hero and heroine archetype in *The Alchemyst* novel. The writer also uses hero's journey theory by Christopher Vogler and the heroine's journey by Maureen Murdock in order to know the stages of hero and heroine's that reveal in the novel.

## **1.2 Research Questions**

- How are hero and heroine's archetypal characteristics portrayed in *The Alchemyst* novel by Michael Scott?

- What stages of hero's journey and heroine's journey are revealed in *The Alchemyst* novel by Michael Scott?

### **1.3 Purpose of the study**

This study is conducted to find out how are hero and heroine archetypal characteristics portrayed and what stages of hero's journey and heroine's journey are revealed in *The Alchemyst* novel by Michael Scott.

### **1.4 Limitation of the study**

This study is focused in analyzing hero and heroine's archetype through the selected narrations and dialogues using stages of hero's journey depicted by Christopher Vogler and for the stages of heroine's journey by Maureen Murdock in *The Alchemyst* novel by Michael Scott. This study also uses the characteristics of hero and heroine proposed by Vogler to find out what characteristics of hero and heroine in this novel.

### **1.5 Significance of the study**

The writer hopes that this study will help those who want and attracted hero and heroine's archetype in a novel. This study is also conducted to give students of English Department of State University of Jakarta a better view about what stages hero's journey and heroine's journey are depicted and how the hero's and heroine's journey is presented in a story.