THE TRAITS OF HEROES IN RICK RIORDAN'S PERCY JACKSON & THE OLYMPIANS: THE LIGHTNING THIEF

THESIS

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THESIS

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STATEMENT OF AUTHORSHIP

I state that the thesis entitled 'The Traits of Heroes in Rick Riordan's Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief is my original work. I do not include any materials previously written or published by another person, except those cited as references and written in the bibliography. Hereby, if there is any objection or claim, I am the only person who is responsible for that.

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MOTTO

"Humans see what they want to see."

-Percy Jackson-

DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to my father, Purna Wijaya, my mother, Neni Liana, and my little brother, Amirul Hanif, who constantly support me. Also, thanks to my brother, Sahi Rafael Damardhi, who always giving me advices and encouragements to finish this thesis. I am very thankful to have such a beloved family.

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Alhamdulillahirobbilalamin, all praises to Allah as the great god and the

creator of all creatures. I can finish my thesis with the title "The Traits of Heroes

in Rick Riordan's "Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief", as a

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This thesis is still far from perfect, and it lacks many aspects. Criticism

and suggestions will be accepted to improve this thesis. Hopefully, this thesis will

give the benefits for writers and readers in general for the present and the future.

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ABSTRACT

Ma'ruf, Annaz. (2022). The Traits of Heroes in Rick Riordan's Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief. Undergraduate Thesis. Department of English Literature, Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. Advisor: Dr. Syamsudin, M.Hum.

Keyword: Trait, Main character, Hero Narrative

This research was aimed to examine the heroic portrayal of the main character named Percy Jackson in Rick Riordan's novel entitled *Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief.* Otherwise, this study is classified as literary criticism since the purpose of this research is to inspect a literary work. The method used for this research is psychological approach because it concentrates on analyzing the main character's psychological aspect in a literary work. For the theory, the author used The Eight Traits of Heroes invented by Scott Allison and George Goethals. The results of this research indicate that the main character named Percy Jackson possesses the eight traits of heroes in the novel *Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief.* In addition, this research will employ the Three Major Components of Heroes to determine the Percy Jackson's hero development through the Hero Narrative.

مستخلص البحث

معروف، أناس. (2022). السمات البطولية في رواية "بيرسي جاكسون والأولمبيون: لص البرق" بقلم ريك ريوردان. البحث الجامعي ، قسم الأدب الإنجلزي ، كلّة العلوم الإنسانية ، مولانا مالك إبراهم جامعة الدولة الإسلامية ف مالانج

المشرف: الدكتور، شمس الدين، الماجستي

الكلمة الرئيسية: السمة ، الشخصية الرئيسية ، سرد البطل

كان هذا البحث يهدف إلى فحص التصوير البطولي للشخصية الرئيسية المسماة بيرسي جاكسون في رواية وبخلاف ذلك تصنف هذه . The Lightning Thief : ريك ريوردان بعنوان بيرسي جاكسون والأولمبيون الدراسة كنقد أدبي حيث أن الغرض من هذا البحث هو فحص العمل الأدبي. الطريقة المستخدمة في هذا البحث هي مقاربة نفسية لأنها تركز على تحليل الجانب النفسي للشخصية الرئيسية في العمل الأدبي. بالنسبة التي اخترعها سكوت أليسون وجورج The Eight Traits of Heroes للنظرية ، استخدم المؤلف جوثالز. تشير نتائج هذا البحث إلى أن الشخصية الرئيسية المسماة بيرسي جاكسون تمتلك ثماني سمات بالإضافة إلى ذلك ، سيستخدم . The Lightning Thief : للأبطال في رواية بيرسي جاكسون والأولمبيين . هذا البحث المكونات الثلاثة الرئيسية للأبطال لتحديد تطور بطل بيرسي جاكسون من خلال قصة البطل . هذا البحث المكونات الثلاثة الرئيسية للأبطال لتحديد تطور بطل بيرسي جاكسون من خلال قصة البطل

ABSTRAK

Ma'ruf, Annaz. (2022). Sifat-sifat kepahlawanan dalam novel "Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief" karya Rick Riordan. Skripsi Literatur. Jurusan Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Humaniora, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. Dosen Pembimbing: Dr. Syamsudin, M.Hum.

Kata Kunci: Sifat, Karakter Utama, Narasi Kepahlawanan

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengkaji penggambaran heroik tokoh utama yang bernama Percy Jackson dalam novel berjudul *Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief* karya Rick Riordan. Penelitian ini termasuk kritik sastra karena tujuannya adalah untuk mengkaji sebuah karya sastra. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah pendekatan psikologis karena berkonsentrasi pada analisis aspek psikologis tokoh utama dalam sebuah karya sastra. Peniliti menggunakan teori *The Eight Traits of Heroes* yang diciptakan oleh Scott Allison dan George Goethals. Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa karakter utama bernama Percy Jackson memiliki delapan sifat kepahlawan dalam novel *Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief.* Selain itu, penelitian ini akan menggunakan Tiga Komponen Utama Kepahlawanan untuk mengutarakan perkembangan Percy Jackson sebagai pahlawan melalui Narasi Kepahlawanan.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this opening chapter, the researcher will elaborate the background of the Study, followed by Research of the Study and Significance of the Study. Also, this chapter will include Scope and Limitation, and Definition of Key Term.

A. Background of the Study

Literature can give us great pleasure and satisfaction, especially if we read a literary work. Literally, the literature itself can be identified as a form of creative activity from the human mind, and it contains idiom, spirit, and experience; in addition, it communicates using language and gives the audience a good impact (Fry, 2012) (Barry, 2017) (Warren & Wellek, 2022). And it comes in form of many types such as Poetry, Prose, and Drama. Otherwise, some people favor Prose since it provided in many varieties and one of them is novel. And not least, novels came up with so many themes, even plenty of them contain content like heroic theme. Hero can be described as an individual entity or a person with a unique personality; this creature is often portrayed as a figure who saves the day or a person who did such a selfless act (Gölz, 2019).

Heroic theme has been shown for a long time in our life especially when we were little kids. Like in the past, we sat in the front of television watching a kid show that shows a superpower figure that can beat any villain. For instance, a man discovered a special power from unknown being from other planet, he was chosen to be a superhero to prevent any evil attempt in the earth. We see heroes as figures who willing to save people especially if they have a special ability.

In fiction, a hero usually shown by the main character or protagonist. The main character face conflicts and difficult situation at some point. By that means, he will need to solve it in the manner of braveness and willingness of sacrificing anything for the innocent people. His efforts that keeps people safe from any danger that exist in the world. With doing good things using his ability or power, more individuals will stay secure. Also, Hero also gives other people motivation so they will stay positive whenever they in a difficult situation. That traits put them in an important position in audience's heart. Therefore, those behaviors are the things that make the audience enjoy the story even more.

A fictional story with the theme of heroism is exist in the novel *Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief.* This story tells about a boy named Peter Jackson who was diagnosed with dyslexia and ADHD. This twelve-year-old boy discovers something that is odd about himself. When he goes on trips in school vacation, he got attacked by one of his teachers because that teacher turned into a fury. Suddenly, his teacher, named Mr. Brunner, lends him a weapon to defeat that fury. After he beats the monster, he discovered his identity that he is half-blood: half-human, half-god. Then, he was escorted to Camp Half-Blood in New York to stay safe from monsters. Along with the story, he also found out that Poseidon is his father, and the lightning of Zeus has been stolen. Jackson had a mission to retrieve it in 10 days before the war between gods happens. Throughout the story, he overcomes many obstacles that almost prevent

him from reaching his goal. In the end, he succeeds in giving Zeus' lightning back and eventually prevented the war. A hero who stops the war and the only one that ended the clash.

The story of Percy Jackson is written by an American Author named Rick Riordan. He is known for his book series *Percy Jackson & the Olympians*. The first book of the series is published in 2005 as the story depicted as the beginning of Percy Jackson's journey. Also, it won award Best Books for Young Adults. With the success of the product sales, the novel has been adapted into a movie live-action released in 2010.

In conducting this research, the researcher of this study found several previous studies that discuss about the novel. Dani Irawan (2015) discussed about the Structural Analysis of Plot in Rick Riordan's "Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief.". He analyzed the structural plot and elements of plot of the novel (Irawan, 2015). Also, a study was made to identify the implicit meaning of the translated novel *Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief* (Aryani, Tarayanti, & Krisnawati, 2016). This book has been analyzed its English collocation that most frequently found in the novel (Nur, 2016). Otherwise, Eltanin Ridho Samodra carried out the thesis about the moral values presented in *Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief* (Samodra, 2021). He also analyzed the existentialism in Percy Jackson's character.

The researcher of this study also discovered some previous studies that relates with heroism. A study called "The Plight of Hero in Achebe's Things Falls Apart" by Patrick C. Nnoromele examines the hero's failure in the story and the

possible reasons behind it (Nnoromele, 2000). Meanwhile, the research wrote by Firda Amalia investigated the possibility of Archetypal Hero of the main character in the novel Harry Potter (Amalia, 2014). In theory of Heroism, another study explored the representation of heroic masculinity in British World War One Literature (Pividori, 2012). Furthermore, a thesis examined two heroic poems from the Old English period, *Beowulf* and *Battle of Maldon*. This thesis is aimed to seek the flaws of heroes between those two works (Zálešák, 2022). In other study, Katie L. Baker discusses that Harry Potter, the main character in the series written by J.K. Rowling, is a mythic hero (Baker, 2011). She used Campbell theory to determine Harry Potter's mythical heroic elements through several stages. The last previous study the writer found is from the thesis entitled "The Construction of Tris as a Female Hero in The Film Divergent". This research analyzes *Divergent* movie in the aspect of construction of a female hero (Rahmawati, 2016). It explores the hidden ideologies of Western gender norms in famous movie text.

The thesis stated above are different from this study because this study will mainly focus on heroism based on the eight traits of heroes. The researcher also employs the three major components of heroes to describe the hero narrative of Percy Jackson. Furthermore, this research will examine the main character in the psychological aspect but on the topic of heroism.

B. Research of the Study

Based on the explanation of the background of the study, the following questions are:

- 1. What kind of heroic traits are portrayed by Percy Jackson in Rick Riordan's *Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief*?
- 2. How does the hero narrative develop Percy Jackson as a hero in Rick Riordan's *Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief*?

C. Significances of the Research

This research is aimed at those who want to explore more about heroism in a character in term of practical benefit. Perhaps, this research will be worth enough to be referenced for the reader that wants to study heroism. Otherwise, the writer would be very glad if this research can inspire the English Department students as it can broaden knowledge on the study about heroism. Lastly, this research can be used as information for the people who are interested in attempting more research around this particular topic.

D. Scope and Limitation

The study is primarily expected to form a critical effort of discovering Percy Jackson's traits based on the eight traits of heroes but it might be distinctly limited due to the unfortunate unavailability of certain traits that correlate with the protagonist's personality.

E. Definition of the Key Terms

1. Trait

Trait is interpreted as the uniqueness of an individual and comparatively consistent schemes of feeling, thinking, and behaving (Hockenbury, S., Nolan, & Hockenbury, D., 2016).

2. Main Character

Main Character is an outcome of the plot which provides the development and the progress of the narrative story such as the character's decision, action, reaction, and connection to other characters (Disher, 2003)

3. Hero Narrative

It is a common template of narrative that involve an individual who is considered a hero. This concept is divided into three stages which are Departure, Initiation, and Return (Allison, & Goethals, 2011).

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter will present the overview of related literature to give a brief explanation of the theory used in this study. The purpose of this overview is to make the research's idea more clear and easier to understand. Otherwise, the author of this research shall elaborate on the related literature and the theory used in this research. The first part involves Literature and Psychology while the next section describes the theory of Eight Traits of Heroes by Scott Allison and George Goethals.

A. Literature and Psychology

Psychology itself came from two Greek words, "psyche" and "logos" which both words mean life and explanation. It is one of the scientific studies which investigates the human mind and behavior (Stangor & Walinga, 2014). Meanwhile, psychologists are the individuals who took the human's mind, behavior, and emotions into consideration and utilize the scientific procedure to gather, examine, and interpret evidence in their research (Stangor & Walinga, 2014).

Literature refers to a group of works of art that for the most part is written text. Though, not each written text can be categorized as literature. For that reason, the meaning of literature itself should have the concept "aesthetic" or "artistic" to differ between the exact literature that holds both concepts and texts

that people usually read in daily life such as legal documents, newspaper, etc. (Klarer, 2013).

A lot of people use the psychoanalysis method as a tool for examining literary works. It is started with Psychoanalysis developed by Sigmund Freud. He is the one who started to apply the psychoanalytic method in order to analyze literary works. The method itself uses some of the psychoanalytic techniques in the interpretation of literature (Barry, 2017).

In literary works, a character is one of the crucial elements that have an important role. Without it, the story of a narrative text would not make any sense. The character is an individual portrayed in a story such as a person, animal, being, creature, or thing. It is also considered as the outcome of the plot which provides the development and the progress of the narrative story such as the character's decision, action, reaction, and connection to other characters (Disher, 2003). Usually, the reader considered a character as the figure having particular moral, intellectual, and emotional qualities as depicted in dialogues or efforts (Abrams & Harpham, 2014). Certainly, an author would have to provide a character with detailed information such as characteristic, personality, and appearance as it helps the reader understand the character even more.

When creating a literary work, an author writes different types of characters in order to progress the story of the plot. Furthermore, many characters possess different types of roles in the story. It was intended to make the narrative telling more fascinating. A story in literary works contains two primary types of character which are protagonist and antagonist. Protagonist means the central

character that engages the plot and is usually faced with conflicts, also usually shown as the main character. This type of character catches the readers' interest and empathy throughout the story. Meanwhile, the antagonist shares a different approach. Antagonist is the character that stands against the protagonist, mostly portrayed as the bad or evil character. Mainly, the antagonist exists to give a conflict to the story (Schirova, 2006).

In literary works, characters are likely to be a major character or a minor character. Major character is the person in the story that mostly appear more for a longer period of time. Minor characters are the individuals we less witness over time since their involvement are less important than the major character (Schirova, 2006).

Characters have crucial elements based on development in literary works, they are round and flat characters. According to Chatman, Round characters are the person that has many expressions and emotions (Chatman, 1993). They have more complex personalities and unpredictable internal conflicts as normally found in a real person (Schirova, 2006). Flat characters are different, their personality never changes (Chatman, 1993). They only represent a single or double trait or personalities and it does not affect character development (Schirova, 2006).

There are characters who have particular effects on the progress of the plot, those are dynamic and static characters. Dynamic character is the one who shows the development from the beginning of the event until the end of the story (Chatman, 1993). It is also considered that the character's personality shifts over time as the outcome of the conflict in the narrative story (Schirova, 2006).

Meanwhile, Static characters mean the character's personalities remain the same and do not change over time (Schirova, 2006). This type of character is similar to the flat character but they both different since a static character can impact another character (Chatman, 1993).

B. Theory of Eight Traits of Heroes

Scott T. Allison and George A. Goethals have stated that once elements of heroism exist in a person, and the person's schema and the schema of heroism are adequately compatible, a hero is discovered. From there, they initiate to find and arrange what kind of heroic traits should be possessed by an individual. They began exploring the hero's personality by considering the leaders' traits. At first, they asked college students to list what traits that represent a hero. Then, they asked other college students to sort the lists based on similarities and differences between different traits. The sorted lists revealed eight different trait categories.

1. Caring

In Heroism, some characters in literary works can show some kind or compassionate attitude during specific actions. This means the person motivates people and helps the mental, emotional, or psychical pains of another or themselves. It is also considered as an act of sympathetic pity and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others. In order to have a Caring attitude, a literature work may need to inject a character with empathy and reflection traits (Tourhout, 2019). Being empathetic also shows the character has a caring trait. It can be

shown by understanding the other person's feeling of the experience they have been through. For instance, if we place ourself in other people position after their horrible occurrence, we will feel bad for them. Furthermore, a caring hero would be directly identified if the individual has done any action that relates to kindness. It usually starts when the person showing friendly behavior towards other people or groups. There are two types of caring based on the above explanation. They are empathy and compassion.

Empathy is a part of caring trait that shows the mannerism of an individual about the suffering of another person. It is also can be interpreted as the capacity to comprehend or sense the other individual's misery. This mindset has often been shown by having understanding towards the other individual, placing oneself in another person's situation. For instance, one man was having a bad day due to massive stress or the relatives that passed away, we as an individual would feel bad for him and try to place ourselves what if we switch position to him. Thus, as the result of being empathetic, it makes us aware of another person's emotions.

Compassion is the attitude that motivates one person to encourages oneself to be able to help another one's suffering. This mindset includes ourselves to be engaged by hardship and encountering the motivation to assist ease and avert it. This trait has big similarities to empathy, except it has intention of act rather than being exclusively aware. Also, the heavy contrast between empathy and compassion is compassion tends to let the individual feels for someone but with the desire to help. This behavior can be shown by giving an emotional response through interaction of another person and having urge to help.

2. Charismatic

Fictional heroes could possess a charismatic mannerism. Charismatic trait is the characteristic of captivating attractiveness or charm that can uplift adherence in other people. Sometimes, the individual may approach as helpers and have a loving interesting personal background so the character can be more likable (Ekroth, 2007). They spark good vibes which helps them to gain the reader's attention. Also, the natural physical appearance impacts significantly to the reader (Bray, 2017). The looks of characters determine whether the heroes are fashionably attractive or not. Furthermore, the character might have a certain skill like doing a speech, having that kind of eloquent vibes. It is also the indicator of whether the character is likable or not.

Charisma exists inside a person's personality that can attract and affect other people. It is one of the traits that highly pictures the schematic nature of defining a hero. "Schema" term itself is obtained from the Greek word, which means "shape". Scott Allison and George Goethals argue that defining a hero should not simply be defined with a simple explanation but rather how one individual's schema match with the schema of heroism. If the person's schema fits with the schema of hero, then a hero is identified (Goethals & Allison, 2012). Furthermore, through charisma, the individual has the ability to give an appeal to others. They can be identified through several types; it revolves around the personal charm or strong presence and the ability to influence people with speech. Usually, a strong presence could be the parameter for perceiving the heroism trait. For instance, when someone walks into a crowd and the people react to its

presence, that means the individual influences others just by the appeal of appearance. Meanwhile, influential speech is the approach of a person where he/her speaking with speech affects other people in a way where people are impacted by someone's oration.

3. Inspiring

Inspiring is one of the heroic traits where the main character can influence someone else to get motivated, encourage another person to do better things. Inspiring person is also depicted as an individual who attempts to load other people with confidence and urge to do something, usually to be much better than before. For the common identification, people with inspiring trait often shows the indication of changing another person to be more self-assured. For example, when they saw someone who gets pessimistic or has a bad day, they will motivate that person to never give up in any difficult situation.

They also show that they are more valuable than the other person because sometimes a hero gains high value from society after they did some heroic action (Beardow, 2018). Heroes also resonance with their personality by showing emotions whenever they try to help someone (Morey & Nelson, 2015) (Gölz, 2019). Their action also influences others to do the same measures, to motivates other people which the heroes do. To inspires others to not give up no matter how hard the condition. To drive others to do the same good thing for the better merit.

4. Reliable

Characters can be reliable if they are qualified to depend on. An individual in a story is sometimes given a quest from another person to complete it. As the consequence, the character needs to complete it as soon as he can. If the character is given another task and he can finish it, the character itself will be gain enough capacity as a reliable person. That means people expect to depend on the character whenever they need help because the character has the ability to keep completing duties. Also, being loyal is an indication of being a reliable person. A character can be marked its loyalty if the hero has a professional understanding of what he is faithful to serve (Olesen, 2020). This means heroes can keep their promises to what they are tasked about such as given a mission to destroy the evil, thus the hero must fulfill the task no matter what.

Reliability is one of the heroic traits that convey the mindset of the hero where he becomes someone who can be trusted to act well, be hard-working or perform to obey the order. The subjected character has the tendency of being solely suitable or fit to be relied on. As to identifying the sign of a reliable person, the character who possesses this trait tends to depict it with acting consistently good in terms of quality or performance, thus, making it more plausible for the person to be trusted.

5. Resilient

In literary works, the hero sometimes forces to engage in the conflicts or problems occurred in the story and they need to figure out to solve the issues. In order to overcome many troubles, some heroes' goals are prevented by some environmental change so they need to adapt to the situation (Williams, 2017). In a difficult situation where the characters are pushed to the bound to face almost impossible circumstances, they have to find a way to resolve it. They need to improve quickly to a previous good state after problems. Without this trait, it is impossible for a hero to complete a journey if the individual itself cannot adjust to the environment.

As the one of heroic traits, Resilience is the ability to withstand adversity and recover back from difficult life events or situations (Allison, & Goethals, 2011). The hero with this trait explicitly managed to recoil or spring back the difficult state into a controllable situation despite the small chance of getting back the advantages. Heroes who get such an ability are likely to feature some characteristics such as having self-awareness, keeping calm when under stress, and self-control. The importance of self-awareness is because it assists people in seeing themselves clearly and completely. They can see themselves in a realistic light and hold themselves more accountable for their actions. Also, they have a better chance of succeeding in personal development. Keeping calm under the stress is the capacity to remain cool in the face of adversity is invaluable. Maintaining calm allows individuals to face any challenge and make informed judgments about how to deal with it. Calamity and resilience go hand in hand because when confronted with difficulty, both of these qualities are required to overcome it successfully. Meanwhile, self-control aids in the control of oneself

and one's activities. In moments of discomfort and adversity, self-control comes out the most, and it's also when our resilience shines brightest.

6. Selfless

Selflessness is the fundamental and moral practice of caring about the welfare of other people or animals, resulting in higher material and spiritual quality of life. In heroic actions, the person tends to do things simply out of a desire to help, not because of forced to do so for reasons of duty, loyalty, or religion (Allison, & Goethals, 2011). It entails behaving out of care for other people's well-being. A hero's behavior consists of expressing a selfless concern for the welfare of others. It also means the person puts the needs and wishes of others over one's own. According to research, a hero is revealed to have a significant helpful action without expecting any reward (Riches, 2018). Furthermore, being honest and humble determines a heroic figure as a character. And for the most important part, heroes stick to their word, meaning that they have to be honest.

7. Smart

In facing a conflict, a character must have a clever way to solve it whether for a problem-solving case or settle a puzzle. Heroic actions are perceived from viewing the character based on his decision in resolving obstacles, motivation, and situational opportunities (Frisk, 2018). It is crucial for the main character to have this specific personality because the intelligence of the present being determines

the success rate of its action. If the person is having knowledge and good judgment, then the problem will be solved much easier.

8. Strong

If we look into a common state where the individual is faced with a dangerous situation, the hero must have the audacity to overcome that obstacle so it needs to be strong. Strong characters are mainly common when the hero has a clear conscience and courage in taking risks when overcoming the villain (Poulos, 2012) (Kohen, Langdon, & Riches, 2017). This means a superhero needs a demanding power to defeat the bad guy so it can save the day. Having strong physical ability also ensures the high possibility to solve the conflict. In addition, being strong is not only about psychical but having a strong will is also important. Possessing brave behavior might be one of the important aspects to be a strong character. Without it, the character would not be overcoming his fear when he placed in a dangerous situation. Otherwise, strong traits can be equated as manifesting bravery or courage, this type of strong character is one of the most crucial mindsets for conquering fear in a dangerous circumstance.

C. Identifying Heroes

The depiction of heroes regarding the names and types are somewhat different for some people. One of the considered heroes from the sample of Allison and Goethals's research about heroism is the family members as their heroism pivoted on their inspirational sacrifice (Allison, & Goethals, 2011). It is

common for family members to get portrayed as heroes by the people who witness them as a kid and then grow up to realize their parents did great efforts. Some of the instances are: "My father, for teaching me to be a brave person," "My mother's great strength for birthing me," and "My uncle, for encouraging me to never give up."

Another possible type of hero is classic superheroes, or they can be called fictional heroes. Allison and Goethals stated that fictional heroes are unique because the theme they define, the values they personify, and the emotions they induce, all seem to resonate with people at a deep level (Allison, & Goethals, 2011). For example, some of the known heroes such as Batman and Spiderman, those instances are classified as classic superheroes.

If heroes' depiction can take inspiration from our environment, it might come into consideration, why there are so many heroes coming from books, television, and movies? The reason for this is that the authors of fiction intentionally set up characters who flawlessly embody classic heroic stories or narratives (Allison, & Goethals, 2011). These imaginary individuals are then created to be hero prototypes-individuals having substantial heroic qualities that people easily recognize and admire (Allison, & Goethals, 2011). The classic example for this instance is Superman. Heroes like Superman must be strong and virtuous in order to save the day from the villain (Allison, & Goethals, 2011). As a hero, Superman needs the strong superhuman skill as he needs it for challenging the enemies upon him that no one can match his strength to the length of reaching uneven power. And to the extent, a hero like Superman needs to have excellent

moral character as it shows the good side of him for being the individual that saves the world from being destroyed.

Numerous of Heroes are determined by attempting the right thing at an unfavorable condition even when their lives until that point have not been heroic. Allison and Goethals, in their book, put one example of a character that does several heroic traits but his actions are not praiseworthy (Allison, & Goethals, 2011). In *Casablanca*, Rick Blaine is not heroic at first. He possesses a characteristic of a hero such as "charismatic", but his maneuvers in the initial part of the film are malicious. It was hinted that he may killed someone or stole money. Judging by that description, Rick is showing some villainous act in the beginning. But as long as the story goes on, he has redemption arc that leads him into completely change his behavior and become a hero he deserves. This means that a hero can act non-heroic in his early part of his story.

D. Three Components of Hero's Narrative

In analyzing heroes, it is appearing that a systematic pattern is needed to ensure the way to identify a hero. Certainly, to be considered a hero, an individual needs to adhere to a certain path (Allison, & Goethals, 2011). There is a people's script of heroes which explained that myths and tales of heroes throughout the ages have lean to follow a predictable pattern (Campbell, 2008). This pattern involves three major components of the hero's story or narrative.

The three major components of the hero's narrative are described as the script of identifying a hero. The first one is called departure, which explains the forces that set the hero's journey in motion. The second part of the classic hero story, initiation, refers to the adversities that heroes must prevail over to finish their quest. Lastly, there is heroes' narrative part named return which a hero comes back from where he begins. For further inspection, the explanation below will briefly examine each of these phases of the hero's journey.

1. Departure

Departure is the first stage of the hero narrative which focuses on how the adventure of the heroes begins (Allison, & Goethals, 2011). At some point, the hero will voluntarily offer himself to carry out something big. Bruce Wayne is a great example of someone who embraces the persona of Batman to eliminate any crime in the City of Gotham. Otherwise, the hero refuses to undertake the journey but then slowly understands his or her fate as a hero (Allison, & Goethals, 2011). Nevertheless, there is a certain situation where the hero is forced to accept the path of his or her destiny.

The hero's first departure also comprises the initial steps of the hero as outing himself from his comfort zone and going into the unknown, which is still mysterious and can lead to a dangerous situation. Campbell said that the hero's departure from the known world into the unknown is similar to "the belly of the whale," a place that is different from which the hero is born into and grows up at

(Campbell, 2008). In addition, a guide or assistant often appears to help the hero with this transition.

2. Initiation

The next big phase of the hero's adventure refers to the sequence of tests and challenges the hero should prevail over to succeed. In this phase, the hero was given the trials and ordeals alongside the journey (Allison, & Goethals, 2011). The hero is going to the region where he will be tested to overcome the obstacles. The hero is also secretly helped by the tools or classified agents whom he met before his first step into this region. As long as the journey goes on, the hero will learn anything that his adventure is the beginning of the long conquests and moment of illumination (Campbell, 2008). There will be moments of initial victories, unretainable euphoria, and the glance of marvelous land.

Common tests faced by the heroes are the temptation of the flesh and the atonement with the father. According to Campbell, the seduction of women and romantic relationship distracts the hero from the journey on which he is called (Campbell, 2008). There are many examples of modern-day regarding this point but one great instance is Indiana Jones, he gets diverted by his former love Marion. Otherwise, the atonement with the father is the test where the father figure has the ultimate power over the hero (Campbell, 2008). All human males undergo inevitable quarrels with their fathers and other father figures.

3. Return

The third stage of the hero narrative examines the hero's return to his or her original place with a large reward. A hero would need to come back after everything he had done for defeating the villain and completing the quest (Campbell, 2008). Sometimes, the hero's return is full of danger, with every trial the hero faced during the initiation phase. Therefore, the hero needs his allies or sidekicks to assist him in completing the quest. Also, upon returning, many heroes changed forever. They may experience to adapt the hard tests, but in the end, heroes may encounter a spiritual awakening or a sensation of freedom from physical matter. With that attitude, they may even no longer be afraid of death.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

In this section, the researcher will explain the research method through different parts. It will be divided into four segments which are Research Design, Data Source, Data Collection, and Data Analysis.

A. Research Design

This research is categorized as Literary Criticism because the objective of this research is to examine Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan. Literary Criticism is the study of literary work through different viewpoints that focus on authorial stance, purpose, and perspective (Guerin, 2005). Moreover, Literary Criticism is the sole research design that closely related to literary works (Setiawan, 2014). This thesis uses the psychological approach to analyze the psychological aspect of literary works (Tyson, 2006). Furthermore, the approach itself is designed for examining the character's mind through the indication from the individual's behavior. The author will use the "Eight Traits of Heroes" theory conducted by Scott Allison and George Goethals. The theory is divided into eight parts; Caring, Charismatic, Inspiring, Reliable, Resilient, Selfless, Smart, Strong (Allison, & Goethals, 2011). The character's heroic personality will be analyzed based on those traits. This theory also reveals the heroic side of a character shown by the behavior, emotion, and thought of the individual. Thus, makes it is more associated with the psychological aspect.

B. Data Source

For the data source of this study, this research will use the *Percy Jackson* & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief novel written by Rick Riordan. The book has 377 pages in total, with Young Adult-Fantasy genre. It was published by Miramax Books in the US and Puffin Books in the UK. The novel itself is already sold in many editions, but the researcher will use the first edition of the novel as the main source. Moreover, the data is in the form of words, phrases, sentences, and paragraphs.

C. Data Collection

In collecting the data, there are several steps that the author will use. First, the writer of this research will collect the data by reading the novel entirely. After that, he examined some texts that could potentially be showing the eight traits of the hero in Percy Jackson's personality. For gathering the information, this attempt is crucial as it will briefly ease the researcher's work.

D. Data Analysis

The writer will use several steps to conducts the analysis of Percy Jackson's traits. First, the researcher makes notes from the data that it is in the form of words, phrases, sentences, and paragraphs. Then, the researcher reads the evidences of Percy's hero traits and analyzes them with the relevant theory. Furthermore, the researcher interprets relevant data based on the eight traits of heroes to gain results and answer the research of the study. For explaining the

hero's narrative of Percy Jackson, the researcher employs the three major components of heroes to the character of Percy and examine his stages of becoming a hero.

CHAPTER IV

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

This chapter section will discuss the data analysis result that contains the description of The Eight Traits of Heroes presented in Percy Jackson a.k.a. the main character of Rick Riordan's *Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief* novel. The findings consist of evidences that the author gathered from the novel. The discussion will elaborate on the findings and the theory used in the research. Otherwise, this Chapter also use The Three Major Components of Hero's Narrative to provide Percy's hero development through several phases.

A. The Traits of Heroes Portrayed by Percy Jackson

The data are gathered from the novel Rick Riordan's *Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief* as it will focus on the main character. The only relevant utterance that involving the eight traits of heroes will be included in this section. Subsequent to analyzes of the data, the base behavior of the Eight Traits of Heroes is occurred to Percy Jackson as a hero. From the discoveries of the early research questions, the writer of this study found the Traits of Heroes in the Percy Jackson novel.

After doing the analysis on the novel, the researcher found a character that portrayed in the Percy Jackson story. Scott Allison and George Goethals have split the heroic character trait into eight types. They are Caring, Charismatic,

Inspiring, Reliable, Resilient, Selfless, Smart, and Strong. Some of the heroic traits are presented in Percy Jackson story. For that reason, the researcher attempted to describe Percy Jackson as a hero.

1. Caring

Percy's appearance in the story is portrayed as an empathetic person as he has been mentioned to show the trait on multiple occasions. That trait can be identified in some narratives and especially the dialogue as well. The main character's concern is usually described through the mind and behavior of the individual. In fact, he shows several signs of being empathy towards the other character as well as his partner in the journey.

Percy Jackson is a person with the attitude of compassion mindset. At the beginning of the story, he once tries to defend his friend, Grover, after getting bullied by one of his classmates.

Datum 1

Grover was an easy target. He was scrawny. He cried when he got frustrated. He must've been held back several grades, because he was the only sixth grader with acne and the start of a wispy beard on his chin. On top of all that, he was crippled. He had a note excusing him from PE for the rest of his life because he had some kind of muscular disease in his legs. He walked funny, like every step hurt him, but don't let that fool you. You should've seen him run when it was enchilada day in the cafeteria.

Anyway, Nancy Bobofit was throwing wads of sandwich that stuck in his curly brown hair, and she knew I couldn't do anything back to her because I was already on probation. The headmaster had threatened me with death-by-in-

school-suspension if anything bad, embarrassing, or even mildly entertaining happened on this trip.

'I'm going to kill her,' I mumbled.

Grover tried to calm me down. 'It's okay. I like peanut butter.'

He dodged another piece of Nancy's lunch.

'That's it.' I started to get up, but Grover pulled me back to my seat.

'You're already on probation,' he reminded me. 'You know who'll get blamed if anything happens.'

Looking back on it, I wish I'd decked Nancy Bobofit right then and there. In-school suspension would've been nothing compared to the mess I was about to get myself into. (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.14)

The description and dialogues written in the story indicate that Percy directly shows a compassionate attitude towards his friend, Grover. When he saw his friend get bullied, Percy felt angry about Nancy's behavior towards Grover. The reason he got rage is that he acknowledges Grover's condition for being crippled while using crutches and seeing his friend get humiliated in front of him made Percy sicken enough. In Percy's mind, he knows that there are no sane people that want to hurt a crippled person. What Percy said in the dialogue as he was genuinely upset that his friend gets bullied by his classmate. At that moment, he was showing the emotional response after he understand Grover's feeling of being bullied, he then gets motivated to show a desire to help him. Furthermore, Percy has the intention to act as he wants to defend his friend even though it would be shown through the form of violence. This proof displays that he has a heroic attitude as he expressed it with direct interaction between himself and the other individual.

In the second chapter of the book, Percy express himself about how he worries about Grover leaving him behind since himself already been expelled from the Yancy Academy.

Datum 2

And yet... there were things I'd miss at Yancy. The view of the woods out my dorm window, the Hudson River in the distance, the smell of pine trees. I'd miss Grover, who'd been a good friend, even if he was a little strange. I worried how he'd survive next year without me. (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.23)

In the quote above, his caring behavior toward Grover is represented and it can be described through his emotion and how his mind thinks about the situation. At one event, Percy had caused trouble which resulted in him being sent back to his parent. After the fatal mistake, he did toward the English teacher, Percy was asked to pack his stuff and leave the academy. In addition, he would not be invited back to the Yancy Academy next year. He would miss the scent of his room and the surrounding memorable view of Yancy Academy. In his mind, Percy really thinks about Grover because he knows he will be no longer with him anymore. He even called Grover a good friend and he worried about what happens if he won't be able to accompany Grover anymore. In this case, the empathy representation of Percy Jackson is explained by his concern through his own mind. He put himself in a position of what if he was Grover and being left out by his best friend, knowing that no one won't be able to defend yourself from any form of bullying that might be happening in the near future.

2. Charismatic

As the main character, Percy has been represented as the person with charismatic charm during some events in the story. His appearance is mostly highlighted because the appeal of his charisma often came from how he was described by himself along with the situation at certain events. In one event, Percy got injured from fighting with enemies when training in Camp Half-Blood. The people around him kneeled at him after they saw his true presence.

Datum 3

'You're wounded,' Annabeth told me. 'Quick, Percy, get in the water.'

'I'm okay.'

'No, you're not,' she said. 'Chiron, watch this.'

I was too tired to argue. I stepped back into the creek, the whole camp gathering around me.

Instantly, I felt better. I could feel the cuts on my chest closing up. Some of the campers gasped.

'Look, I – I don't know why, 'I said, trying to apologize. 'I'm sorry...'

But they weren't watching my wounds heal. They were staring at something above my head.

'Percy,' Annabeth said, pointing. 'Um...'

By the time I looked up, the sign was already fading, but I could still make out the hologram of green light, spinning and gleaming. A threetipped spear: a trident.

'Your father,' Annabeth murmured. 'This is really not good.'

'It is determined,' Chiron announced.

All around me, campers started kneeling, even the Ares cabin, though they didn't look happy about it.

'My father?' I asked, completely bewildered.

'Poseidon,' said Chiron. 'Earthshaker, Stormbringer, Father of Horses. Hail, Perseus Jackson, Son of the Sea God. (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.90)

From the narrative above, it is stated that Percy's appearance after he was revealed as Poseidon's son influenced the people around him and they started to

kneel him as if they honor a Heroic Figure. The first time his charismatic trait was shown was when Percy got wounded in a battle at Camp Half-Blood, Annabeth with her initiative asked him to get into the water. In a surprise, the water where he stands was giving him the ability to perform self-healing. His injuries were healed drastically, and his body recovered immediately. On top of that, he noticed that above his head there was a shining hologram that has a shape of a trident. After that, everyone around him was shocked and astonished by the view they saw. All people amazed by the look of Percy's charm they started to kneel to him, they realized Percy is the son of Poseidon. From here, we can learn that his special appearance sparked as people around him acknowledge his looks influences another individual. This occurrence indicates that a charismatic person influences other people based on the looks of the individual. If the person is attractive or has special looks, it will draw people's attention. This is the reason why Percy got the attention that he never got before. If it was not for the reveal, he would not be praised at all. Thus, the researcher found this representation in the character of Percy Jackson.

On another occasion, the main character also represents another charismatic trait by completing the quest that has been given by the elders to stop the war between Greek gods. His presence was unique enough as the people outside the building respect him as he was sort of a hero. It is explained in the narrative below.

Datum 4

'I'll leave you then.' I bowed awkwardly. 'I – I won't bother you again.' I was five steps away when he called, 'Perseus.'

I turned.

There was a different light in his eyes, a fiery kind of pride. 'You did well, Perseus. Do not misunderstand me. Whatever else you do, know that you are mine. You are a true son of the Sea God.'

As I walked back through the city of the gods, conversations stopped. The muses paused their concert. People and satyrs and naiads all turned towards me, their faces filled with respect and gratitude and, as I passed, they knelt, as if I were some kind of hero. (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.227)

Percy's charismatic trait is conveyed in chapter 21, where he is greeted by the people outside Zeus's palace. After he successfully retrieved the lightning bolt and gave it back to Zeus, Poseidon approached and congratulated him as proof of his quest completion. Poseidon looked proud and for a long time never see Percy in contact as this was a heartful moment for both of them. Percy's father said that Percy always is his son no matter what. After that, he went outside and noticed people started staring at him. As he walked through the city, people's reactions were filled with respect and gratitude. As he passed them, they kneeled as a form of admiration to Percy for giving Zeus's weapon back. With the completion of his quest, Percy prevented the war between gods. People also cheered him as he was a hero who saves the day. From this description, the author found that the main character possessed charismatic charm with the completion of his dangerous quest. Percy gained the charismatic trait through this phase after his difficult task and he earned it respectfully. With that regard, Percy proved that his strong presence has effects on many people around him.

3. Inspiring

As a person who inspires other people, Percy has been narrated as the kind person that motivates people to be someone who doesn't give up easily. He even gives useful advice to his journey partners to not be gloomy person for a long time. It is explained his behavior in the text below.

Datum 5

'You think you'll ever try living with your dad again?'

She wouldn't meet my eyes. 'Please. I'm not into self-inflicted pain.'

'You shouldn't give up,' I told her. 'You should write him a letter or something.'

'Thanks for the advice,' she said coldly, 'but my father's made his choice about who he wants to live with. (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.168)

Percy Jackson is the type of person who inspires people to not give up on any situation. It was explained when Annabeth shared her story with Percy in chapter 16. It is described that Annabeth expressed herself and shared thought about she has had problems with her father for a long time. Annabeth had a family issue, especially with her father. She had a doubt meeting with her father again. As the reaction to her story, he told her to not give up and start to send a letter to her father because Percy knows that her relationship with her father can be restored, gave her a bit of advice. From this explanation, Percy already showed his inspiring moment when he gave his positive pieces of advice to Annabeth in order to convince her to try to communicate with her father again. By his inspiring trait, he is capable of encouraging another person to get motivated.

Percy is also seemed to inspire people to not be pessimistic even in a dire situation and it is described in the text below.

Datum 6

It was almost midnight, but the lobby was brightly lit and full of people. Behind the security desk sat a tough-looking guard with sunglasses and an earpiece.

I turned to my friends. 'Okay. You remember the plan.'

'The plan,' Grover gulped. 'Yeah. I love the plan.'

Annabeth said, 'What happens if the plan doesn't work?'

'Don't think negative.'

'Right,' she said. 'We're entering the Land of the Dead, and I shouldn't think negative.' (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.189)

The text above explained what Percy did when their partners have a doubt about the plan. The story tells that three of them intended to go to the Underworld through the Land of the Dead and it was located inside a recording studio. After approaching the lobby, they notice the guard at the security desk. They prepared a plan to pass the guard sitting on the security desk. Percy reminded the plan to his friends. Annabeth worried about what if the plan does not work and things became unexpectable to be handled. Percy immediately reacted by saying that do not think negatively. He believed that staying positive would help them to keep the plan stay intact. The researcher noticed that Percy did the thing because he understands that keeping an optimistic mindset was necessary as it indirectly gives them a morale boost, keeping their mind to stay confident as much. According to Scott Allison and George Goethals, a person who motivates people

to be optimistic can be considered as an inspiring individual. In this situation, it is visible that Percy's action has similarities to an inspiring guy, he reflected Inspiring trait. And if we compare before his partners got inspired which was, they have self-doubt in the beginning, they were moved by Percy's word after that.

4. Reliable

Percy at one time conveyed his manner as a reliable person in the story. In one of the events, he said that he was ordered by Chiron to retrieve the bolt of Zeus to avert the war between the Gods of Olympus, he agreed to take the quest.

Datum 7

'If Poseidon doesn't have it, where is the thing?'

'I believe I know.' Chiron's expression was grim. 'Part of a prophecy I had years ago... well, some of the lines make sense to me, now. But before I can say more, you must officially take up the quest. You must seek the counsel of the Oracle.'

'Why can't you tell me where the bolt is beforehand?'

'Because if I did, you would be too afraid to accept the challenge.'

I swallowed. 'Good reason.'

'You agree then?'

I looked at Grover, who nodded encouragingly.

Easy for him. I was the one Zeus wanted to kill.

'All right,' I said. 'It's better than being turned into a dolphin.' (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.99)

After reading the whole Percy Jackson novel, the researcher identified that Percy is a hero who can be a reliable individual. In the written text above, Percy narrated himself that the bolt of Zeus was stolen, and someone needs to retrieve it back and prevent Zeus's rage. In the ninth chapter of the novel, Percy was chosen to take the quest to retrieve the lightning bolt of Zeus and stop the war between

gods. Chiron, a centaur trainer, asked him to bring back the weapon safely. Initially, he was a bit hesitant as he questions Chiron about the object's location, although the inquiry was never answered. His reliable trait wasn't displayed yet but this build-up will lead to his capability. Chiron was afraid that if he tells him the exact place, Percy would be afraid to accept the task. In the next particular moment, Percy's reliability has been spotted as he shows his agreement to carry the quest. The line, 'All right,' I said. 'It's better than being turned into a dolphin.', proved that he is liable to take the order even though he does not aware of the upcoming danger upon him. Clearly, Percy is trusted to handle the quest with such a big responsibility, thus making him enough a reliable person.

Percy can be reliable due to his promise to come back to Camp Blood-Hill to train himself more because he wants to stop Luke from trying to cause a chaos among the Greek gods.

Datum 8

I made my decision.

I wondered, if Poseidon were watching, would he approve of my choice?

'I'll be back next summer,' I promised him. 'I'll survive until then. After all,

I am your son.' I asked Argus to take me down to cabin three, so I could pack my

bags for home. (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.246)

After Percy recovered from the poisoning, he decided to come back home and stay with her mother for his seventh-grade year. He promised that he would go back to Camp Blood-Hill next summer. His response can be viewed with a high reliability due to his commitment to stop his friend, Luke, who betrays him in the end of the story.

5. Resilient

Percy, as the main character, is depicted as a resilient person in several events. This characteristic can be found in several narratives, particularly in the dialogue and monologue. Percy's resilient attempt is usually expressed through the individual's thoughts and actions.

In the first sparring battle between Percy and his friend, Luke, they were in a state as it was a close game between two evenly matched players. Percy with his resilient manner managed to defeat Luke in an unexpected move.

Datum 9

I nodded, and Luke came after me. Somehow, I kept him from getting a shot at the hilt of my sword. My senses opened up. I saw his attacks coming. I countered. I stepped forward and tried a thrust of my own. Luke deflected it easily, but I saw a change in his face. His eyes narrowed, and he started to press me with more force.

The sword grew heavy in my hand. The balance wasn't right. I knew it was only a matter of seconds before Luke took me down, so I figured, What the heck?

I tried the disarming maneuver.

My blade hit the base of Luke's and I twisted, putting my whole weight into a downward thrust.

Clang.

Luke's sword rattled against the stones. The tip of my blade was a couple of centimeters from his undefended chest. (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.81)

The resilient side of the hero is commonly represented to give the character a unique impression such as being accomplished in a critical condition. One of the main character's resilient traits is being in the duel. In the paragraphs above, Percy described that he had a sparring duel with his friend Luke to train himself to be much stronger. For the first part of the battle, Percy seemed to struggle to deflect the attacks even though it was only training. In one moment, he

saw the attack direction of Luke and he deflected it. Then, he tried to use that chance to thrust Luke. It did not work as Luke deflect the thrust of Percy's sword and he countered the attack. His resilient act is shown here as he conveys his self-control regarding the circumstance. Percy with his resilient mindset tried one thing to do to avoid the loss. He tried the disarming maneuver. With his swing direct into Luke's base, Percy managed to toss Luke's sword away. As a result of his self-control, Percy finally defeated Luke. Percy overcame his struggle and managed to find a way to resolve it. His adjustment to the environment was the key point for him to win the duel against Luke. Thus, he identified as a resilient person with this occasion.

In different occurrence, Percy struggles to fight toward Mrs. Dodds but successfully turned the dire situation into his upper hand.

Datum 10

I took the ballpoint pen out of my pocket and uncapped it. Riptide elongated into a shimmering double-edged sword.

The Furies hesitated.

Mrs Dodds had felt Riptide's blade before. She obviously didn't like seeing it again.

'Submit now,' she hissed. 'And you will not suffer eternal torment.'

'Nice try,' I told her.

'Percy, look out!' Annabeth cried.

Mrs Dodds lashed her whip around my sword hand while the Furies on the either side lunged at me.

My hand felt like it was wrapped in molten lead, but I managed not to drop Riptide. I struck the Fury on the left with its hilt, sending her toppling backwards into a seat. I turned and sliced the Fury on the right. As soon as the blade connected with her neck, she screamed and exploded into dust. Annabeth got Mrs Dodds in a wrestler's hold and yanked her backwards while Grover ripped the whip out of her hands. (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.116)

In this text, it is explained that Mrs. Dodds, the one who attacked Percy, came back to hunt Percy again. He took his ballpoint from his pocket and turned it into a double-edged sword. Mrs. Dodds wanted to force Percy to surrender at once. He refused confidently knowing the surrender was not the wise choice to do. Immediately, Mrs. Dodd attacked him with her whip, strangled his hand. In this state of affairs, Percy's resilience is showing after he was aware of the other furies from different sides charging him. He remained calm as Percy knew he had to do something to avoid the ambush of the furies. He kept his sword in his hand and wait for the opportunity to attack one of the furies. He managed to hit the fury on the left with the hilt of the sword and slashed the right side of the fury. The monster on the right side got sliced by the sword and it turned into dust. In a hard situation, being resilient helps Percy to overcome any obstacle as he proved it in the text above alone. This explanation confirmed that Percy handled the situation in a critical condition, thus he is categorized as a resilient person.

6. Selfless

The researcher found some examples of the main character being selfless on multiple occasions.

Datum 11

The Chimera charged, its lion teeth gnashing. I managed to leap aside and dodge the bite.

I ended up next to the family and the park ranger, who were all screaming now, trying to pry open the emergency exit doors.

I couldn't let them get hurt. I uncapped my sword, ran to the other side of the deck, and yelled, 'Hey, Chihuahua!' (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.143)

A character is identified as a hero if the character possessed a selfless act. This trait was presented in chapter 13. The event explained that another monster called Chimera attacked Percy as soon as he realized that something was wrong when he got into the lift. Percy dodged its attack, but he ended up with a family and the park ranger there. He cannot let them get hurt. The self-less action is presented here as he takes the initiative to keep away the family from the monster. Thus, he attracts the monster away from them. As presented in this quote, Percy did not think for himself since he knew the other people were in danger. This is matched with self-less definition because Percy was being more concerned with the needs of others than with his own needs.

Datum 12

The zebra said, Open my cage, lord. Please. I'll be fine after that.

Outside, Eddie and Maurice were still yelling at each other, but I knew they'd be coming inside to torment the animals again any minute. I grabbed Riptide and slashed the lock off the zebra's cage.

The zebra burst out. It turned to me and bowed. Thank you, lord. (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.171)

The narration above explained that Percy and his friend hide inside a truck full of zoo animals. The zebra beside him surprisingly talked to him, asked to be freed from the cage. The line "The zebra said, Open my cage, lord. Please. I'll be fine after that." clarifies the zebra ask for some help. But what concerned Percy is that he knows this animal would not get out if he did not release it. This animal might be tortured when they arrived at the zoo. Percy could ignore the zebra, but with his selfless act, Percy released it. He used his sword and cut the lock off the cage. The zebra finally out of the cage as it turned at him and bowed with

gratitude. The zebra thanked him for the help. There's no reward Percy gets for helping the animals for sure, but this moment portrayed him as a hero who is a selfless boy.

7. Smart

Smart is a heroic trait that has been characterized as an individual who is capable of displaying intellectual information, such as that found in books. This type of person is usually able to understand principles, information, and apply them to the practice. Simply, a smart person is capable to comprehend and learn. There are few examples of Percy Jackson portraying this specific trait.

One of the examples is Percy's curiosity to Grover for being suspicious every time Mrs. Dodds gets mentioned. Grover acted like she was never there to begin with, yet he is probably lying, and Percy knows this.

Datum 13

Every so often I would spring a Mrs Dodds reference on somebody,

just to see if I could trip them up, but they would stare at me like I was psycho.

It got so I almost believed them – Mrs Dodds had never existed. Almost.

But Grover couldn't fool me. When I mentioned the name Dodds to

him, he would hesitate, then claim she didn't exist.

But I knew he was lying. (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.22)

The hero is considered to have at least intelligence to solve a problem or to notice the clumsiness on the oddities. The written text above revealed that after his confrontation with Mrs. Dodds, Percy wondered why everyone around him

seemed did not know who Mrs. Dodds was. Every time he mentioned her, no one understands nor was aware of it as if Mrs. Dodd never existed in the first place. Even Grover seemed suspicious when Percy addressed her to him. With his curiosity, Percy was able to know that Grover is hiding something from him. Whenever Percy mentioned Mrs. Dodd to him, Grover was being hesitant which rose suspicion towards him. He is smart for acknowledging Grover's fishy behavior. Percy also learned his friend is hiding something from him. In this case, he aware of the odds from his observations through critical thinking, it helps him to comprehend the situation.

Percy's form of smart also applies in certain situations. At one event, he was asked by a woman regarding where he was coming from. Percy with his clever way of thinking managed to answer it.

Datum 14

'We're orphans,' I said.

'Orphans?' the woman said. The word sounded alien in her mouth. 'But, my dears! Surely not!'

'We got separated from our caravan,' I said. 'Our circus caravan. The ringmaster told us to meet him at the gas station if we got lost, but he may have forgotten, or maybe he meant a different gas station. Anyway, we're lost. Is that food I smell?'

'Oh, my dears,' the woman said. 'You must come in, poor children. I am Aunty Em. Go straight through to the back of the warehouse, please. There is a dining area.'

We thanked her and went inside.

Annabeth muttered to me, 'Circus caravan?'

'Always have a strategy, right?'

'Your head is full of kelp.' (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.121)

Percy in his narration explained that he and his friends went into a shop at the side of the road, and there they met an aunty. When they got asked about their identity, Percy explained that there were orphans. With this quick thinking, he made an excuse to trick the woman so they can stay in the place. This attempt was surprisingly necessary as it helped them to avoid being recognized. Percy did not want to let his identity and his power be discovered by anyone. That is why he lied to the aunty. Quite smart of him for everything he can come up with any made-up story. The aunty eventually let them in inside the warehouse. The excuse worked as intended. Annabeth was even surprised by Percy's reason. When Annabeth muttered Circus caravan, Percy replied to her with confidence that in any situation, it is needed for someone to always carry a plan.

8. Strong

Percy can be a strong hero due to how he managed to conquer his fear during the battle. His confrontation with Ares describes the strong trait in Percy's mind. The researcher found some examples related to strong personality in the book.

Datum 15

Hades's aura was affecting me, just as Ares's had. The Lord of the Dead resembled pictures I'd seen of Adolph Hitler, or Napoleon, or the terrorist leaders who direct suicide bombers. Hades had the same intense eyes, the same kind of mesmerizing, evil charisma.

'You are brave to come here, Son of Poseidon,' he said in an oily voice.

'After what you have done to me, very brave indeed. Or perhaps you are simply very foolish.'

Numbness crept into my joints, tempting me to lie down and just take a little nap at Hades's feet. Curl up here and sleep forever.

I fought the feeling and stepped forward. I knew what I had to say. 'Lord and Uncle, I come with two requests. (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.205)

Strong character is not always about having special abilities to conquer the enemy, but having courage is also essential. In chapter 19, Percy arrived at the palace of Hades. Percy realizes that Hades is definitely dangerous with that menacing aura. Hades spoke to him and asked why he came to his place. Judging by his first reaction where his joints became numb, he was afraid at first. But he had to snap out of it and managed to brave himself. That courage is the sign of being strong, as we can see in the narrative text. To be brave defeating his own fear and having a sign of courage is already a brief example of being strong.

Datum 16

Annabeth said, 'Percy, run!'

The giant boar charged.

But I was done running from monsters. Or Hades, or Ares, or anybody.

As the boar rushed me, I uncapped my pen and sidestepped. Riptide appeared in my hands. I slashed upward. The boar's severed right tusk fell at my feet, while the disoriented animal charged into the sea.

I shouted, 'Wave!'

Immediately, a wave surged up from nowhere and engulfed the boar, wrapping around it like a blanket. The beast squealed once in terror. Then it was gone, swallowed by the sea.

I turned back to Ares. 'Are you going to fight me now?' I asked. 'Or are you going to hide behind another pet pig?'

Ares's face was purple with rage. 'Watch it, kid. I could turn you into -'

'A cockroach,' I said. 'Or a tapeworm. Yeah, I'm sure. That'd save you from getting your godly hide whipped, wouldn't it?'

Flames danced along the top of his glasses. 'Oh, man, you are really asking to be smashed into a grease spot.'

'If I lose, turn me into anything you want. Take the bolt. If I win, the helmet and the bolt are mine and you have to go away.'

Ares sneered.

He swung the baseball bat off his shoulder. 'How would you like to get smashed: classic or modern?'

I showed him my sword (Rick Riozrdan, 2005, p.215)

In chapter 20, Ares, standing with his motorcycle, encountered Percy once again. This time, Ares would pick a fight with Percy. Annabeth told Percy to run. Percy felt sick of running away from dangers, but now, he wants to overcome them. He immediately uncapped his sword as a sign of the duel. He prepared for the battle ahead of him. Ares sparked his threat with his power and challenge Percy in a duel. Without a doubt, Percy was ready to fight Ares in a real battle. With his courage, he confidently mocked Ares for being a coward. Percy even said the bravest thing. He said if he loses the battle, Ares can turn him anything he wants. But if he wins, he can claim the helmet and the lightning bolt, and Ares must go away. In this part, Percy had nothing to lose. If he can mock the god of war by himself, then Percy is ready to dominate his enemy. The courage inside Percy's heart led him ready to win the battle with a substantial victory. This particular behavior can be categorized as strong trait with how much Percy depicted his courage in this moment. It suits the heroic behavior to take risk and face the circumstances.

B. Percy Jackson's Development Through the Hero Narrative

In this section, the author of this research will provide the plot context from the novel based on the three phases of the hero's narrative. And to answer the second research question about how the main character in the story gained the heroism traits, the writer will explain the plot with these three components and then inject it with the pieces of evidence of the main character's heroic traits that the writer found to showcase the progress of Percy Jackson's heroism development.

1. Departure

In Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief novel, Percy starts his adventure after he discovered the inevitable fate upon his sight, leading to an amazing journey. According to Allison and Goethals, this stage centers around the beginning of the main character's adventure. Before his departure, the novel explains that he has a school trip to a museum. There, he saw his friend, Grover, assaulted by the bully. Percy then intended to take revenge on the bully.

Datum 17

Anyway, Nancy Bobofit was throwing wads of sandwich that stuck in his curly brown hair, and she knew I couldn't do anything back to her because I was already on probation. The headmaster had threatened me with death-by-in-school-suspension if anything bad, embarrassing, or even mildly entertaining happened on this trip.

'I'm going to kill her,' I mumbled.

Grover tried to calm me down. 'It's okay. I like peanut butter.'

He dodged another piece of Nancy's lunch.

'That's it.' I started to get up, but Grover pulled me back to my seat.

'You're already on probation,' he reminded me. 'You know who'll get blamed if anything happens.' (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.14)

The reaction from him does not mean to be literal meaning as it only shows Percy's mere motive to protect his friend. Percy's initiative to help Grover indicates his first heroic trait which is called "Caring". Though, his thought of initiating an act of revenge does not represent a heroic character. Fortunately, Grover stops him from doing a villainous act before it gets worse.

The entire school trip seems to go well until Percy is faced with his math teacher, Mrs. Dodds, that transforms into a monster. During that time, His favorite teacher, Mr. Brunner, helps Percy by throwing a ballpoint pen that can turn into a sword in his direction. Though, nobody remembers anything except Percy after the monster is defeated.

Percy goes back home after the trip, thinking this was over until his mother, Sally, asks him to escape from home with her. The dread from his mother's reaction explains it.

Datum 18

My mom looked at me sternly and talked in a tone she'd never used before: 'Percy. Tell me now!'

I stammered something about the old ladies at the fruit stand, and Mrs Dodds, and my mom stared at me, her face deathly pale in the flashes of lightning.

She grabbed her purse, tossed me my rain jacket, and said, 'Get to the car. Both of you. Go! (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.38)

This is related to the first initial steps into the unknown and out of the comfort zone (Allison, & Goethals, 2011). His first departure was determined from this event. A fate that leads Percy to an unresolved mystery awaits him as he departs from home with his mother and Grover. Unfortunately, they were attacked

by a monster in the middle of the road. The monster grabs and kills Sally.

Overflowed with anger, Percy cuts one of its horns and beats the monster.

Datum 19

Without thinking, I rolled to one side and came up kneeling. As the monster barrelled past, I drove the broken horn straight into his side, right up under his furry rib cage.

The bull-man roared in agony. He flailed, clawing at his chest, then began to disintegrate – not like my mother, in a flash of golden light, but like crumbling sand, blown away in chunks by the wind, the same way Mrs Dodds had burst apart.

The monster was gone. (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.47).

Percy's attempt to defeat the monster ends up with a good result. He managed to dodge the attack from the monster and grabs its horn and use it as a weapon to initiate the counterattack. He penetrates the monster with the horn, straight to its rib cage and the monster disintegrates like a crumbling sand.

2. Initiation

The challenge of a hero comes with trials (Allison, & Goethals, 2011). It begins with Percy arriving at Camp Half-Blood and meeting with familiar faces. There he encounters Mr. D, the god of wine, and Chiron, a centaur, formerly known as Mr. Brunner, Percy's Latin teacher. He is told by them that he is a half-blood, meaning he is an offspring of a god and a mortal.

Datum 20

'Percy,' Chiron said, 'you may choose to believe or not, but the fact is that immortal means immortal. Can you imagine that for a moment, never dying? Never fading? Existing, just as you are, for all time?'

I was about to answer, off the top of my head, that it sounded like a pretty good deal, but the tone of Chiron's voice made me hesitate.

'You mean, whether people believed in you or not,' I said.

'Exactly,' Chiron agreed. 'If you were a god, how would you like being called a myth, an old story to explain lightning? What if I told you, Perseus Jackson, that someday people would call you a myth, just created to explain how little boys can get over losing their mothers?' (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.55)

Chiron even explains the advantage of being a half-god that being immortal is that the individual will never die. He mentioned myth as he wonders if Percy could become the one. Afterward, Percy does a lot of training to dedicate himself to the Camp.

Most of Percy's challenges came from his journeys after he left his house. His first trial is shown in one battle sparring a duel between him and his new friend, Luke. Percy struggled in the early match but quickly recovered from a difficult situation and managed to beat Luke.

Datum 21

My blade hit the base of Luke's and I twisted, putting my whole weight into a downward thrust.

Clang.

Luke's sword rattled against the stones. The tip of my blade was a couple of centimetres from his undefended chest (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.81).

Percy succeeded in avoiding Luke's strike and successfully initiated a counterattack despite being in an adverse situation. That moment also defines Percy's trait as a "Resilient" person, the capability to withstand any critical condition turns into his favor.

The next one is his confrontation with Clarisse, the daughter of Ares, through competition but also the outcome from it reveals Percy's true identity.

The challenge begins with his altercation with the daughter of Ares in the Capture the flag game. Percy with his team managed to win the game, overcoming Clarisse's team. But with all of his effort, he gets wounded pretty badly after the close victory. Annabeth, his female friend Percy met, told him to sink in the water. Thus, his wound healed and it's revealed that he is the son of Poseidon, with the trident mark above his head.

Datum 22

By the time I looked up, the sign was already fading, but I could still make out the hologram of green light, spinning and gleaming. A threetipped spear: a trident.

'Your father,' Annabeth murmured. 'This is really not good.'

'It is determined,' Chiron announced.

All around me, campers started kneeling, even the Ares cabin, though they didn't look happy about it.

'My father?' I asked, completely bewildered.

'Poseidon,' said Chiron. 'Earthshaker, Stormbringer, Father of Horses. Hail, Perseus Jackson, Son of the Sea God.' (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.90)

This occasion is important because his presence after the reveal determined his "charismatic" trait as the book says that the people around him start kneeling toward him, amazed by his appearance.

The next challenge for Percy is to take a quest from Chiron to retake the lightning bolt of Zeus. The urgency of this matter is for preventing the war between the gods.

Datum 23

But your arrival has inflamed Zeus's temper. Now neither god will back down. Unless someone intervenes, unless the master bolt is found and returned to Zeus before the solstice, there will be war.

And do you know what a full-fledged war would look like, Percy?'

'Bad?' I guessed.

'Imagine the world in chaos. Nature at war with itself. Olympians forced to choose sides between Zeus and Poseidon. Destruction. Carnage. Millions dead. Western civilization turned into a battleground so big it will make the Trojan War look like a water-balloon fight. (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.98)

The explanation above convinced Percy to partake in this quest as he is aware that the outcome of that bad scenario might cause chaos on earth. The acceptance of the request made Percy a "reliable" person since he is the only one capable of handling this task as a demigod. Despite that, Percy chooses Grover and Annabeth as his companion in case things didn't go well. As Chiron believes it was Hades who stole the bolt, they are requested to head west to find the underworld and face Hades on the missing bolt.

In one section of their adventure, Percy and his friends found themselves in a shop after escaping from the Furies' attack along the way. They meet an old lady with a suspicious look. But with his clever planning, Percy lied about their identity so the lady would not notice.

Datum 24

'We're orphans,' I said.

'Orphans?' the woman said. The word sounded alien in her mouth. 'But, my dears! Surely not!'

'We got separated from our caravan,' I said. 'Our circus caravan. The ringmaster told us to meet him at the gas station if we got lost, but he may have forgotten, or maybe he meant a different gas station. Anyway, we're lost. Is that food I smell?'

'Oh, my dears,' the woman said. 'You must come in, poor children. I am Aunty Em. Go straight through to the back of the warehouse, please. There is a dining area.'

We thanked her and went inside.

Annabeth muttered to me, 'Circus caravan?'

'Always have a strategy, right?'
'Your head is full of kelp.' (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.121)

The trick is simple but it was effective. He came up with the idea such as that one implies, he inherits the "smart" trait. Although the old lady recognizes them and turned into a monster called Medusa, Percy and his friends managed to beat her.

On another occasion, Percy is put in place between running from the big monster or saving a family that is stuck in the elevator. Chimera was once a chihuahua but has turned into a big monster.

Datum 25

The Chimera charged, its lion teeth gnashing. I managed to leap aside and dodge the bite.

I ended up next to the family and the park ranger, who were all screaming now, trying to pry open the emergency exit doors.

I couldn't let them get hurt. I uncapped my sword, ran to the other side of the deck, and yelled, 'Hey, Chihuahua!' (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.143)

This crucial moment makes Percy finally rescue the family by distracting the monster's attention, he intends he cannot to let them get hurt. At this moment, Percy is described as a "selfless" person, he knows he can leave them and escape from the monster but his mind says otherwise as he does not think for himself.

Percy and his friends decide to hop into a truck full of zoo animals to avoid the monster attack. In there, Annabeth confesses about her bad past with her father. Without turning the mood into a bad state, Percy told her to not give up and convince Annabeth to contact her father again.

Datum 26

'You shouldn't give up,' I told her. 'You should write him a letter or something.'

'Thanks for the advice,' she said coldly, 'but my father's made his choice about who he wants to live with. (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.168)

The sentences above stated that Percy encourage Annabeth to not give up and convince her to contact her father again. Percy is described as a person that possesses an "inspiring" trait with how he lightened Annabeth's mood during her depressed moment. During this time, Percy's relationship with Annabeth transforms into deep friendship.

The three of them finally arrive at the Underworld where Hades dwell. The aura of Hades scares them to death, Percy describes him as "a terrorist leader who direct suicide bombers" with mesmerizing evil charisma.

Datum 27

Hades's aura was affecting me, just as Ares's had. The Lord of the Dead resembled pictures I'd seen of Adolph Hitler, or Napoleon, or the terrorist leaders who direct suicide bombers. Hades had the same intense eyes, the same kind of mesmerizing, evil charisma.

'You are brave to come here, Son of Poseidon,' he said in an oily voice.

'After what you have done to me, very brave indeed. Or perhaps you are simply very foolish.'

Numbness crept into my joints, tempting me to lie down and just take a little nap at Hades's feet. Curl up here and sleep forever.

I fought the feeling and stepped forward. I knew what I had to say. 'Lord and Uncle, I come with two requests. (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.205)

Hades' aura intimidates Percy with how the Lord of the Dead is described.

Though Percy won't let it slide into his mind, he braves up and asks Hades about the whereabouts of the lightning bolt. He rises small development of being

"strong" with that reaction even if it was just a slight courage. Hades accuses Percy who steals the bolt that surprisingly appears on his backpack Percy received from Ares. Percy refutes his allegation and escapes from the underworld with Grover and Annabeth.

Percy, Grover, and Annabeth reach the surface with the help of magical pearls. They realize Ares manipulates them and Percy wants to confront him about the bolt. Percy finally faces Ares to settle the fight between them. Percy uses mockery to insult Ares as a proof that he is no longer scared of the God of War.

Datum 28

I turned back to Ares. 'Are you going to fight me now?' I asked. 'Or are you going to hide behind another pet pig?' (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.215).

Percy's strong trait unveils as he does not scare by Ares' dangerous aura by throwing some banter with mocking shouts. Percy manages to defeat him by stabbing Ares' heel. The god of war accepts his loss but he tells Percy that he has made a new foe. Percy and the others head back to Olympus to return the lightning bolt to Zeus.

3. Return

After his return from his journey, Percy travels back to New York and went to Olympus to give the master bolt to Zeus. Inside the hall, he is introduced to Zeus and Poseidon, his biological father. Percy is rewarded with Zeus sparing his life for completing the quest.

Datum 29

'To show you my thanks, I shall spare your life. I do not trust you,

Perseus Jackson. I do not like what your arrival means for the future of Olympus. But for the sake of peace in the family, I shall let you live.' (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.225).

This reward is a sign that Percy is free from the punishment of Zeus. He would not be granted this honor if he failed the task and did not succeed in preventing the war. Thus, he completes the quest and finally prevents the clash between the Greek Gods.

In this stage, a hero is changed forever after the return. Percy undergoes a feeling of freedom from material concern (Allison, & Goethals, 2011), he is free from the substantial task that challenges him in various degrees. In fact, he is viewed as a hero when he goes outside of the Olympus.

Datum 30

As I walked back through the city of the gods, conversations stopped. The muses paused their concert. People and satyrs and naiads all turned towards me, their faces filled with respect and gratitude and, as I passed, they knelt, as if I were some kind of hero. (Rick Riordan, 2005, p.227).

In this description, Percy walked out to the city and is mesmerized by his surroundings. It turns out that a lot of people there show gratitude by kneeling at him as they see Percy as a hero that saves the world. Percy's charisma is conducted at this moment because he obtains that charismatic charm after completing the quest and becomes the most respected person.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

In this chapter, the researcher will present conclusions from the result analysis of the study. It will also provide the suggestion for other researcher who are interested to study in this similar topic.

A. Conclusion

After analyzing the Percy's character with the three major components of hero's narrative, the writer finds out that Percy does develop heroic traits. It starts with "caring" (Percy's reaction toward Grover being bullied), "resilient" (Percy's fight with Luke), "charismatic" (He is revealed to be the son of Poseidon), "reliable" (Accepting the big quest), "smart" (Tricks the old lady and hides his identity), "selfless" (Saves a family that stuck with a monster), "inspiring" (Percy tries to convince Annabeth to contact his father again), and last is "strong" (Percy braveness in facing Hades and his fight with Ares). Percy, despite all his heroic acts, does show a bit of non-heroic trait such as having a thought of hurting the bully, and his anger toward a monster that killed his mother, marking the vengeful act of Percy's side. Though, he never kills people or civilian in his journey, his battle with Ares proves it as Percy only stabs at the knee of Ares.

Following the analysis, the researcher found that Percy Jackson developed being a hero by going through the Hero Narrative with three stages. This first one is the Departure of Percy Jackson, this stage describes his first step outside of his safe zone. He faces many strange things such as his teacher turning into a monster and a giant that kills his mother. Secondly, Percy went into the Initiation phase where he encountered trials. The challenges were finding out that he is a half-god and half-human, the sparring match between him and Luke, the quest to prevent the war between gods, confronting Hades, the God of the Death, and defeating Ares. The last one is the return phase where Percy finishes his journey and goes back to where he comes from. Percy managed to bring back the lightning bolt to Zeus and prevent the war. He also becomes the hero after people outside the hall praise him when he walked out.

B. Suggestion

The writer of this research hopes that this study would be useful for the reader and bring awareness about the heroic traits inside a character. This study only centralizes around the topic of heroism in the aspect of psychology. In this novel, there are a lot of topics that can be explored even more, such as dysfunctional family. In the novel, there are several characters that have family issues like Percy with his father or Annabeth suffered from his father's treatment. The researcher thinks that this topic can be used for the next research. Though, the researcher would be pleased if this paper can be useful for further studies.

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