



**A STUDY ON POPULAR FORMULA OF RICK RIORDAN'S *PERCY JACKSON: AND THE SEA OF MONSTERS***

**THESIS**

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**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT  
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES  
UNIVERSITAS JEMBER  
2019**



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**THESIS**

A thesis presented to the English Department,  
Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Jember,  
As one of the requirement to get the  
Award of Sarjana Sastra Degree  
In English Studies

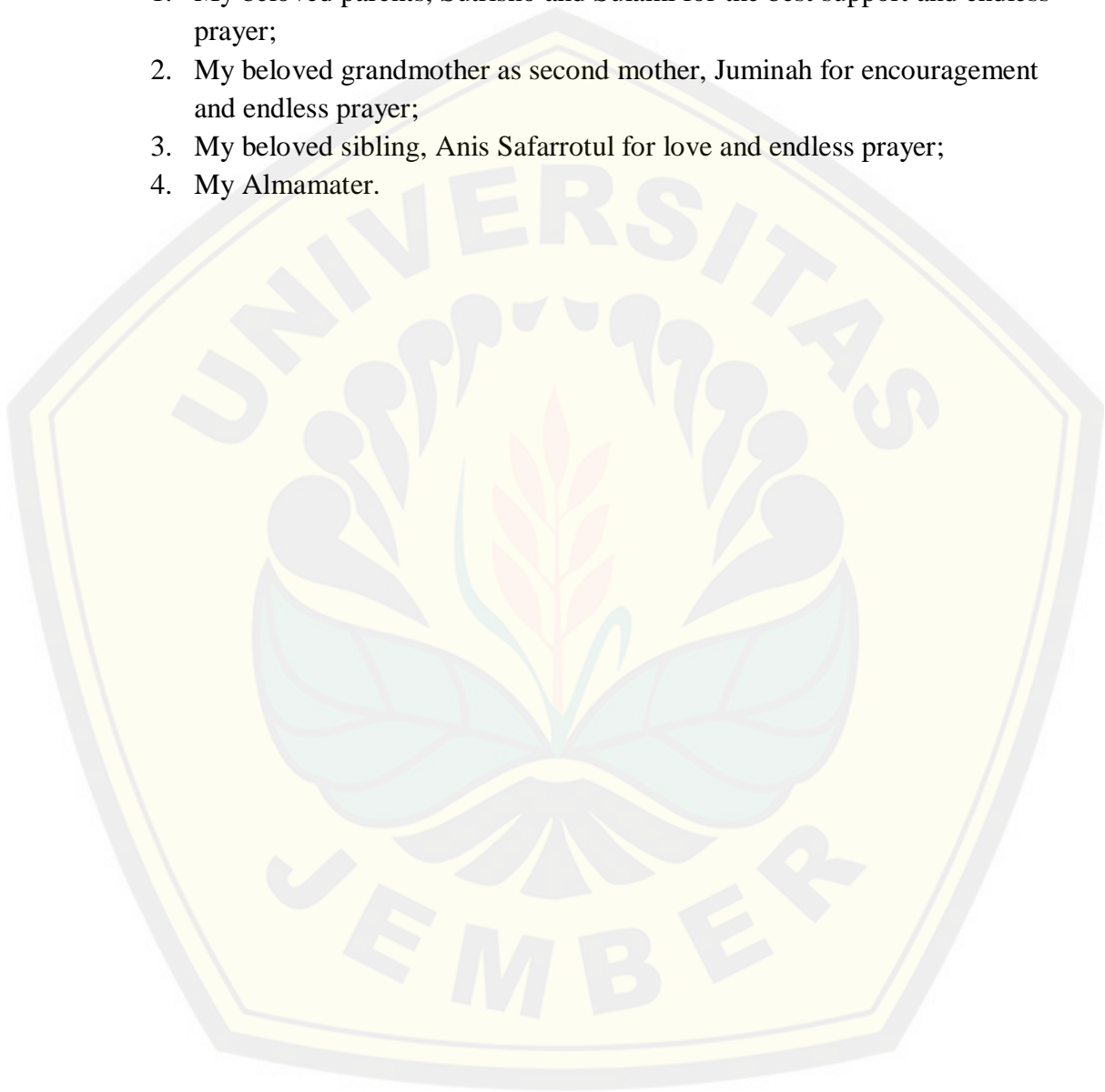
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## DEDICATION

This thesis I dedicate to:

1. My beloved parents, Sutrisno and Sulami for the best support and endless prayer;
2. My beloved grandmother as second mother, Juminah for encouragement and endless prayer;
3. My beloved sibling, Anis Safarrotul for love and endless prayer;
4. My Almamater.



**MOTTO**

“Failure is another steppingstone to greatness”.

(Oprah Winfrey)



## DECLARATION

I hereby state that this thesis entitled **A Study On Popular Formula Of Rick Riordan's *Percy Jackson: And The Sea Of Monsters*** is an original piece of writing. I state that the analysis and the research described in this thesis have never been submitted for any other degree or any publications.

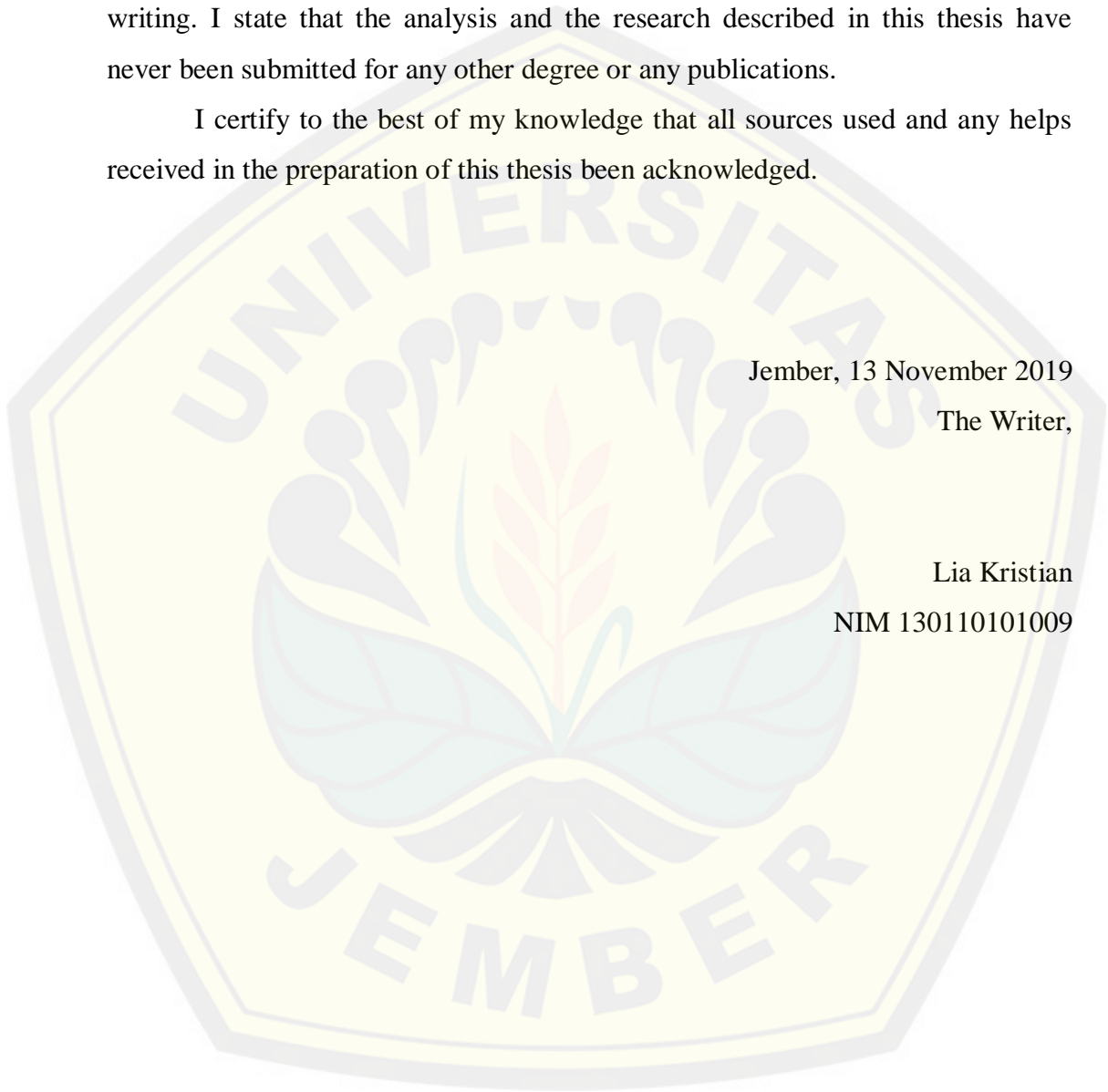
I certify to the best of my knowledge that all sources used and any helps received in the preparation of this thesis been acknowledged.

Jember, 13 November 2019

The Writer,

Lia Kristian

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All the praises of the highest Allah SWT, I am able to finish this thesis because of His blessing and mercy. I would also like to convey my deepest gratitude and appreciation to those who have given me great and helpful contributions in supporting my study as the following people:

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2. Dr. Mochamad Ilham, M.Si. and Hat Pujiati, S.S.,M.A. as my first and second advisors. Thank you for spent their time to understand and given me valuable advices, suggestions and correcting this thesis with great patient,
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Hopefully, this thesis can give contribution towards the English Studies, especially those who intend to develop their knowledge on the study of literature.

Jember, 13 November 2019

Lia Kristian

## SUMMARY

**A STUDY ON POPULAR FORMULA OF RICK RIORDAN'S *PERCY JACKSON: AND THE SEA OF MONSTERS***; Lia Kristian; 130110101009; 2019; 61 pages; English Department; Faculty of Humanities; Universitas Jember.

This research analyses the uniqueness of *Percy Jackson: And The Sea Of Monsters*. It is categorized as popular adventure novel. The readers can enjoy this novel as well. This research also analyses the role of the imaginary world within adventure story related to the cultural phenomena represented in the novel. Theory of formula by John G. Cawelti is applied in this thesis.

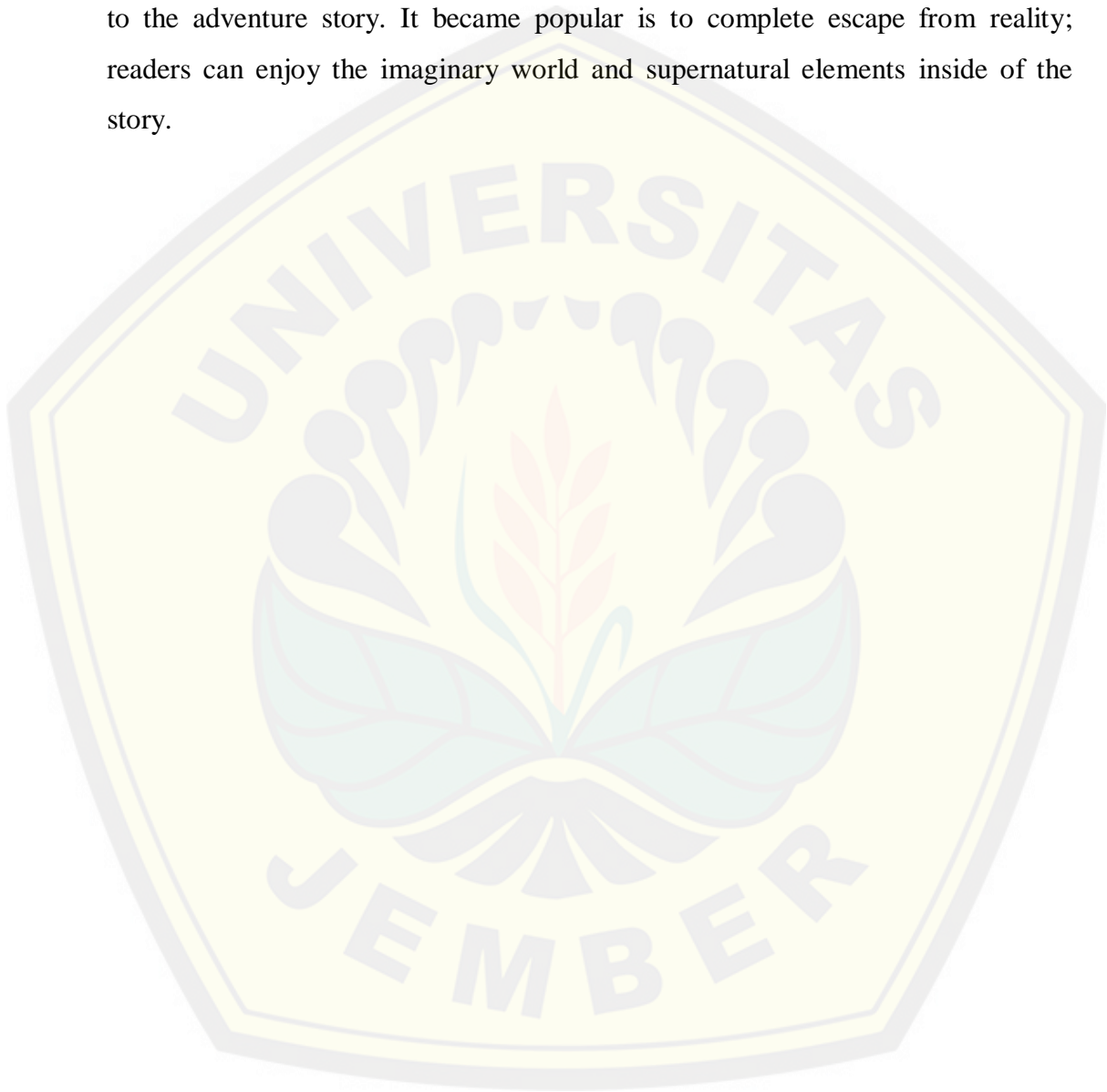
This research is qualitative research in which the data analysed are in the form of words. The primary data in this research are taken from dialogues and the statements the content of the novel. The secondary data are taken from books, theses and electronic articles which support the analysis.

Cawelti's formula theory contains two aspects. The first aspect is standardization is the structure which should be followed in relation to a certain kind of work. The second escapism is related to the aesthetics taste in the literary works (pleasure, excitement, gratification, and enjoyment).

The result of this study show the uniqueness character is represented by Percy Jackson, the Greek myth hero. By struggling of Percy to complete the mission to get Golden Fleece and defeating his biggest enemy, (Polyphemus). The uniqueness setting of the story is showed by the real world and imaginary world that happened in America. The plot of the story is uniqueness presents imaginary world and the magical things that do not exist in the real world with the atmosphere of darkness and extreme. The role of the imaginary world in the novel is almost like the implicit setting of place. Cyclops Island is merely a symbolic place. It can be a representation of a place that is guided by Polyphemus the monster of the sea. The imaginary world is has big influence to build and to support the setting in the whole of story when Percy in his journey to Sea of Monster.



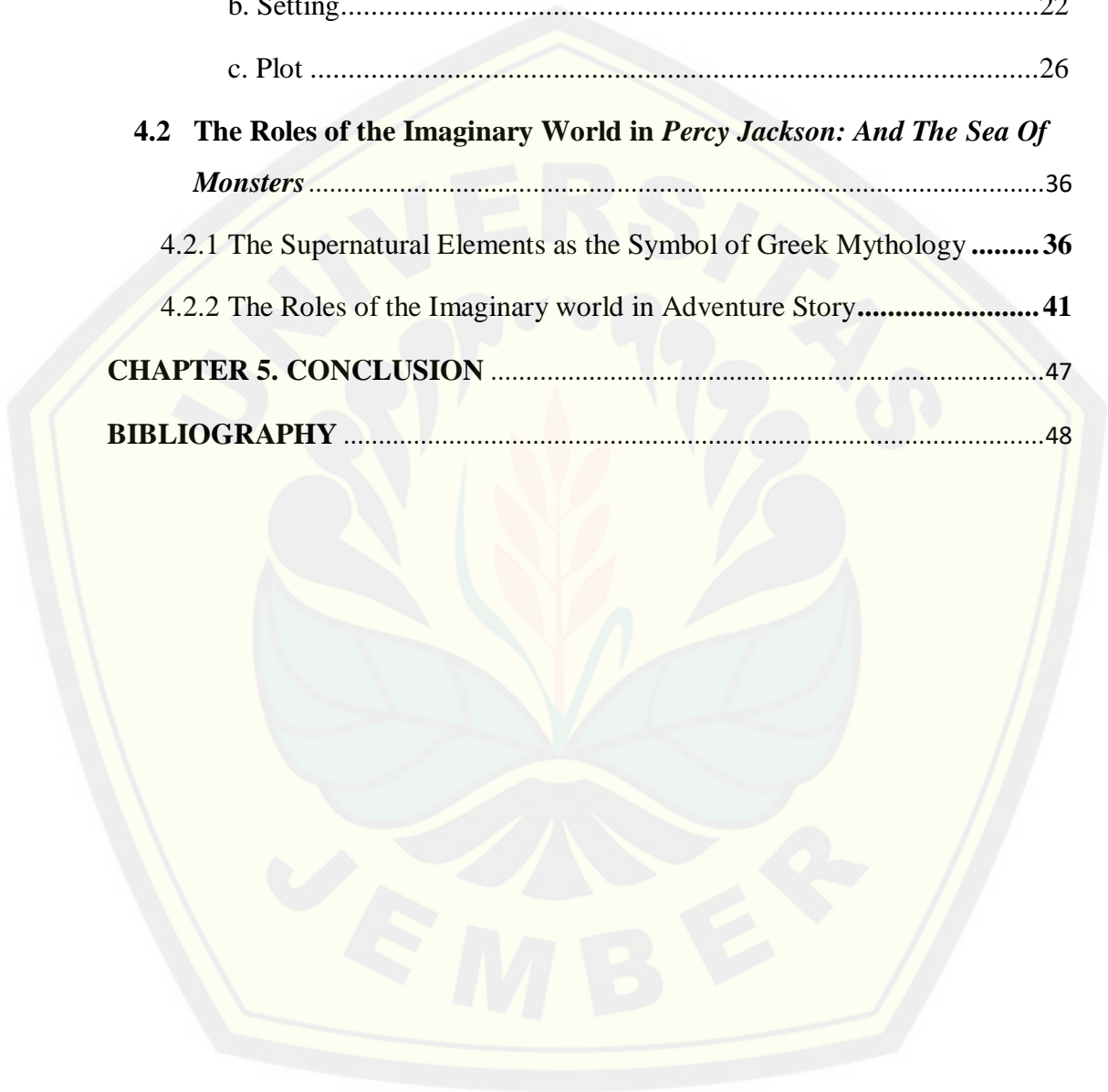
Riordan is able to develop a modern wonderful journey based on the ancient Greek gods, goddesses and mythology monsters in his novel which have similar patterns of the journey with other myth hero stories such as Hercules, Jason and the Argonauts, and Odysseus. The popularity of the novel also related to the adventure story. It became popular is to complete escape from reality; readers can enjoy the imaginary world and supernatural elements inside of the story.



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## CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 The Background of the Study

Kennedy and Gioia state that “fiction is a name for stories which are not entirely factual, but at least partially shaped, made up and imagined. It is true that in some fiction, such as a historical novel, the writer draws on factual information in presenting scenes, events, and characters” (2005: 3). It is created from the imagination and not presented as fact though it may be based on a true story or situation. Fiction usually presents a fantasy story which mostly tells about magical things that do not exist in real world. Types of literature in the fiction genre include the novel, short story, and novella. Further, adventure, romance, mystery, melodrama, alien beings or state are all fiction genres (Cawelti 1976: 39).

Fantasy is a genre of fiction art that uses magic and other supernatural forms as primary elements of plot, theme, or setting where location, events, and characters do not exist in the real world. Fantasy can revolve around the fantastic creatures is characterized by the presence of magic and supernatural elements, such as mythical creatures (gods and goddesses, dragons, elves, dwarves) and supernatural creatures (vampire and werewolves). Their existences only exist on the human imagination and any literature. Due to this novel tells the story that cannot happen in real life, *Percy Jackson: And The Sea of Monsters* involve fantasy aspect to its formulaic structure (NN. 2018. *Fantasy Literature*. Britannica Inc).

The focus of the story is to present those are impossible or unexplained phenomena about the reality. Setting in the fantasy story is shown by the magical things that do not exist in the real world with the atmosphere of darkness and extreme. The story about the ancient Greek mythology is explained in a modern way that can attract the readers to read this novel and can understand it. The readers can differentiate the characters, plot, and setting between real and fantasy world that can influence the publication of this novel.

The object of the analysis is *Percy Jackson: And The Sea of Monsters* by Rick Riordan. It is an adventure-fantasy novel based on the relation between ancient Greek mythology and America today. The author puts American culture since the novel tells about Greek gods and goddesses falling in love with human and they have children which are known as demigod (half human-half god). In this story, the main character is Percy Jackson, a young demigod who is the son of Poseidon, the god of sea. He is not only living in modern world but also staying in the Camp Half-Blood (camp demigod) with another demigod. Percy gets dyslexia which makes him able to read ancient Greek language. Percy is known as Perseus in Greek mythology. The adventure begins when he and his friends search for the Golden Fleece in order to prevent the monsters from destroying the Camp Half-Blood in Polyphemus' Island that survived the shipwreck. Percy Jackson shows us the adventure about hero who has missions to get the Golden Fleece. He has to fight with the monsters in the sea of monsters to retrieve the Golden Fleece.

*Percy Jackson: And The Sea of Monsters* was published on April 1, 2006 and became very popular after the release. It influences the literary works and the book was adapted into a movie by Thor Freudenthal and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox, under the title *Percy Jackson: The Sea of Monsters*. It was released on August 7, 2013. It points out that the novel can be accepted by the readers and successful in attracting fans. Moreover, the novel got Mark Twain Award in 2009 which proves movie's popularity.

Richard Russell Riordan Jr. was born in June 5, 1964, San Antonio, Texas, U.S is an American author and teacher. He is known as famous author who writes the series of the *Percy Jackson & the Olympians* novels which blend Greek mythology with modern-day characters and settings. His books have been translated into 42 languages and sold more than 30 million copies in the US. He is a teacher of History and English language that helps him to write the historical characters into modern world. He is inspired to write the Percy Jackson series about ancient Greek heroes from his son Haley who has dyslexia. All of his novels are famous and best seller but only two of his works are adapted into the movies including *The Lightning Thief* (2005) and *The Sea Of Monster* (2006),

then on October 28, 2011 *The Sea Of Monster* is based on *Odysseus* story novel has been on *The New York Times* Best Seller list for children's book series for 223 weeks (NN. 2018. *Rick Riordan American Author and Teacher*. Britannica Inc).

The cultural background of Riordan's life which brings all the elements of the ancient Greek mythology such as gods and goddesses to the 21<sup>st</sup> century in America in modern ways that may influence the popularity of *Percy Jackson: And The Sea of Monsters*. Riordan creates the story that still relates to America today in modern ways. He brings back the atmosphere of Greek mythology that is packed in nowadays era. The story of Greek mythology does exist in western civilization up until now. This Greek mythology appears in the form of movies, literary works, and also architecture that many Americans adapt to their architectural style. Greek mythology concerns the story about the gods, heroes, and rituals of the ancient Greeks. The creatures in this novel come from the legend of Greek gods and goddesses. The gods and goddesses inside this novel were different from their original story such as the main character is called Percy in the novel, but it is explained that he is called Perseus when he stays in the Camp Half-Blood. The name is taken based on the original story Greek mythology. The myth contains elements of fiction. He describes the ancient Greek with combine America today just like adding supernatural things in the novel. It can be useful to elaborate the phenomena of the culture between two countries America and Greek. It makes the novel interesting to read by the readers.

This thesis I will discuss the formula construction of *Percy Jackson: And The Sea of Monsters* by analysing the elements constructed in the story and find out the uniqueness formulaic structures that support it to be popular. I am going to apply John G. Cawelti's formulaic literature theory that is considered as the obvious device to analyze popular fantasy novel especially a best seller adventure novel. It is to discuss about the elements that are presented in the novel. Furthermore, the cultural background behind the story an important role to make become popular novel.

## 1.2 The Research Questions

Every novel has its formulaic structure which probably makes a novel become popular. It becomes the way how the people enjoy reading. Popularity of a novel relates to the cultural background when the novel written. This novel is going to be an escapism the story of the imaginary world in adventure story based on ancient Greek mythology that happened in America today. In fact the story of the Greek gods and goddesses occurred in the historical era in ancient Greek but in this novel the author brings all the ancient Greek mythology to the 21<sup>st</sup> century especially that happened in America today. Using theory of formula this study tries to analyse elements of the formulaic structure in the novel. Besides, the cultural background behind the story an important role to make become popular. It is related with the author's life. Based on the explanation above, the problems that will be discussed in this research are:

1. How is the formulaic structure presented in *Percy Jackson: And The Sea Of Monsters*?
2. What is the role of the imaginary world in Adventure Story?

## 1.3 The Goals of the Study

This thesis is arranged in order to gain several goals. After I read the novel and arrange the problem to discuss, there are some goals that I want to find out the role of the imaginary world became reason the popularity of this novel by analysing the formulaic structures. It is not only the social condition of Riordan's life but also to support the relation between America and Greek culture which gives influences the novel become popular. It can be useful to elaborate the phenomena of the culture between two countries America and Greek. It makes the novel interesting to read by the readers.

Those are:

1. To find out the formulaic structures in the novel
2. To find out the role of the imaginary world in adventure story

## CHAPTER 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter consists of the discussion of some previous researches and theoretical framework. It is important to explain the concepts related to the discussion and the theory. This theory will be applied in the next chapter. It is used to analyze the problems and to discuss the result of this study. The previous researches and theories are related in this analysis. The explanation of the theory is based on books, article, and dictionaries which related to the discussion.

### 2.1 Previous Researches

Previous researches are important to support some analysis related in this thesis. After reading and studying some previous researches, it helps to gain understanding by comparing the data from both previous research. It can give an insight to the readers to support the analysis of the object in this thesis. There are three researches that have relation to the topic in this thesis.

The first previous research is “An Analysis of Formulaic Structure in Stephenie Meyer’s *Twilight*” by Bundan Nugroho Purwantoro (2015). He explores *Twilight* popularity by analysing the structures constructing the text and to find the special feature of *Twilight* in popularity. The vampire’s features began closer to characteristics of modern vampire today. Bundan explains the differences between *Twilight* vampires and previous ones. The imagination of people about vampire can be drawn like Dracula, a pale face, darkly dressed man with sharp white fangs and fears to crucifix and sensitive to sunlight. *Twilight* vampires, such as Edward and his family are described as a common man-like which has perfect physical appearance. It is influenced by gothic, romance, and fantasy influences. It is described by the presence of magic and supernatural elements, such as mythical creatures are like dragons, elves, dwarves, and also supernatural creatures are like vampire, werewolves, etc. I use this thesis as my previous research to give understanding the differences modern and mythical creatures.



The second previous research is “A Study on Popular Formula of Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein*” by Nizmah Adella (2015). She analysed the formula of the story and found hypothesis about dialectic between formulaic literature and the culture. It has relation between the formula and the culture in 18-19<sup>th</sup> century about scientific experiment of the popularity of Galvanism and also shows us the supernatural terrors and atmosphere of mysterious horror. The formula is by analyzing the structure of the essence of standardization and the need of relaxation and escapism. The social condition in Mary’s life about the issue of Galvanism and the social condition of society have big influence the popularity. This thesis gives the writer understanding about the relation social condition and makes the novel become popular.

The third previous research is “The Archetypal Analysis on Rick Riordan’s *Percy Jackson And The Olympians: The Sea of Monsters*” by Bagus Bani Nugroho (2015). This thesis wants to explain more detail information about the archetypal element of myth that found in the novel through the life of the main character. He uses Northrop Frye’s archetypal theory to find the archetypal element of myth that exists in the novel. In addition, theory ideology by Althusser is used to analyze about the relation between of America and gods and goddesses of ancient Greek in 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The fourth previous research is “An Analysis of Formulaic Structure in Rick Riordan’s *Percy Jackson And The Olympians: The Lightning Thief*” by Berty Natasya Pratiwi (2019). This thesis use Formula theory to elaborate the narrative structure in the novel including plot, theme, characterization, setting, and point of view and this thesis elaborated the two cultures which are constructing the whole story, Greek mythology and American culture as method to find the interest culture. The result of this study showed that Greek mythology has been recognized by western civilization since the arrival of Greek stories by Greek immigrants. I use this thesis as my previous research to compare the Greek mythology inside the novel. She uses the first novel and I use the second novel *Percy Jackson And The Olympians* by Rick Riordan. Both the novels still have

similarities in characters but it has differences in the journey of the story and addition character in second novel.

There are some differences and similarities from the previous researches and my research; those are the subject to analyse. Nizmah tells about the scientific experiment of Galvanism and Bundan tells about modern vampire, while this thesis tells about mythical creatures (gods and goddesses) and the relation of social condition in each century. Meanwhile, this thesis has similarity with the previous studies. Those are the element of fantasy and supernatural elements. The next is the story which tells about power, mystery, and fiction.

## 2.2 Theory of Formula by John G. Cawelti

Cawelti states “literary formula is a structure of narrative or dramatic conventions employed in a great number of individual works” (1976: 5-6). In order to understand how and why *Percy Jackson: And The Sea of Monsters* becomes popular novel; I will use Cawelti’s theory of formula to analyze.

There are two common usages of the term formula which are closely related to the conceptions: small plot and large plot. Small plot refers to conventional patterns which are usually quite specific to a particular culture and period and have different meaning in specific context, such as the twentieth century is different from twenty first century. While, large plot refers to patterns are commonly found in those manuals for aspiring writers that not necessarily limited to a specific culture or period, such as boy meets girl, boy and girl have a misunderstanding, boy gets girl.

Cawelti makes two different usages which have one conclusion. The conclusion from these usages of popular story patterns are archetypal story and unlimited to a specific culture or period. There are many stories which have the same patterns in many different cultures or they can be called archetypal. He adds that the concept of a formula is generalizing the characteristic of large groups of individual works from certain combinations of cultural materials and archetypal story patterns.

Formula can be used to create many stories with the same patterns in many different cultures to be general. The concept of formula makes everything of the

story is changed from specific to be general characteristics. The general characteristics can be changed to make it different from the previous story. The writer can add some new elements to make it different from the previous one. In this case, Cawelti wants to prove that most of stories have the same patterns like other stories.

### **2.2.1 The Artistic Characteristics of Formula Literature**

Formula literature is, first of all, a kind of literary art. Formula as it has defined is a combination of conventional narrative structure and universal story form or archetype employed in many popular literary works. Cawelti states that there are two central aspects of formula literature, essential standardization and primary relation to the needs of escape and relaxation (1976: 8-9).

The first aspect is standardization. It refers to the similar understanding between writers and audiences. Artistic communication would not be possible without at least some form of standardization. But well-established conventional structures are particularly essential to the creation of formula literature and reflect the interests of audiences, creators, and distributors. It is an important way in attracting the interest of the audiences that standardization reflects the sense of the story in the novel. This way is for increasing the audiences understanding and enjoying the details of a literary work. It points out that the audiences can find satisfaction and basic emotion to the work which has familiar form. The work may give enjoyment for the reader. It bring of tracing historical trends or relating literary production (Cawelti 1976: 8).

The second aspect is the primary relation to the needs of escape and relaxation. Escape or escapism is about the aesthetics taste in literary works such as a pleasure, excitement, gratification, and enjoyment. A successful formulaic work is unique when in addition to the pleasure in the conventional structure can attract the readers. It can be reflected mimetic literature. Cawelti states mimetic literature is a way the writer creates his own world by reflecting the world around them. Mimetic element in literature confronts us with the real world while the formulaic element reflects the construction of the ideal world. He says what differ between mimetic and formulaic is that “formulaic works necessarily stress intense

and immediate kinds of excitement and gratification as opposed to the more complex and ambiguous analyses of character and motivation that characterize mimetic literature (1976: 14).

Cawelti describes the experience of escape these formulaic worlds are construction that can be described as moral fantasies constituting an imaginary world in which the audience can encounter a maximum of excitement without being confronted with an overpowering sense of the insecurity and danger that accompany such forms of excitement in reality (1976: 16). In other words, escapism serves the imaginary world which where the readers can fulfil their need of excitement without being confronted by the sense of insecurity and danger in reality.

### **2.2.2 The Typology of Literary Formula**

Cawelti describes that a literary formula is to arrive at some understanding of the general story types that underlie the diversity of formulaic constructions (1976: 37). It mention before that formula can be described as an archetypal story pattern embodied in the images, symbols, themes, and myths of a particular culture. In literary formula there are many types of stories centre on heroic action. Types of stories derived their fascination from the imaginary encounter with some monster or situation of fantasy. Formulas are more clearly oriented toward some form of escapism, the creation of an imaginary world in which fictional characters who command the reader's interest ordinarily experiences.

Cawelti states that there are five primary moral fantasies; adventure, romance, mystery, melodrama, and alien beings or states.

#### **1. Adventure**

Adventure story is the journey of the heroes which carry on some dangerous mission that full of achieve accomplishing some important and moral mission. To complete their mission, they need to fight against the enemies that make them in a danger. Adventure stories more often than not contain a love interest but one distinctly subsidiary to the hero over dangers and obstacles.

## **2. Romance**

Romance is a fantasy of the all sufficiency of love, most romantic formulas centre on the overcoming of some combination of social or psychological barriers. There is relation between men and women who falls in love. This is shown in a romantic way and happy ending.

## **3. Mystery**

Mystery story is the hidden secret story and investigation. The characters try to solve a problem and have rational solution.

## **4. Melodrama**

Melodrama is the fantasy of a world that operates according to our heart's desires in contrast to the other formula types that are fantasies of particular actions or states of being that counter some of our deepest fears or concentrate on particular wishes for victory of love or knowledge.

## **5. Alien Beings or State**

The horror story which usually ultimate destruction of some monster and give a frightening impression. It is one of the most striking formulas of this type.

These five types of moral fantasies are the common contemporary formula. Cawelti states there might be other important moral fantasy type that have not identified in his book (1976: 39).

### **2.2.3 Formulas and Culture**

Cawelti states that formulas are cultural products and it can be a conventional ways of representing to create an effective story, the nature of which can be determined by images, themes, symbols, and myths that are current in particular cultures and periods. These points cannot be parted as the certain formula of literary works. The concept of formula is build up by audience selection (1972: 20).

There are many questions on the reason of popularity of a literary work. Cawelti states that we should distinguish between the problem of the popularity of an individual work and the popularity of a formula. Determining why a particular novel or films becomes bestseller is problematic because it is difficult to be sure

what elements or combination of elements the public is responding to (1976:21). We could identify the popular work after comparing it with other successful works, through the process of defining their elements or patterns, at least one basis for the popularity of a large number of works.

Formula is indicated by familiarity which make the audience enjoys a certain story. The story has to embody the value in order to increase the escapist elements. The cultural value the readers understand and enjoy being popular and acceptable.

Cawelti (1976: 35) suggests four interrelations hypotheses about the dialectic between formulaic literature and the culture that produces and enjoys them:

1. Formula stories affirm existing interest and attitudes by presenting an imaginary world that is aligned with these interest and attitudes.
2. Formulas resolve tensions and ambiguities resulting from the conflicting interest of different groups within the culture or form ambiguous attitudes toward particular values.
3. Formulas enable the audience to explore in fantasy the boundary between the permitted and the forbidden and to experience in a carefully controlled way the possibility of stepping across this boundary.
4. Literary formulas assist in the process of assimilating changes in values to traditional imaginative constructs.

Thus formula literature is a study about how all the elements of a story are put together to create pattern. Certain stories become popular because successfully articulate a pattern of fantasy that is at least acceptable to if not preferred by the cultural groups who enjoy them (1976: 34). In short, it will be an unsuccessful story if the story cannot be acceptable by the readers and the cultures.

### CHAPTER 3. RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

Research design and methodology are important because they concern not only how this research is formulated and arranged but also how the data are used while doing this research. This chapter consists of three subchapters. The first subchapter talks about the type of the research, while the second subchapter explains how the data are collected. The data processing and the data analysis in the third subchapter are used as the explanation on how the data are processed, categorized, and analysed.

#### 3.1 Type of Research

This research uses qualitative research. Silverman defines qualitative research as a research that draws the findings not by means of statistical procedures other means of quantification, and the data are chosen based on the uniqueness of analysed reality (2008:17). Qualitative data are in the form of words, phrases, dialogues, and sentences inside the novel which is related to the theory. Theory of Formula by Cawelti is used to give a clear understanding to analyse the narrative structure in the novel. The data of narrative structure and the role of the imaginary world in adventure story are taken from a novel entitled *Percy Jackson: And The Sea Of Monsters* as the selected object.

#### 3.2 Data Collection

The data collection in this research is divided into two kinds: primary data and secondary data. The primary data are collected from the content in the novel of the narrative structure including character, setting, and plot inside the novel *Percy Jackson: And The Sea Of Monsters*. The primary data are focusing on presenting Greek mythology and America today which is constructed in the pattern of formula that show supernatural elements and imaginary world of the story. Besides, the secondary data are taken from any kinds of information from library research and internet such as books, research journals, dictionaries, thesis and articles to support the analysis which is related about Greek mythology and America today. The data of America and Greek culture give support the analysis.

### 3.3 Data Processing and Data Analysis

In processing and analysing the data, there are several steps that I do to find all the data related to the narrative structure and the role of the imaginary world in adventure story in the novel. This process is important to fulfil the thesis.

First, this study begins with the analysis elements of the formulaic structures in *Percy Jackson: And The Sea Of Monsters*. I analyse the intrinsic elements of the story which is as the standardization aspect based on Cawelti's formulaic literature theory. It can be found by looking for the statement or dialogues that focusing on the character, setting, and plot in the story. Second, I analyse another aspect of the story which is the uniqueness that makes this novel popular. Another aspect is the primary relation to the needs of escape and relaxation. This step is collecting the data about the role of the imaginary world and supernatural elements are created in the story by dialogues, statement, or narration which shows the role of the imaginary world in the story. It based on ancient Greek mythology (gods and goddesses) which success to attract the readers. Third, step is analysing some books, journals, dictionaries, and articles to support the analysis which is related about Greek mythology and America today in 21<sup>st</sup> century. It is including all information about the cultural background of Riordan's life which brings all the elements of the Greek mythology (gods and goddesses) to the 21<sup>st</sup> century in America in modern ways that may influence the popularity of *Percy Jackson: And The Sea Of Monsters*. It combines two cultural backgrounds between Greek mythology and America today.



## CHAPTER 5. CONCLUSION

*Percy Jackson: And The Sea Of Monsters* is classical popular adventure novel. The formulaic structure of adventure is shown by the existence of hero in the story. The first research question is answered by explanation the standardization of the novel such as character, setting, and plot. The uniqueness character is represented by Percy Jackson, the Greek myth hero. By struggling of Percy to complete the mission to get Golden Fleece and defeating his biggest enemy, (Polyphemus). The uniqueness setting of the story is showed by the real world and imaginary world that happened in America. The plot of the story is uniqueness presents imaginary world and the magical things that do not exist in the real world with the atmosphere of darkness and extreme.

The role of the imaginary world in the novel is almost like the implicit setting of place. Cyclops Island is merely a symbolic place. It can be a representation of a place that is guided by Polyphemus the monster of the sea. The imaginary world is has big influence to build and to support the setting in the whole of story when Percy in his journey to Sea of Monster. Riordan also put a little bit sense of mystery as a hidden secret.

Riordan brings back the atmosphere of Greek mythology that is packed in nowadays era in America. The story of Greek mythology does exist in western civilization until now. This Greek mythology appears in the form of movies, literary works, and also architecture that many Americans adapt to their architectural style. Riordan is able to develop a modern wonderful journey based on the ancient Greek gods, goddesses and mythology monsters in his novel which have similar patterns of the journey with other myth hero stories such as Hercules, Jason and the Argonauts, and Odysseus. The popularity of the novel also related to the adventure story. It became popular is to complete escape from reality; readers can enjoy the imaginary world and supernatural elements inside of the story.

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