

AN ANALYSIS OF IRENE'S HERO'S JOURNEY THE NUN II THROUGH CAMPBELLS'S THEORY

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ABSTRACT

Hero's journey is one of the branches of archetype used by researchers to analysis the journey of protagonist characters in literary works. This study aims to find the hero's journey in the horror movie of main character. This study uses horror movie entitled The Nun II that released in 2023. The researcher used descriptive and qualitative methods. She used library approach to collect the data such as the scene and e-script of the dialogue in the movie. The result of the study shows that Irene, one of the major characters of The Nun II movie has gone through three stages of hero's journey. They are five steps of departure stage, two steps in initiation stage, and one step from return stage. This could be evidence that hero's journey is often following the same pattern according to Joseph Campbell's theory. Moreover, horror movie can also follow the narrative structure of Hero's Journey by Campbell.

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I. INTRODUCTION

A movie, also known as motion picture, is a powerful storytelling medium that uses a sequence of moving images and sounds to entertain, educate, and evoke emotions. Klarer (2004) says a movie is a series of still images presented in rapid succession to create the illusion of movement (Bahri, Rahmadani and Harharap). Most of authors make a movie based on reality, movie can represent ideas about all sides of life which happen in human life so that, a movie has become part of that extensive cultural system of constructions that represent social reality. From the previous statement this seemingly simple concept, however, encompasses a diverse and evolving art form. According to (Hornby) he defines that movie means a series of moving picture recorded with sound that tells a story, shown at cinema or movie

Movie has some genres such as romance, comedi, horror, and so on. From all the genres of film, horror is one of the rarely genre that difficult to get boxoffice and award. In horror movie there is a concept of archetype. Archetype theory according to Jungian, he defines archetype as images and themes that derive from collective unconscious of all humans (Pangestu and Julianti). Archetype in literary criticism is a method of analyzing a literary work that focus to recurring archetypes and myths in the work's symbols, images,

characters, and narrative. Archetype in real life, a complicated of experiences that happens to human life such as fate, personal problem, social problem, and so on. Jung as one of expert that pioneered archetype theory in the 20th century defined that archetype as images and themes that derive from the collective unconscious of all humans. In universal archetypes has meaning which across cultures and may show up in dreams, literature, art, or religion event.

As a form of literary works a horror movie could analysis moreover horror is a genre that related to archetype theory. This time archetype is one of topic that discuss about hero's journey. Hero's journey is a pattern that is usually found in movies that involving the hero in carrying out the adventure, so that the journey can going well or the quite the opposite. Campbell's (Julius and Satria) described that the reoccurring patterns is very much prominent in heroic fiction as he called Monomyth. According to the previous statement archetype suitable to analysis horror movie that including the hero and the journey that do adventures.

For the example of a horror movie *The Nun II* that released in 2023 successfully remained at the top of box office until 2 weeks after released in North America. This movie focused to Irene as a sister of catholic church in French. Irene got a mission to investigate case the death of pastors that die strangely. Beside Irene there is another character namely Maurice, he is a gardener at a catholic school in French. Maurice often do strange things and he always there whenever a strange thing happens. Sister Irene fight with the demon that possessed in Maurice's body that want a relic 'The eye of St. Lucy'.

The aim of this research is to explain the hero's journey of Irene's character in *The Nun II*. Hero's journey according to Campbell divided into 3 stages and it has 5-6 steps. The first stage is Departure: the beginning of the adventure of the hero. In the departure stages there are five steps. The first steps is 1.) The call to Adventure: This step where the hero forced to start the journey. According to Campbell (2008) the adventure can start by accident or mistake. Next, 2.) The Refusal of the Call: In this step the hero tries to against the journey at the beginning cause the hero get forced. Then, 3.) Supernatural Aid: the steps when the hero meets or get help from other people while doing the journey or supernatural event. Fourth steps 4.) Crossing of the First Threshold : The next step which the hero accepting the challenge whatever with unwillingness or willingness. The last, 5.) The Belly of the Whale: this the last step here the hero worries about the challenges that the hero will encounter.

The second stages of hero's journey is Initiation: stage where the hero will begin to face various challenges to achieve victory. This stage is divided into six steps. The first step, 1.) The Road of Trial: In the first step the hero will go through of some challenges and the challenges will change the hero will be wise. This phase the hero will do transform after though failure is inevitable. The second step 2.) Meeting with Goddess: This step which the hero meeting a helpful woman that support and help the hero. Next, 3.) Woman as Temptress: A step that the hero meets an evil female character that destroy the hero's mission. This happened because the hero doesn't have a motivation and support to handle the struggles. The fourth steps 4.) Atonement with the father: The hero meets a good and

wise man. the father figures give support and strength to the hero to solve the struggles. Fifth steps 5.) Apotheosis: A step when the hero has a peace before continue the journey also this phase the hero may get enlightenment to solve the struggle of his journey. The last steps 6.) The ultimate: The last stage of in initiation, this step where hero finally reached the end of all the struggles. This step will give the hero a gift after all sacrifices the hero had done.

The last stage is return: the hero has passed the challenges from the journey and achieved the victory. This stage has six steps, and the first step is 1.) Refusal of Return: This first step which the hero had done fight with all the struggles and challenges sometimes the hero refuses to go back where the hero came from. The second steps 2) The Magic Flight: The magic flight is a stage that the hero move to somewhere miraculously. Third steps 3) Rescue from Without: At this step the hero gets a reminder from partner to return back where the hero belongs. The next steps which fourth steps 4) The Crossing of the Return Threshold: In this step the hero ready to return after solve the struggles to go back where the hero belongs. However, the hero might have some other struggles. In the fifth steps is 5) Master of the Two Worlds: This step explains that when a hero has power, the hero might be comfortable enough to live in two of the ordinary and hero world. The last steps that is 6) Freedom to Live: Some heroes may not have to return nor to approach another mission. The hero will get freedom to life whatever he wants.

1.1 Previous research

The previous study which are (Purwanti) "The archetypal characters in the movie 'Kungfu Panda' trilogy from anthropomorphism perspective". The researcher analysis the movie by using archetype theory and the way the researcher analysis the movie is including the transcript of the dialog, table, and the picture of the characters. The aim of the study is to find out the archetypal characters seen from the anthropomorphism perspective, and the result of this research showed that there were 100 data of archetype and 23 data of anthropomorphism.

The next previous study from (Siregar) with entitled "The analysis of archetypal images in Suzzana Collin's 'The Hunger Games' novel". The thesis using archetype theory and using novel as the object of analysis. The way researcher analysis is collecting the data by reading the novel and inputting the data then analysis the data. The analysis shows 17 personas and 2 shadows of the main character. The result of the research could show the differences in the achievement of persona and shadow of the character images through archetypal.

The last previous study came from (Santoso) with the title "An Analysis of Mythological-archetype in Cressida Cowell's 'How To train Your Dragon' novel". This study analysis the mythological-archetype to find out the pattern of the theory by using images and novel script. The mythological and archetypal patterns are the topic that analysed in this study by the characters of the novel.

From three previous studies that have acquire, the researcher concludes there are similarity from the previous study. Archetype is the theory that use in literary work even the object is different. The thing that makes this research interesting and different from

other is the object of analysis. This time archetype is the theory that use and horror movie is the object of research. Where horror movie is rare genre to be analysis.

II. METHODS

The researcher used descriptive qualitative method to describe and explain that would be interpreted from the object of the research. According to Moleong qualitative research is one of a method that towards to understand the phenomenon about experienced by the subject of research, such as behavior, perceptions, motivations, actions, and so forth (Royadi, Susiana and Khumaida). Descriptive means, the data mostly comes from text such as transcript and dialog script rather than number. The researcher used dialogue of The Nun II Movie as the data in this descriptive qualitative study. To collect the data the researcher watching the movie more than 2 times and take the picture of the scene. Library approach is a method that use library sources both digital and physical (George).

The researcher using Monomyth theory of hero's journey to analyze, according to Campbell's (2008) theory of hero's journey that is divided into three stages and each of its steps. Departure: the beginning of the adventure of the hero. Initiation: the stage where the hero will begin to face various challenges to achieve victory. Return: which the hero has passed the challenges from the journey and achieved the victory.

III. RESULTS

4. 1 Departure

a. The Call to Adventure

The Call to Adventure is the first stage of departure is the hero calls to adventure. In The Nun II the hero as known as sister Irene called to investigate death cases.

Dialogue 1

Irene : Maurice?

Maurice : Save me sister!

(Irene wake up from the nightmare and she get nosebleed)

Sister Debra : Irene! It's okay. It's okay. You're fine.

Sister Debra : Your nose.

Abbsess : Sister Irene

Abbsess : You have a visitor!

(20.21 – 21.01)

Maurice came to Irene through a dream which hints at something. From the dialogue above, it is evident that Irene got her first call from Maurice. Accordance with Campbell's theory that adventure begins when there is an accident or something unusual.

Dialogue 2

Cardinal Conroy : There has been an incident.

Cardinal Conroy : A series of them...

Pastor : Szeleste, a small village in Hungary, a 90 years old nun shot herself

on the steps of her church.
Pastor : Graz, Austria a priest cut his throat open with a rosary
during Christmas mass.
Pastor : Edolo, Italy. A novitiate threw herself out a window.
Cardinal Conroy : Sound familiar?
(21.30 - 21.56)

The dialogue above explains that there were 3 murdered incidents happen Szeleste, Graz, Edolo. Researcher conclude that he targets was a religious figure, this is in accordance with Campbell's theory that adventure begins when there is an accident or mistake of someone.

Dialogue 3

Pastor : The demon lives.
Irene : Have you spoken with Father Burke?
Cardinal Conroy : Father Burke is dead.
Irene : How?
Pastor : Cholera.
Cardinal Conroy : You are the only person alive. who has dealt with
something like this.
Pastor : The Church would like you to investigate.
Pastor : Find out what it was and what going next.
(22.13 - 22.32)

The information given by Cardinal Conroy above, made Irene feel distrustful and the priest's sentence "The Church would like you to investigate" and "Find out what it wants and where it's going next" convinces Irene to conduct the investigation. Therefore, the adventure begins with an accident or mistake of someone.

b. Refusal of the Call

Refusal of the Call this stage which the hero is against the journey. Sister Irene against or rejected the calls from pastor because she worries that she can't survive like before. She believes that the previous event it just a miracle.

Dialogue 4

Pastor : Find out what it wants and where it's going next.
Sister Irene : No
(22.32-22.34)

In Irene's dialogue above, the pastor asks her to investigate the murder case. Irene obviously refused her call because she had traumatized with the demon. Irene's dialogue above proves that Irene refused her call to investigate. According to Campbell theory about refusal to the call, where some hero may refusal to the call before accepting the challenges.

Dialogue 5

Pastor : I'm sorry?
Irene : I said, 'No'
Irene : I can't do it.

Cardinal Conroy : Can't, or won't?
Irene : You don't know what happened at Saint Carta.
(22.36 – 22.44)

Because, in the Saint Carta incident Irene almost killed when she faces the demon and fortunately Maurice comes to help Irene with the blood of Jesus Christ. Therefore, Irene seems refusal the investigation more than once as seen from her dialogue says “No”, and the second quotes “I said NO” the third quotes “I can't do it”, and she explained indirectly the reason she refused with the dialogue “You don't know what happened at Saint Carta”.

c. Supernatural aid

In supernatural aid step when the hero got a help from other people or supernatural things, this step sister Debra follow Irene on the train and she wants to find miracle.

Dialogue 6

Sister Debra : I want to believe in miracles
Sister Debra : But when I see the priest stand up, and say he turned the
wine into the blood of Christ.
Sister debra : I mean, it's kind of hard to believe.
Irene : It's an act of faith
Sister Debra : He just says a bunch of words to wine.
Irene : The wine becomes the blood of Christ because we believe.
(23.42- 24.00)

The dialogue above shows that sister Debra not only wants to help Irene, but she has the same goal as Irene to find miracle. Because of what happened to her before, sister Debra thought to finding the miracle that the pastor and Irene talked about before.

d. Crossing of the First Threshold

In this steps Irene and sister Debra went to the church where the burning of the priest took place. Irene went to the place that the boy as a witness was. After got some clues Irene goes to her librarian friend to find out from the clues she got.

Dialogue 7

Irene : There was a boy that night?
Irene : A witness?
Irene : Where can we find him?
Sister Astrid : His mother doesn't want him talking about it.
Sister Astrid : But you might find him playing football in town.
(36.00 - 36.15)

Irene was curious about who was involved in this incident, and from the information that sister Astrid provided, Irene wanted to find the whereabouts of the eyewitness. Sister Astrid gives a new clue that triggers her to investigate this more deeply.

Dialogue 8

Irene : Was there anyone else in the church?
Sister Astrid : We had a handyman. He left the day after it happened.
Sister Debra : Do you know where he went?
Sister Astrid : I don't know. But he was a world traveler. He came from
Romania.
Sister Astrid : That is where he got his nickname. They used to call him..
Irene : Franchie
Astrid : "Franchie"
(36.16 – 36.35)

Irene was curious about who was involved in this incident, and from the information that sister Astrid provided, Irene wanted to know who else involved. Sister Astrid gives a new clue that triggers her to investigate this more deeply.

e. The Belly of the Whale

This step where the hero encounters the first real danger in their quest. In Irene's journey, she found the aim of the demon she rushed to the Catholic school where Maurice was.

Dialogue 9

Maurice : God! Sister.
Sister Irene : Maurice!
Maurice : It's back. It's here.
Irene : Maurice, I need you to--
Maurice : Kate, this is Irene.
Irene : No, Maurice, no, you need to
Maurice : She's my friend.
Maurice : We've got to go.
Irene : Get away from them!
(01.10.17 - 01.10.32)

The dialogue above shows Irene told Maurice to get away from Sophie and Kate because it could hurt them. Because Irene's assumption that Maurice is the cause of all these murdered cases. Irene has met her real danger like Campbell's theory where in every adventure of hero, they will meet real counter called the belly of the whale.

Dialogue 10

Maurice : What? We need to go, now!
Irene : It's you.
Maurice : What?
Sister Irene : It's inside of you.
Maurice : No! No.
Irene : It's my fault.
Irene : Because you came back for me, that's when
it happened.
Maurice : Oh, god! No!
(01.10.34 - 01.10.59)

Irene informed Maurice that had been possessed by the demon. Maurice who knew that fact still did not believe that he had been possessed and manipulated all this time. The dialogue above shows that Irene meets Maurice who is her real counter in Irene's journeys. The researcher concludes that Irene faces her real danger the same as the step the belly of the whale by Campbell.

4.2 Initiation

a. Meeting with Goddess

At this stage sister Irene was given a vision by her mother that she was a descendant of Saint Lucy who had the power to fight the devil.

Dialogue 11

Mother : I will always be with you.

Mother : Look at me.

(1:35:37 - 1:37:46)

The dialogue previously shows Irene's mother give emotional support when Irene almost killed by the demon. Irene had a vision from her mother who emotionally supported her, the vision and support from her mother made her get up. The fire that was burning her was extinguished. In relation to Campbell's theory of meeting with goddess where a hero may meet a helpful woman on their journey.

b. Apotheosis

This is the point of realization where greater understanding is reached. Armed with this new knowledge. In this step, Irene thinks the other way to defeat the demon.

Dialogue 12

Irene : The wine!

Irene : Sister! Pray with me.

Both : This is the cup of my blood.

Both : That will be shed for you and for all, so that your sins may be forgiven.

Both : The blood of the new and everlasting covenant.

Both : Do this in memory of me.

Both : Amen.

(01.36.25 - 01.37.58)

Irene asks sister Debra to pray together after she sees a possibility to counter the demon. In this step according to Campbell's theory where the hero reached knowledge and become wise to solved the struggle, it calls apotheosis.

4.3 Return

a. Freedom to Live

In the final scene, Irene is not shown her next goal or will. Irene did not return to her roots but neither did she undertake a new mission. So, it can be concluded that Irene chose freedom to live. She can be an ordinary person or a hero if someone needs her help.

Dialogue 13

Maurice : Sister...
Maurice : You saved me sister!

Maurice's dialogue to Irene shows that Irene successfully fought the demon and saved Maurice from being possessed. The dialogue can be a prove that Irene won the fight with demon. Irene could choose her next journey, may she will back to her ordinary world or she could do another investigation case. Therefore, Campbell's theory about hero's journey may the hero choose freedom to live and take whatever the heroes want.

IV. CONCLUSIONS

This researcher aimed to find the Hero's journey of Irene in The Nun II movie. There are three main stages of Monomyth of hero's journey that are used to express Irene's character in the movie. There are seventeen steps that divided into three main stage and they are departure, initiate, and return. The conclusion of this research was finding that Irene as the main character has gone through three stages of hero's journey.

The first stage from Monomyth of hero's journey that Irene through which is departure has five steps. The second stage in Monomyth of hero' journey is initiation, this stage Irene gone through two steps according to her dialogue. Third stage of Monomyth by Campbell is return, there is one step that Irene gone through. Therefore, this could be concluded that literary work the hero's journey is often following the same pattern mentioned by Joseph Campbell.

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