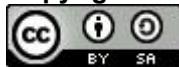


## **The Analysis of Heroes' Traits in *Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief***

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[17320076@student.uin-malang.ac.id](mailto:17320076@student.uin-malang.ac.id)DOI: <https://doi.org/10.18860/lilics.v1i1.2702>**Copyright** © Annaz Ma'rufThis work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License](#).**How to Cite: APA Style 7th edition**

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[17320076@student.uin-malang.ac.id](mailto:17320076@student.uin-malang.ac.id)**ABSTRACT**

*This research analyzed the heroic portrayal of the main character, Percy Jackson, in Rick Riordan's novel "Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief." The study aimed to examine the literary work and used a psychological approach to analyze Percy Jackson's psychological aspects as the central character. The theoretical framework utilized was "The Eight Traits of Heroes," developed by Scott Allison and George Goethals, encompassing traits such as caring, charismatic, inspiring, reliable, resilient, selfless, intelligent, and strong. The findings of this research indicated that Percy Jackson displayed all eight heroic traits in the novel. Additionally, the study employed "The Three Major Components of Heroes" to trace Percy Jackson's hero development throughout the story. However, it was noted that Percy also possessed a few non-heroic traits, including contemplating harm towards a bully and expressing anger towards a monster that caused his mother's death, revealing a vengeful aspect of Percy's character.*

**Keywords:** hero's traits, main character, hero narrative

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**INTRODUCTION**

Literature can give us great pleasure and satisfaction, especially when reading a literary work. 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). Moreover, it comes in many types, such as Poetry, Prose, and Drama. Otherwise, some people favor Prose since it is provided in many varieties, and one of them is novel. And not least, novels have many themes, even plenty containing content like heroic themes. The 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 does such a selfless act (Gölz, 2019).

The heroic theme showed for a long time, especially when we were little kids. Like in the past, we sat in front of the television watching a kid's show that shows a superpower figure that can beat any villain. For instance, a man discovered an extraordinary power from an unknown being from another planet; he was chosen as a superhero to prevent any malicious attempt on Earth. We saw heroes as figures willing to save people, especially with unique abilities.

In fiction, a hero is usually shown by the main character or protagonist. The main character faces conflicts and complicated situations at some point. He must solve it with braveness and willingness to sacrifice anything for innocent people. His efforts keep people safe from any danger that exists in the world. More individuals will stay secure by doing good things using their ability or power. Also, Hero motivates other people to stay positive in a difficult situation. That trait puts them in an essential position in the audience's hearts. Therefore, those behaviors are the things that make the audience enjoy the story even more.

A fictional story with the theme of heroism exists 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 odd about himself. When he goes on trips on school vacation, he gets attacked by one of his teachers because that teacher turns into a fury. Suddenly, his teacher, named Mr. Brunner, lends him a weapon to defeat that fury. After he beats the monster, he discovers 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 discovers that Poseidon is his father and that the lightning of Zeus has been stolen. Jackson had a mission to retrieve it ten days before the war between gods happened. Throughout the story, he overcomes many obstacles that almost prevent him from reaching his goal. Ultimately, he gives Zeus lightning back and eventually prevents the war—a hero who stops the war and is the only one who ends the clash.

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

In conducting this research, the researcher of this study found several previous studies that discuss the novel. Irawan (2015) discussed the Structural Analysis of the Plot in Rick Riordan's *Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief*. He analyzed the structural plot and elements of the novel's plot. 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 analyzed the English collocation most frequently found in the novel (Nur, 2016). Otherwise, Eltanin Ridho Samodra wrote 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 relate to heroism. A study called "The Plight of Hero in Achebe's *Things Falls Apart*" by Patrick C. Nnoromele examined the Hero's failure in the story and its possible reasons (Nnoromele, 2000). Meanwhile, the research written by Firda Amalia investigated the possibility of the

Archetypal Hero of the main character in the novel *Harry Potter* (Amalia, 2014). In the 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 aimed to seek the heroes' flaws between those two works (Zálešák, 2022). In another study, Katie L. Baker discussed that *Harry Potter*, the main character in the series written by J.K. Rowling, is a mythic hero (Baker, 2011). She used Campbell's theory to determine Harry Potter's mythical heroic elements through several stages. The last previous study the researcher found is from the thesis entitled "The Construction of Tris as a Female Hero in The Film Divergent." This research analyzed *Divergent* movies in the construction of a female hero (Rahmawati, 2016). It explored the hidden ideologies of Western gender norms in famous movie texts.

## RESEARCH METHOD

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

The data source of this study is a novel entitled *Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan. The novel has 377 pages in total, with the young adult-fantasy genre. Miramax Books published it in the US, and Puffin Books in the UK. The novel sold in many editions, but the researcher used the first Edition as the primary source. Moreover, the data was in words, phrases, sentences, and paragraphs. In collecting the data, there were several steps that the author used. First, the researcher of this research collected the data by reading the novel entirely. After that, he examined some texts that could show the eight traits of the Hero in Percy Jackson's personality. For gathering the information, this attempt was crucial as it would briefly ease the researcher's work.

The researcher used several steps to analyze Percy Jackson's traits. First, the researcher noted the data in words, phrases, sentences, and paragraphs. Then, the researcher read the evidence of Percy's hero traits and analyzed them with the relevant theory. Furthermore, the researcher interpreted relevant data based on the eight traits of heroes to gain results and answer the study's research. To explain the Hero's narrative of Percy Jackson, the researcher employed the three significant components of heroes to the character of Percy and examined his stages of becoming a hero.

## FINDINGS & DISCUSSION

After doing the analysis on the novel, the researcher found a character that portrayed a hero in *Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief*. 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 the novel. For that reason, the researcher attempted to describe Percy Jackson as a hero.

### *Caring*

In heroism, some characters in literary works could show compassionate attitudes during specific actions. It meant the person motivated people and helped the mental, emotional, or psychical pains of another or themselves. It was also considered 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 showed that the character had a caring trait. It could be shown by understanding the other person's feelings about the experience they had been through. For instance, if we placed ourselves in other people's positions after their horrible occurrence, we would feel bad for them.

Furthermore, a caring hero would be directly identified if the individual had done anything about kindness. It usually starts when the person behaves friendly toward other people or groups. There were two types of caring based on the above explanation. They were empathetic and compassionate.

In the book's second chapter, Percy expressed how he worried about Grover leaving him behind since he had already been expelled from the Yancy Academy.

#### *Datum 1*

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

In the quote above, his caring behavior toward Grover was represented, and it could be described through his emotion and how his mind thought about the situation. At one event, Percy caused trouble, sending him back to his parent. After the fatal mistake he made 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 thought about Grover because he knew he would no longer be with him anymore. He even called Grover a good friend, and he worried about what would happen if he could not accompany Grover anymore. In this case, the empathy representation of Percy Jackson was explained by his concern through his 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 would not be able to defend himself from any form of bullying that might be happening shortly.

### *Charismatic*

Fictional heroes could possess charismatic mannerisms. The charismatic trait was characteristic of captivating attractiveness or charm that could uplift adherence in other

people. Sometimes, the individual may approach as a helper and have a loving interesting personal background so the character could be likable (Ekroth, 2007). They sparked good vibes, which helped them to gain the reader's attention. Also, the natural physical appearance significantly impacts the reader (Bray, 2017). The looks of characters determined whether the heroes were fashionably attractive or not. Furthermore, the character might have a particular skill, like doing a speech or having that eloquent vibe. It was also the indicator of whether the character was likable or not.

Charisma is exhausted inside a person's personality, attracting and affecting others. It was one of the traits that highly pictured the schematic nature of defining a hero. The term "Schema" was obtained from the Greek word "shape." Scott Allison and George Goethals argued that defining a hero should not simply be defined with a simple explanation but rather by how one individual's schema matched the schema of heroism. If the person's schema fits with the schema of a hero, then a hero is identified (Goethals & Allison, 2012).

Furthermore, through charisma, the individual could give an appeal to others. They could be identified through several types, it revolved around personal charm or strong presence and the ability to influence people with speech. 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 their presence, that means the individual influences others just by appealing appearance. Meanwhile, the influential speech was the approach of a person where he/her speaking speech affected other people in a way that someone's oration impacted people.

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

*Datum 2*

*'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...'*

*However, they were not watching my wounds heal. They were staring at something above my head.*

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

*The sign was already fading when I looked up, but I could still make out the hologram of green light, spinning and gleaming—a three-tipped spear: a trident.*

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

*'It is determined,' Chiron announced.*

*All around me, campers started kneeling, even in the Ares cabin, though they did not 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. (Riordan, 2005, p. 90)*

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

they honored a Heroic Figure. The first time his charismatic trait is shown is when Percy gets wounded in a battle at Camp Half-Blood, Annabeth, with her initiative, asks him to get into the water. As a surprise, the water where he stood gave him the ability to perform self-healing. His injuries healed drastically, and his body recovered immediately. On top of that, he noticed that above his head, there was a shining hologram that had a shape of a trident. After that, everyone around him was shocked and astonished by the view they saw. All people were amazed by the look of Percy's charm. They started to kneel to him, and they realized Percy was the son of Poseidon. From here, we could learn that his special appearance sparked as people around him acknowledged that his looks influenced another individual. This occurrence indicated that a charismatic person influences other people based on the individual's looks. Suppose It was the reason why Percy got the attention that he never got before. He would not be praised if it were not for the reveal.

### ***Inspiring***

Inspiring was one of the heroic traits where the main character could influence someone else to get motivated and encourage another person to do better things. An inspiring person was also depicted as an individual who attempted to load other people with confidence and the urge to do something, usually to be much better than before. For formal identification, people with inspiring traits often indicated changing another person to be more self-assured. For example, when they saw someone who got pessimistic or had a bad day, they would motivate that person to never give up in any problematic situation.

They also showed that they were more valuable than the other person because sometimes a hero gained high value from society after they did some heroic action (Beardow, 2018). Heroes also resonated with their personalities by showing emotions whenever they tried to help someone (Morey & Nelson, 2015) (Gölz, 2019). Their action also influenced others to take the same measures to motivate others, which the heroes did. To inspire others not to give up no matter how hard the condition. To drive others to do the same good thing for better merit.

As a person who inspired other people, Percy had been narrated as the kind person that motivated people to be someone who did not give up easily. He even advised his journey partners not to be gloomy for long. It was explained in his behavior in the text below.

#### *Datum 3*

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

*'She would not meet my eyes. 'Please. I am 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 has chosen whom he wants to live with.'*

*(Riordan, 2005, p. 168)*

Percy Jackson was the type of person who inspired people not to give up on any situation. It was explained when Annabeth shared her story with Percy in chapter 16. It was described that Annabeth expressed herself and shared thoughts about she had problems with her father for a long time. Annabeth had a family issue, especially with her father. She doubted meeting with her father again. As a reaction to her story, he told her not to give up and started to send a letter to her father because Percy knew that her relationship with her father could be restored and gave her some 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. Through his inspiring trait, he could encourage another person to get motivated.

***Reliable***

Characters could be reliable if they were qualified to depend on them. An individual in a story was sometimes given a quest from another person to complete it. Consequently, the character needed to complete it as soon as possible. If the character were given another task and could finish it, the character would gain enough capacity as a reliable person. That meant people expected to depend on the character whenever they needed help because the character could keep completing duties. Also, being loyal was an indication of being a reliable person. A character could be marked by loyalty if the Hero has a professional understanding of what he was faithful to serve (Olesen, 2020). It meant heroes could keep their promises to what they were tasked with, such as being given a mission to destroy evil. Thus, the Hero must fulfill the task no matter what.

Reliability was one of the heroic traits that conveyed the mindset of the Hero, where he became someone who could be trusted to act reasonably, be hard-working, or perform to obey the order. The subject character was solely suitable or fit to be relied on. As to identifying the sign of a reliable person, the character who possessed this trait tended to depict it as acting consistently well in terms of quality or performance, thus, making it more plausible for the person to be trusted.

Percy could be reliable due to his promise to return to Camp Blood-Hill to train himself more because he wanted to stop Luke from trying to cause chaos among the Greek gods.

***Datum 4***

*I made my decision.*

*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. (Riordan, 2005, p. 246)*

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

***Resilient***

In literary works, the Hero is sometimes forced to engage in the conflicts or problems in the story, and they must figure out how to solve the issues. In order to overcome many troubles, some heroes' goals were prevented by some environmental change, so they needed to adapt to the situation (Williams, 2017). In a difficult situation where the characters were pushed to the bound to face almost impossible circumstances, they had to find a way to resolve it. They needed to improve quickly to a previous good state after problems. This trait is necessary for a hero to complete a journey. The individual itself must adjust to the environment.

As one of the heroic traits, Resilience is the ability to withstand adversity and recover from complex life events or situations (Allison & Goethals, 2011). The Hero with

this trait explicitly managed to recoil or spring back from the complex state into a controllable situation despite the slight chance of getting back the advantages. Heroes with such an ability were likely to feature characteristics such as self-awareness, keeping calm when under stress, and self-control. The importance of self-awareness is that it assists people in seeing themselves clearly and thoroughly. They could see themselves realistically and hold themselves more accountable for their actions. Also, they had a better chance of succeeding in personal development. Keeping calm under stress was the capacity to remain cool in the face of adversity was invaluable. Maintaining calm allowed individuals to face any challenge and make informed judgments about how to deal with it. Calamity and Resilience went hand in hand because both qualities were required to overcome when confronted with difficulty. Meanwhile, self-control aids in the control of oneself and one's activities. In moments of discomfort and adversity, self-control came out the most, and it was also when our Resilience shone brightest.

As the main character, Percy is depicted as resilient in several events. This characteristic could be found in several narratives, particularly dialogue and monologue. Percy's Resilience was 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 5*

*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 quickly, 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 was not 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. (Riordan, 2005, p. 81)*

The resilient side of the Hero was 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 was 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. Percy seemed to struggle to deflect the attacks for the first part of the battle, even though it was only training. In one moment, he saw the attack direction of Luke, and he deflected it. Then, Percy tried to use that chance to thrust Luke. It did not work as Luke deflected the thrust of Percy's sword, and he countered the attack. His Resilience was shown here as he conveyed his self-control regarding the circumstance. With his resilient mindset, Percy 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 defeats Luke. Percy overcame his struggle and managed to find a way to resolve it. His adjustment to the environment was critical for him to win the duel against Luke. Thus, he identified as a resilient person on this occasion.

### **Selfless**

Selflessness was the fundamental and moral practice of caring about other people's or animals' welfare, 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 being forced to do so for duty, loyalty, or religion (Allison & Goethals, 2011). It entailed 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 meant the person put the needs and wishes of others over one's own. According to research, a hero was 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. Moreover, for the most critical part, heroes stuck to their word, meaning they must be honest. The researcher found examples of the main character being selfless on multiple occasions.

#### *Datum 6*

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

A character was 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 something was wrong when he got into the lift. Percy dodged its attack but ended up with a family and the park ranger there. He could not let them get hurt. The selfless action was presented here as Percy took the initiative to keep the family away from the monster. Thus, he attracted 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. It matched the selfless definition because Percy was more concerned with the needs of others than with his own.

### **Smart**

In facing a conflict, a character must have a clever way to solve it, whether for a problem-solving case or to settle a puzzle. Heroic actions were perceived by viewing the character based on his decision to resolve obstacles, motivation, and situational opportunities (Frisk, 2018). The main character must have this specific personality because the intelligence of the present being determines the success rate of its action. If the person had knowledge and good judgment, the problem would be solved much more accessible.

Percy's form of brightness is applied 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 7*

*'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.'*

*(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 could stay in the place. This attempt was surprisingly necessary as it helped them to avoid being recognized. Percy did not want to let anyone discover his identity and his power. That was why he lied to the aunty. Quite clever of him to do everything he could 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 with confidence that in any situation, it was necessary for someone always to carry a plan.

### **Strong**

If we look into a relaxed 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 were mainly familiar when the Hero had a clear conscience and courage to take risks when overcoming the villain (Poulos, 2012) (Kohen, Langdon, & Riches, 2017). It meant a superhero needed a demanding power to defeat the bad guy so it could save the day. Having solid physical ability also ensured a high possibility of solving the conflict. In addition, being strong was not only about psychical, but having strong would also be essential. Possessing brave behavior might be one of the essential aspects of being a solid character. Without it, the character would not have overcome his fear when placed in a dangerous situation. Otherwise, strong traits could be equated as manifesting bravery or courage; this type of solid character was one of the most crucial mindsets for conquering fear in a dangerous circumstance.

Percy could be a strong hero because he conquered his fear during the battle. His confrontation with Ares described the strong trait in Percy's mind. The researcher found some examples related to solid personality in the book.

#### *Datum 8*

*Hades's aura was affecting me, just as Ares's had. The Lord of the Dead resembled pictures I had seen of Adolph Hitler, 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 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. (Riordan, 2005, p. 205)*

Strong character was only sometimes about having extraordinary abilities to conquer the enemy, but having courage was also essential. In chapter 19, Percy arrives at

the palace of Hades. Percy realized that Hades was 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, Percy was initially afraid. However, he had to snap out of it and managed to brave himself. Courage was a sign of being strong, as we could see in the narrative text. Being brave, defeating his fear, and having a sign of courage was already a brief example of being strong.

## CONCLUSION & SUGGESTION

After analyzing Percy's character with the three major components of the Hero's narrative, the researcher discovered that Percy did develop heroic traits. It started with "caring" (Percy's reaction toward Grover being bullied), "resilient" (Percy's fight with Luke), "charismatic" (He was revealed to be the son of Poseidon), "reliable" (Accepting the big quest), "smart" (Tricks the old lady and hid his identity), "selfless" (Saves a family that stuck with a monster), "inspiring" (Percy tried to convince Annabeth to contact his father again), and last was "strong" (Percy braveness in facing Hades and his fight with Ares). Despite all his heroic acts, Percy showed a small quantity of non-heroic traits, such as having 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 killed people or civilians in his journey, his battle with Ares proved it as Percy only stabs at his knee of Ares.

Following the analysis, the researcher found that Percy Jackson developed being a hero through the Hero Narrative with three stages. This first was the Departure of Percy Jackson; this stage described his first step outside his safe zone. He faced many strange things, such as his teacher becoming a monster and a giant that killed his mother. Secondly, Percy went into the Initiation phase, where he encountered trials. The challenges were finding out that he was 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 was the return phase, where Percy finishes his journey and returns to where he came from. Percy managed to bring back the lightning bolt to Zeus and prevent the war. He also became the Hero after people outside the hall praised him when he walked out.

The researcher of this research hoped that this study would be helpful for the reader and bring awareness about the heroic traits inside a character. This study only centralized the topic of heroism in psychology. In this novel, many topics could be explored even more, such as dysfunctional families. In the novel, several characters have family issues, like Percy with his father or Annabeth suffering from his father's treatment. The researcher thought that this topic could be used for the following research. The researcher would be pleased if this paper could be helpful for further studies.

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