THESEUS AND THE MINOTAUR: AN ANCIENT GREEK MYTH AS REFLECTED IN COLLINS'S THE HUNGER GAMES

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Abstract

This thesis discusses the reflection of an ancient Greek myth "Theseus and the Minotaur" seen in Collin's *The Hunger Games*. The story of novel refers to mythological characters and some scenes to add flavor to Collins's own works. Collins bases the plot of her novel on classical mythology Theseus and the Minotaur, creating a modern story that parallels the characters and themes of the ancient myth. In order to accomplish this analysis, the writer applied ancient Greek Myth Theseus and the Minotaur concept. Intertextual approach is used in this thesis to answer the problem formulated. In addition, library research and descriptive qualitative were applied as the method in collecting the data. After analyzing data, the writer concludes that there are some intrinsic elements in the novel as the result from analyze the myth by using an – intertextual approach. The approach related to the hypogram consists of expansion, conversion, and modification.

Key words: christian values, grace, hope, faith, love, justice, joy, service and peace.

INTRODUCTION

Human civilizations are coined by some aspects of life that inherently influence the ways they develop their civilization. Human civilization obviously different from one region to another region; it can be seen from their ways of life, religions, beliefs, traditions, local wisdoms, myths, legends and the heritages from their ancestor.   Those aspects of life become the essential part of human civilization from years to years (Booch et al., 1998).

One of the interesting parts of human civilization is the story about their God and Goddess, legends, Myths and other typical ancient stories. Greek is one of those which is popular. According to (M U L I Y A H e t a l . , 2 0 2 1) , in Ancient Greek we can find many stories about Legends, Myths, God and Goddess. Consequently, the story about ancient Greek is always eagerly interesting to be discussed in any level because it is believed that Greek is the first human civilization especially when we are talking about myths (Almuafiry et al., 2017).

Authors work with mythology in many ways. Some refer to mythological characters or scenes to add flavor to their own works. Some writers will rework mythological styles or themes (Puspaningtyas, n.d.). Others use ancient myths as a starting point for their own stories. American authors of the 19th century, such as Thomas Bulfinch and Nathaniel Hawthorne, believed that myths should provide pleasure, and held that the study   of   the   classical   myths   was   essential   to   the   understanding   of literature(Unggul & Gulö, 2017). Many contemporary authors have used classical mythology as a source for their stories. Percy Bysshe Shelley's play *Prometheus Unbound* (1820) was inspired by a play of Aeschylus of the same name. The Romantic

poet John Keats wrote poems such as "On First Looking into Chapman's Homer" (1816) and "Ode on a Grecian Urn" (1820), which deal with mythological themes. (Eva, 2005) (Jobli et al., 2011)

This story has an implication in several ways with *The Hunger Games*. Though the citizens of Athens were suitably horrified by their plight (whereas Panem is distracted by the spectacle of the television program), Katniss has an awareness of injustice and a stoic strength that recalls Theseus. Likewise, she succeeds not only through her personal strength, but through love, in her case with Peeta(Mittal & Patidar, 2019), in Theseus's case with Minos's daughter. Lastly, the unnecessary cruelty involved with both games is the arena of unbeatable labyrinthc(Pratiwi et al., 2020),(Amelia, 2021).

The most important aspect of *"The Hunger Games"* is that the premise of *The Hunger Games* is heavily influenced by the Greek myth of Theseus and the Minotaur (Herison et al., 2019). To punish Athens for the death of a son, King Minos of Crete demanded a tribute of seven maidens and seven youths, drawn by lot, every nine years to be sacrificed to the Minotaur(Adiyanto & Febrianto, 2020)(Kardiansyah, n.d.). Theseus volunteers to be a tribute and slay the beast. Katniss represents Theseus in a post-apocalyptic world. This makes the researcher interested to do a research about *an Ancient Greek Myth Reflected in Collin's the Hunger Games* (Diharjo et al., 2020),(Eva Tuckyta et al., 2021).

LITERATURE REVIEW

Intertextual Approach

Theories are needed in order to accomplish this research. The existence of myth inside the literary work can be seen by using intertextual. For more research, it is necessary to trace about intertextual theory to analyze the novel distinction from myth as its adaptation which produces functional change (Zuhud, 2014),(Aguss, 2021). The term of intertextual in the first time was stated by (Jackson, 2011): "Any text is constructed as a mosaic of quotations; any text is the absorption and transformation of another" . Based on that statement, it explains that every text is mosaic of quotations, every text is absorption and transformation of another, means that every text takes the interesting things that will be used and written in a work after seeing, comprehending and absorbing the interesting things(Diharjo et al., 2020).

After reacting to other texts and absorbing literature convention, esthetic concept, or ideas, it is then transformed into a literary work. The ideas absorbed can be recognized if we compare the texts that become the hypogram with the new texts, that is transformation text (Novita & Husna, 2020)**.**

Exploring Myth: Theseus and the Minotaur

Greek mythology has been variously interpreted and analyzed almost since its beginnings, and its origins have been as widely debated as the myths themselves have been interpreted. In searching for the origins of Greek mythology, first makes a distinction between the myths dealing with heroes and those concerned with divinity and cosmogony, stressing that it is erroneous to assume that "the hero myths were derived

from the same source as the myths concerning the gods (Tuhuteru & Iriani, 2018),(Kardiansyah, 2016).

Previous Studies

The interpretation of mythology has become an interesting study in literature field in this decade. There are many work which inspired by the existence of mythologies in our world. Consequently, many researchers have done many researches regarding this issue with the object, theory and method that similarly in line (Gulö, 2018),(Mulyanto et al., 2020). In this chapter, the writer summarizes three interesting research on the interpretation of mythology as the vista and also to show the findings of those researches (Febrian & Fadly, 2021).

The second research was done by (Adam et al., 2020) entitled *"King David VS Thomas Sutpen: Faulkner's Reconstruction of King David Story in the Bible as Reflected in Absalom, Absalom!"*. Kristina submitted the thesis submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements of *Sarjana Sastra* Degree in English Department Faculty of Letters and Fine Arts Sebelas Maret University. Same as the writer"s research in *The Hunger Games* novel, Kristina also use the intertextual approach. While the writer analyze the novel *The Hunger Games* as the transformation text from the myth, Kristina purposes the research to reveal the intertextual relation between King David story in the Bibleand Faulkner"s *Absalom, Absalom!*.

METHOD

In chapter four In conducting this research, the writer has aims to answer the problem formulation which stated in the previous chapter. As related to that point, methodology of research is one of the crucial aspects in doing research. It is believed that by using correct methods, the research may be conducted well. Therefore, this research will employ some procedures of research to solely achieve the objective of the research. Dealing with the writer analysis there are four points, will further explained. Those are Research Design, Data and Data Sources, Data Collecting Technique, and Data Analyzing Technique.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Hunger Games is a 2008 science fiction novel by Suzanne Collins. The book received mostly positive feedback from major reviewers and authors. *The Hunger Games* was first published in hardcover on September 14, 2008. Since its release, *The Hunger Games* has been translated into 26 languages, and publishing rights have been sold in 38 territories. *The Hunger Games* has been well received by critics. *The New York Times* wrote that the novel and the film was "brilliantly plotted and perfectly paced." *The Hunger Game* is a story that deals with issues like severe poverty, starvation, oppression, and the effects of war among others. The most important aspect of *"The Hunger Games"* is that the premise of *The Hunger Games* is heavily influenced by the Greek myth of Theseus and the Minotaur.

Expansion

According to (Sintawati & Hartati, 2020), Expansion is the extension or development of a work. Expansion is not only a repetition, but also the grammatical

transition and type of word transition. In this analysis the writer found the extension part of the story by these aspects.

Conversion

According to (Wantoro & Priandika, n.d.) conversion is to turn the hypogram. The author will modify the sentence to the new work.

The Conversion of Characters

Character is the way someone thinks, feels, and behaves: someone's personality . Characterization is the way in which authors convey information about their characters. Descriptions of a character's appearance, behavior, interests, way of speaking, and other mannerisms are all part of characterization.

The main character of myth *Theseus and Minotaur* is sexually a man (Orme,1998). He was abandoned by his father and left him alone with his mother. Furthermore, the characterization of *Theseus* is brave and strong. During the story, *Theseus* shows his bravery and power to fight against his enemy.

Modification

According to (Andika & Darwis, 2020) Modification, that is the transition of linguistic aspect; it manipulates the word and sentence order. It can be, if the author only changes the name of characters, whereas the theme and storylines are the same.

CONCLUSION

In this final chapter, the writer holistically examines all aspect to the research in order to create a deeper understanding of the research issue. This study is aimed to look at reflection of myth in the novel entitled *The Hunger Games.*(Liu et al., 2020)
The most important aspect of *"The Hunger Games"* is that the premise of *The Hunger Games* is heavily influenced by the Greek myth of Theseus and the Minotaur . This story has an implication in several ways with *The Hunger Games.* The problem of this research is: How is the reflection of an ancient Greek myth "Theseus and the Minotaur" seen in Collin‟s *The Hunger Games.* (Wahyudin, 2018),(Kementerian Pertanian RI, 2019). Meanwhile, the objective of the research is to examine the reflection of the myth inside the novel *The Hunger Games.* Based on the problem and the objective, therefore the writer presents the analysis of the research as follow. This chapter analyzes the reflection of an ancient Greek myth Theseus and the Minotaur in *The Hunger Games* novel

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