

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background of the Research**

Humans can manipulate their thought into something inexpressible. People tend to do that because of several reasons. People attempt to relieve the pain from the reality by building up their ideas beyond the imagination. An extravagant imagination encourages the person to express it into several ways. When the imagination is expressed into a form of words, phrases, and sentences in a piece of blank paper, it means that the person is writing a literature.

Literature itself simply means an output from a writing process that tells the stories or expresses ideas usually in form of books. Novel as one of the books is the most popular around the society. The popularity comes from many aspects. It can be from its story, its characters, its complexity, or its meaning. Stories told in the novel focuses on what genre it carries. One of the genres is adventure in which the story is focusing on the journey of the main character.

One of the most well-known adventure novel written by Robert Louis Stevenson is entitled *Treasure Island*. The main view of the novel is all about a tale of "buccaneers and buried gold". The story tells about the life and also adventure of a young boy named Jim Hawkins who was trying to find a treasure hidden in an Island. The influence from this novel is enormous on popular perceptions of pirates, including such elements as treasure maps marked with an

"X", schooners, the Black Spot, tropical islands, and one-legged seamen bearing parrots on their shoulders.

Treasure Island does not only present a great adventure story, but it also presents some meaningful symbols. Those symbols presented in different kind of things around the story. One of the functions is to present the readers a piece of prediction of what will happen to certain character in the story. Some of the symbols also can describe how the personality of certain character in the story. Understanding all the images in the symbols presented by author in the novel is not as easy as understanding the story.

The thing that researcher wanted to emphasize is the objective of the research. This research was constructed and then conducted by researcher because of the unknown of all the images and symbols found in the novel. Researcher managed to find some of the images but failed to understand them. To know and understand the images may not be the main objective in the novel, but understanding the images can make the story and the process of reading become more interesting. In order to enhance the successful of this research, researcher must apply the literary criticism especially in myth criticism.

The myth criticism brings out all the symbols and images in the novel which then can be analyzed with Carl Jung's images archetype. Image archetype is one of the theories that can be used to interpret the deep meaning of symbols mentioned in novels. There are fourteen symbols in the theory that can be applied. They are water image, sun image, color, circle, number, woman archetype, wise old man, trickster, serpent, demon lover, garden, tree, mountain, and desert. These

examples represent some of the common archetypal images that the reader is likely to encounter in literature. Each categories represent different kind of myth.

Using the theory helps researcher interpret the intrinsic meaning of symbols represented images found in the novel *Treasure Island*. For example, the color archetype in the novel can be seen in the following quotation:

‘Thunder!’ he cried. ‘A week! I can’t do that; they’d have the **black** spot on me by then. The lubbers is going about to get the wind of me this blessed moment; lubbers as couldn’t keep what they got, and want to nail what is another’s. Is that seamanly behaviour, now, I want to know? But I’m a saving soul. I never wasted good money of mine, nor lost it neither; and I’ll trick ‘em again. I’m not afraid on ‘em. I’ll shake out another reef, matey, and daddle ‘em again’ (Stevenson, 1998, p. 27).

It was after a doctor named Livesey informed an old sailor man about how long the old sailor man would live with the worst disease he had. The old sailor man mentioned that he had no enough time to do his last task. Not long after that event, he got the black spot which can be seen in the following quotation:

It was some time before either I or the captain seemed to gather our senses, but at length, and about at the same moment, I released his wrist, which I was still holding, and he drew in his hand and looked sharply into the palm. **‘Ten o’clock!’ he cried. ‘Six hours. We’ll do them yet,’** and he sprang to his feet. (Stevenson, 1882, p. 33)

Received the black spot from his former shipmate made the old sailor man panic as he mentioned to Jim that he only had six hours left. He died not long after that. The color black shown in the quotation above represents the image of death.

This research is important to be conducted because the difficulty to interpret the implicit meaning of the images or symbols put in the novel. As been discussed, the images or symbols found in the novel are not easy to understand. For example, the author adds a small detail that constantly appears around the

character. People who do not understand the images archetypes will ignore the small detail. In contrary, the person who has the knowledge of images archetypes will think in different perspective as they understand the small detail might hide an implicit meaning. Understanding the message implied by those images can help the readers understand about the character. The knowledge also helps reader to recognize the sightseeing of how the story will proceed. The main focus of this research is to reveal the image archetype in literary work thus reading this research can help readers understand how to interpret certain symbols or images that the author into the literary work.

In order to prove the originality of this research, researcher presents one of the researches that are similar to this research. The research was conducted by Wei Wei Qu (Qu, 2016) with title, “An Archetypal Analysis of the Imagery in the English Patient.” The main objective of the research was to apply the archetypal theories to analyze the dominant archetypal images in the novel entitled *The English Patient* including fire, desert, garden and the Good Mother. This research is also focusing on the images archetype however the data source used (the novel) is different therefore the data and the result of the research are different.

From the explanation above the researcher is interested in analyzing the images archetype which is reflected in the novel entitled *Treasure Island* written by Robert Louis Stevenson. In addition, researcher is also personally interested in this novel because it contains many quotes regarding life, spirit, friend, family, and trustworthy. *Treasure Island* was also produced with good formed story, interesting character, and lovely relationship. The story of this novel is so

wonderful that it became an inspiration for Walt Disney Feature Animation to make an Animated Movie entitled Treasure Planet. With all the inspiration and admiration, the researcher conducts this research entitled, Archetypal Images in “Treasure Island” by Robert Louis Stevenson: A Myth Criticism.

## **1.2 Identification of the Problem**

By noticing the background of research, these are some problems found in the research:

1. The significance of the influence from novel Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson in the perceptions of pirates in real world.
2. The problem found while interpreting images or symbols in novel Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson.
3. Hero journey of Jim Hawkins in novel Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson.
4. Archetypal images found in novel Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson.
5. The effect of the archetypal images existence to the story in novel Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson.

## **1.3 Limitation of the Problem**

Due to the lack of time, energy, and capability, researcher has rights to limit whether the subject or the object of the research. In this research, researcher decided to limit the objects of research found in the background.

1. Archetypal images found in novel Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson.

2. The effect of the archetypal images existence to the story in novel Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson.

#### **1.4 Formulation of the Problem**

Based on the limitation above, researcher formed the problems into two research questions, they are:

1. What are the archetypal images found in novel Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson?
2. How did the archetypal images existence affect the story in novel Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson?

#### **1.5 Objective of the Research**

Based on the formulation of the research above, the objective of the research can be drawn as below:

1. To find out the kind of the archetypal images in Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson.
2. To find out the effect of archetypal images existence to the story in novel Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson.

#### **1.6 Significance of the Research**

1. Theoretical Significance

This research provides information regarding archetypal images which can enrich the readers' knowledge about it.

2. Practical Significance

This research is used to inspire those who would like to do the same research, especially those who also conduct research regarding image

archetype in fiction or the same literary work which is *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson. This research was done with several theories from experts and the knowledge from the previous researches can be extra information for those who needed it.

### 1.7 Definition of Key Terms

In order to understand the discussion in this research, researcher put some of the key terms that will help readers understand about what is discussed in this research.

Archetypal Criticism : is a type of critical theory that interprets a text by focusing on the recurring myth and archetypes in the narrative, symbols, images, and character types in the literary work. (Kharbe, 2009, p. 327)

Archetypal Images : are often just labeled as examples of symbolism, but they are able to symbolize because of their archetypal origin. (Kharbe, 2009, p. 331)

Myth Criticism : is usually concerned to demonstrate that literary works draw upon a common reservoir of archetypes or recurrent images, or that their narrative patterns repeat those of ancient myths or religious rituals, as in quest for sacred object, or cycles of death and rebirth. (Birch, 2009)