CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the study

In analyzing popular literature, formula is a valuable thing that we should to note. According to John G. Cawelti in his book: *Adventure, Mystery and Romance: Formula stories as Art and Popular Culture*, formula is a narrative construction or dramatic principle that is used in a number of literary works. Formula can be used to name plot (1). Then, formula refers to the plot that embodies the type of story which inspired the author to write the story. Thus, the formula is part of a structural component (plot) that has detailed themes which forms a type of literary work.

Cawelti also stated that the definition formula in the popular literature is the same with the term genre in the discussion of classical literature. Formula is a configuration or blend of a number of specific cultural conventions with a more general story form or archetype (Cawelti 6). If in the discussion of classical literature we know the distribution of genres such as novels, plays, poetry, then in the popular literature there is adventure, mystery, romance, allien being and state, as well as the melodrama or tragedy.

From the view of adventure genre, John G. Cawelti defines adventure fiction as the story "of the hero - individual or group - overcoming difficulty

and dangers and finishing some ethical and significant mission (2). He also insults to the archetypical nature of this story pattern, which can be traced back to ancient myths and epics. Thus, novels in the adventure genre are action-packed, characteristic a hero on a mission, and are often set in mysterious locales throughout the journey times.

An identifiable hero is always found in the adventure fiction, he is character whom readers like and to whom they relate. He achieves his fraught by means of his cleverness and skill, mission. The one the feature in adventure genre is the personality of the hero. Although inroads have been made by women, as will be seen below, this remains a male-dominated genre; he is a strong, honorable man, committed to his assigned mission. Both physical and intellectual skills are required: the hero must act to accomplish his mission, but he must also be able to figure out the puzzles along the way (Saricks 19).

The Golden Compass novel is a novel written by Phillip Pullman and categorized as an adventure fiction. Lyra as the main character in this novel is taking her journey to the Northern Lights (Bolvangar and Svalbard). Lyra is doing some mission such as rescue her best friend, Roger Parslow and the missing Gyptians's children abducted by the Gobblers in Bolvangar and also rescue Lord Asriel who is imprisoned in Svalbard by bears since the church againts his experiments on 'Dust' and also give the alethiometer to Lord Asriel in which she thinks it is needed by him to reveal Dust, thus it is constantly that Lyra Belacqua is supposed to be an identifiable hero and

protagonist character in this Novel is. In *The Golden Compass* novel, Dust accumulates around people when their daemons stop changing – that is, when they go through puberty and grow up. As the radical theologian Rusakov discovers, it is the 'physical proof' that something changes when innocence becomes experience (Pullman 224).

A journey or quest is essential to the adventure fiction because without it there is no adventure (Saricks 16). Cawelti said that the true focus of interest in the adventure story is the character of hero and the nature of the obstacle he has to overcome (40). According to Campbell, a hero is a male or a female who ventures forth from the world of common day into a region of supernatural wonder: fabulous forces are there encountered and a decisive victory is won: the hero comes back from this mysterious adventure with the power to bestow boons on his fellow man (263). Thus, the hero must leave the world of his or her everyday life to undergo a journey to a special world where challenges and fears are overcome in order to secure a quest, which is then shared with other members of the hero's community.

The act of giving up his life to someone or something greater than himself is one of the characteristics of a hero. In Franz's words, a hero is abnormal, divine, beyond human limitations, even in novels and films, the hero is someone who has found or done something beyond the normal range of achievement and experience (Campbell 165). However according to Margery Hourihan in his book, *Deconstructing of Hero: Literary Theory and*

Children's Literature, to undergo a special adventure to the special world, a hero need's special characteristics. In fact, a hero is constantly special, born to the world in special incidents and fated to undergo a extraordinary journey, and back with unusual return s. In Western culture, and in any culture, the hero stories have been part of life since the emergence of the culture itself (10).

Considering the hero pattern mentioned above, there are several reasons why this study is interested to Lyra's character to be the object of analysis. Firstly, this study finds that Lyra is an identifiable hero. Besides, Lyra is different from mostly identical hero with a strong man and hard to defeat but in the novel Lyra is describe as an immature girl and it is very doubtful that Lyra has power in taking her journey to the northern lights. Secondly, Lyra shows the heroic pattern which must face many problems, dangerous things and trials in his entirely mission. The last reason is Lyra has not been analyzed and studied by the previous students of English Department in Faculty of Arts and Humanities, State Islamic University Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Based on the reason mentioned above, the suitable title for this study is, "Re-defining Hero as depicted in Lyra in Philip Pullman's The Golden Compass".

1.2. Statement of Problems

Based on the background of the study explained above, this study will focus to analyze some problems which are formulated as follows:

1. How is Lyra described in the novel?

2. How does she lead herself as a hero?

1.3. Objectives of the Study

Considering the research questions mentioned above, the research will intend to:

- 1. Describe the description of physical and action-packed of Lyra
- 2. Find and describe the pattern of hero in Lyra

1.4. Scope and Limitation

To avoiding the broadening the analysis, this study is limited to the novel *The Golden Compass*. Then, this study focuses on the hero pattern of Lyra's character along her heroic journey to the Northren Lights and how she leads herself as a hero by using Margery Hourihan's theory of deconstructing of the hero.

1.5. Significance of the Study

This study is expected to give direct contribution to existing people knowledge in the field of literature and to the common people who interest in reading literature. Theoretically, study will enrich the reader's development of knowledge in theoretical based on literary studies, especially related to hero pattern analysis. Meanwhile, practically, this study hopefully can give useful contribution as references and alternative information for English Literature Student who conduct the similar research particularly in English Department, State Islamic University of SunanAmpel Surabaya.

1.6. Methods of the Study

1.6.1 Research Design

This study will be library research. One of the characteristic in doing library research is working through many books, journals, articles, and other supporting references to support the research. *The Golden Compass*, a novel written by Phillip Pullman is choosing as the object of analysis. So, through descriptive analytic method this study wants to get the valid description about how Lyra leads herself as a hero and all her hero pattern

1.6.2 Source of Data

There are two data sources used by the writer for this research. They are primary data and the secondary data. Those primary data are taken from the novel itself that was written by Phillip Pullman. While, the secondary data are taken from book of Margery Hourihan theory of Heroic Patterns. This study analyzes phrase and sentence that relates to the hero pattern of Lyra as the main character.

1.6.3 Method of Collecting Data

This research uses the documentation method. At first, this study will tries to find the book and other sources related to archetypal criticism of heroes character. Then, this study takes any statement and conversation in the novel which is related to the problem analysis. In this case, the writer focuses on the Hero pattern of Lyra to the Northern Lights.

1.6.4 Procedure of Analyzing Data

The data which have been collected will be analyzed using literary theory. This research is library based. In presenting the analysis, this research mainly uses descriptive-analytical method. The research follows the following steps:

- Reading the novel many times toget the best understanding on the whole story.
- 2. Reading some theory's books that related to the hero's pattern issue
- 3. Selecting and collecting data inform of narration and conversation from the novel related to the Lyra's heroic pattern.
- 4. Analyzing Lyra's heroic pattern by using new criticism theory along with Cawelti's formula of adventure story that focusing on the meaning of hero and also using Hourihan's deconstruction of hero theory to get the best description that Lyra is a new style of hero.
- 5. Drawing conclusion based on the result of data analysis.

1.7. Definition of Key Terms

1) Hero : Usually, Hero is very conscious of his dependence upon the support of his friend who often provides almost his only emotional warmth in a seemingly hostile or, at least, unwelcoming world (Hourihan 78)

2) Divine : The suggestion, since forever, has been that story is a conveyance, a vehicle, touse in order to think, to move forward through life. At the end of a life that has meaning, the point is not that one is perfected, but that one will still carry a view of self and the world. (Campbell iv)

