

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of five sub chapters. Those are background of the study, statement of research problem, objectives of the study, significance of the study, and scope and limitation.

1.1 Background of The Study

Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard: The Sword of Summer is a novel created by Rick Riordan that was already released on 2015 in USA. This novel was translated into many languages and gets many awards as the achievement for example Good reads Choice Awards 2015 Middle Grades and Children's Winner, Amazon.com Best Books of the Year 2015 Ages 9–12, Top 20 2016 Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers VOYA's Best Science Fiction, Fantasy, Horror 2016 and Children's Book Committee Bank Street College of Education Best Children's Books of 2016 Fantasy (Juniorlibraryguild.com:2015). *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard: The Sword of Summer* is the first book of Magnus Chase series was published by Disney-Hyperion, an imprint on Disney Book Group.

Richard Russel Riordan, known as Rick Riordan is the writer of bestseller series in New York Times Bestselling author to his twenty young readers' novels those are *Percy Jackson Series*, *The Kane Chronicles*, *The Magnus Chase Series* and *The Trials of Apollo*. Riordan also wins the top three national awards for an adult mysteries genre, *Tres Naverre Series*. He was born

in San Antonio on June 1964 and become a teacher for fifteen years. Before he started to write children-fiction, he wrote mystery novels for grownups during his full-time teacher. His first children-fiction, *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief*, created for his son as a bedtime story. *More than eighty million copies of Riordan's novels printed in America and sold into more than thirty seven countries*, as Rick Riordan states in his official website rickriordan.com(2017).

Following his success on *Percy Jackson Series*, The novel entitled *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard: The Sword of Summer* created by Rick Riordan tells about Gods and Goddess of Asgard. Magnus Chase series is different from the previous series he made. It tells about Magnus Chase, a demigod: a half human and God, who lives alone after his mother's died. Before his mother died, Magnus' mother asks him to stay away from her family, especially one of his uncles and Magnus decides to be a vagrant. With his friends, Samirah, Hearthstone and Blitzen, Magnus starts his danger journey to delay Ragnarok (The end of the world) as his first mission on the first book of *Magnus Chase Series*.

Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard: The Sword of Summer is interesting to be discussed since it includes into the novel created after the best seller series of Percy Jackson. Rick Riordan *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard: The Sword of Summer* is chosen as the source of the study for some reasons. First, this novel shows interesting characters related to the stages of friendship. Another reason why the writer chooses this novel is because it depicts the stages of friendship acted by the characters in the novel *Magnus*

Chase and the Gods of Asgard: The Sword of Summer which contains magic, myth, fantasy.

Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard: The Sword of Summer contains the stages of friendship by Joseph A. Devito supported by Mobinah Ahmad. Mobinah Ahmad states that there are six stages of friendship including pre-acquaintance, acquaintance level I, acquaintance level II, acquaintance level III, pre-friend and friend. To support friendship theory by Mobinah, De Vito's theory about friendship is added. Joseph A. Devito in his book *The Interpersonal Communication* (2013) states there are three stages of friendship those are contact, involvement, close and intimate. The stages which Devito made are suitable to use in the novel since it contains the heroism acted by Main character, Magnus, helped by his friends, Samirah, Hearthstone and Blitzen. Devito in his book also states that there are some friendship needs, which give benefits to people. Utility, affirmation, ego support, stimulation and security definitely exist in friendship because those things make people closer each other.

1.2 Statement of the Research Problem

Based on the background of study, there are two questions of the study:

1. What are the stages of friendship used in *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard: The Sword of Summer*?
2. What kind of the friendship benefits depicted on *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard: The Sword of Summer*?

1.3 The Objectives of the Study

Related to the research questions, the objectives of the study is to identify the stages and benefits of friendship used in *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard: The Sword of Summer*.

1.4 Significances of the Study

The study is based on theory of friendship, which focuses on stages of friendship, the significance of the study in theoretically is to give the theoretical concern to literary study, especially novel and to enhance the knowledge of friendship theory particularly in the stages of friendship.

All part of this study like the data and the result can enhance the creativity of person, especially to the students of Trunojoyo University because they will be triggered to make a better study. The students also have many new vocabularies resulting of what the literary work they read.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

The scope of the study is the friendship theory that used to analyze the friendship among Magnus Chase, Samirah Al-Abbas, Blitzen and Hearthstone. The study focuses on the analysis of the quotations of the characters and the author's explanation relate to the stages of friendship. The study limits on the selected characters in Riordan's *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard: The Sword of Summer*, Magnus Chase, Samirah Al-Abbas, Blitzen and Hearthstone. Three characters mentioned have a close relationship with Magnus Chase, main character *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard: The Sword of Summer*.