

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In chapter one, it contains the introduction points about this study. There are five points such as background of the study, research questions, objectives of the study, significance of the study, and scope and limitation of the study. Background of the study explains the introduction about this study and the fundamental reasons this study conducted. While research questions contain the questions or formulas that will be answer in chapter four. Then, objectives of the study contain the aims of this study that are relate to the research questions. Next, significance of the study contains the benefits of this study to others. The last is scope and limitation that contains the range and boundary of this study so that this study does not widen.

1.1 Background of the Study

Aside from the culture, economic and background, children around the world have one similarities, they exposed to folktales and grow up with them. Parents often tell folktales to children at home, even before sleep, and teacher at school use folktales as a medium of study. Children around the world are familiar with folktales that has been share from previous generation, whether through an oral narration, book, or movie. Through folktales, children taught about social or cultural norms such as behavior expectations, gender roles such as masculine and feminine, and things that permissible or forbidden in society. Essentially, folktales subtly and quietly form behavior and beliefs, as they capable and strongly create and modify culture and history.

According to Thompson (1977), folktales were traditional stories that passed down orally from generation to generation within a culture as a way to preserve cultures, values, and customs often by storytellers, elders, or member of the community. Folktales are part of cultures, that has characteristics from their local regional cultures and often feature elements of folklore, myth, legend, and fairy tale, and typically convey moral lessons, cultural values, or explanations of natural phenomena. Folktales, which

represents the customs, values, and beliefs of various communities, are an essential component of cultural legacy.

A vast array of themes and motifs are included in folktales, such as romance, adventure, bravery, magic, cunning, and morality (Thompson, 1977). They might delve into topics of universal human experiences like love, grief, friendship, and the pursuit of knowledge or self-awareness. Nevertheless, folktales frequently have similar structural and thematic elements, even though the substance and form of folktales vary greatly. These may include simple narrative structure with clear beginning, middle, and end, archetypal characters, supernatural or magical elements such as talking animals, enchanted objects, or mythical creatures, moral lessons or ethical dilemmas that convey cultural values and societal norms.

One of the primary components of folktales is myth. These stories can be built upon myths, which supply the setting, the people, and the conflicts that shape the storylines and themes (Cartwright, 2017). In folktales, stories about natural events, life, or specific beginnings are commonly narrated through the uses of myths. While not every folktale contains a myth, many of them have roots in the specific mythology or cultural beliefs of the culture from where the story originated. Because myths reflect the values, beliefs, and cultures of the people who tell them, they are frequently an essential component of folktales.

One type of story that is rich and famous for its myths is Greek Mythology. According to Cartwright (2017), Greek Mythology is a set of myths and legends that derive from ancient Greece. Greek mythology generally tells about the lives and actions of gods, goddesses, heroes, and mythical creatures. These stories are used to explain and tell about natural phenomena, cultural customs, and the origin of the world.

An old Greek story called '*Jason and the Argonauts*' centers on the heroic Jason and his quest for retrieving the Golden Fleece. Jason, the legitimate successor to the throne of Iolcus, is dispatched on a treacherous expedition by his uncle, King Pelias, because the latter is afraid of a prophecy

that says Jason would bring him down. Jason board the ship *Argo* with a group of brave people that he calls the Argonauts. They face many difficulties and adventures along the journey, like facing against creatures such as bronze giant Talos, the Clashing Rock, and the Harpies. Jason's meeting with Medea, the Colchis princess and sorceress, in one of the journey's most important scenes. Jason manages to get the Golden Fleece, which is keep safe by a dragon, with Medea's assistance. Medea utilizes her magic to help Jason because she is fallen in love with him. But there is a price to Jason's achievement. In order for Medea to assist Jason escape with the fleece, she must betray her homeland and force her to behave treacherously against her family. Even though Jason and Medea win, the story ends tragically for them because of betrayal and sorrow as their romance breaks down.

The story of *Jason and the Argonauts* has elements of myths, like folktales in general, has symbols and themes that similar to other folktales throughout cultures. The share of symbols and themes have similar meanings that describe universal human experiences. In Jungian psychology, human experiences come from the unconscious experiences of ancestors that passed down to each generation as a form of collective unconscious (Rowland, 1999). The collective unconscious that expressed in the culture, art, religion, and significant experiences which enter consciousness in the form of image and behavior called archetypes. Based on Jungian in Rowland's book (1999), archetypes are behavioral patterns that appear as universal symbols that shared by all human societies across all eras.

Since folktales contain symbols and manifest archetypal themes, many studies have examined them through the lens of archetype theory. Previous studies on Jason and the Argonauts story have largely focused on classical versions of the myth and applied various theoretical frameworks. For example the study of *A (Post) Structural Analysis of Jason and Medeia: An interlocking Pair-Sisyphus Embodied* by Glaser-Nolan in 2015, that focus on structural analysis of the myths. Then the study entitled *The Argonautica Orphica Version for The Voyage of the Argonauts: A Geo-Analysis* by Kalacanis, et al in 2017. This study focus on tracing the itinerary that Argo

and the crew followed during the journey. Unlike the two previous studies that drew their data from the story of *Jason and the Argonauts*, the subsequent study utilizes different data sources but employs the same theory. For example a study entitled *The Role of Fairy Tales in the Self-Realization Process* by Daniela Sorea in 2018, that focus on the hero archetype that transmitting information on the individuation process using Von Franz's framework of unconscious process. Then the study of *The Archetypal Types based on Jungian's psychology in Madura tales* by Diana, Harits, and Chudy in 2022, that focus on the archetypal elements in several Madura tales that represented by the characters using Von Franz's concept of archetypes. However, there has been zero study that specifically examines Scott Stoll's children's literature version through the lens of Marie Louise von Franz's archetypal theory, which emphasizing the psychological significance of fairy tales and myths for young audiences.

Because of that, this study aims to examine the archetypal elements in *Jason and the Argonauts* story based on the perspective of Jungian psychology that applied the concept of archetypes by Marie Louise Von Franz who specifically analyzing some fairy tales from Jungian view. Therefore, this study will identify and interprets the archetypal results based on the archetypes that represent by the key characters in the story and how these archetypes lead the ending of the story.

1.2 Research Questions

This study aims to reveal the archetypal types in the *Jason and the Argonauts* folktale. Based on the background of the study, the writer formulated two questions that are use as a reference and guide for the data collection. These research questions also serve to clarify this study. The two questions are:

- 1) How are the archetypes represented by the main characters in Scott Stoll's *Jason and the Argonauts* based on Marie Louise Von Franz's archetypal framework?

- 2) How do these archetypes contribute to the story's plot development and resolution?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Objectives of the study purposes to show and clarify the aims of this study. Based on point one-period-two (1.2) which formulating two research questions about archetypes of the key characters and how these archetypes lead the ending of the story, there are two objectives of this study:

- 1) To know how are the archetypes represented by the key characters in Scott Stoll's *Jason and the Argonauts* based on Marie Louise Von Franz's archetypal framework.
- 2) To know how do these archetypes contribute to the story's plot development and resolution.

1.4 Significance of the Study

Based on the research questions and objectives of the study above, it is hope that this study will have benefits in the form of:

1) Theoretical Benefits

This study expected would contribute to increasing and deepening knowledge and understanding about the psychological patterns related with feelings, thoughts, and human behavior that appear in the story of *Jason and the Argonauts* and other stories in general, and help in understanding to respond the world through human experiences universally.

2) Practical Benefits

Supposed that this study of archetypes in the folktales will be able to provide practical benefits in the form of being a reference source for further study on similar topics, as well as being able to become scientific reading material to increase insight into psychological patterns that arises in folktales.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

It is crucial to determine the scope and limitations of conducting this study as a guide so that this study is clear and does not spread anywhere widely. Therefore, here are the scope and limitations of this study:

- 1) This study focused on the archetypal types in the Scott Stoll's *Jason and the Argonauts*. The analysis focused only on examining the archetypes that represent by the key characters in the story that lead the plot of the story and how the archetypes lead the ending of the story.
- 2) These archetypes are analyzed through Marie Louise Von Franz's archetypal framework, which is grounded in Jungian psychology. This study is limited to the analysis of archetypal representations in Scott Stoll's *Jason and the Argonauts*, and does not extend beyond the scope of the story of the theoretical framework employed.