

BRAVERY IN RICK RIORDAN'S *THE BLOOD OF OLYMPUS* (A CHARACTER ANALYSIS)

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Abstract : This research intends to depict Bravery in Rick Riordan's *The Blood of Olympus*. This research is classified as qualitative research because the data are in the form of words rather than numbers. The objective approach is used to analyze Rick Riordan's *The Blood of Olympus*. It means that Riordan's work is analyzed in isolation from all these external points of reference, analysis as a self-sufficient entity constituted because this approach has a relationship with the novel. The finding shows that bravery depicted in the novel can be seen through the Discretion of a Piper McLean. There also existed the power against bravery and Reyna's mission in combat. The novel is one of the literary creations that have real quality. Besides that, reading a novel is influential for the reader's life, because we can understand as well as realize the real condition and life of the story in the novel.

Keywords : *Bravery, Characters Analysis, Objective approach, Rick Riordan*

INTRODUCTION

Literature is the reflection of human life whether in the society or in their private life, every phenomenon that found in the literary works such as poem, novel, drama, or short story (Runtu, Moge & Lolowang, 2022). By capturing and presenting the complexity, challenges, and experiences of individuals and groups, literature acts as a mirror of society (Gupta & Tiwari, 2017). Readers can learn about numerous social problems, cultural norms, and historical settings that influence human life through literary works. Reading literature allows readers to investigate and comprehend the many viewpoints, feelings, and psychological states of characters, which in turn helps readers develop empathy and a broader understanding of human interaction and relationships (Fernandex-Quintanilla, 2020). Literature offers a forum for self-reflection, self-discovery, and personal development by creating a place for people to look back on their own lives and experiences (Lindstorm, 2020). They give readers the chance to connect with the characters and topics depicted in the

literature and can act as a source of motivation, inspiration, and comfort.

As a mirror of society, literature depicts many moral values in human life, and one of them is bravery. Bravery is a highly regarded way of life that is marked by the willingness to stand up for what is right and face many dangers, difficulties, and suffering (Kindangen, Moge & Maukar, 2022). Whether bravery is exhibited in a positive or negative way, it has benefits of its own. While someone who approaches bravery badly may have unpleasant repercussions, someone who embraces bravery positively can profit from the positive outcomes it delivers. Being brave entails overcoming obstacles and voluntarily doing challenging tasks (Ebrahimi Ghassemi *et al.*, 2019). It entails making choices that allow people to face issues with fortitude and determination (Pangestu, Buansari, & Lestari, 2021) and standing up for what is right even in trying circumstances. In the fight for what is ethically just, courage enables people to take action and overcome difficult foes (Benito, 2020).

Beyond simply being fearless, bravery is an attitude that entails being prepared to accept challenges, take risks, and carry burdens. It is derived from the depths of one's soul rather than being decided by outward characteristics. Keles, Wuntu, & Lolowang (2022) asserts that literary works have the capacity to profoundly influence human consciousness, eliciting strong feelings and fostering self-awareness. *The Blood of Olympus*, a book by Rick Riordan that examines the characters' transforming journeys, is one example of such a literary work. The three main protagonists in this book are Jason, Piper, and Reyna, who valiantly take on risks and difficulties in order to thwart evil and defend their friends and camp. It is possible to discover the underlying meanings and messages included within the text by employing a literary technique to analyze literary works like this novel (Maru, 2014).

According to Tumoka, Wuntu, and Maru (2021), the book is a story that depicts important occasions and experiences in the lives of its protagonists. It dives into their internal conflicts and changes, depicting the complexities of human existence through loss, adventure, and the search for a better life. Despite the fact that Percy Jackson is not the main character in *The Blood of Olympus*, the plot centers on Jason, Piper, and Reyna as they overcome obstacles and set out on a mission to save their friends and camp. This kind of literary analysis acknowledges that reading the novel itself is the best way to comprehend its themes and implications (Maru, 2014). We learn about the human condition and the capacity for transformation by investigating the heights of bravery and transforming journeys described in literary masterpieces.

The thrilling novel *The Blood of Olympus* by Rick Riordan covers the valiant adventure of its three major characters, Jason, Piper, and Reyna. As

they battle an evil power out to reawaken the slumber earth goddess Gaea and depose the gods and demigods, these three people exhibit extraordinary bravery. The plot centers on the giants' scheme to bring Gaea back to life on the Acropolis in Athens, which poses a serious threat to all the characters value. In their effort to vanquish the powers of darkness, Jason, Piper, and Reyna show unflinching bravery as they fully dedicate themselves to preserving their world. Their bravery shows the unbreakable spirit that may arise in the face of enormous odds, making it important and enlightening material for in-depth examination.

This study's main goal is to examine how the concept of bravery is presented in "The Blood of Olympus" by Rick Riordan. By examining how bravery is portrayed in the novel, the researcher hopes to clarify its importance and investigate its many ramifications. The study is expected to deepen readers' comprehension of literature as a whole and motivate them to carry out additional literary research. Students can obtain a deeper understanding of the nuances of human courage and how it is portrayed in literary works by analyzing the idea of bravery in the book.

The results of this study are expected to have consequences outside of academia. It is believed that the novel's teachings can be adapted to our everyday lives. We can learn to pay more attention to youngsters and treat them better by studying the character of Percy Jackson because we understand their importance in shaping the future of our nation. The book also teaches readers how to deal with difficulties in life, revealing approaches to problem-solving and equipping readers with the tools they need to succeed in the face of adversity. Finally, this study intends to encourage personal development and build a broader awareness of the value of bravery in both fictional stories and real-life

circumstances, in addition to making a contribution to the field of literature.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research is a qualitative research since the object of the analysis is not in form of number, but in form of word. In this research, the data are taken from the novel. *The Blood of Olympus* as a primary source and other relevant such a books, documents, and internet articles are considered as secondary sources. In analysis the data, the writer will use the objective approach. As what Abrams (1979) states:

“The objective orientation which on principle regard the work of art in isolation from all these external points of reference, analysis as self-sufficient entity constituted by its parts in their internal relations and to be judge solely by criteria intrinsic to its mode of being”. (p 26)

This novel is categorized as an adventure novel so it is necessary to use adventure formula in analyzing this novel besides objective approach. Adventure formula according to John Cawelty consisted into some characteristics: firstly hero, secondly challenge or obstacle, the third moral mission and the last final achievement.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

According to Cawelty (2014), Adventure stories revolve around the idea of a hero, who can be an individual or a group, who overcomes challenges and perils in order to complete a significant task. The villain's schemes are generally, but not always, what lead to the hero's tribulations, and as a nice side benefit, the hero frequently receives the favors of one or more pretty young girls. The hero, whether a man or a woman, is often the most significant component in an adventure story. Hero refers to a person or group who battled against evil and won the battle. The enemy had an equal ability to defeat the hero, thus the hero had to be bold to battle for the good. The researcher wants to briefly examine bravery in this chapter as one of the qualities of a hero.

Where there is bravery, there is a hero, and where there isn't, there is no hero. Therefore, the hero's courage should come from doing what is required of him as the person who must beat the villain.

The Power against Bravery

Jason is the main character in the novel. He is the main protagonist in the series *The Blood of Olympus*. He was the son of the Roman God of the sky and thunder. When Jason 3 years old, Jason mother offered to Hera to be brought to the campsite Jupiter. There, Jason become praetor together Reyna and led the attack on mount Orthys Titan headquarters, coinciding with the battle in Manhattan at the age of 16 years. A few mounts later, Jason with her friends Piper and Leo recruited to the campsite Mulatto. Where, Jason held a rescue mission Hera kidnapped by a giant Porphyron with her friend Piper and Leo. To carry out the mission, they must disguise. Jason gets old, as the following quotation:

“Jason hated being old. His joints hurt. As he tried to climb the hill, his lungs rattle like a box of rocks. He couldn't see his face, thank goodness, but his fingers were gnarled and bony. Bulging blue veins webbed the backs of his hands. He even had that old man smell – mothballs and chicken soup. How was that possible? He'd gone from sixteen to seventy five in a matter of seconds, but the old man smell happened instantly, like boom. Congratulations! You stink!” (Rick Riordan 2015:1)

Jason is a fighter that is reliable, he could use his powers to defeat the monsters but not with the bandit Sciron strong. He must remain disguised as an old man. And if his cover was blown, the enemy most difficult to deal with is Sciron and magic Hazel. But Jason people are patient though he was strong. As written below:

“It would've been easy for Jason in control the winds and fly to the he while the or shoot her enemies in the face with ripe mangoes. But no, for the sake of stealth, he had to struggle along as an old dude with bad knees and chicken soup stink. I hope with the

friends hold up and powers. The sure in to nasty customers when they were alive. If they find out we're demigods- "Hazel's magic will work," Jason said" (Rick Riordan 2015: 5)

Jason is also a dodgy person, he always had a way to protect his friends from the hordes of undead called zombies. He has a way to kill the zombies with the help of his engineer, stoker is Leo. But before Leo shot him, Jason and his friends should be able to escape in advance. It is an ingenious idea that they survived. As written below:

"Naturally, the situation was worse than Jason expected, he saw what looked like an out-of-control zombie frat party. At the point, Jason and the girls before taking second have cover ship the fired on position have their ship the place in Greek fire and bursts of Celestial bronze shrapnel. Not the safest plan, but at least Jason had the satisfaction of knowing that he could call an air strike on this noisy mob of dead guys if the and his friends could get away" (Rick Riordan 2015:13)

The next day, Jason felt he was being reorganized, layer by layer. The heartbeat becomes irregular. The bones are no longer shivering. Jason is getting stronger, he's ready to fight against all enemies. Jason has the ability to fight, he has a strong power. As the following statement:

"All around Jason, the enemies closed in. The fight was going great until he got stabbed. Jason slashed his gladius in a wide arc, vaporizing the nearest suitors; then he vaulted onto the table and jumped right over Antinous's head. In mid-air he willed his blade to extend into a javelin-a trick he'd never tried with this sword-but somehow, he knew it would work. He landed on his feet holding a while the fly-in get away. As Antinous turned to face him, Jason thrust the Imperial gold point through the ghouls' chest. Antinous looked down incredulously. Jason, he kept fighting and spinning his javelin-slicing through ghosts, knocking ghouls off their feet." (Rick Riordan 2015:36)

After that, Jason still show that strength can still be used, this time Annabeth Jason help of a collection of ghosts that attacked. Jason using lightning to devour the ghosts that attack Annabeth. It can be seen in the following statement:

"He lifted his javelin to the sky. A bolt of lightning ricocheted off the point and blasted the ghosts to ions, leaving a smoking crater where the earthen fountain had been. Over the last few months, Jason had fought many battles, but he'd forgotten what it was like to feel good in combat. Of course he was still afraid, but a huge weight had been lifted from his shoulders". (Rick Riordan 2015: 37)

Jason has a lot of fight with his friends, he lost a lot of blood in the battle. This time Jason has tremendous spirit, he is optimistic that he can finish the battle despite being injured. For the sake of his family and friends. As written below:

"The had he worsed would in than from well as from varus its best to he told things to worryright about was stuff than as blood loss. Annabeth with blade would do its best to eat away at Jason's life force. He'd seen a demigods die like that once before. It annabeth hadn't been fast or pretty. Antinous's words rang in his ears-about the giants in Athens, the impossible trip facing the Athena Parthenos. 'Reyna, Nico, and Coach Hedge,' he said. 'They're in danger.'" (Rick Riordan 2015:56)

After that, Jason always together with her friends and complete their mission, even though a lot of blood in the battle.

Discretion of a Piper McLean

Piper is a close friend of Jason. She is 15 years old. Piper is the daughter of the Greek goddess beauty and love, Aphrodite. Piper is a wise or intelligent girl, she helped battle strategy. As written below:

"Not easily. They're strong and fast and intelligent. Also, they eat human flesh. 'fantastic, Annabeth muttered. I don't see any option except to stick to the plan. Split up, find out why they're here. If things go bad-' 'we use the backup plan,' Piper said." (Rick Riordan 2015:13)

Piper is people brave, although around him are his enemies. He remained calm and was not scared, so incognito remains uncovered. Piper also terrific in the fight, he can kill his enemies. It can be seen in the following statement:

“The feather didn’t exactly go with her disguise, from forty feet ahead of him, Piper moved through the crowd, smiling and filling wineglasses for the ghostly revelers. If she was afraid, she didn’t show it. So far, the ghosts weren’t paying her any special attention. But piper had earned it, defeating an entire flock of demon chicken ladies by herself while she was on duty. She downplayed the accomplishment; the feather was reminder that she wasn’t the same girl she’d been last winter.” (Rick Riordan 2015:14)

Piper also is a person who likes to help, because he helped his friend who was wounded in the battle. Deftly direct Piper quickly treat Jason. It can be seen in the following statement:

“We have to stop the bleeding. Piper used her dagger to cut fabric from the bottom of her dress. She ripped the cloth into bandages. Jason dimly wondered how she knew so much first aid. She wrapped the wounds on his back and stomach.” (Rick Riordan 2015:39)

With swords Charmspeak Piper, she is more resilient and stronger. She can defeat a powerful enemy. The following explanation of the novel:

“Piper couldn’t believe how hard it was to find deadly poison. As it turned out, her sword was more in demand. So far, they’d slain a Laistrygonian ogre in the bakery, battled a giant warthog in the public square, and defeated a flock of Stymphalian birds with some well-aimed vegetables from Piper’s cornucopia.” (Rick Riordan 2015:175)

And finally, Jason came to help Piper after Jason ready fighting to face with Khione and clan Boread.

Reyna’s Mission in Combat

Reyna is the daughter of the Roman Goddess of war, Bellona. She is 16 years

old. Reyna was a friend of her boyfriend Jason, Piper. Reyna also fought in helping to complete their mission, Reyna also people who do not give up easily, he could not accept failure in battle. As written below:

“Reyna had risked so much to help with them. Reyna tried to think. She could accept death if she had to, but if the Athena Parthenous. Was destroyed their quest would fail. Reyna could not accept that.” (Rick Riordan 2015:50)

But Reyna is a quitter limp, she was limp and not because contrived, but because Reyna often divide his strength to Jason and Percy. So that Jason and Percy may issue the most powerful weapon they have. So it can kill all enemies that deter her mission. As written below:

“Reyna’s can would with them keep and strong I can only we i do it in life-and-death situations, and it’s have more in a useful to the in were large groups with them. When I command troops, I can share whatever attributes will know turn the while a I have-strength, courage, faight with my friends by the size of my forces.” (Rick Riordan 2015:52)

Reyna also a good person and attention to his friends, this time to Nico, the engineer was injured, so Reyna gave herbs that they can powdered Unicorn horn in Tiber river which have been washed. It can be seen in following:

“Drink something’. Nico and Reyna She offered him a canteen of unicorn draught-powered will the nice so a from horn speed powers us mixed with sanctified water form the mission the Little Tiber. They’d found of it worked on Nico better than nectar, helping to cleanse the fatigue and darkness from his system with less danger of spontaneous combustion.. His skin had a bluish tint. His cheeks were sunken.” (Rick Riordan 2015:59)

Reyna is a demigod the only one who can control his nightmare. If there is something, he can turn bad in order not to be a hazard, to help them combat missions. It can be seen in the following statement:

“Most of the time, Reyna could control her nightmares. She had trained her mind to start all her dreams in her favorite place-the Garden of Bacchus on the tallest hill in New Rome. She felt safe and tranquil there. When visions invaded her sleep-as they always did with demigods-she could contain them by imagining they were reflections in the garden’s fountain.” (Rick Riordan 2015:64)

CONCLUSION

After analyzing the bravery of main characters in novel *The Blood of Olympus* in this paper, character is one of important elements in novel, besides theme, plot, setting, and point of view Characters in a novel are the persons of presented in works of narrative who convey their personal qualities through dialogues and action by which the reader or audience understand their through, feelings, intentions, and motives. Characters can affect the reader and give positive or negative impacts. They may learn and be better from the experience or may miss the point and be unchanged.

From the discussion in the previous chapter, the writer would like to conclude the description of the character bravery in the novel *The Blood of Olympus* by Rick Riordan is only about how the main character show their bravery. There are three main characters described bravery in the novel *The Blood of Olympus*. They are Jason, Piper and Reyna. Jason is a brave man, tough, strong, fighting, and always optimistic in every step he took. Jason is protective of his friends and key in the fight of Olympus. Reyna is a girl that pessimistic, but she also a fighter, helper, and attention. He also often once gave powers to Jason, because only Jason their expectations. Piper is a brave girl, strong, rescuers and also often fight petrified to help Jason and all his friends.

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