THE HERO'S JOURNEY OF MOANA IN *MOANA*(2016) MOVIE

A GRADUATING PAPER

Submitted in Partial of the Requirements for Gaining

The Bachelor Degree in English Literature

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A FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT

I certify that this research is definitely my own work. I am completely responsible for the content of this research. Other writer's opinions or findings included in the research are quoted or cited in accordance with ethical standards.

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ABSTRACT

THE HERO'S JOURNEY OF MOANA IN " MOANA " (2016) MOVIE

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Moana (2016) is an animated film based on Polynesian tribe folklore. The theme of this film emphasizes heroism. Then, the writer chooses to discuss the trip to be a hero undergone by Moana as the main character in the film. Moana is presented uniquely as the daughter of the village chief of a Polynesian tribe. She becomes her father's successor. She must find Maui to rescue her villagers. She has to cross the ocean to find Maui and restore Te Fiti's heart. The purpose of this study is to analyze and explain the steps that are passed by Moana in the film. The theory applied in this research is Hero's Journey Theory presented by Joseph Campbell and Film Theory. Based on Campbell's theory, there are three stages through which a hero travels, begins, and returns. Based on the analysis, Moana only undergoes 2 stages of the stages of departure and the beginning. Nevertheless, the journey is still in line with Joseph Campbell's hero's journey although the last stage is not found and the hero is there.

Keywords: Moana, Moana movie (2016), the hero's journey, heroine.

ABSTRAK

THE HERO'S JOURNEY OF MOANA IN MOANA (2016) MOVIE

By : Khoirifatin Awwalina

Moana (2016) adalah sebuah film animasi berdasarkan cerita rakyat Polynesia. Tema film ini menekankan pada kepahlawanan. Kemudian Penulis memilih untuk membahas perjalanan menjadi pahlawan yang dilakukan oleh karakter Moana sebagai tokoh utama dalam film tersebut. Moana digambarkan secara unik sebagai tokoh anak perempuan kepala desa dari sebuah suku Polynesia. Dia menjadi pengganti ayahnya. Dia harus mencari Maui untuk membantu menyelamatkan warga desanya. Moana harus menyebrangi lautan untuk menemukan Maui dan mengembalikan jantung TeFiti. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk menganalisis dan menerangkan langkah-langkah yang di lalui oleh Moana dalam film ini. Teori yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah Teori Perjalanan Pahlawan yang di kemukakan oleh Joseph Campbell dan Teori Film. Berdasarkan teori Campbell ada tiga tahapan yang dilalui oleh seorang pahlawan yaitu keberangkatan, permulaan, dan kembali. berdasarkan analysis Moana hanya melalui 2 tahapan yaitu tahapan keberangkatan dan permulaan. Meskipun demikian, perjalanan tersebut masih sesuai dengan konsep hero's journey dari Joseph Campbell meskipun tahapan terakhir tidak ditemukan dan juga pahlawan wanita itu ada.

Kata Kunci: Moana, *film Moana (2016), hero's journey*, pahlawan wanita.

MOTTO

Spirit is the power of success.

Each life is made up of mistakes and learning, waiting and growing, practicing patience and being persistent

-Billy Graham-
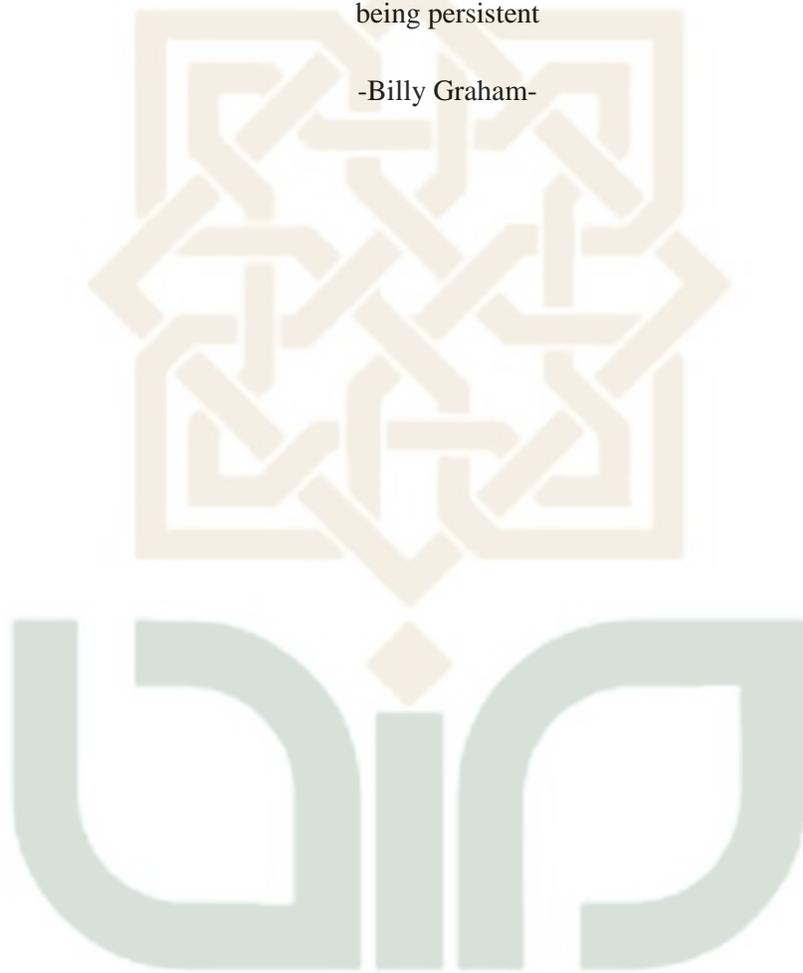
DEDICATION

I dedicate this graduating paper to :

My beloved parents, Faqih Usman &Turiyah,

My sisters Fatikhaturrohma and Syafira Meliana,

My beloved one

My big Family, my uncle Abu Khozin, aunty Maslakhah,

My brother Musthofa .S. Hum and his wife.

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All praises are to Allah, The Lord of the world, who has given blessing for me to arrange this graduating paper entitled "The Hero's Journey of Moana in Moana (2016) Movie" as the requirement for gaining the bachelor degree in English Department, State Islamic University of Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta. This paper is arranged completely by the help from the sincere person. So, I really deliver my thanks and appreciations for them. They are :

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Finally, I realize that there are still some errors in writing this graduating paper. Thus, I really allow all readers to give me some suggestion to improve this graduating paper.

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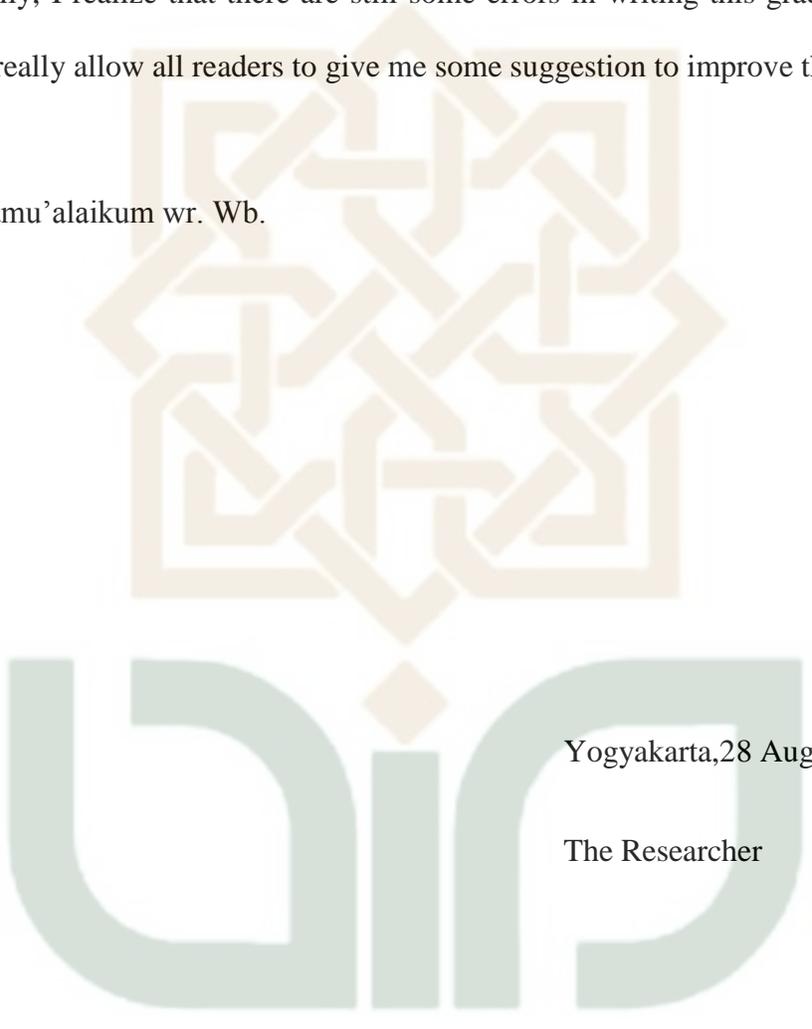
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INTRODUCTION

1.1.   Background of Study

A movie is a series of moving picture that constructs the story. The story is delivered in a special and interesting way to attract the attention of people. The movie as media communication has an audio-visual for sending a message to the community in a place that they gathered (Effendy, 1986: 134). No wonder, movie becomes the part of people's life in the world as it is related to popular culture. It also uses to be documentary evidence of movement within social history (Turner, 2003:152).

The movie can influence the audience watching it because it reaches many aspects of human life from its genres such as drama, war, historicalepic, and horror. Furthermore, the movie also has many relevant themes such as heroism, friendship, struggle, or love. It makes the movie something multi-dimensional. Therefore, it can be said that watching film is watching histories, cultures, human nature, dreams, hatreds, and fears of a certain society. According to Gordon, "film is like a battleground: there's love, hate, action, violence, death (as cited Burhanudin, 2017:

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2). By watching movies, people can understand and relate themselves to some particular societies that they may never meet previously, for instance, Polynesian's myth.

Polynesia is a vast region of the Pacific Ocean consisting of many hundreds of widely-separated, culturally and politically diverse island groups. Ranging from Midway and Hawaii in the north to New Zealand in the south, the triangular area called Polynesia also includes Tahiti, Samoa, Tonga, Tuamotu, the Cook Islands, and the Pitcairn Islands. Although the mythology of Polynesia takes different forms on various islands, many of the basic stories, themes, anddeitieswere surprisingly similar throughout the region.

Polynesian religion and mythology place great emphasis on nature, particularly the ocean environment. The Polynesians become masters of navigation and other seafaring skills. Their religion and myths strongly reflect the importance of nature and the sea. The Polynesians' religion includes many gods, local deities as well as the great gods of their pantheon. The Polynesians feel a close personal connection to their deities and to various heroes, demigods, and tricksters of their mythology. Recently, Disney-as one of the biggest movie studios-presents the Polynesian myth in a heroic animated movie entitled *Moana (2016)*.

Moana (2016) is animated musical fantasy adventure movie produced by Walt Disney Animation Studios and released by Walt Disney Pictures. The directors are

Ron Clements and John Musker. It takes about 107 minutes. The movie spends about 150 million dollars. Besides, *Moana (2016)* is regarded as a successful movie for some achievement like two Academy Award Nominations at the 89th Academy Awards.

Like the common Disney animation movies, *Moana (2016)* combines Polynesian mythology and music to depict a princess struggling to find her place named Moana. However, Moana blasts beyond true method by introducing a transformative detail. Moana is presented as the heroine of this movie with her important role. She is more concerned with following her own values than she is on cozying up to a love interest and ruling as a princess.

Moana is a young teenager who sets out on a journey to save her family, with the help of a large and funny demigod, Maui. Her story is along with the hero's journey theory by Joseph Campbell. As Voytilla's argument stated in Vogler's paper entitled *Excerpts from Myth and the Movies*, "The Hero's Journey was his all-embracing metaphor for the deep inner journey of transformation that heroes in every time and place seem to share, a path that leads them through great movements of separation, descent, ordeal, and return." (2003:1).

Moana herself practically overflows with heroism. She is the most complete and realistic Disney's princess to date. Regarding all the stages that Moana undergoes with Maui, the researcher intends to apply Campbell's theory of Hero's Journey in

analyzing this movie. The researcher chooses *Moana (2016)* movie because of a teenager as the main character of this movie. Moana is depicted as an ambitious and strong girl. The researcher interested in exploring Moana's journey. She faces many obstacles, the monster, the pirates, and dangerous situation. The researcher assumes that the journey that is experienced by Moana contains issue of hero's journey.

Concerning that issue, it is appealing to analyze using the hero's journey theory by Joseph Campbell. The theory is necessary for analyzing the issue because this research focuses on the main character's journey. In addition, the researcher applies Film theory and *mise-en-scene* concept to get the detailed information of how Moana's heroism journey is portrayed in this movie.

1.2.   Research Question

Based on the description of the background, the researcher purposes the formulation of this research question as follows :

How can the journey of Moana in *"Moana"* (2016) movie fit into Joseph Campbell's Hero's Journey?

1.3.   Objective of Study

After conducting the research question above, this research is purposed to analyze the steps of Hero's Journey in *Moana (2016)* movie based on Hero's Journey theory by Joseph Campbell and how to explain it.

1.4.   Significance of Study

The theory of Hero's Journey is still relevant to discover the step of heroes, in a verse with the changes in representation and character of heroes in the modern era. This research also enriches discussion about Hero's Journey in the animatedmovie, especially *Moana (2016)* movie. This research establishes the pattern of the hero's journey that proposed by can be applied to any kind of stories or film.

1.5.   Literature Review

After looking for some researches related, the researcher has found some researches that related to the subject of this research. The first is the research entitled "*The Journey of Demond Doss in Hacksaw Ridge*" by Moch. Burhanudin of State Islamic University Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta (2016). This research discusses Demond Doss' journey to be a hero as an American soldier that follow the war.

The second is the research entitled "*The Stage to be Hero: The analysis of Hercules Journey in Hercules (2014) film*" by Totok Zunianto from State Islamic University Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta (2016). This research talks about how Hercules becomes the hero for others and how Hercules undergoes some stages to be the real Hero.

The third research is entitled "*Hero's Journey of Sam and Jack in the Day After Tomorrow film*" by Anindita Dwi Cahyani from State Islamic University of

Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta (2017). This research analyzes two characters; Sam and Jack to be Heroes for others when blizzards happen.

This research is different from those previous researches. The researcher applies Hero's Journey theory by Joseph Campbell to analyze the journey of Moana to save her family, people, and village in *Moana (2016)* movie.

1.6. Theoretical Approach

1.6.1. Hero's Journey Theory by Joseph Campbell

The Hero's Journey is a theory that introduced by Joseph Campbell. The function of theory is for being used as the device for analyzing the text. In this research, the researcher uses Hero's Journey proposed by Joseph Campbell because it is appropriate to its main point in the plot of a story. Joseph Campbell is an American mythological researcher whowrites a famous book entitled *The Hero with a Thousand Faces*. In his lifelong research, Campbell discovers many common patterns running through hero myths and stories from around the world. Years of research lead Campbell to discover several basic stages that almost every hero-quest goes through (no matter what culture the myth is a part of). He calls this common structure "the monomyth".

According to Joseph Campbell, the theory of the hero's journey is divided into three phases: departure, initiation, and return (Campbell, 2004: 45-221). Every phase

consists of some derived stages too as the more detailed explanation about three major stages.

The departure phase consists of five stages: the call to adventure, refusal of the call, supernatural aid, the crossing of the first threshold, and the belly of the whale (Campbell, 2004: 45).

The initiation phase contains six stages: roads of trials, the meeting with the goddess, woman as the temptress, atonement with the father, apotheosis, and the ultimate boon (Campbell, 2004: 89).

The last phase is the return phase. It consists of six stages: the refusal of the return, the magic flight, rescue from without, the crossing of the return threshold, master of the two worlds, and freedom to live (Campbell, 2004: 179).

1.6.2. Film Theory

In this research, film theory is used as the supporting theory analysis. Film theory is an overview of approaches to film study that determine different positions about film's relation to the digital world and its social role within a new configuration of the commodity form and spectatorship. For the analysis film, there are languages of film analysis. *Mise-en-scene* refers to all that encompassed by a frame. It is the world of the film, "its attitude toward detail, its sense of its own reality against which we can measure its representation. It is a useful starting point for describing what

you're seeing (Villarejo, 2007: 28). There are six elements that should be considered in *mise-en-scene*:

    a. Setting: it is where and when the scene is shoot (2007:29).

    b. Lighting: it is used to established mood and directs attention to detail (2007: 32).

    c. Costume and hair: dress and hair stylist for the character the movie to his/her characterization.

    d. Makeup, and figure behavior.

Every placement of the camera can be analyzed in term of distance between the camera and its object (s). (2007:38). There are some techniques framing of a shot by Villarejo:

    a) The extreme long shot (ELS), in which one can barely distinguish the human figure.

    b) The long shot (LS), in which humans are distinguishable but remain dwarfed by the background.

    c) The medium long shot (MLS), in which the human is framed from the knees up.

    d) The medium shot (MS), in which we move in slightly to frame the human from the waist up.

    e) The medium close-up (MCU), in which we are slightly closer and see the human from the chest up.

f) The close-up (CU), in which isolates a portion of a human (the face, most prominently).

g) And the extreme close-up, in which we see a mere portion of the face (an eye, the lips).

1.7. Method of Research

1.7.1. Type of Research

This research uses the qualitative method. Qualitative method research conducts two types of methods: interview and observation (Hancock, 1998:2). It is a research that uses an observation of method by collecting data and visiting a library to get the references. The researcher finds the data from the movie, adds the data from the related reference such as books, articles, journals, and related websites.

Furthermore, it applies Hero's Journey by John Campbell theory to analyze more deeply the character of Moana who present Hero's, Journey. Besides Hero's Journey by John Campbell theory as the main theory, this study also applies the movie theory by Amy Villarejo as the supporting theory.

1.7.2. Data Sources

The main data source and the supporting data sourced are used to get the whole data are need of the research. The main data source is *Moana (2016)* movie

elements. They are the Hero's Journey of Moana, the visual appearance of the Hero's Journey and movie script. The supporting data also used from the articles, books, and about the theory which relates to the movie.

1.7.3. Data collecting Technique

In collecting the data of analysis, the researcher uses the documentation method. Furthermore, the researcher uses observation by conducting some steps. Firstly, the researcher watches the movie repeatedly to get an understanding of the hero's journey of Moana. Second, the researcher filters the events that do constitute the hero's journey. Finally, the researcher makes the stage of theory, indicator, event and argument to collect the data.

1.7.4. Data analysis technique

After the researcher gets and collects the data, the next step is to analyze the data that are collected. The first, the researcher explains how the events relate to others based on cause and effect in the ways of the hero's journey. Then,this research also applies the theory of movie to identify all the facts in the movie.

1.8. Paper Organization

This paper is divided into four chapters. The first chapter consists of background of study, research question, objective of study, significance of study, literary review, theoretical approach, method of research, and paper organization.

The second chapter consists of intrinsic elements of the film: *Moana (2016)*. Chapter three is the analysis of how Hero's Journey theory by Joseph Campbell fits Moana's Journey in the movie. The last chapter is conclusion.
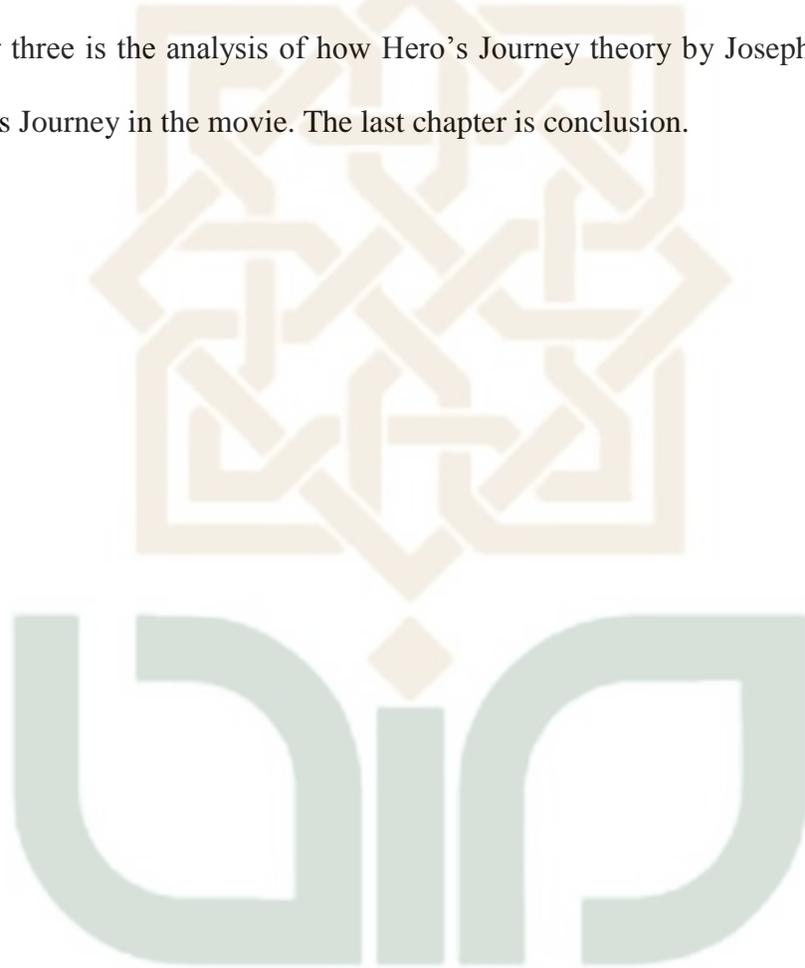
CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

4.1. Conclusion

After finishing the analysis of *Moana* (2016) movie in chapter III, the researcher concludes that basically, Moana follows the pattern of Hero's Journey by Joseph Campbell. Moana undergoes the stages until the stages of Initiation. Some of the last stages of Return cannot be found. The apotheosis stages become climax of the story when Moana restore Te Fiti's heart. The ultimate boon is the end of the story after Moana succeeds to restore the heart of Te Fiti. Therefore, Te Fiti can restore the world in the ocean as before with her power. Finally, she can restore it and back to her village and reunite with the family and her people.

After talking about the hero's journey in this research, the researcher completely knows that hero's journey is a journey of every human in the world. Because people have a purpose in their life. They will be heroes for themselves when they can achieve their goals or purposes in life.

In addition, the researcher also concludes that heroes are people did something in their life for the good of themselves or people or help each other.

According to Islam. heroism was written by Allah SWT in The Holy Qur'an in al Anfal verse 72. It contains about helping each other by Allah in the Holy Al Qur`an.

إِنَّ ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا۟ وَهَاجَرُوا۟ وَجَٰهَدُوا۟ بِأَمْوَٰلِهِمْ وَأَنفُسِهِمْ فِى سَبِيلِ ٱللَّهِ وَٱلَّذِينَ ءَاوَوا۟ وَّنَصَرُوٓا۟ أُو۟لَٰٓئِكَ بَعْضُهُمْ أَوْلِيَآءُ بَعْضٍ ۚ وَٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا۟ وَلَمْ يُهَاجِرُوا۟ مَا لَكُم مِّن وَلَٰيَتِهِم مِّن شَىْءٍ حَتَّىٰ يُهَاجِرُوا۟ ۚ وَإِنِ ٱسْتَنصَرُوكُمْ فِى ٱلدِّينِ فَعَلَيْكُمُ ٱلنَّصْرُ إِلَّا عَلَىٰ قَوْمٍ بَيْنَكُمْ وَبَيْنَهُم مِّيثَٰقٌ ۗ وَٱللَّهُ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ بَصِيرٌ ﴿٧٢﴾

" Indeed, those who have believed and emigrated and fought with their wealth and lives in the cause of Allah and those who gave shelter and aided - they are allies of one another. But those who believed and did not emigrate - for you there is no guardianship of them until they emigrate. And if they seek the help of you for the religion, then you must help, except against a people between yourselves and who is a treaty. And Allah is Seeing of what you do." (Al-Anfal: 72)

In Islam, the theme of heroism also can be found in the Qur'an. It tells when someone has struggled. certainly, there is a way for her, And every human must help each other. The journey of someone can be seen when people care about their surroundings and they can be heroes.

4.2. Suggestion

This research is analyzing the journey of the main character in Moana (2016) movie as one of animation movie using the stage must be passed by a heroine. the theory used is Hero's Journey by Joseph Campbell. The researcher suggests for the future writer to analyze the same movie by using different theory or the different focus. The future researchers, for example, can analysis the individuation process of the main character by using Carl Gustav Jung theory. Also, they can make this research as the comparative study for the similar research. The researcher believes that other people have presumption when they watch the movie.

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