

Fantastic Fusion of Fables and Fairy Tales in the Works of Paulo Coelho

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ABSTRACT

By using individual psychology approach, this research paper intends to demonstrate the visible embodiment of Paulo Coelho's novel that has been analyzed. I intend to use the structural elements of the novel as a basis for analyzing the novel, followed by comparing the novel with the individual psychology methodology created by Alfred Adler. Qualitative research is the methodology that is used in this research. There are two types of data used in this research, primary data and secondary data. In this research, the primary data source is The Alchemist novel, and the secondary data source is the biography of the author, and websites which provide additional information about the author's individual psychology approach to consider. We analyzed the data in a descriptive manner, using descriptive statistics. Upon analysis of the data, the following conclusions were made. The psychological phenomenon in Paulo Coelho's book relates to the fact that an individual experiences a spiritual journey in accordance with an individual psychology approach analysis. Study results show that the story of Paulo Coelho illustrates psychological phenomena that individuals encounter during the travel to find treasures when they are seeking treasures. The hunt for treasure leads him to something more valuable than the treasure itself which is something that has a high spiritual level.

Keywords- Fantastic fusion of fables, Paulo Coelho, Fairy tales, Fables.

I. INTRODUCTION

In 1988, Paulo Coelho published the first edition of his acclaimed novel The Alchemist in the Portuguese with the title O Alquimista. It is believed that Alan R. Clarke has translated this novel into English into 1993, and it appears to have been published by Harper Collins Publishers. According to the latest data available, the novel has been translated into 56 languages. Essentially, the novel is an allegorical narrative. 192 pages are contained within the novel. A shepherd boy from Andalusia named Santiago is the protagonist of the novel, who is the narrator's young protagonist. The story of Santiago in this novel generally revolves around the travels he makes from Andalusia to Egypt in search of treasure, and then he returns to Andalusia.

In order to be able to analyze a novel, the researcher had three reasons for wanting to do so. His interest in philosophical stories, adventures, and spirituality is sparked by a variety of reasons. One of the

things that truly makes this book a fascinating read is the fact that it accounts for the journey of a shepherd boy capable of attaining a dream that for most of us, seems impossible. Last but not least, these novel transports the reader back in time to a time when the Andalusian era was still in force. Knowing the history of the period that this novel takes place in is very interesting. The main character in the novel The Alchemist is on a spiritual journey, which constitutes the problem statement.

The researcher will analyze the novel by using individual psychological approach to analyze the novel's structural elements as well as the spiritual journey, which the main character underwent in this novel. Objectives The objectives as stated in the title of this research can be divided into two parts. Firstly, I would like to describe how I analyzed Peter Coelho's 1993 novel The Alchemist based on the structural elements that are associated with the novel. In our second article, we will apply individual psychology techniques to analyze The Alchemist (1993) by Paulo Coelho as part of the study of Spiritual Journey.

In this study, the researchers did not examine this novel phenomenon for the very first time, and this is not the first time the researcher has done so. Some of these people have already reviewed this novel. Below is a list of some of these people. First, a study by Oktavida Wijayanti, who investigated the impact of setting in *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho on Santiago's identity and characteristics as reflected in the story. In 2008, she published her results of that study. The purpose of her study was to analyse the intrinsic elements of this novel has a main character, namely Santiago. In our second study, a student at the University of Indonesia named Nuri Aprillia Ramadhona conducted a study.

Studying the persuasion strategies and identities of Santiago's character in *The Alchemist* novel are analysed through the critical discourse analysis method based upon the first steps of critical discourse analysis. It was determined that her research would focus on three areas - a study of the persuasive techniques and power dynamics between the characters in the narrative, as well as Santiago's role in the convincing discourse.

According to the comparison that was made between the current study and previous studies, the current study has been oriented more towards the spiritual journey that is depicted in the novel *The Alchemist* than previous studies. Compared to the previous research carried out on this topic, this is a completely different angle of research.

A psychological approach has been used by the researcher to conduct the analysis. In order to be able to analyze and develop an understanding of the issue of spiritual journey, individual psychology is the best approach.

As reported by the researcher, this study is written under the title *The Alchemist's (1993) Spiritual Journey: An Individual Psychology Approach* under the title *Spiritual Journey in Paulo Coelho's Novel*. Researcher used some literary reviews in order to analyze this book to assist in the evaluation process. As part of the analysis of this novel's structural elements, the researcher employed Koesnosobroto's (1998) and Kennedy's (1963) literary reviews.

To conduct a psychological analysis of an individual, the following articles will be used: Hjelle and Zigler (1992), Cloninger (2009), and Hall and Lindzey (1981). Since the researcher is not able to analyze the psychology of the author, to analyze the psychology of the literature, he/she chooses to use the literary analysis from analysis of psychology by Wellek and Warren (1962).

II. METHODOLOGY

Because no calculations are necessary, the researcher used qualitative research in this study. The purpose of this study was to analyze the novel *The Alchemist* in accordance with the strategy of individual psychology. It should be noted that the primary source of data for the primary source of data, a study's research

constitutes its primary source of data, and a secondary source is any other relevant information or works that may assist in completing the study. Both of these sources of data are found in library research and through online access.

During this case study, we will use a descriptive qualitative approach for the purpose of analyzing the data. As a result, an analysis of the novel's text and content is provided by the researcher. The *Alchemist* to get the characteristics of individual psychology approach to the analysis of the reading. After that, the analysis is interpreted through the study resulting in the research findings.

III. RESEARCH FINDING

Finalizing fiction

Cloninger (2009, p. 103) defines rather than being objective, fictional finalism is subjective, following Alfred Adler's theory. Fictional finalism provides guidance on the individual's journey. Because a person's primary motivation is to move towards a specific goal, if one doesn't know what the person's unique goal is, one cannot comprehend him or her.

Feeling of Inferiority

Hjelle and Ziegler (1992), according to Adler, have described inferiority feelings and compensating for the fact that "each person has certain organs whose strength may be somewhat inferior to the strength of other organs, so that the person is at an increased risk of developing diseases involving these organs" (Hjelle & Ziegler, 1992).

Dr. Adler wrote in his book that "everyone dies of a disease due to health conditions in their birth area which are less developed, more difficult to operate on, and more likely to lead to poorer survival," (Hjelle & Ziegler, 1994). In this novel Santiago suffers from the feeling of inferiority due to the economic imperfection that he experiences. His father was a poor farmer in Andalusia which is why Santiago is one of the children of his father.

Depiction for Superiority

It is stated by Hjelle & Ziegler (1992: 143) that the pursuit of superiority can be viewed as a "fundamental law of individual existence without which it is impossible to live a successful life.". Adlerian believed in the existence of a nature innate in us and that it is unable to be suppressed by any external influences. As far as he is concerned, happiness derives from material possessions or money. As a result, he aims to become one of the richest people in the world by getting a lot of money.

According to his dream, there are treasures in Egypt which he dreams of finding. According to his dream, he wants to find the treasures in Egypt. His struggle to get his treasures was one of his struggles, which he accomplished by asking the oracle about his dream. This is the kind of story that is told in this book. A king from Salem also helps him to know about his treasures by informing him about his treasures. When the

king tells him how to obtain his treasures, he also gives him valuable advice. It is imperative for him to understand about universal language in order to be superior in his spiritual journey.

A universal language is one in which there is no words used and understood by all creatures. During his journey, he realizes that he is beginning to gain understanding and knowledge about universal language and that is a good thing. There is a little bit of this depicted in this novel. As Santiago got the understanding of Soul of the World, he came to understand that he needs to strive for superiority in other aspects. His success in his spiritual journey is dependent upon his ability to understand the spirit of the world and its purpose.

There is a feeling of forever living beyond the earth that is felt by every being on this earth, and this feeling is known as the soul of the world. As well as the energy of the world, the soul of the world contains the energy of all living creatures as well. The individual who understands the soul of the world is also capable of becoming a part of it. His efforts will become easier once he comprehends the soul of the world.

Social Interest

According to Hjelle and Ziegler (1992: 147), human beings are social beings, citing Adler's concept of human sociality - that if we wish to fully understand ourselves and our place in the social context in which we live, we need to be aware of our external relationship to others and to the larger sociocultural context in which we live.

According to social psychologists, "Development of social interest occurs within a social context". Santos wants to get his hands on the treasures, so he communicates with people who can help him find them. He is always looking for people who are capable of delivering him to Egypt, where the treasures are. This novel depicts Santiago's interest in the social world that he lives in. Santiago decides to join an expedition to Egypt that can help him out. In addition to Santiago, the alchemist provided assistance.

In finding her Personal Legend, Santiago was helped by an alchemist. In finding her personal legend, Santiago was helped by an alchemist. The novel contains a variety of elements that shed light on Santiago's spiritual path, including his meeting with Melchizedek, which is one of the most significant revelations in the novel. It has taught him a great deal about what it means to be the soul of the world. On the caravan, he also converses with a camel driver, who is one of his friends. This camel driver explains to Santiago why we have to accept our destiny.

IV. CONCLUSION

Santiago wishes to live a full and happy life as a human being. According to him, one of the ways that by acquiring treasure, he becomes rich, which is what makes him happy. It has changed gradually over time, however, as he now thinks that happiness isn't only a matter of

acquiring material goods, but also of attaining a state of inner peace. This is why Santiago has actively pursued spirituality. There is a sense of inferiority that he feels because of both his economic and spiritual shortcomings. Despite the fact that he came from a poor family and he wants to be rich, he is an economically imperfect person. While he does not believe in God, he also wants to be close to God despite his spiritual imperfections, even though he doesn't really believe in God.

Santiago's struggle to reach his personal legend reinforces the psychological theory that all individuals have a connected and interconnected psychological nature through Adler's individual psychology and builds a unity from Santiago's personality through his struggle to reach his personal legend. It has been discussed in previous chapters regarding the analysis of Christensen (2003) that, according to Christensen's theory (2003, pp. 802-832), a purpose of travel is to participate in some leisure activity, whether it is physically or mentally related, this is done over an extended period of time or to a particular place. A spiritual journey should also define its purpose as "spiritual enlightenment or understanding", she also states that spiritual journeys bring about "greater faith, a better understanding of a spiritual path, or just greater mental and emotional well-being". In this book, the reader is pointed toward and foreshadowed several goals on the spiritual journey.

There are a variety of spiritual effects a person can experience during meditation, and a few of the more common ones include spiritual insight, spiritual enlightenment or spiritual understanding, and simply a feeling of mental and emotional rejuvenation. Santiago is also interested in better understanding what he wants in order to express himself more effectively. In addition, Santiago wants to get closer to God by taking the course.

It can be argued that the novels written by Paulo Coelho serve as narratives of globalization as well as appealing to an audience that is directly or indirectly impacted by global mobility in various ways. Therefore, it is understandable that these books are transnational in nature. Transnational literature, or international literature, is a new literary genre that has emerged as a result of people and cultures becoming increasingly interconnected during the latter part of the twentieth century. The result of this has been a reduced influence of nation-states on worldviews, as well as a greater emphasis on transnational and transcultural thinking, two criteria which are fundamental to the success of such fictions. There is no foreigner because, no matter how far we travel, we walk the same path, we share similar doubts, fears, selfish tendencies, and inclinations to give. Yet, globalization is not solely responsible for transnational issues.

This is not the case with its opposite, nationalism - an ideology in which individuals are strongly bound to their national identities and whose governmental and cultural sovereignty takes precedence over other considerations - an ideological outlook more often

regarded as belonging to the relatively brief period when nation states ruled. It is important to note that nationalism and transnationalism need not necessarily be mutually exclusive.

In Coelho's novels, the duality between transnationality and nationalism drives the development of characters. This is true of nationalism in all its forms (patriotism, nationalism, fundamentalism, expansionism, etc.). It would appear that transnationalism is today's dominant ideology of globalization, as it is intrinsically linked to cultural convergences. Globalization, Jenkins argues, has evolved into a convergence culture during the modern era in which digital technology has become ubiquitous, multinational media conglomerates have been created and controlled, and consumers are becoming more interested in cultural production through internet interaction. It is not uncommon for people today to associate postmodernism with globalization.

Postmodernism, however, is an infant phenomenon that will not normally be associated with the 21st century like globalization will be. In spite of the disagreement among scholars regarding the origins of postmodernism, I believe that it has a shape which can be understood as "the logic of late capitalism" as declared by Jameson in a seminal work. Therefore, the study of postmodern theory and criticism have much to offer to the study of Paulo Coelho's work.

In the range of postmodernism(s) definitions, there are usually a few points along the spectrum from enthusiastic about its potential for critiquing dominant discourses to unenthusiastic about its potential. It is common to classify cultural artifacts as postmodern in opposition to those characterized as high modernity.⁵

While high modernity is founded largely in the belief that reason can lead to enlightenment, the stable self, an open language, emotional reflection, literary transparency, and the sound composition, postmodern art centers on the disbelief or the demystification of metanarratives, the fluidity of language, and ideological construction, including the building of the self.

After completing a spiritual journey, Santiago enjoys a lot of benefits. To begin with, he becomes a lot more careful and conscientious about how he thinks and acts. In addition, Santiago became a wiser and more knowledgeable person. After doing a spiritual journey, Santiago appears to have achieved a sense of peace of mind. The reason for Santiago's spiritual journey seems to have been a mere coincidence, rather than the cause of the journey itself. As Santiago starts his quest, he simply wants to find a treasure.

Nevertheless, due to some people he has met over the years, this man has traveled a spiritual path without even being aware that he has done so. Santiago's spiritual journey has shaped him into a greater person because of the journey he took. Hence, he is both materially and spiritually successful. His family's economic standing has certainly improved since he has obtained the material he sought instead of the treasure he

sought. It is important to note, however, that happiness is measured by the fact that he has succeeded in having taken part in a spiritual journey. That will certainly make one feel more peaceful. Psychology and literature have a correlation in that literature can change a reader's feelings and personality.

The same can also be said for Coelho's novels, where each novel is accompanied by a postmodern and nostalgic element. As I had pointed out previous, in the author's writing he speaks of and discusses a mobile society and the migrant experience embodies, first and foremost of all, longing for a simpler, idyllic past that may never have existed. The practice of pastiche is an example of the practice of nostalgia as it relates to Fredric Jameson's theory of nostalgia, which was to articulate nostalgia towards the idea of pastiche, where the repetition of what once was familiar in the past re-individuated of subjectivity and originality, would live on to represent an imagined history surrounded with an aura and a sense of distance, as though it were a mirage of glamour. As a consequence, I think the postmodern condition and the migrant experience are intrinsically linked in terms of representation of history. In addition, it has been argued that Coelho's novels can also be explained partially by how they exhibit a particular style of writing that scholars consider to be representative of postmodern literature.

There are many Metafictional elements that can be found in the Post-Modern fiction, along with magical realist ideas, and it can also be richly intertextually rich and nostalgic in addition to having Metafictional elements in it. Throughout this dissertation, Paulo Coelho's novels are evaluated from the perspective of the magical realism and metafiction.

Considering that World Literature is deemed to be "the best of all the literature that's produced," it raises an interesting debate: Who determines the best? In the opposite direction - that so-called World Literature is just a compendium of all literatures, a similar question arises: Who makes the calls as to which literatures are important? As it is unfortunate, it is not possible to remove the issue of aesthetic criteria, which are likely to influence the assessment of literature, when considering world literature as a solution for scoping definitions of and selection criteria for world literature.

It has long been noted that in literary criticism the value-criteria have historically excluded popular literature from consideration. So, in fact, even if we view Coelho's work as part of the world literary context, neutralizing the dependence of that analysis to national frameworks, one could still dismiss his books simply because they're material for popular culture. Popular culture, traditionally ignored by world literature scholarship, is excluded from two very fundamental ways. To begin, popular culture itself has been stigmatized based on its negative association with 'popular culture'. The second issue is whether or not it is appropriate to classify certain literary works as popular culture, a

classification that is often per se ideological or political in nature.

The study concludes that the findings of the previous chapter are in line with the analysis and discussion made in this study. According to structural analysis, it is evident that the author tries to convey the idea that a spiritual journey may influence people's attitudes and decisions in this novel. In this way, Coelho helped to prove the spiritual journey by bringing character and characterization to the story. In this novel the setting is set in Andalusia, Spain, as well as in Egypt.

This novel was found to have pedagogical problems in that there are some people who are not able to accomplish their goals or personal legends. The main reason for this is the doubt about whether they will actually achieve what they desire. On top of that, there is the fact that they are able to do so despite the lack of support from others around them. In the end, due to these things that these people have done, they are easily satisfied with what they have achieved even if those are not the things they wanted in the first place.

As a solution, we should be able to convince ourselves that we will be able to accomplish what we want. We should also get the support of people around us, as well as increase our knowledge. Family, friends, and the people in our community all play a part in this.

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