

**BRAVERY AND RESILIENCE IN PITTACUS LORE'S  
*I AM NUMBER FOUR* NOVEL (2010):  
AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH**

**PUBLICATION ARTICLES**



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MUHAMMADIYAH UNIVERSITY OF SURAKARTA  
2013**



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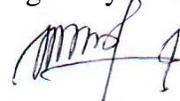
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**BRAVERY AND RESILIENCE IN PITTACUS LORE'S  
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**ABSTRACT**

*The major problem of this study is how bravery and resilience are reflected in Pittacus Lore's I Am Number Four novel. The objective of this study is to analyze the novel based on its structural elements and to analyze the novel based on individual psychological approach as major theory and bravery and resilience as issue. In analyzing I Am Number Four novel, the writer uses qualitative method and individual psychological approach. The data sources consist of primary data and secondary data sources. The primary data source is the novel I Am Number Four itself and the secondary data sources are the other sources related to the analysis such as the author's biography, books of literary theory of the object and issue. The method of the data collection is descriptive analysis. The result of the study shows the following conclusions. First, based on the structural analysis it is clear that in I Am Number Four novel, Pittacus Lore delivers message that bravery and resilience are needed in everyone's life because they are important and can influence someone's life to survive in their environment, because someone who has a strength bravery and resilience can show who really they are and show their existence. Second, based on the individual psychological approach, it shows that bravery and resilience can give effect to people's mind.*

*Keywords: Bravery, resilience, the journey, personality.*

**I. INTRODUCTION**

**The Background of Study:** Life is essentially a coping process. If someone wants to survive and develop, they must continually adapt to

changes in their environment and in themselves. Life so full of choices, whatever choice people make over the beachhead of understanding of the whole life will not be the wrong choice. Bravery is a nature preserve and fight for what is considered the right to confront all forms of danger, hardship, pain, and others. Resilience is people ability to adapt and bounce back when things don't go as planned. However, most people have purpose to live in bravery and resilience.

Bravery is something people all admire. When asked to describe bravery, most people conjure up the image of an individual running into a burning building, or maybe a fictional hero saving the day. Images of bravery are prevalent in people society; from the images of people soldiers overseas to the local hero who saved her neighbor from imminent danger (Aristotle, 1962).

Those studying resilience and resilience related concepts like positive youth development are looking at these constructs as clusters of assets, both individual and environmental (Benson, 2003; Lerner, Brentano, Dowling, & Anderson, 2002). A more individualized understanding of resilience is less informing of practical solutions. Resilience is the capacity of individuals' physical and social ecologies to provide these resources, and resilience is the capacity of individuals, their families and communities to negotiate culturally meaningful ways for resources to be shared.

Pittacus Lore was born in Renton, Washington on July 9, 1980. He lives in New York with his wife, daughter and dog. He is still writing. Most recently he has published *Bright Shiny Morning*, and his new book *The Final Testament of the Holy Bible* will be published on April 12. He was a high school state champion in wrestling, attended Ohio University on an athletic scholarship, and graduated with a business degree in

Management Information Systems (MIS), a major he had little interest in and chosen for no other reason than, at age 20, he hadn't the slightest idea of what he wanted to do. What followed were five aimless years earning minimal pay working shitty jobs, most of which he was fired from. He started writing when he was 24 and, at age 27, left capitalism behind and moved to New York City to attend Columbia University's School of the Arts. He graduated in May 2009 with a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Creative Writing (fiction).

**The Problem Statement** is “How are bravery and resilience reflected in Pittacus Lore’s *I Am Number Four* Novel (2010): an individual psychological approach?”

**The Limitation of the Study** is the writer focuses in analyzing bravery and resilience in Pittacus Lore’s *I Am Number Four* Novel (2010): an individual psychological approach. Concerning with an individual psychological approach.

**The Objective of The Study** is to analyze bravery and resilience in Pittacus Lore’s *I Am number four* novel (2010) individual psychology approach.

**The Literature Review**, *I Am Number Four* Novel (2010) by Pittacus Lore is an interesting novel, and as the researcher knows that there is no such kind of research analyzing this novel whether in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta, UMY, UNY, UNS, UGM or UNDIP. The researcher takes the Individual Psychological Approach. So, the researcher cannot make the comparison with the other researcher because it is the first study in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta.

## **II. Research Method**

The researcher develops this research paper by applying the Individual psychological theory proposed by Alfred Adler. The researcher focuses on analyzing one of characters in Pittacus Lore's *I Am Number Four*. There are some steps in analyzing the novel. Firstly, the research begins from the intrinsic of literature work. Secondly, it makes a study about the theory of Individual psychology, particularly Alfred Adler's theory. Thirdly, it makes a research about the relationship between the Individual psychological theory and the novel itself. It can be done toward the action, the dialogues, and the thought of the character.

In doing this study, the researcher uses two sources of data, namely primary and secondary data. (1) Primary data source is the novel *I Am Number Four* produced by Pittacus Lore. (2) Secondary data sources are books or any information from internet related to the practice of bravery and resilience that supports the individual psychological analysis. The techniques of data collection are read the novel repeatedly, take notes of important parts both primary and secondary data, arrange the data into several groups based on it is theoretical category, select particular parts considered important and relevant for analysis, and draw conclusion and formulate its pedagogical suggestion.

## **III. Research Finding**

In this research finding, the research analysis some points in order to analyze *I Am Number Four* novel.

The John's personality will be analyzed using Individual psychology proposed by Alfred Adler consists of six basic concepts. These are (1) inferiority felling, (2) fictional finalism, (3) striving for superiority, (4) social interest, (5) style of life, (6) creative power.

### 1. Inferiority felling

A feeling of inferiority caused death of Henri. Henri was killed by the Mogadorians in the war. John felt very sorry and sad for not being able to save Henri's live. John realized that he must be alone to danger his enemies, and whatever happened to him, he still faced attacks from the Mogadorians.

"I'm so sorry, Henri, " I whisper in his ear. I close my eyes. "I love you. I wouldn't have missed a second of it, either. Not for anything," I whisper. "I'm going to take you back yet. Somehow I am going to get you back to Lorien. We always joked about it but you were my father, the best father I could have ever asked for. I'll never forget you, not for a minute for as long as I live. I love you, Henri. I always did." I let go of him, pull the blanket back over his face, and lay him gently on the wooden slab" (Lore, 2010:203)

Inferiority feeling is he left the paradise city with Number six. John said goodbye to Mark and Sarah. John apologized because he and Mark were at school, and when John was about to leave Sarah, John was not be able to keep Sarah every time. They hugged each other and Sarah did not stop crying, since abandoned by John.

"I owe you more than I'll ever be able to repay, " I say to Mark. "You don't owe me a thing, "Mark says."Not true, " I say. "Someday. " I look away. I can feel myself wanting to collapse under the sadness of leaving. My resolve is being held by a tattered string ready to snap. I nod. "I'll see you again someday. "Be safe out there." I take Sarah into my arms and squeeze her tightly, never wanting to let go. "I'll come back to you" (Lore, 2010:204)

In conclusion those Inferiority feelings of John character are when Henri is dead in wars. John was regretted because he could not help and save Henri. Now he must fight with number six to endure his life without Henri.

Another inferiority feeling is when he had to leave his friends and his sweat heart. That was the heaviest thing in John's life.

## 2. Fictional Finalism

Fictional finalism of this story refers to the goal of life and spirit to strive against the Mogadorians. John strives to develop his power (Lorien heirloom) that is used to fight against the Mogadorians who always follow him. John is always in escape, he often moves his place to hide from his enemies attack.

"The water around my leg started boiling, and my lower leg started glowing where the scar was imbedding itself. The third of Lorien symbols, the third warning. I dove off the side of the boat and started swimming, underwater the entire time, except for one breath about halfway there, as fast the Lorien symbols, the third warning. as I could until I reached the shore. I ran along the side of the highway, just inside of the tree line, moving at speeds as fast as any of the cars" (Lore, 2010:8)

His journey from Paradise until Florida is John's intention to conceal his original identity. John must renew and change his identity if he moves places. This journey is challenging. He must move from one school to another school until he finds a safe place.

"It doesn't get any more common than that. I would say it's a pleasure to meet you, Mr. Smith." I smile. "Yeah, I think I like 'John Smith.'" I have the urge to cry, but I don't. It's not that I'm necessarily sad to leave Florida, but I'm tired of running. I'm tired of dreaming up a new name every six months. Tired of new houses, new schools. I wonder if it'll ever be possible for us to stop" (Lore, 2010:14)

Henri as the main character in this novel has finalism fiction in accompanying and protecting John. Henri's goal is to keep John from his enemies attack and help him to develop his power.

"The door shuts. Henri looks down at my hands. The light in the right one is shining brightly, though the left dimly flickers as though trying to gain confidence in itself. I take a deep breath and exhale. "I understand what is happening, but why this?" "Your first Legacy." "I know that, but why the lights?" "We'll talk about it in the truck. Can you walk?" "I think so." He helps me up. I am unsteady, still shaking. I grab hold of his forearm for support" (Lore, 2010:41)

### 3. Striving for Superiority

In *I Am Number Four* novel, John and Henri always fight for their life. John is always posing to achieve the purpose of his life. Sarah is trapped when a fire happened in Mark's house. John is the only hero who saves Sarah from fire. John has a power of endurance from fire.

“Smoke and fire are burning my lungs. I drop to a knee, coughing, gasping. Then a fury surges through me and I stand back up and I move on, hunched over, gritting my teeth, determined. And then I find them in the last room on the left. Sarah is screaming, "HELP!" The dogs are whining and crying. The door is closed and I kick it open, send it flying off its hinges. All three of them are huddled as tightly against one another as far into the corner as they can get. Sarah sees me and yells my name and starts to stand. I motion to her to stay where she is, and as I step into the room, a huge flaming support beam falls between us (Lore, 2010:136)

In the war against John Mogadorians, many times he fought bravely. John also uses inheritance to fight his enemies. John was very smart in war.

### 4. Social Interest

In a social relations John did not distinguish his friend. He made friends with anyone. John's relationship with his teacher was also very good, he is an obedient students.

“I walk towards the building. As is the case with most high schools, there are crowds of kids hanging around outside. They're divided into their cliques, the jocks and the cheerleaders, the band kids carrying instruments, the brains in their glasses with their textbooks and Black Berries, the stoners off to one side, oblivious to everyone else. One kid, gangly with thick glasses, stands alone. He's wearing a black NASA T-shirt and jeans, and can't weigh more than a hundred pounds” (Lore, 2010:25)

In a social relations John is also very strong, he pays attention and responsible to Henri.

“My eyes stay closed but I can tell the sun has just risen by the long shadows and the crispness of air in the room. Pain returns, my limbs still heavy. With the pain comes another pain, a pain far greater than any physical ailment I could ever be afflicted with: the memory of the hours before. I take a deep breath and exhale. A single tear rolls down the side of my face. I keep my eyes closed. An irrational hope that if I

don't find the day then the day won't find me, that the things in the night will be nullified. My body shudders, a silent cry turning into a hard one. I shake my head and let it in. I know that Henri is dead and that all the hope in the world won't change it. I feel movement beside me. I tense myself, try to remain motionless so as not to be detected. A hand reaches up and touches the side of my face" (Lore, 2010:204)

"Sam lights an edge of the blanket and Six makes the fire rage from there. We watch it burn, not a dry eye among us. Even Mark cries. Nobody says a word. When the flames end I gather the ashes in a coffee can that Mark was astute enough to bring from the hotel. I'll get something better the second we stop. When we walk back I put the can on the dashboard of Sam's dad's truck. I feel comforted to know that Henri will still travel with us, that he'll look out over the roads while we leave another town as the two of us have done so many times before" (Lore, 2010:205)

## 5. Style of life

The individual's style of life is largely determined by the specific inferiorities, either fancied or real, that person has. The style of life is a compensation for a particular inferiority (Adler in Hall and Lindzey, 1981: 126). John reflects the personality of person who likes learning a new thing. When he gets power he could not wait to beat the Mogadorians.

"Well, what am I going to do with light? When I'm getting chased am I going to turn and flash it in their eyes? Like that's supposed to make them cower from me or something?" "Patience," he says. "You aren't supposed to understand it yet. Let's just get home." And then I remember something that nearly makes me jump out of my seat. "Does this mean we'll finally open the Chest?" He nods and smiles. "Very soon." "Hell, yes!" I say. The intricately carved wooden Chest has haunted me my entire life. It's a brittle looking box with the Loric symbol on its side that Henri has remained completely secretive about" (Lore, 2010:201)

John is the kind of person who likes to work hard, he is brave to face all dangers that threaten his life. John has objective to keep him and his friend successfully defeated the Mogadorians.

"I try to lift it with telekinesis but nothing happens. In this alternate world my powers are dimmed, almost ineffectual. The Mogadorian has the advantage here. It smiles at my futility and raises the sword with both hands. The sword comes alive, turning from shimmering silver into ice blue. Blue flames lick across the blade" (Lore, 2010:27)

## 6. Creative Power

John has the attempt to achieve their goals. Firstly, they always devolve to avoid the Mogadorians. They devolve by using new names and identities for 6 months. That is done in order to hide their original identities. The first place that they live in is in Florida and Ohio, paradise. Henri creates a new identity for John there.

“What do you think of the name ‘John Smith?’” I ask. “Is that what you’ve settled on?” “I think so,” I say. I’ve never been a John before, or a Smith. “It doesn’t get any more common than that. I would say it’s a pleasure to meet you, Mr. Smith.” I smile. “Yeah, I think I like ‘John Smith.’” “I’ll create your forms when we stop.” (Lore, 2010:14)

“Once a week he scours the internet for six, seven, eight hours at a time to update a list of available homes around the country that fit his criteria: isolated, rural, immediate availability. He told me it took four tries—one call to South Dakota, one to New Mexico, one to Arkansas—until he had the rental where we’re going to live now” (Lore, 2010:18)

“Henri isn’t my father, but I always say he is to allay suspicion. In truth he is my Keeper, or what would be better understood on Earth as my guardian” (Lore, 2010:29)

John is good in hiding his power of his friends. By Henri’s help, John covers Ray that is on his hand by using gloves.

“When we’re out of the lot I remove the gloves and take a closer look at my hands. The light in my right hand is beginning to concentrate itself into a beam like a flashlight, only brighter. The burning is beginning to lessen. My left hand still flickers dimly. “You should keep those on until we’re home,” Henri says. I put the gloves back on and look over at him. He is smiling proudly” (Lore, 2010:43)

The creative power is possessed by John when he follows the sport run in school. All the students have to run fast at a distance of 1.5 kilometres. For John it is very easy to do. Even, he can be the winner. But, John does not want his friends know about his power. So, John stops running. He walks and he says that he also has asthma.

## A. Bravery and Resilience Analysis

When Henri does not immediately return to Athens, John is intended to catch up him. He is very concerned about Henri's condition. He does not care with all the risks that will happen to him. John goes to Athens with his school's friend, Sam.

"And... Away... We... Go, " he says, taking his foot off the brake when he says the last word. The truck goes bouncing down the driveway. He hits the brakes once and we skid to a stop. Then he starts again and inches down the drive more slowly this time until he stops at the end of it, looks both ways, and then turns out onto the road. Again, slow at first, then gaining speed. I'm hoping we'll be able to scope the place out and go from there. I have no idea if it's a house or an office building or what. I don't even know if he is there" (Lore, 2010:117)

Resilience of John is he followed the Mogadorians, he tried to rescue him from his enemies. When John besieged the Mogadorians, number six suddenly came to help John. When the fight happens John has no more power to deal with it. His body was limp and his eyes blurred but John remained to be calm.

"Sarah screams. Something sweeps by us but I don't see what it is and I don't care to find out. I pull Sarah by the hand and sprint down the hall. I shoulder the door and rush out into the parking lot. Sarah gasps and both of us stop dead in our tracks. My breath catches in my throat and chills shoot up my spine. The lights are still on but dimmed and looking ghastly in the heavy dark. Beneath the nearest light we both see it, trench coat swaying in the breeze, hat pulled low so that I can't see its eyes. It lifts his head and grins at me" (Lore, 2010:143)

"I watch as it takes its first step towards me. There is another one behind it. The Mogadorians. All these years and they are finally here. I try to focus but my hands are shaking too badly to open the door. I feel them bearing down, closing in. Sarah presses close to me and I can feel her trembling" (Lore, 2010:144)

The Mogadorians strikes. John still tries to oppose with all of his power, John tries to kill the Mogadorians. But fate decides Henri died in that war. However, their strive is very incredible.

illed “The Mogadorians follow behind us. Perhaps they are curious to see the beast in action, to see the beast kill. Each step I take becomes more of an effort than the one that preceded it. My heart thuds in my chest. Death is forthcoming and of that I am terrified. But Henri is here. And so is Bernie Kosar. I'm happy not to have to face it alone. Several soldiers stand on the other side of the beast. Even if we could get past the beast, we would then have to walk straight into the soldiers, who stand with drawn swords. We have no choice” (Lore, 2010:159)

#### **IV. Conclusion**

After analyzing the primary data and secondary data in the previous of study, the researcher comes to the conclusion of the research. This conclusion gives an answer to the problem statement of the study stated in the introduction. It deals with “how the bravery and resilience is reflected in Pittacus Lore’s *I Am Number Four* Novel (2010).”

Based on bravery and resilience, the conclusion is John wants to save himself and his friends who are still alive and still in pursuit. In bravery to defend his life is something quite extraordinary. His resilience against his enemies was amazing, until finally John wins to continue the next life.

The novel mentions the point that the only way to learn is through action. The theory just basic framework to resolve problems but the best way on finding own people solution is through actions. This novel teaches people dare to face life and not fears to failure.

This novel can be used for literary studies in the University especially literary subject. This novel can be used as material to study and to teach about literary theory because this novel gives knowledge about literary and it can be used as literary review.

The writer suggests that *I Am Number Four* values can be used in X grade 1 st semester, appropriate with the basic competence that said” understand basic phrases in social interaction for the benefit of life”.

Therefore, the analysis is relevant to the learning objectives, can be used for basic materials.

After analyzing Pittacus Lore's *I Am Number Four* novel, the writer suggests learning literary work gives new perspectives in fiction novel. The writer analyzes it by using Individual psychological analysis because the story consists of major principles of how mindset to achieve purposes of life. This novel has a very interesting premise. His maturing through the novel, discovering his powers and finding his own identity, was a nice journey. The writer realizes that this study is far from being perfect because of her limited knowledge.

This research paper hopefully can contribute to English teaching process. It can be used to understand literary works mainly fiction from individual psychological. It can also be used to enrich student vocabulary by using the novel as reading material.

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