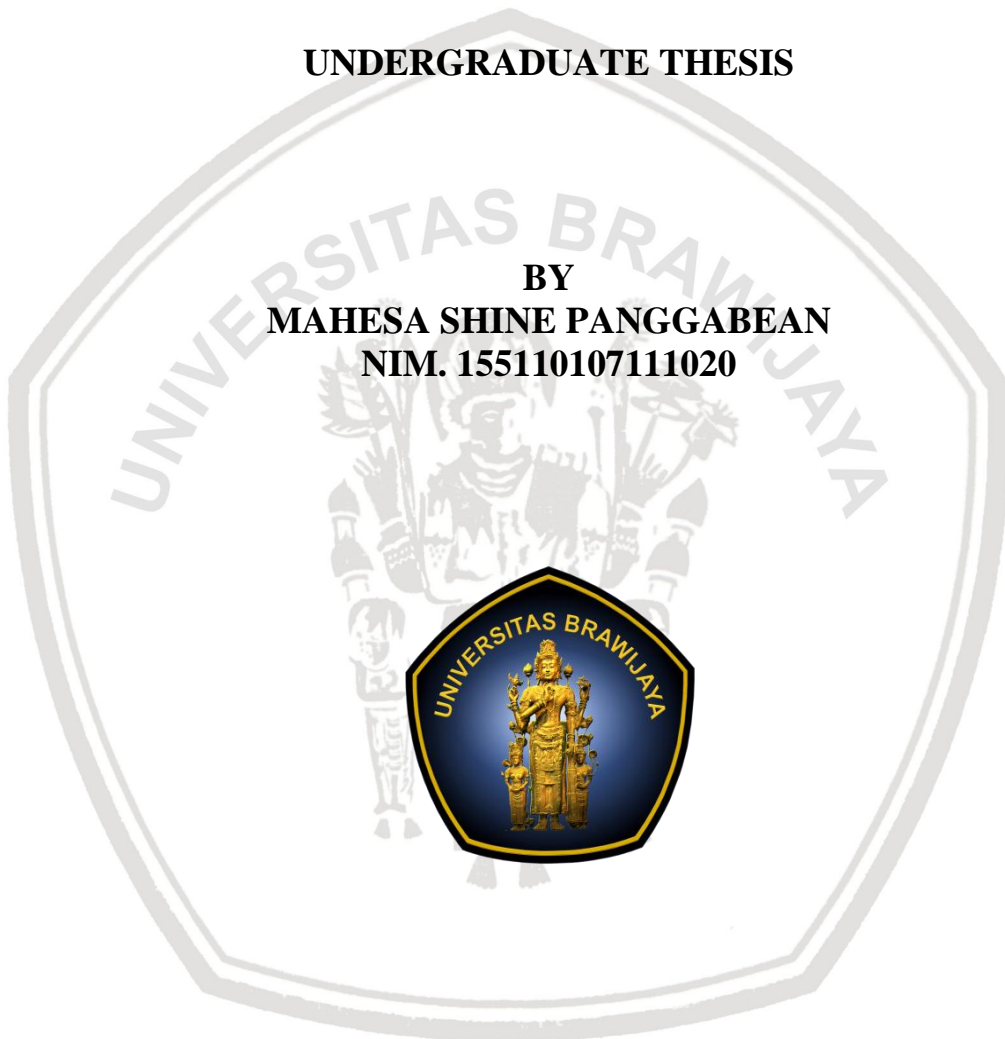


**MIMICRY AS FORM OF ADAPTATION  
IN AN ALIENATED ENVIRONMENT AS SEEN FROM  
THE BAILEY'S TWIN DEPICTED IN *THE LAND OF  
STORIES: THE WISHING SPELL* BY CHRIS COLFER**

**UNDERGRADUATE THESIS**

**BY  
MAHESA SHINE PANGGABEAN  
NIM. 155110107111020**



**STUDY PROGRAM OF ENGLISH  
DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE  
FACULTY OF CULTURAL STUDIES  
UNIVERSITAS BRAWIJAYA  
2018**

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**Presented to**

**Universitas Brawijaya**

**In partial fulfillment of the Requirements**

**For the degree of *Sarjana Sastra***

**BY:**

**MAHESA SHINE PANGGABEAN  
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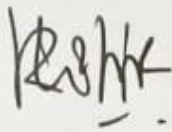


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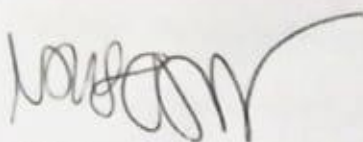
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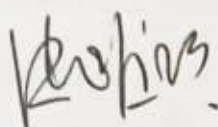
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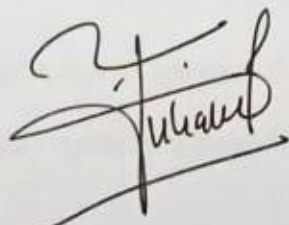


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Malang, December 26<sup>th</sup> 2018

The Researcher

## ABSTRACT

Panggabean, Mahesa Shine. 2018. **Mimicry As Form of Adaptation In An Alienated Environment As Seen From the Bailey's Twin Depicted in *The Land Of Stories: The Wishing Spell* by Chris Colfer.** Study Program of English, Department of Language and Literature, Faculty of Cultural Studies, Universitas Brawijaya. Supervisor: Rizki Nufiarni, S.S, M.A

*Keywords: Adaptation, Mimicry, Massive Change, The Land Of Stories: The Wishing Spell, Bailey's Twin,*

Adaptation is a modification done by a certain individualism (including us as humans) to adjust to the given condition or a state of environment that is different or foreign to our perception. One of the reason human conducts this adaptation is because of the massive change or a sudden change that occurs and disturbs our feelings. One of the forms of adaptation in overcoming the massive change is *Mimicry*.

Mimicry acts as a tool for the user to be able to act like the given surroundings, this gave the definition of blending in with the given environment (Bhabha: 1949). Mimicry tries to cover ourselves in order to fit in with the situation that is foreign to us, when we are experiencing a new environment that we know nothing about, it is normal to feel left out, and Mimicry tries to cover it by acting as a form of adaptation. This phenomenon of Mimicry can be found in a children's fantasy Novel *The Land Of Stories: The Wishing Spell* By Chris Colfer.

Mimicry helps the Bailey's twin Alex and Conner to adapt in the new world that they live in, it helps them to endure the environment and finally achieving their goals to return back home, they were mainly using mimicry as an act to get through their challenges e.g. sneaking into a Palace in a Kingdom, one of the common thing is imitating the clothing of the local citizen and changing the way they act. The time when the twin could walk easily in the Land Of Stories marks the succeeded of their way of adapting to the new situation and condition. In the end, Mimicry was what helped them to return to their own world.



## ABSTRAK

Panggabean, Mahesa Shine. 2018. **Mimicry As Form Of Adaptation In An Alienated Environment As Seen From the Bailey's Twins Depicted in *The Land of Stories: The Wishing Spell* By Chris Colfer.** Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Jurusan Bahasa dan Sastra, Fakultas Ilmu Budaya, Universitas Brawijaya. Pembimbing: Rizki Nufiarni, S.S, M.A

*Kata Kunci: Adaptasi, Mimikri, Perubahan Besar, The Land Of Stories: The Wishing Spell, Kembar Bailey.*

Adaptasi adalah bentuk modifikasi yang dilakukan oleh organisme tertentu (termasuk manusia) untuk menyesuaikan diri dengan keadaan atau kondisi yang berbeda atau asing dari persepsi kita. Salah satu alasan manusia melakukan adaptasi adalah karena perubahan besar atau perubahan yang terjadi secara tiba-tiba yang mengganggu perasaan kita. Salah satu bentuk dari adaptasi dalam menanggulangi perubahan besar tersebut adalah dengan melakukan *Mimikri*.

Mimikri bertindak sebagai alat bagi siapapun yang memakainya untuk berperilaku seperti keadaan sekitarnya, hal ini memberikan definisi berbau dengan situasi dan lingkungan yang ada (Bhabha:1949). Mimikri mencoba untuk kita menutupi diri kita agar dapat menyesuaikan diri dengan situasi yang asing, dan ketika kita mengalami situasi dimana kita tidak mengenali lingkungan kita, sangatlah normal untuk merasa kebingungan, disinilah mimikri berusaha untuk menutupi hal tersebut dengan bertindak sebagai bentuk adaptasi. Fenomena ini dapat ditemukan dalam novel bergenre fantasi anak-anak berjudul *The Land Of Stories: The Wishing Spell* By Chris Colfer.

Mimikri membantu kembar Bailey yaitu Alex dan Conner untuk beradaptasi di dunia baru tempat mereka tinggal, dan juga membantu bertahan di lingkungan mereka yang baru dan akhirnya dapat kembali ke dunia asal mereka yang merupakan tujuan akhir mereka, mereka melakukan mimikri pada dasarnya untuk menghadapi tantangan di hadapan mereka contohnya adalah menyelinap kedalam istana di sebuah kerajaan, salah satu cara biasa dilakukan adalah meniru cara berpakaian warga sekitar. Pada saat mereka dapat menyusuri Land of Stories tanpa sedikitpun rasa khawatir merupakan bukti kesuksesan mereka beradaptasi dengan situasi dan kondisi lingkungan yang baru. Pada akhirnya, dengan mimikri yang mereka lakukan, mereka dapat kembali ke dunia asal mereka.

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>TITLE PAGE .....</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>DECLARATION OF AUTHORSHIP .....</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>SUPERVISOR'S APROVAL.....</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>BOARD OF EXAMINERS CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL.....</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>ABSTRACT .....</b>	<b>vii</b>
<b>ABSTRAK.....</b>	<b>viii</b>
<b>TABLE OF CONTENT .....</b>	<b>ix</b>
<b>LIST OF FIGURES .....</b>	<b>xi</b>
<b>LIST OF APPENDICES .....</b>	<b>xii</b>
<b>BAB I INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Background of the Study.....	1
1.2 Problems of the Study .....	5
1.3 Objectives of the Study .....	5
<b>BAB II REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND RESEARCH METHOD .....</b>	<b>6</b>
2.1 <i>Mimicry</i> .....	6
2.1.1 Intrinsic Approach.....	9
2.1.1.1 Setting .....	10
2.1.1.2 Character and Characterization .....	11
2.2 Previous Studies .....	12
2.3 Research Method.....	13
2.3.1 Deciding the Object of the Study .....	13
2.3.2 Collecting the Data.....	13
2.3.3 Processing and Interpreting the Data .....	14
2.3.4 Draw a Conclusion.....	15
<b>BAB III FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS.....</b>	<b>16</b>
3.1 Characteristics of the Twins.....	16
3.2 The World Where the Twins Lived .....	22
3.3 The World Inside the Land of Stories .....	31
<b>BAB IV CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS .....</b>	<b>48</b>
4.1 Conclusions.....	48
4.2 Suggestions.....	51
<b>REFERENCES.....</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>APPENDICES.....</b>	<b>53</b>



### LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	Page
3.1 Goldilocks' Wanted Poster .....	33



## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the writer will explain about the background of the study about the research; including the object that is used to conduct the research, the problem(s) of the study, and the objective of the study.

#### 1.1 Background of the Study

Human's ability to adapt is a trait that is glued to us, we as a human need to feel comfortable with our surroundings, either with the society or the environment itself. It is common in some points of our life, we are experiencing something different is happening due to the dissimilar surroundings. When we start to feel this uneasy feeling, it is natural for us to get use to the environment, or as we all say is to adapt to the given situation. Humans have the capability to detect the change that is happening in their life and immediately take advantage of the situation, which is one way of surviving that humans are capable of.

Adaptation is a modification that is done by a certain organism in order to fit in to its environment this is seen as one of the method for humans to fit in with their existence. Adaptation may occur in various forms. One of it is 'Behavioral Adaptation', which is the form that sees how certain organism act due to the environmental changes and how they thrive to survive in this condition. (Rutledge, Kim. et. al.:2011)



Adaptation does not only apply to environmental changes. One of the most common terms of adaptation is *Social Adaptation* where individuals will attempt to adjust with the prevailing system of norms and values in a given society (Schmidt, 2010). Both Social and Behavior adaptation share a similar objective; to survive with the state of condition that is foreign to the individuals or organism, and with adaptation itself occurs when a change is starting within the individuals, either it is a massive change or even a slight change. In a Post-Colonialist writing, one of the biggest issues that are being faced is how individuals are able to construct a new or a better identity to be able to adapt and also face massive changes. Post-Colonialism speaks about the reaction of adaptation shown after the act of Colonialism.

In Post-Colonial, Mimicry itself is seen as one way of adapting in experiencing the massive changes that is happening to certain individuals. This is because Mimicry is a way for a colonized individual to imitate the colonizer in an attempt and strive for a better life (Bhabha. 1949). Mimicry is common among the Post-Colonial writing, but Mimicry is more than just about that certain topic and we can see that form of imitation in other kinds of writings. One thing about Mimicry that it can be seen as a form of adaptation, the example of this type of writing is in the Novel written by Chris Colfer *The Land Of Stories: The Wishing Spell*.

According to *Biography.com*, Christopher (Chris) Paul Colfer was born on May 27, 1990, and is a young and green writer from the United States of America. He formally started publishing his works in 2012 with his first novel and later

adapted into movie *Struck by Lightning*, and later he published another book in the same year called *The Land of Stories*, until today this book already released its sequel and on its 6th book. Besides from writing, Chris Colfer is also known for his role as "Kurt" in the 2009-2015 TV Series *Glee*. He was already excels in drama and at public speaking when he was still in school, from this he developed his love towards acting and decided to follow his dream as an actor, which he got in the TV series and later in his Novel adapted Movie *Struck by Lightning*, whereas he become the producer and also the main character. As an actor he already gained his recognition by winning the Golden Globe Award for best supporting actor in 2011.

Regardless having a successful carrier in acting, he loves to write and therefore pursuing his love by writing his first novel *Struck by Lightning*. And in the same year, he released his New York Times Best Seller *The Land of Stories* first series. As a writer, Chris Colfer is going into the right track as per this moment, many works was published by him in this career. This is shown by how his book was made sequels up to his last 6th book. And later he made official merchandises from the series.

The novel *The Land of Stories: The Wishing Spell* was the first series that was published in 2012, following his novel debut. It is a novel about a twin sibling, a brother and a sister named Alex and Conner Bailey who live a very happy life throughout their childhood. But something happened when they were little, their mother announced that their father was having an accident and there is a possibility that he is dead. After that announcement, their Grandmother decided

to be there for them replacing their father even though not for full time. And she was always there ever since. With their Grandmother, the twins was introduced even more to the land and stories of Fairytale whereas their Grandmother told them the story after Sleeping Beauty is awoken, and after Cinderella married the Prince Charming, and many more. The twins are fascinated by the story and hold on to that and faithfully believe everything their Grandmother told them. When they turned seven years old they discover something, a portal to the world of Fairytale and accidently get thrown into that world. Experiencing a very different world than theirs, the twin struggles to survive to the new environment. They need to adapt to the new situation and find the portal back to the real world to meet with their love ones. Their adventure begins and finally they need to find a magic wishing spell that could grant any wishes in order for them to return to the real world. But in the journey to find the wishing spell, they encounter the Evil Queen that was after the wishing spell also. After they found the wishing spell, the Evil Queen turns out had used the last spell and after that the twin was faced into a breaking point because they were confused on how they could return to the real world. The twins later learned the truth about the Evil Queen and the sad truth about her magic mirror. After a couple of moments they were given one of the heartwarming truth about themselves and their Grandmother was actually the Fairy God Mother that helped Cinderella, and their Grandmother told them the truth and granted them their wish to return to the real world.

As we all see from the brief summary about this novel that the Bailey's twin was thrown into another dimension of fairytale world. They were faced with

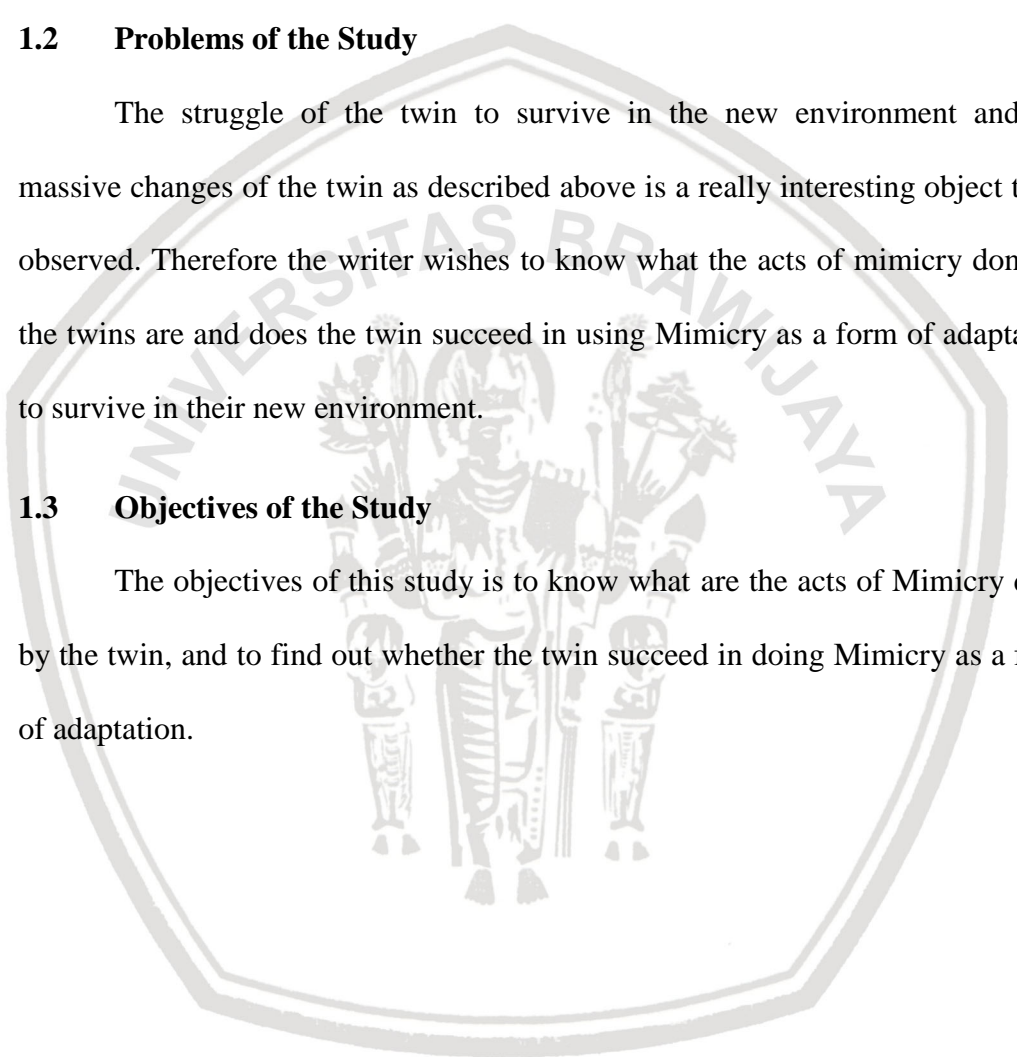
a massive change in their life whereas they came from a modern world like ours, and suddenly they were in the world of Fairytale. This was a great deal especially for 10 years old children. They are forced to imitate the way of life in the new world they are living in, and have to adapt in a social and behavior way.

### **1.2 Problems of the Study**

The struggle of the twin to survive in the new environment and the massive changes of the twin as described above is a really interesting object to be observed. Therefore the writer wishes to know what the acts of mimicry done by the twins are and does the twin succeed in using Mimicry as a form of adaptation to survive in their new environment.

### **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

The objectives of this study is to know what are the acts of Mimicry done by the twin, and to find out whether the twin succeed in doing Mimicry as a form of adaptation.





## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

### AND RESEARCH METHOD

In this chapter, the writer will discuss about the related literature theory to furthermore analyze the object of the study it will also be discussed about the theoretical framework, after that the writer will mention the previous work that was conducted by other researchers and explain about the method in conducting this research

#### 2.1 *Mimicry*

Mimicry is an act of imitating the colonizer done by the colonized; through imitating the colonizer, the colonized learn a lot of things, which could be the way of living, habit, assumption, intuition, etc. The person who does the act of mimicry is called *Mimic* which is trying to impersonate the colonizer itself.

The theory and idea of Mimicry as proposed by Bhabha (1949), is often seen as trying to make a suggestion that mimicry is something that will be done by someone that needs to be colonized, as stated below:

"Mimicry reveals something in so far as it is distinct from what might be called an itself that is behind. The effect of mimicry is camouflage.... It is not a question of harmonizing with the background, but against a mottled background, of becoming mottled - exactly like the technique of camouflage practised in human warfare."

(Bhabha. *Location of Culture, Of Mimicry and A Man*. 1994:85)

This statement by Bhabha informs us that the result of mimicry itself is a form of mask that will cover the outer layer of an individual. When we are placed in a situation where we decide that it was unfitted for us, we most definitely will try to camouflage in order to fit in to the background which in this context of *post-colonial* theory is the condition of the colonizer itself.

"When colonial discourse encourages the colonized subject to 'mimic' the colonizer, by adopting the colonizer's cultural habits, assumptions, institutions and values, the result is never a simple reproduction of those traits. Rather, the result is a 'blurred copy' of the colonizer that can be quite threatening. This is because mimicry is never very far from mockery..."

(Ashcroft. 1998 : 125-126)

Mimicry is a form of strategy that is adopted by the oppressed party because their existence is what we could define as threaten by the oppressor. It has become a strategy for the oppressed party to visualize power that could be grasped by them to regain their position back. In the original concept, Mimicry is seen as a form of mockery, but we might see it also as a form of fitting in the new environment, giving mask to an individual for them to wear and walk as a common person and be accepted in the society.

When a person is conducting the strategy of mimicry, they would never be one as the target of the action, in this case is the background of the colonizer. In order for mimicry to succeed, there are some requirements that need to be fulfilled. One of them is the indication of oppression from the colonizer party. When a certain individual felt the pressure that was put by the oppressor, the oppressed party will categorized the colonizer as a threat to them therefore will brought the resistance towards the oppressor.

In the novel when the twin first was thrown to the fairytale world they met a talking frog from *Princess And The Frog* immediately they realize that they are in a different zone from where they come from and also they realize that they need to adjust to the given situation. Later in the novel, they are faced with conditions where they need to blend in with their current state. In a biological definition, Mimicry is seen as phenomenon characterized by the superficial resemblance of two or more organism. This resemblance gave the organism an advantage such as; protection from predators to survive. Similar to the theory proposed by Bhabha, mimicry in general is the act of imitation to be save either it's from a threat or from a social oppression that is being held.

In *The Land Of Stories: The Wishing Spell* novel, the twin came to the new environment and place where as it is totally different than the world they lived in. they need to adapt to the current situation and have to adopt the new style of living. They use this kind of act in order to survive in the new world, and also as their strategy to find the way back to their original home. In this context, the writer believes that Mimicry is used by the twin as a camouflage to adapt in the Land of Stories. When the twins were thrown into the new world, the world was giving them an oppression that made the twins had to do the adaptation through mimicry. We can determine that the world were the biggest oppressor for they did not encounter oppression from one individual only, yet different places, with different treatment.

In order to know what are the indication of Mimicry shown by the twin in the novel itself, the writer need to look further deep inside the novel and observing

the novel thoroughly. Many ways can be done when we wanted to use this kind of observation. One of the writer needs to do is doing an analysis to the novel itself so the symptoms of Mimicry can be seen immediately.

### 2.1.1 Intrinsic Approach

Literary analysis (Arrowhead School) is a form of studying, observing, and making an interpretation of any forms of literature, it focuses on how plot/structure, character, setting and many other elements to create the meaning. While analyzing the literary work, it is important to make a full understanding of the theory that will support the research conducted by the writer.

The researcher believes that in every observation towards literary work, there will be an efficient way of interpreting. In the *"The Land of Stories: The Wishing Spell"*, there are many elements that we could use to analyze how the Bailey's twin to survive the sudden environmental and social changes, with that being said, it is considered more efficient to analyze this novel using the intrinsic elements of novel.

Rene Wellek and Austin Warren, in their *Theory of Literature* (1977:139), define intrinsic analysis as "the interpretation and analysis of the works of literature themselves...". In Novel Analysis, intrinsic elements cannot be separated from the way we interpret the novel itself. According to Blum, Jenna (2013) there are five elements of creating fiction prose: *Character, Plot, Setting, Theme, and Style*.

This research will discuss about the action done by the Bailey's twin in overcoming and facing the cultural and environmental difference (two cultures



emerge), so the writer will only focus on several elements of fictional prose, which is the Setting, and Character & Characterization. In observing the act of Mimicry done by the twin, environment plays a great deal about why they indeed do this kind of action, and with that the researcher believes that it is important to observe how the situation and condition will affect the Mimicry and the adaptation towards the twin. After observing the setting, the researcher believes that it is also needed to look into the character development towards the whole process from the beginning until the end.

#### **2.1.1.1 Setting**

Setting is the locale and time of a story. The setting is often a real place, but may be a fictitious city or country within our own world; a different planet; or an alternate universe, which may or may not have similarities with our own universe. Setting can be in a form of physical or sometimes is in a spiritual background against which the action takes place. Where the story takes place is a major part of the setting.

Setting has become an enhancer of the story in fiction work of literature, it helps with developing the story through the support of a plot, yet not only plot, but it also has an immense effect towards the development of a character. It can establish the atmosphere and the mood of the story. With the help of setting, we as a reader could gain the description and the emotion that the characters feel inside the story.

William Henry Hudson in his *An Introduction to the Study of Literature* stated that two kinds of setting as Social Setting and Material Setting.

Social setting is the surroundings or environment where the social activities occur. Where material setting is considered to be the atmosphere where the environment is made by the situation or by the status of the characters.

### 2.1.1.2 Character & Characterization

A character is a participant in the story, and is usually a person, but may be any persona, identity, or entity whose existence originates from a fictional work or performance, while characterization is how the character is being described either it's by the other participant of the story or through a direct explanation by the author.

According to Steven Croft (2002:113) characters are the central feature in any play or novel. Here are some few ways to define the characteristic of a certain character: *How the character thinks and act; What the character looked like; What the character said and how it is being said; The way the character act when something does not go as plan.*

In the novel *"The Land Of Stories: The Wishing Spell"* the twins will be recognized by seeing the way they act towards a given situation since the researcher is trying to analyze the reaction of the twins and how they overcome the trouble by themselves. With the given culture and environmental shock, the writer believe that the Bailey's twin need to get some extra power and also help from the native people, by examining the three aspect of the intrinsic elements of novel.

## 2.2 Previous Studies

Studies regarding the issues of colonizer and colonized party can be found anywhere and the study about the act of mimicry is also had been done for many times. The writer found a couple of them with similar interest to the current research.

Ghasemi, Parvin and friends (2017) from the Faculty of Letter and Humanities, Department of Foreign Language, Shiraz University (Iran), have conducted a similar research regarding mimicry's issue. They wrote a research entitled *A Study of the Third Space, Hybridity, and Colonial Mimicry in Athol Fugard's My Children! My Africa!*. This is a research on a work of Athol Fugard and they are using the same theory of this current study which is the Post-Colonialism's Mimicry theory. They found that both of the Colonized and the Colonizer have a mutual relationship. and the mimicry strategy in employed by the colonized to prevent a total resemblance.

A research by Rachmadi, Irfan (2017) from the Faculty of Cultural Studies, Universitas Brawijaya, also used the same theory of Mimicry. He observed a movie entitled *Django Unchained* which tells us about the African-American that are being "Colonized". Rachmadi tried to observe the act of Mimicry done by Django himself. In his work, *Mimicry Act by African-American Characters in Django Unchained The Movie* he found that mimicry is used by the African-American characters, for they are trying to get a recognition from the White and eventually they loses their original self even though not completely to the white people behavior.

From both the previous study, Mimicry is used to analyze the similarities between the colonizer and the colonized party (Ghasemi, Parvin), and also to analyze the character that is doing the mimicry as part of blending in with the situation (Rachmadi, Irfan). This current study, is trying to develop a more vast use of Mimicry, because the majority of the study is always about the African-American or the situation where the colonization is real but this study tries to show about the different kinds of colonization in which the colonizer is the cultural difference that occurs to the Bailey's twin.

### **2.3 Research Method**

In conducting this research, the writer will take three steps. The first step is deciding the object that is relevant to the problem of the study; the next step is collecting the data followed by analyzing and interpreting the data; and the last step will be drawing the conclusion from the analysis.

#### **2.3.1 Deciding the Object of the Study**

In this research the writer chose Alex Bailey and Conner Bailey, both act as the main character that play huge role in representing the act of survival using Mimicry from the novel *The Land of Stories: The Wishing Spell* by Chris Colfer. The writer would like to analyze the form of adaptation that is shown through the act of Mimicry that is represented by the Bailey's twin.

#### **2.3.2 Collecting the Data**

In this phase of the research, the writer will read the material object several times until the writer fully understand the storyline that is built by the

author of this novel completely. Reading comprehensively is necessary in order to be able to get the complete data about the action done by the Bailey's twin. After some excessive reading, the writer will distinguish the data that indicates the usage of Mimicry in the storyline itself, meaning the writer needs to distinguish between the *Colonized* and the *Colonizer* that is found in the novel. Mimicry must show a sign as part of the strategy to overcome the cultural and environmental difference. The act of mimicry also needs to be observed using the two intrinsic elements of novel which are: Setting and Characterization that the writer believes will show the indication of mimicry itself.

After taking notes about the act of mimicry from the novel, the writer needs to double check the data. This step is necessary in order for the writer not missing every single detail about the particular data. And finally, the writer needs to transfer the data to Ms. Office Word to be analyzed.

### **2.3.3 Processing and Interpreting the Data.**

Subsequently, literary elements are used to classify the data. In this step, the writer will separate the act Mimicry taken from the novel based on its classification of intrinsic elements of novel that are mention in the previous sub-chapter (Setting, Character & Characterization). After dividing the data into each category, the writer will analyze the data and interpret the data based on the theory that is provided.



### 2.3.4 Draw a Conclusion

The findings concluded whether the result answers the problem of the study and fulfill the objective or not. The final step of the research is to make a conclusion out of final findings.



## CHAPTER III

### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter will analyze the object of the study, *The Land of Stories: The Wishing Spell* by Chris Colfer. The researcher exposes actions done by the twins which showed the indication of mimicry that is used as a form of adaptation in the Land of Stories. The analysis starts with the writer providing the differences of environmental conditions between the two worlds (real world, and the Land of Stories world).

#### 3.1 Characteristics of the Twins

In this novel there are two main characters, Alex Bailey, and Conner Bailey. They were twins who lived together with their mother ever since their father was gone from their life.

Even though Alex and Conner are twins, both had their own personalities and pictured as a different individuals. Alex was pictured as a smart girl who always enjoys every lesson that occurs in their school. She was the girl that every teacher would be proud of for she always knew the answer to everything asked by the teacher, which indicates that she was a bookworm.

Alex always eager to please. She was the definition of a bookworm. It didn't matter what time of day it was - before school, during school, after school, before bed - she was always reading. She had a thirst for knowledge and, because of it, Alex was usually the first person to answer Mrs. Peters' questions.

(p. 14)

Alex was one of the brightest students in her school; she is very resourceful about knowledge of all sorts. But despite this advantage, she was not a very social person. Even though she was smart, she was not good at making contact with other students in her school.

She tried her best to impress her classmates with every chance she got, putting extra effort into each book report and class presentation she was assigned. However, this usually annoyed the other students, and Alex was often teased for it.

She constantly heard other girls making fun of her behind her back. She usually spent lunch alone under a tree somewhere with an open library book. Although she would never tell anyone, Alex was so lonely that sometimes it hurt.

*(p. 14-15)*

Based on these statements, we can jump into conclusion that Alex only had little number of friends, or maybe none. These traits were very much different from her twin brother, Conner. He was one of the trouble makers in school and doesn't always pay attention during class; especially Mrs. Peters' class.

A loud snore suddenly came from the back of the classroom. A boy in the back room was slouched over his desk and drooling from the corner of his mouth, a very much asleep.

Alex had a twin brother, and it was moments like these that made her wish she didn't.

Mrs. Peters diverted her attention to him like a paper clip to a magnet.

"Mr. Bailey?" Mrs. Peters asked

He continued to snore.

"Mr. Bailey?" Mrs. Peters asked again, kneeling down closer to him.

He let out another enormous snore. A few of the students wondered how it was possible for such a loud noise to come out of him.

*(p. 16)*

Conner usually dozes off in the middle of Mrs. Peters' class and this of course would get himself into trouble. Unlike his sister, Conner had a lot of friends in their school, but he does have a lot of trouble inside school, for example not stayed awoken during every lesson, and different from Alex being a teacher's pet, Conner often got scolded.

Conner may have had a lot of friends, but unlike his sister, he had trouble in school... mostly trouble staying awake.

*(p. 17)*

"MR. BAILEY!" Mrs. Peters shouted. Conner had dozed off again.

"Sorry, Mrs. Peters!" he bellowed back sitting straight up in his seat like a soldier on guard. If look could kill, Conner would have been dead from the scowl she was sending him.

*(p. 20)*

Aside from the characteristics that was mentioned inside the classroom, both Alex and Conner showed different perspectives and interpretations which indicates that they have their own choice in facing each problem and have their own different approach for instance in choosing and reacting to their subject for their school literary class's assignment that was given to the twins.

"How am I ever going to decide which story to write about? It's too difficult to choose! Alex said, clapping her hands with excitement. "Which one are you going to write your paper on?"

"Um..." Conner said, whipping his head up from looking at the ground. He had mentally rewind the conversation to remember what the question was.

*(p. 25-26)*

"The Boy Who Cried Wolf," he said, choosing the first fairytale that came to mind.

"You can't choose that one," Alex said, shaking her head. "That's the most obvious one! You have to select something more challenging to impress Mrs. Peters. You should pick something with a message hidden deeper inside it, one that isn't so on-the-surface."

(p. 26)

From Conner's answer to Alex's question about the school paper, we could conclude that Conner was a boy that strive for simplicity, he didn't want to bother himself with choosing a difficult topic for his paper, nor he really pays attention to the lecture or his sister. In other words, he was a boy who never cared for anything. On the other hand, Alex did really picture herself as a bookworm who always excited when getting an assignment. She even didn't know what topic should she chose for there were too many options.

Not only in reacting to school project, but when they were faced with reality, both of them had their own reaction to the ongoing problems, especially a problem occurred in the real world, and not in fantasy like they normally discussed in the classroom or when their Grandma and Father would told them about; the stories of fairytale.

Alex suddenly stopped walking. All the color in her face slowly drained away. Something across the street had caught her eye, something very disappointing.

"What's the matter?" Conner asked, turning back to her.

Alex was starring at a large house. It was a lovely home, painted blue with white trim, and had several windows. The front yard was landscaped to perfection; it had just the right amount of grass, patches of colorful flowers, and a large oak tree ideal for climbing

If a house could smile, this house would be grinning from ear to ear.



"Look," Alex said, and pointing to a For Sale sign next to the oak tree. A bright red stripe with the word *Sold* had recently been added to it.

"It sold," Alex said, slowly shaking her head from side to side in disbelief. "It sold," she repeated, not wanting it to be true.

"The little color in Conner's face drained, too. The twins stared at the house for a moment in silence, each no knowing what to say to each other,

"We both knew it would happen *eventually*," Conner said.

"Then why do I feel so surprised?" Alex asked softly. "I guess it had been for sale so long, I figured it was just... you know... *waiting for us*."

(p. 29-30)

The twin saw their old house was sold. Both of them were having same yet different way reacting to the sighting. Alex was being emotional for she never thought this day would come and the first reaction that came to her was shock. She was not willing to let go of the fact that their old house was sold. Different from Alex, Conner's reaction was more realistic to the situation. Yes he was surprised as well like Alex, but he knew that this house would be sold anytime it could since it was for sale, and keep going.

Another thing about the twins that was being mentioned in the novel was about the change of behavior, both Alex and Conner. This was situated after several phenomena occurred to the Land of Stories book their grandmother gave.

"Miss Bailey, perhaps you know the answer?" Mrs. Peters pleaded.

"To what?" asked Alex, snapping out of her trance.

"The question," Mrs. Peters said.

"Oh..." Alex said. "No, I don't." She rested her head on her hand and continued staring at the floor.

Mrs. Peters and the rest of the class didn't understand what was happening. Alex always *knew* the answers. How was the class going to function without her?

"The cradle of civilization..." Mrs. Peters told the class, answering the question. "Many believe that mankind started there \_\_*Miss Bailey!*"

Alex sat up quickly in her seat. The most shocking thing that had ever happened in the classroom had occurred: *Alex Bailey had dozed off in the middle of the class!*

(p. 64-65)

Alex started acting strange during class because of the book that their grandmother gave showing some signed which later will be discussed on the following sub-chapter. Alex's mind was preoccupied by the thing that the book had done the past few days and that kept her from sleeping. This is the major factor that made her shift her behavioral acts. Alex was not the only one that experiencing this changing. Her twin brother, Conner, also had slight shift in the following event when Mrs. Peters suspected that Alex had brought something inside her bag.

And then, the worst possible thing that could have happened, *happened*. *The Land of Stories* began humming in the quiet classroom from inside of Alex's Bag

(p. 74)

Mrs. Peters arrived at Alex's desk.

"Miss Bailey, is there something in your bag?" She asked her.

All the color in Alex's face drained away. She needed a miracle!

Suddenly, a large history book flew from the back of the classroom and hit Mrs. Peters on the head, leaving a large dent in her curly hair. The entire class turned to the back of the room and saw Conner's extended hand. *He had just thrown a book at their teacher!*

(p. 75)

Thankfully, the room had become so tense that everyone had forgotten about the humming sound and, even more thankfully, they hadn't noticed it slowly

fade away. Conner's mission was accomplished. He knew he'd done the right thing-not as a student, but as a brother

(p. 76)

This action by Conner was a serious turn out of the event. Conner was trying to protect her sister and the book before it was caught by Mrs. Peters. Conner, a boy that was previously described as a lazy student and didn't care about her sister is actually trying to protect her sister.

With all this description about the twins, we figured out that a small event might have given them a chance to make changes. What the changes of behavior that the twin experienced was all because there was a trigger that support the changes and a desperate measure needed to be put. A small event is not going to be the only trigger that the twins has, but different place and dimension would also become their trigger in the following case.

### 3.2 The World Where the Twins Lived

Before coming to the Land of Stories where their adventure begins for this pair, the twins were living in a world in which was comfortable and normal just like our real world. There were some hints of what kind of world they were living before they are thrown into the other dimension. They were experiencing school just like regular children.

"*Once upon a time...*" Mrs. Peters said to her sixth grade class.

(P. 11)

Alex waited a moment before putting her hand up. She didn't want to seem like a *total* teacher's pet.

(P. 15)

Both statements above are situations that can be found in a regular classroom whereas consist of one teacher and its class. These fragments of the novel also indicates that as children who live a normal life, they would spent most of their time at school where they would study and socialize with other kids their age. From all these exposure about the twin we can see and observe that they are truly living a normal life just like a regular student would do. Even inside the classroom they studied about English subject where they learnt about the traditional English Fairytale. They talked about the moral of the story from fairytales which name are recognizable; *Cinderella*, *Little Red Riding Hood*, *Goldilocks and The Three Bears*, *The Boy Who Cried Wolf*, etc.

"'The Boy Who Cried Wolf' teaches us the value of a good reputation and the power of honesty. 'Cinderella' shows us the rewards of having a good heart. 'The Ugly Duckling' teaches us the meaning of inner beauty."

(p.12)

"I wonder if people would learn from the Little Mermaid's heartbreak when she dies at the end of her real story. I wonder if there would be so many kidnappings if children were shown the true dangers that Little Red Riding Hood faced. I wonder if they knew about the consequences Goldilocks caused for herself with the Three Bears."

(p. 13)

In that classroom they were discussing about the moral of the story that Mrs. Peters had mentioned. How Mrs. Peters would wanted her students to understand better of fairytale as something that could be valued more, and not just a mere bedtime story.

Even though in this discussion the exposure seemed proper, there is a problem inside the class discussion about the fairytale. This leads into another indication that we can see that the world where the twin lived, was just like our modern world. The teacher, Mrs. Peters complains about the misinterpreted Fairytales that are un-educational for children and violent movies that were giving bad influence towards children.

"The only exposure to the tales some children acquire are versions bastardized by film companies. Fairy tale 'adaptations' are usually stripped of every moral and lesson the stories were originally intended to teach, and replaced with singing and dancing forest animals. I recently read that films are being created depicting Cinderella as a struggling hip-hop singer and Sleeping Beauty as a warrior princess battling zombies!"

(p.13)

One of the examples provided by Mrs. Peters coincidentally existed in our real world. A Film in 2014 called *A Cinderella Story: If The Shoe Fits* was indeed describing about the struggle of young female singer. This fact gives us more assurance that this story has somewhat similar setting with our real world.

In this novel, even the TV producers are interpreting the traditional stories into a more modern version of it. But, this interpretation according to Mrs. Peters is leading to a misguided moral of the origins of the story itself. In this novel, interpretation was not something bad and should not be done, but sometimes it could lead to a misread.

"While there's no such thing as a wrong *interpretation*, I have to say *that* is definitely a misread," Alex said

(p. 27)



She, as a teacher was disappointed regarding this issue. For it is not only will misguide the children about the fairy tale, but it will eliminate the moral of the story that has been passed down from generation to generation due to this new interpretation from television and video games. As far as we all know there are no wrong interpretations, but this things that worried Mrs. Peters the most is actually about the message that will be delivered from television itself since we know that modern day cartoon distributes more about violent and as if we are supporting this new genre of cartoons and television show.

In this novel, the twins lived in a suburb and were described as a friendly neighborhood. They always walked on a sidewalk home from school.

Every day after school, the Bailey twins would walk home together. They lived in a charming neighborhood that was surrounded by more charming neighborhoods that were surrounded by another series of charming neighborhoods. It was a sea of suburbia, where each house was similar to the next but uniquely different at the same time.

(p. 25)

The twins lived in a small town (no mention of the name of the town), this is because the writer of this novel would want the reader to develop a strong connection that this situation is just like our real world and this particular situation could be happening in any city.

From the previous description about their neighborhood, we knew that the twin was living in a beautiful and charming neighborhood, we could immediately tell that the Bailey was coming from the middle-upper society class. We could see this easily from the description about the neighborhood that they were living. This

'Charming' neighborhood where every house was the same but unique at the same time told us that even though every single one of the house was the same, once you make it unique, you are successful in developing the house. Another indication that they were from middle-upper society class was the distance from school and their house was walk-able. This is normal in the western society to be a facility that the middle-upper society gets; a short distance to public places. A lot of great neighborhood we could tell by the distance to places (Forbes: 2014).

The Baileys had lived a very wonderful live just by observing through the place they were living. It was all possible because Alex and Conner's parents were had a decent job at that time.

Mr. Bailey owned a bookstore a few streets away named Bailey's Books...

*(p. 30-31)*

She was a nurse at the local children's hospital and was forced to work constant double shift to support their family since her husband passed away.

*(p. 36)*

Both their parent's job were categorized as something that should be taken serious of, for their mother was a nurse in a local children's hospital, and even though their father was an entrepreneur, but the fact that he own the store in that neighborhood meaning he had never got any problem with money. Both their jobs affect the way of living in that family. All this luxury that the twins had must come to an end on the day their father died in an accident.

A year ago, just a few days before their eleventh birthday, Alex and Conner's father died in a car accident on his way home from work.

*(p. 30)*

Everything had happened so fast after that. It was hard for the twins to remember what order it all had happened in.

They remembered their mother making tons of phone calls and having to deal with a lot of paperwork. They remembered that their grandmother came to take care of them while their mother made all the funeral arrangements.

They remembered holding their mother's hand as they walked down the church aisle at the funeral. They remembered the white flowers and candles and all the sad expressions on everyone's faces as they passed. They remembered all the food people sent. They remembered how sorry people told them they were.

*(p. 31)*

From this description we could see that a loss of family member could affect the surroundings and also the twins themselves. A simple example can be seen from the way their neighbor acted when the news of the passing of the Bailey's head family passed away, they went to the funeral service and giving support to the mourning family such as: sending food to them and telling them that they were sorry for the lost. This was an indication of a typical middle-upper class neighborhood, when fellow neighbors showing affection to each other without actually being care.

When we looked into a funeral service that was done by the Baileys in a short period of time after the passing of John Bailey, we could draw a red line that the economical state of the Baileys was pretty settled. Because an average Funeral Service in the United States would cost around \$7.000-\$10.000 for the service only, and with the casket or a coffin would cost \$2.000 extra. (Miller. Jim T.: 2016, Huffington Post)

When John Bailey passed away, they needed to move to a different house since the rest of the family member could not afford to keep the old house. The

place where the Baileys lived was a rental house in that neighborhood that they settled in after the loss of their father since they could not afford their previous house anymore and they also needed to sell the bookstore.

They remembered their mother explaining to them why they had to sell the bookstore. They remembered that, eventually, their mother couldn't afford their beautiful blue house anymore and they'd had to move into a rental house a little way down the street.

(p. 32)

The moment the Baileys moved into the new rental house, they lost their social status that was gained in their old house, which from we can conclude was in a better street than this new rental house, a more inner circle society. And besides moving to a further house than their previous one, what made it more damaging to their social status was the 'rental' emphasis. From; the family could afford their own place of living into rental house.

After deciding that they should moved to another place for living due to their economic condition, the Bailey family actually just entered a new unfamiliar environment in which they need to adapt to. The first condition that occurred within the family was in the beautiful living in the charming neighborhood that was surrounded by more charming neighborhoods. Moving to a rental house a little down the street means they were not surrounded by more charming neighborhoods, even though they were inside one of the charming neighborhood. They were undergoing a slight difference between the places they used to call home to this temporary home. Truthfully, since the Bailey were not in the exact same neighborhood, they were facing a crisis whereas they need to be accepted in

the society and get used to the new life of their new rental home, therefore, some adaptation needed to occur. And yet they were not doing so.

The Bailey's home was cozy but cluttered. They had more furniture than they had room for, and none of it matched the house because it was never intended to. Even though they had lived there for more than a half a year, unpacked boxes were still lined up against the walls.

None of them wanted to unpack them; none of them wanted to admit they were staying as long as they actually were.

(p. 35)

As described above, the place where the twins were living was not in a perfect wonder, yet it was a mess since most of the furniture that were inside the house were not meant to be in the house and many unpacked boxes were put against the wall. This new condition of the family was not accepted very well within the family. This was shown by no indication of effort in tidying up the rental house or opening the boxes. That behavior was shown because the family actually didn't want to stay in their rental house any longer. This form of behavior was normal especially after experiencing a major difference; the passing father. The family needed to adapt with the new neighborhood in their rental house and the condition of their new house also. They needed to accept that they were not living as their social status anymore because as previously mentioned; it was degraded since they moved into the new environment. Based on the statements from the novel, they could not adapt to the new house nor the new neighborhood, this was shown by the line; "none of them wanted to admit they were staying as long as they actually were," they could not moved on from the condition of their previous state and still hoping that they could returned to their old selves.



Besides the exposure about the public places in the novel, there are some mentions about technology as well;

"We have traded their brilliant teachings for small-minded entertainment like television and video games. Parents now let obnoxious cartoon and violent movies influent their children.

(p.13)

It was a long journey, a few hours by car, but the twins enjoy every second of it.

(p. 19)

...I figure Mom must have gotten you a cell phone and didn't want me to know about it...

(p. 68)

This exposure about technology would give us a more relatable discussion that also gives us the feeling that the place that the twins lived might not be much of a difference than our real world. This is also the intention from the writer of this novel.

Above are many examples of the description regarding the world of the twins. Based on the data provided, it comes to our mind that the twin was living a very normal live, whereas they go to school and attending classes. Even though both Alex and Conner were living a very different lifestyle, their life would still be considered normal for the fact that they socialize with other human beings, and doing their homework as a student in school. The world where they live was a peaceful one, though they encounter many difficulties since the passing of their father, regardless this fact, they survive and still continued their journey.

### 3.3 The World inside the Land Of Stories

From the world that was normal and habitual to them, they were about to undergo an exciting yet dangerous adventure. They discovered a, what would be best described as portal to a new world. The media that the twins used to get to this new world was the book that was given to them by their Grandmother. It was a present for them as they were turning twelve. The book was a series of stories that were bundled up together into one.

The book was received and kept by Alex. After a few days, the book was showing odd things

Meanwhile, Alex burst into the girls' restroom. She quickly looked underneath all the stalls to make sure she was alone. She zipped open her school bag, pulled out *The Land of Stories*, and set it on top of a sink; it was glowing and humming more than ever

(p. 67)

After series of this event and after finished with school, both Alex and Conner returned back home and they experienced a whole new case, Alex arrived first since Conner needed to fill the detention slip first.

Was it possible they were going to another world? Was it the world that Alex secretly hoped for?

There was only one way to find out.

It was an idea she had managed to suppress all week. What if she went into the book? No, she couldn't possibly do such a stupid thing. What if she never came out?

But what if she stuck her hand into the book? What would happen? Would it hurt? Would her whole arm disappear? Alex's curiosity overruled her caution. She sat on her knees and bent over the book very carefully.

Alex started with just her fingertips. So far, so good. There was no pain; she only felt a warm, tingly sensation. Alex reached farther. She was wrist deep now, and still nothing had happened that worried her. She went farther; the

book was up to her elbow. If the book hadn't been there, her hand would surely be sticking through the ceiling downstairs.

Alex leaned forward even farther, almost shoulder deep into the book. She moved her arm around, seeing if there was anything to grab on to inside.

Suddenly, her bedroom door burst open, and Conner ran inside, sweating and out of breath. "Alex! Don't do it!"

He completely startled her. Alex lost her balance and fell-headfirst into the book!"

"AAALLLEEEEXX!" Conner cried out to his sister. He jumped to the ground, trying to grab her foot before she disappeared entirely, but it was too late. Alex had fallen into *The Land of Stories*.

(p. 79)

They were jumping into another world of the Land of Stories. This was a world where all sort of your childhood tale came to life and not just a story anymore. Different from the world of ours, this world consisted of the traditional fairytale like Knights, witches, and Kings and Queens. This made them encountered a lot of differences while exploring this whole new experience.

The moment Alex and Conner came into the Land of Stories, they were thrown into a deep forest. Alex was the first one arrived since she was the first one that fell into the book; the moment she realizes that she was not in her home anymore, she was confused of the scenery surrounded her.

She was standing on a dirt path in the middle of a thick forest. The trees were tall and dark with bright green moss covering their trunks. The sun's ray shined through a light mist. Bird squawked from high end in the trees and, if she listened closely enough, she could hear a tiny stream in the distance.

Alex spun around, looking in all directions. Her breathing increased as she took in her new surroundings.

(p. 81)

The surroundings most definitely gave some sorts of confusion, since it was not the place they were familiar with, this gave Alex a sense of curiosity since she was not panicked the time she landed on the Land of Stories, yet she took her surroundings and tried to digest the events that just occurred. But, what surprised them even more was the unpredictable event that occurred after they were used to the current surroundings;

They couldn't believe what they were seeing. A huge cavalcade of soldiers on white horses rode past them. Their armor was clean and shiny. They carried green-and-silver shields with large red apple painted on them and waved flags with the same design.

(p. 84)

After seeing this event, they even wondered whether they were traveling back through time since the cavalcade were all using shiny armor and shields that were common during the time of Medieval Age. Later Alex then recognized something that made her realize that they were not traveling back through time when she saw a wanted poster of Goldilocks in the woods.

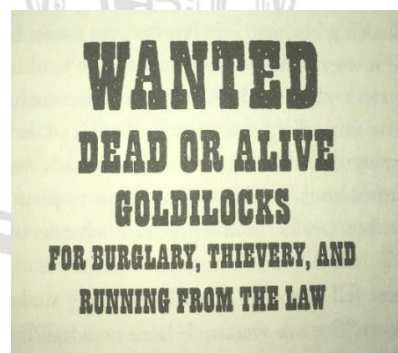


Figure 3.1 Goldilocks Wanted Poster

This wanted poster of Goldilocks gave them the idea of something that was crazy and not quite logical, the idea that they might be thrown inside the Land of Stories. Since *Goldilocks* is one of the characters from the traditional fairytale *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*. Alex, since she was a smart girl with huge curiosity, thought that they were thrown inside the Land of Stories book.

Alex's face went white, and she stopped breathing for a moments; she had realized where they were. No wonder the trees had been so recognizable she had seen pictures of them so many times growing up. The book had taken them to the exact place she had hoped.

"Conner, we went *into* the book," she explained, but he wasn't following her. "I think we're actually *in* the Land of Stories."

(p. 85)

Aside from both of the conditions and a poster that they encounter, the twins also met someone from the book, a local citizen of The Land of Stories, but not just an ordinary citizen for it was not human like Alex and Conner. They met a frog man.

Standing behind Alex and Conner was what could best be described as a frog man. He was tall, with wide face big, glossy eyes, and green skin. He wore a dapper three-piece suit and carried a large glass jar of lily pads. Alex and Conner were so petrified that they were paralyzed. If they needed any more evidence that they were in the fairy-tale world, this was their proof.

(p. 87)



Meeting with a frog man gave them more proof that they were indeed inside *The Land of Stories* book, this time the frog man offered them a place to stay for a moment in his residence in the deep part of the wood.

"It's getting dark," the frog man said. "We'd better get inside. Please follow me home. It's just a few minutes' walk from here."

(p. 88)

Despite looking strange, which was like a frog and really different from the world where they came from, the frogman was actually a good hearted creature. At first it was understandable for the twin to reject the offer from frog man since he was a stranger to them and they still had not figure things out after the moment they arrived at the Land of Stories. Another factor that made the twin hesitant was the appearance of the person who invited them was not in a form of a normal human, rather a *frog shaped human*; which later they would call him *Froggy*. This happened since it was the first time they have encountered a social being aside from mankind. Yet with all the things that happened so suddenly, they need to adjust to the given situation for this world is extremely different from their origins. The social interaction is not only between human to human, but also to another creature which happened to be able to speak like ordinary human being. Their environment is also differs from their origins and since the twins haven't learned anything about this world yet, they accepted the invitation since there were no other place that could become their shelter and their place to rest.

After the twins accepted the invitation, Froggy, as one of the helper of the twins gave them basic information regarding The Land of Stories world. He told

them how the world function and what was the most important thing to know in the Land of Stories. First Froggy told them the place they were right now.

"The Dwarf Forests?" Alex asked. "What are the Dwarf Forests?"

"You've never heard of them? Froggy asked, completely appalled. The twins both shook their heads.

"It's a very dangerous place," Froggy told them. "It's the only designated area of the land without ruler or a government; it's a kingdom where everyone is their own king. It used to be populated with dwarfs who worked in the mines, but now it's full of criminals and fugitives mostly. It's a place where people go when they don't want to be found."

"Are there other Kingdoms?" Alex asked.

Froggy was stunned. It was as if she had asked him what color of the sky was. However, he seemed to be enjoying their unfamiliarity.

"Of course," he said. "There's the Northern Kingdom, the Sleeping Kingdom, the Charming Kingdom, the Corner Kingdom, the Fairy Kingdom, the Red Riding Hood Kingdom, the Elf Empire, the Dwarf Forests, and the Troll and Goblin Territory. How can you possibly not know this?"

*(p. 94-95)*

Information such as this one was one of the ways the twins could be aware of the conditions of the world they were about to travel. The more they learned about the current world that they were exploring, the higher chances they had to return back home. Though in order to do that, they need to adjust and adapt with the situations.

As previously mentioned in the last chapter, mimicry does not always imply to a condition where one experienced a direct oppression from a party, but in this case, the form of oppression could come from the conditions that were created from the world itself. This is possible due to the many characteristics that are shown in the world that implies the different treatment towards each Kingdoms and special locations throughout the Land of Stories. With that challenge, the

twins will most definitely going to create their own way in surviving the ordeal that was thrown at them by the world.

As mentioned above, the world where the twins lived and the world they were headed to was extremely different, the environment was different, from where they were used to see buildings which were more modern, and suddenly they were in a thick forest in an unknown land. The social interactions were also different, from where they normally interacted with humans as the main social being, now in the Land of Stories, they did not only meet humans which acted as the social being, but even witch, Frogman, etc. This condition that occurred to them was best described as sudden changes. In order to subdue to this situation, the twins needed to become aware of their surroundings and adapt to it. With them trying to be as close as they possibly could to the new backgrounds, they had done several things to the point they finally returned to their own world.

Besides the name of the Kingdoms, Froggy also gave them information about the organization that made peace within the Land of Stories.

"Together, all the kingdoms create the Happily Ever After Assembly," Froggy explained.

"The Happily Ever After Assembly?" Conner Asked with a slight touch of sarcasm in his voice.

"It's the organization formed to uphold the treaty all the rulers signed so that all the kingdoms could live in peace and prosperity," Froggy told them.

(p. 96)

"Fairy Council?" Alex asked. This world was almost too good to be true.

"Yes, they're a group of the most powerful fairies of the kingdoms," Froggy explained. "Cinderella's Fairy God Mother is one of them, and so is Mother Goose, and all the other fairies that blessed Sleeping Beauty when she was a

baby are on it too. They rule the Fairy Kingdom and are the leaders of the Happily Ever After Assembly."

(p. 98)

Once learning all this, the twins were also received a journal about how to get back to their world by using the Legendary Wishing Spell from Froggy. It was a spell comprised of a list of items, and with that it granted wishes.

Froggy helped them preparing their departure, the twins set out to find the items of the Wishing Spell. After leaving the residence of Froggy in the *Dwarf Forest* the twin set out to find this wishing spell. After a couple of hours travelling together, they encounter a witch house from *Hansel and Gretel*. The witch was trying to eat them.

"You aren't going anywhere," the witch said. She seemed to grow taller, and her eyes bulged bigger as her patience ran out. "Now, be nice little chickies and follow me *inside*."

(p. 114)

In this situation the twins were in great danger since they knew the witch's action toward Hansel and Gretel. The Witch was desperately wanted to eat the twins. This is a dangerous situation. If they were eaten by the Witch, they cannot continue their journey finding the wishing spell and return back home. By then Conner accidentally gave the witch an idea.

"Why do you want your victims chubby, anyway? Wouldn't it be healthier if they were muscular and fit?"

The witch looked to the side and raised an eyebrow. She had never considered this. Her consideration must have distracted her from attacking the twins, because she began to shrink back to normal, humped shape.

"If you asked me," Conner continued, "you should turn your gingerbread house into a gingerbread gym and health club!"

Alex often couldn't believe the crazy things that her brother said, but this one took the cake.

"What a *delicious* idea," the witch cackled. "I'll rebuild as soon as I'm finished with *you*."

(p. 115)

With this current situation, Alex, being smart as she normally would, then came up with an idea to trick the witch. She was using the information regarding the Happily Ever After Assembly and the Fairy Council. Thankfully that Alex was a brilliant child who process information as quickly as possible, therefore she could presented the idea to get out of the situation.

Alex screamed, "*Wait!*" With her hands covering her face, she said, "*You owe him!*"

The witch recoiled into her smaller form. "I owe him?" She asked.

"Yes! Isn't that how it works?" Alex said. "He presented you with an idea, and now you owe him a *wish!*"

"A wish?" the witch asked.

"A wish?" Conner asked.

Alex nodded convincingly. The witch grunted.

"Yes, the Happily Ever After Assembly just enacted a new law," Alex said, thinking on the tips of her toes. "any witch presented with a good idea must return the favor by granting wish."

(p. 115-116)

After this, the witch agreed to grant Conner a wish. Conner then decided to make a wish regarding the choice of food the Witch would probably change.

"Okay..." said Conner, thinking as fast as he could. It had to be a good one; it had to help them get out of the situation. "I wish you would become a *vegetarian!*" he said to the witch.

(p. 116)



Conner chose his wish as realistic as possible, with the Witch turned into a vegetarian; she could not possibly eat the twins. This showed how Conner, was being realistic to the given situation. After that they escaped from the witch's ginger bread house.

This idea purposed by Alex was possible due to the information that she had received earlier from Froggy. Had she not know about the Happily Ever After Assembly, the idea might come into her mind. This was how Alex used information as a resource to counter the danger she and her brother encountered. They adapt by using the story that Froggy had told them before they set out of his residence.

Both Alex and Conner was not native to this environment, and yet they managed to tricked the Witch from eating them, this showed a great deal of how they handled the world together. Alex being a smart kid who always had the answer for everything, and Conner who was a realistic kid who said things truthfully, and also directly from what he thought. Both of them managed to handle the Witch by tricking her, who was the originated from this the Land of stories. In this case, the twins were not in their usual environment and were threaten by the Witch. They managed to get out from the grasp of death by using information from Froggy, and surprisingly they succeeded. This two child from the outside world of the Land of Stories could tricked the Witch, meaning they already able to take all the information and used it as a form of self defense. As they did that, it served them as part of a mockery towards the Witch and the world of the Land of Stories since the twins succeed in escaping from the Witch.

The moment Alex and Conner set out from the dwarf forest to gather the items for the wishing spell, they realized that the world they about to explore was not like any other world, yet they were familiar with it. This was because they had learnt all the basic information about the fairytale world from many sources: the story from their Father and Grandma and in the English Literature class, taught by Mrs. Peters. This was also become their base in learning how this world function, aside the fact that they were in a situation that forced them to adapt.

Another form of adaptation is to copy one's way of clothing in order to adjust with the way the locals dressed. The first thing that was shown from the novel that indicated this particular action was when they are travelling into the Charming Kingdom where they need to retrieved one of the items for the *Wishing Well*. They need to get the *Glass Slipper* from Cinderella's palace. In their home world, before their father died, they lived in a charming neighborhood surrounded by a more charming neighborhood. This indicates that their neighborhood was an upper-class neighborhood. There is a correlation between their neighborhoods to the Charming Kingdom. In this world Charming Kingdom was the place where the Princes that married to most of the Princess in other Kingdoms in the Land of Stories. Charming Kingdom symbolized the monarch or hierarchy that means high social class.

"Queen Snow White and King Charming have only been married a few years. Queen Cinderella and King Charming are expecting their first child soon. Queen Sleeping Beauty and King Charming are sadly still trying to restore their kingdom to consciousness after that horrible sleeping spell it was placed under."

(p. 97)

In order to get this specific personal item that belonged to Cinderella they need to sneak into the palace through the Grand Ball that was held by the royal Couple. But since they were from a different world than the Land of Stories' world, specifically the Charming Kingdom, which had the higher social class, they need to made several changes regarding the way they dressed.

"I have an idea," Alex said

She opened their bags and took out their blankets. She grabbed hold of Conner and began wrapping the blanket around him, folding it strategically in certain places so it would stay up. Alex wrapped herself in the other blanket.

"There," Alex said. "Now we look like we're wearing sensible robes!"

"We look ridiculous," Conner said.

(p. 174)

This was Alex's attempt for them to be able to go on unnoticeable in through the crowd. But since they were trying to sneak into the palace, a simple robe was doubted to be enough by her brother, Conner.

Conner concerned about this plan from his sister since it was not the best plan his sister could think of. After they practiced the idea, and implemented it into account, they tried their best to not standing out of the crowd. Yet, a very different reaction was given from the crowd.

The twins walked down to the main street. They followed the traffic of carriages toward the palace. The closer they came to the palace, the larger it grew and more real it became.

Many of the coachmen glared at the twins with bewildered and judgmental looks. A few passengers leaned out of their carriage windows to see what the twins were doing.

(p. 174)

From this point, we could tell that the twins' attempt to blend in with the people around the palace of Charming Kingdom did not receive a great triumph. In contrast to that, they even got more attention towards them, even though they were not getting into much trouble at first.

Alex and Conner had never seen such beautiful clothing. All the women wore long ball gown of various colors, fabrics, and stitching. They wore gloves and diamonds; some wore bows and feathers in their hair. The men all dressed beautifully too, some in formal armor and some in suits with bread, fringed shoulders and square cuffs.

All the effort and flair that the guests had put into their appearance made the twins feel insecure about their impromptu robes. They stuck out like sore thumbs. They were the youngest people there, they were the only ones not dressed in lace or satin, and they were the only ones carrying bags. They looked exactly like what they were: a couple of kids sneaking into a ball.

(p. 175)

Their outfits only made them more visible to the crowds that were all guests to the King Charming and Queen Cinderella. It may occur because they were quite underdressed for the occasion of a Ball. Their outfit that was just made, might be able to pass the looking eyes from the crowd if they were about to enter a low social class crowd. In this exact moment, they were misdirected their clothing which was perfect for a low class event and not a high class Ball. This might be a less appealing in front of the royal guests, since it was a Royal Ball after all.

This disguised was a total failure and the twin realized it from the beginning they received an un-wanted look from many of the guests. They realized it even more when the head guard of the Palace confronted them himself.

Lampton seemed to be enjoying their excitement. He leaned between them and softly said, "You're sneaking into the palace, aren't you?"

(p. 179)

The twins knew the consequences of sneaking inside the palace, and they had realized their cover was not perfect the moment people were staring at them after they wore that robe in front of the palace's entrance. They were failing in the first attempt of doing the cover to blend in with the situation.

In this action by the twins, they were wearing robes which in many situations before a ball was occurred were worn by the guests of the ball itself. The twins thought a simple robe would be enough to be a cover for them to enter a palace. This performance by the twins was an attempt to do the mimicry, yet little did they know that there were requirements for them to succeed in blending in with the crowd. In this attempt, we could see that the twins did not form a suitable cover, in this scenario was the simple robe they made, to make them undetectable to their background, which was the guests of the royal ball. They only thought a simple cover would do justice for them to entered the palace. This was the main reason why their attempt was a total failure. It was affirmed that they realized it was a failure when they looked at themselves and felt insecure about their robe (*The Land Of Stories: The Wishing Spell*, p.175)

This event that occurred in the Charming Kingdom's Palace were to be their lesson, for in the following action, they made a similar attempt to break into a palace, this time it was the Snow White's palace in the Northern Kingdom. When they were looking for the next wishing spell's item, which was the jewel from Snow White's glass coffin, they encounter many difficulties, which was to get passed the guards of the palace. They were using another disguise to walk unnoticeable inside the palace.



She pulled out two dresses and two lacy caps from the basket.

The twins got dressed and looked almost identical in the same outfit. They wrapped their wet clothes and bags in towels and then carried the towels to look busy.

They journeyed higher into the palace, perfectly disguised as two maids working a night shift.

*(p. 303)*

This time, because they were perfectly dressed as a worker of the palace, they could walk pass the guards unnoticeable. This gave them a slight advantage in exploring the castle and in finding the jewel. The success attempt by the twins was because they learnt from their mistake they made in the Charming Kingdom. This time, they use a different method to get into the Palace. They realized they cannot use a simple method in order to get into a Palace, so they went to a more complex outfit, in this case were maid's dress. They met the requirements to be perfectly covered in the background of the situations given, which was as a worker in the Palace.

Unfortunately the item that they were looking for was not placed inside the castle anymore.

"It was moved", she said

"To where?" Conner asked.

"I gave it back to the dwarfs," Snow White said. "It was beautiful, but as you can imagine, it was strange to have that coffin in the palace. They keep it somewhere in their mines."

*(p. 313)*

Even though they were not able to find the item they were searching for, they still able to walked around the Palace with ease. This shown that the twin had developed a new way of thinking in order to fit in the situation. They were more

able to identify the situation that occurred to them and improve the action or solution that was previously used with the same objective.

In the Land of Stories, there were six major Kingdoms, as previously mentioned by Froggy. Each and every one of them had their own characteristics and needed different approach towards it. One of the most obvious acts, done by the twins was at the *Red Riding Hood Kingdom*. They were about to get the next item inside Red Riding Hood's palace with the accompaniment of Jack from *Jack and the Beanstalk*.

Inside the throne room of Red Riding Hood, the twins knew that Queen Red was obsessed with basket, which was one thing that triggered them to act like they were in love with wooden basket.

Red got tired of holding the basket. She snapped her fingers, and her handmaiden collected the basket from her.

"Put it with the others," Red instructed

The handmaiden collected it from her and headed out of the room. The twins figured this was their chance.

"May we see the others?" Alex asked.

"The others?" Red Asked.

"The other baskets," Alex said. Red was looking at her peculiarly. "My brother loves basket!"

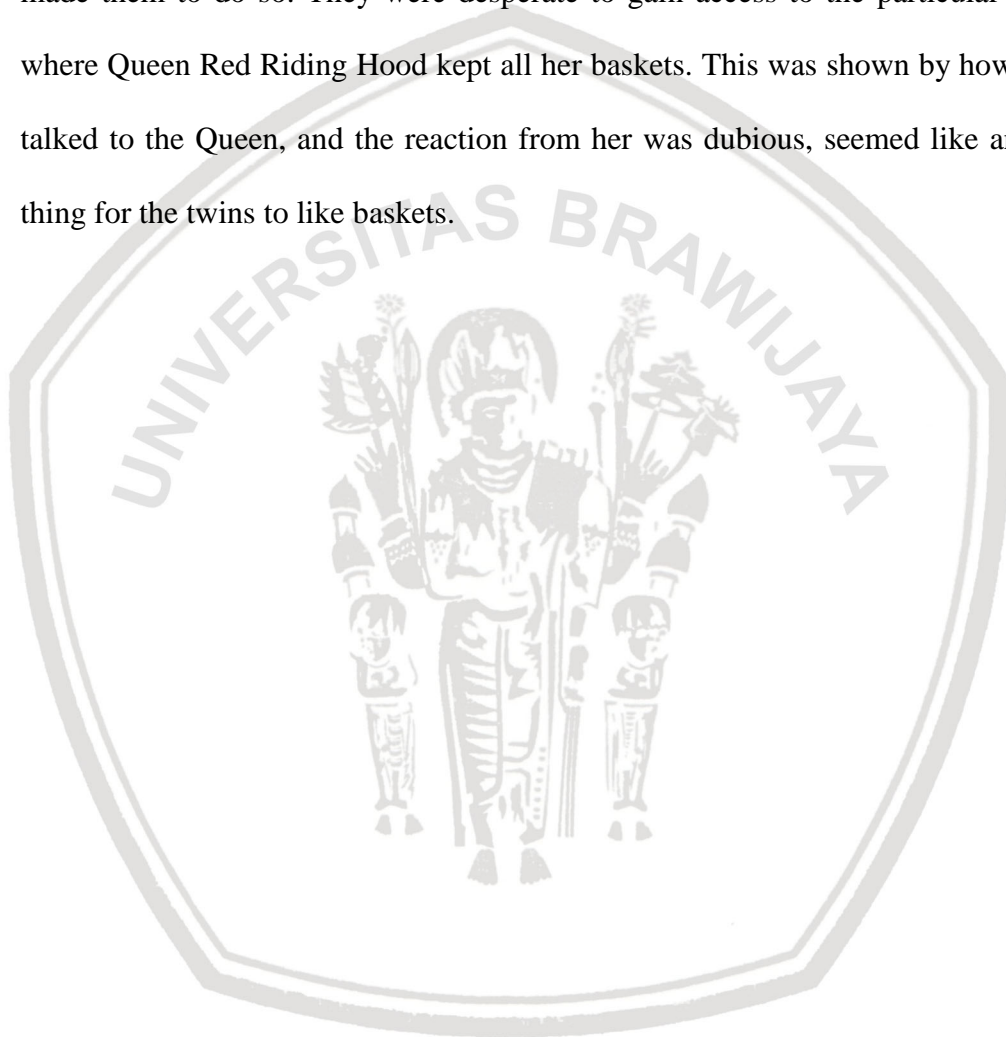
Conner nodded, going along with it.

"I do! They're my most favorite thing ever!" Conner said. "You know what they say, life is better with baskets!"

(p. 217)

Here they needed to convince the Queen that they like basket very much, that is why they performed such act in order for them to get the access to the *Basket Room* that contained the next item for their Wishing Spell journey.

The twins were willing to force change their interest because the situation made them to do so. They were desperate to gain access to the particular room where Queen Red Riding Hood kept all her baskets. This was shown by how they talked to the Queen, and the reaction from her was dubious, seemed like an odd thing for the twins to like baskets.



## CHAPTER IV

### CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

In this chapter, the researcher will provide the conclusion of the research and gave suggestion to the next researcher what can be done to improve further analysis.

#### 4.1 Conclusions

After conducting the research about mimicry that was done by the Bailey's twins in the Land of Stories there are two things that can be concluded in this research.

Mimicry can be seen as a form of adaptation when we are experiencing major or massive changes. This was proven by the action by the twin when they were thrown into the other dimension of fairytale world whereas they were forced to adapt to the given situation. Even though the twin already familiar with the situation for the Land of Stories was something that always been mention by their Father and their Grandmother, they never experienced it themselves in real life. This make them need to change the way they think, the way they process information, and also the way they act in order to blend in to the background of the environment and also the society of the citizen of the Land of Stories.

Another way of the twins to do the mimicking was to change the way they dressed in the new given environment. Since they were thrown into a new world where the Kings and Queens from the fairytale world lived, they would be like a

dent in the new world if they didn't adjust with the new style of living. Even though they were not immediately change their outfit and style, but they realize that they were standing out of the crowd just by wearing their daily outfits from their real world. From the way we see into the actions done by the twins, we can conclude that every idea of the twins came from Alex, this correlate with the trait that Alex had which was a smart girl. She presented the idea to the surface to be accepted and applied to whether it was a success or not.

In this attempt, the twins may not always achieve success in their efforts. The first attempt they made in mimicking the way people dressed in Charming Kingdom was a total failure this time; Conner was the one to understand that their plan was about to failed. The trait that Conner was described to was being a realistic kid who speaks truthfully and based on his analysis, Conner, when they put their robes in the Charming Kingdom, knew it was going to fail, and it did failed. They did not meet with the requirement of going to the royal ball and became more suspicious in the crowd. In this sample we could learn that not always the act and attempt of mimicry could grasp the success in the first trial.

After knowing that they needed to blend with their new background of the environment, they realize they also needed to change the way they act in certain conditions. That was a form of camouflaging in terms of action. This was also proven as one of the indicators of mimicry the twins done to get to other places in the palace.

There is something else that the researcher found while conducting this research. The act of adaptation by doing mimicry has a different goal than what



the researcher first assumption. From the explanation about this topic in the previous chapter, the action that was done by the twin, and the situation that they lived and went to, the researcher found that Mimicry is becoming their media in learning how to adapt in their world.

The twins undergoing environmental changes for two times based on this novel alone. The first time was when their Father passed away and they had to move to a new rental house. In here they actually needed to adapt with the new environment in other words, doing Mimicry. Yet they were failing to do so since the family could not accept the condition they underwent: degrade their social class to a mid-low social class. They were not able to conduct the mimicry since they were not forced to do so.

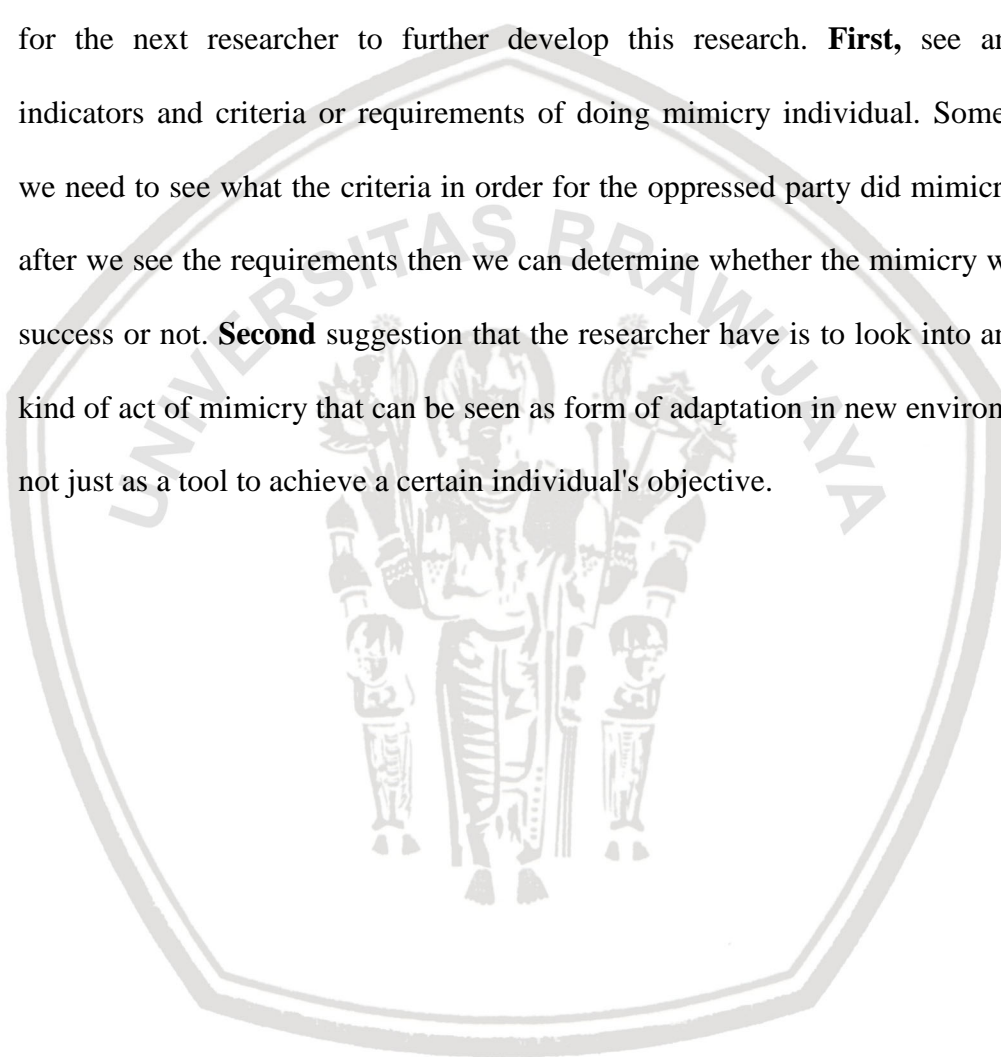
The second time the twins experiencing environmental changes was when both of them were thrown into the Land of Stories. This is a world where situation and condition are different from the world the twins lived. The environment was different, the social being was different, and the way people dressed was different. They experienced a sudden and massive change. This was the trigger that forced them to be able to adapt with the situation. They were forced to do so because they wanted to walk around the Land of Stories to gather items to return back home. This time they successfully able to conduct the mimicry.

The reason why mimicry in the Land of Stories act as a media of learning is because they yearn to return back home to their rental house, if they successfully adapt and do mimicry perfectly they would not want to return

anymore. This indicates that they wanted to fix the condition that they left before they were thrown into the Land of Stories.

#### 4.2 Suggestion

Based on this current research, the researcher made a list of suggestions for the next researcher to further develop this research. **First**, see another indicators and criteria or requirements of doing mimicry individual. Sometimes we need to see what the criteria in order for the oppressed party did mimicry are, after we see the requirements then we can determine whether the mimicry will be success or not. **Second** suggestion that the researcher have is to look into another kind of act of mimicry that can be seen as form of adaptation in new environment, not just as a tool to achieve a certain individual's objective.



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