

**PRUE'S IMAGINATION ABOUT IMPASSABLE WILDERNESS ON
COLIN MELOY'S NOVEL OF *WILDWOOD***

THESIS



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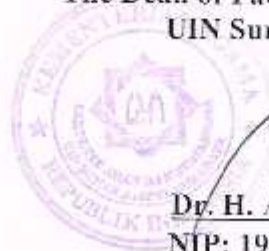
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ABSTRACT

Syairiyah, Marthalita N. (2019). *Prue's Imagination for Impassable Wilderness on Colin Meloy's Novel of Wildwood*. English Department. Advisor: Abu Fanani, M.Pd

Keyword: Imagination, dream, and Impassable Wildernes

This thesis is studying the imagination which appears in child's mind on the novel of *Wildwood* written by Colin Meloy and the causes why the imagination appears. Sometimes the children like to imagine with what they see, hear, and read. In this novel, Prue is one of the children who experience adventure by her imagination.

This study is conducted to enrich the topic about imagination. Imagination in the object is analyzed using dream theory by Sigmund Freud. This research is using qualitative method. The novel of *Wildwood* by Colin Meloy is the primary data source. While, the supporting data are taken from secondary data source.

The researcher found two main results of this study. First is Prue's imagination before she entered the Impassable Wilderness. The second result is the causes of Prue's imagination towards Impassable Wilderness. Their imagination sometimes seems real even though not all of their imagination become real. But, this novel makes one of the children becomes real when she faces the problem of that myth.

INTISARI

Syairiyah, Marthalita N. (2019). *Prue's Imagination for Impassable Wilderness on Colin Meloy's Novel of Wildwood*. English Department. Advisor: Abu Fanani, M.Pd

Kata kunci: Imajinasi, mimpi, dan tempat yang tidak dapat dilewati

Tesis ini mempelajari imajinasi yang muncul di benak anak-anak tentang novel *Wildwood* yang ditulis oleh Colin Meloy dan penyebab mengapa imajinasi itu muncul. Terkadang anak-anak suka membayangkan dengan apa yang mereka lihat, dengar, dan baca. Dalam novel ini, Prue adalah salah satu anak yang mengalami petualangan dengan imajinasinya.

Penelitian ini dilakukan untuk memperkaya topik tentang imajinasi. Imajinasi pada objek dianalisis menggunakan teori mimpi oleh Sigmund Freud. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif. Novel *Wildwood* oleh Colin Meloy adalah sumber data primer. Sedangkan data pendukung diambil dari sumber data sekunder.

Peneliti menemukan dua hasil utama dari penelitian ini. Pertama adalah imajinasi Prue sebelum dia memasuki Impassable Wilderness. Hasil kedua adalah penyebab imajinasi Prue terhadap Impassable Wilderness. Imajinasi mereka kadang-kadang tampak nyata meskipun tidak semua imajinasi mereka menjadi nyata. Tapi di novel ini menjadikan imajinasi seorang anak menjadi nyata ketika dia menghadapi masalah tentang mitos tersebut.

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1.4. Scope and Limitation

The study of this research is limited to the novel *Wildwood* written by Colin Meloy. This study focuses on Prue's character as the main character of the novel since she imagines about Impassable Wilderness. To answer the research problems above, Prue's imagination which forces her character changes and her behavior after entering Impassable Wilderness will be the important point for analysis. This study focuses on the analysis of the imagination of the main character and what behavior that cause her imagination about Impassable Wilderness in the novel of *Wildwood* using psychoanalysis theory.

1.5. Method of the Study

1.5.1 Research Design

In this study, the researcher used a qualitative method to collect the data and to answer the research problem. The writer chose the descriptive qualitative method to analyze the data, in order to find the deepest analysis. The method used was the psychoanalysis to analyze the imagination of the main character in the novel. According to the statement above, this study used a psychological approach as a literary work.

1.5.2 Data and Data Source

In the process of collecting data for this research, the researcher used the novel, library, online research, and so on. The main of the course is the novel

Generally, psychoanalysis is analyzing a person's character in a novel and drama and also analyzing the character of the writer.

Psychology of literature is the study of the literary work to see the work as a psychological activity. The author uses their feeling to make an amazing literary work. However, the reader responses toward the work will not be separated from each other's psyche. Projection of a person's own experience and experience of life around the author projected imaginarily into literary texts (Puspitasari, 2016: 13). That is why literary psychology recognizes literary work as a mental reflection. The author catches the symptoms of the soul then it will process into the text.

Psychology and literature have the same functional relationship that is studying the meaning of the soul. The strength of literary works can be seen by how far the author is able to express the unconscious psychic expression into literary work (Puspitasari, 2016: 17). The difference is that psychology is in the form of real, whereas the relation in literature is imaginative, that is figures from a literary work. The basic assumptions of literary psychology research are influenced by several things. There is an assumption that literature is a product of a psychic and the thoughts of an author who is in a semi-conscious situation after it is clearly poured into conscious. Conscious and unconscious will appear the author's imagination process.

Literary psychology studies as well as examine character traits psychologically as well as aspects of the author's thoughts and feelings when creating the literary work. How far the author's ability to describe the character's will to be more alive. Emotional touches through dialogue or even word selection

The meaning behind the dream or the meaning of the dream itself is indeed owned by the person who is dreaming but the person who has the dream cannot express the dream itself directly. While, Freud divides the dream experienced and remembers the meaning of the dream; and the dream experienced but does not remember, even the meaning of the dream has been forgotten (Freud, 1924: 119). The contents of the manifestation of a dream are only a mask which functions to cover the original claim which is the latent content of the dream itself.

The meaning of the dreams cannot be easily obtained. To produce the more detailed meaning of the dreams, an analysis experienced by someone is needed. Dream-work is a Freud form for complex dream formation processes (Freud, 1965: 179). Dream-work has different working mechanisms, there are condensation, displacement, symbolization, visualization or figuration, and dramatization. Interpreting dreams means opening the camouflage and expressing the desires that cause of conflict for the dreamer (Freud, 1965: 194). Therefore dreams experienced by several processes to interpret them when they are in the real world.

To help his patients who are mentally disturbed, Freud develops the psychoanalysis theory as a therapy method to analyze his patients' problem in their mind. Also, Freud has convinced that extensive unconscious in a human being does exist. It is the area of the mind which help human thoughts to do and wield the conscious mind. It is revealed that unconsciousness within human being gives access to the meaning of his mentally disturbed patients' dreams, symptomatic nervous behavior, and par praxes (Carter, 2006: 71). Here, the

something that ever happened in childhood will be expressed within human unconsciously when they are adults or in the state of growing up. Therefore sex was also categorized by Freud into psychoanalysis criticism related to the psychology of human being.

2.1.2 Imagination

Abdullah, Nurdiana, and Johari Surif (1983: 15) categorize the definition of imagination as (a) cognitive traits namely one thought process, principle to creative thinking, extraordinary thinking, problem solving and creation (b) related to fantasy or dream (c) expression of an individual person or (d) an effort.

Contemporary psychology describes imagination as one of the high mental functions involves a synthetic combination of memory or experiences in mental constructs that are different from the past or present reality and can design future realities (1983: 16). Imagination is one way of preparing a 'natural home' for something that is in the mind or one of the image-mental income activities. The definition of imagination is also associated as one of the most important cognitive capabilities and, therefore, can be seen as a creative tool for creative thinking.

Based on the statement above, imagination means the ability and process of forming a mental model or image against something that can not be traced with reason, the ability to solve problems in a non-linear way, the ability to create new images from past experience in pictorial or engaging language from aspects of children. It also gives emphasis to the aspect of the children as one of the forms used by children to make something more meaningful and to express information.

“dream cage dream”, “symbol cage in the symbol” that able to be interpreted to fully understand the aesthetic-sense within people and to fully comprehend the world where the folk authors explore and express themselves. In order to examine the dream theory, he draws on World Miraculous Character (WMC). The result of this study is a traditional believe of the Vietnames people appearing the character caused by their dream.

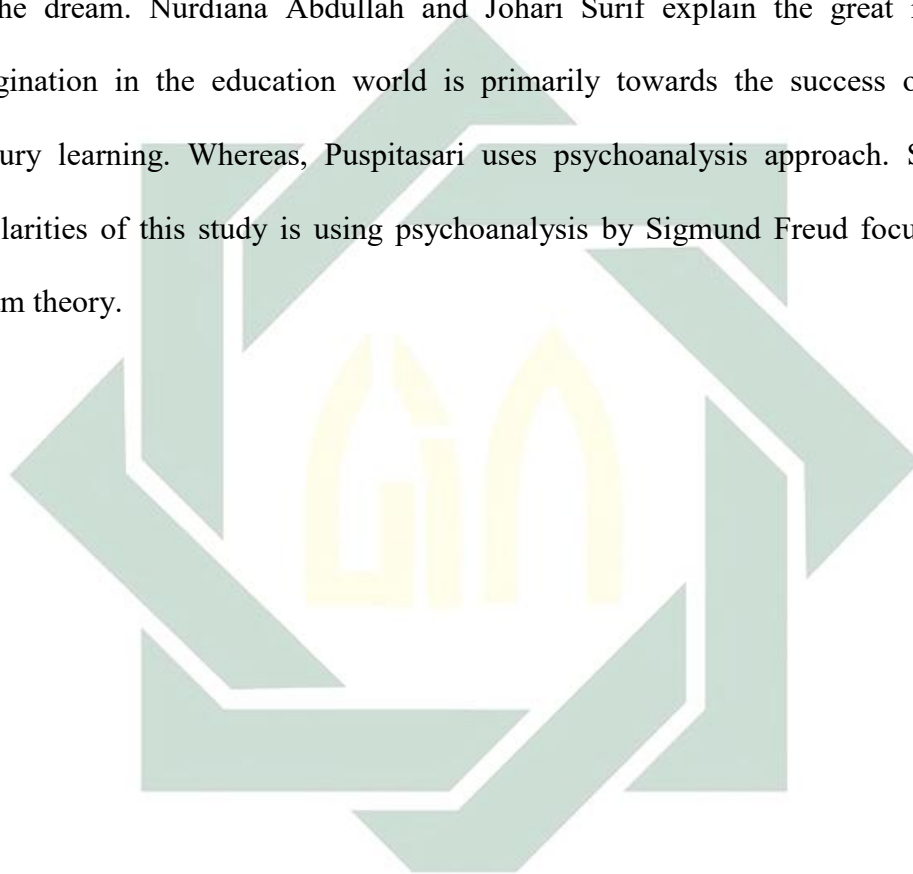
Anastasia (2016) analyses the character of the hero who possess the name of the legendary and historical figure of the German Middle Ages, the great poet, and Minnesinger Henry of Ofterdingen. Anastasia combines between past or history with the novel of the hero. The dream is suitable with the way of thinking aesthetically and the idealistic disbelief in the Romanticism, based on the world which should become more romantic. The result of this study is henry creates a poem which symbolizes itself by using incredible language from words of God.

Herlin (2008) research discusses the dreams experienced by priors along with internal sexuality conflicts which illustrate the concept of reconceptualization of gay identity in Tony Kushner's *Angels in America* drama. Herlin analyses the data using two main approaches concepts, they are an interpretation of the dream and the two basic concepts from Sigmund Freud: consciousness and unconsciousness. Her analysis focused on how Prior Walter identity as a gay constructed through interaction between him and four-figure who comes to his dream. This research shows the identity changes in prior figures and the design of power relations, regulatory mechanisms and controls used, and also the crisis of identity within the priors as a result of the formation of the subconscious.

Puspitasari (2016) uses a psychological approach to the psychoanalytic theory of Sigmund Freud. She analyses the personality structure of the main character Viktor Larenz consisted of Id, Ego, and Superego. The personality dynamics of the main character, Viktor Larenz, consist of life instincts (Eros), dead instincts (Thanatos), neurotic anxiety and realistic anxiety, and the personality development of the main character Viktor Larenz is a defense mechanism consisting of repression, sublimation, transfer, formation reaction, rationalization, and fantasy.

The differences of this studies to the researches above is that the present research is using Freud's dream theory to analyze the *Wildwood* novel in Prue's imagination. Meanwhile, Anastasia uses Walter Benjamin's dream theory to analyze the character of Henry in *The Allegories of Dream and Cave*. Walter's theory of dream is talking about regenerating the memory from the past which it can be released from certain temporal sequences and chronologies then introduced to the present experience. Nguyen uses WMC that stands for World Miraculously

Character to grasp the concept of ancient art in the world through a human character in Vietnamese tales. This concept forms expression of the world symbol: the full characteristics of the world that are carried as the symbolism of the world vanity. Herlin uses sexuality to analyze the character of the prior figure in the dream. Nurdiana Abdullah and Johari Surif explain the great role of imagination in the education world is primarily towards the success of 2nd-century learning. Whereas, Puspitasari uses psychoanalysis approach. So, the similarities of this study is using psychoanalysis by Sigmund Freud focused on dream theory.



3.1 Prue's Imagination

3.1.2 Prue Hears Dogs Howl Differently

Prue hears the dog barks very hard, until she is very afraid of that sound. She believes that Mac also hears it when he still four months. Exactly, she goes to her parent's room and she finds that Mac has slept. Her parent looks up far away and they just calm Prue down that it is just the same old dog barking. "Prue noticed then that the distant barking was different from the barking of the neighborhood dogs; it was more shrill, more disordered and angry." (Meloy, 2011: 17) The quotation shows that Prue pays attention to the howling which is different from the neighbor dogs howling: it is louder, more disorganized, and mad. Prue is really afraid because the sounds of the dogs are so strong, different from the dogs howl of their neighbor. She tries to hear the voice of dogs which is so scary. So that she goes to her parent's room to ask about the sounds. Her parent tells that it is the sound of the same old dog which shred trash and it is a neighborhood dog. Her parent asks Prue not to worry about it. Here, Prue's imagination seems real. But, her parent looks like they know about the sound. It presents in the next quotes. "Her parents started when she spoke, and father said, 'Just some old dogs howling.'" (Meloy, 2011: 17) On the quotation above Prue's parent is calming her down that the sound is just the same old dog which is howling.

“Waking from her reverie, Prue found she was standing on the top of the beach, shaking her first at the crows like an ineffectual comic book bystander, cursing some supervillain for the theft of a purse. The crows were quickly gaining altitude; they now topped the highest branches of the poplars. Mac could barely be seen amid the black, winged swarm.” (Meloy, 2011: 8)

The quote above tells that Prue wakes from her fantasy, while she finds herself standing on the beach, she messed up because of her first sight about the big crows she had just seen in a view moment ago. The crows fly fast into the highest and Mac cannot be seen because of the big black wings covered the sky. Prue realizes that if she explains it to the police, no one believes her, since it is just her imagination as same as if she reports it to her parents. Whereas, Sometimes the children likes to imagine with what they see, hear, and read. In this novel, Prue is one of the children who imagines something after she hears, reads, and sees. Firstly, Prue hears about someone who lost and back after several years in a bad condition. It shows in the quotation below:

“Prue had been suspicious of the story from her first hearing; the identity of this ‘man’ seemed to change from telling to telling. It was someone’s father in one version, a wayward cousin in another. Also, the details shifted in each telling. A visiting high school kid told a group of Prue’s rapt classmates that the individual (in this version, the kid’s older brother) had returned from his weird sojourn in the Impassable Wilderness aged beyond belief, with a great white beard that stretched down to his tattered shoes.” (Meloy, 2011: 16)

The quotation above says that Prue has been suspicious about the story from the first hearing. She has heard about the man in the story. Everybody is telling about this man differently. A student from junior high school comes to her school and tells Prue’s classmates that the man who lost in the Impassable Wilderness has

truck. Or mail truck—which is why I carry that piece of iron down there.” He pointed to the shotgun. “Being the postmaster general, it’s my job to deliver mail and supplies and whatnot from the folks in South Wood to the country folks in North Wood and vice versa, and I do that by driving this blasted road—its called the Long Road, which is no-brainer of a name—back and forth between place the two places, braving this madness and putting my life and limb at great risk every week. And I tell you one thing, Port-Land Prue, being a state employee is not a pathway to wealth and riches.” (Meloy, 2011: 67)

On the statement above, Richard says to Prue that he found her in the north border of Avian Principality until the border of North Wood. When she find her in the middle of the street, but he does not find any wolf or coyotes in the place near he found Prue. He says that he becomes the chief of the general post, and his job description is sending the letter and sending the stuff which it does not exist in the South Wood or the stuff which does not exist in the North Wood and vice versa. He said that it is a not good job because he must through the broken street to send something from the city to the other city. Richard tells that to be a public servant is not the way to be rich because he always positions himself in danger condition. In the other hand, Prue imagines the place namely Impassable Wilderness or with initial I.W that she wants to bring her brother back. In fact, it is not only a wood that she has imagined before.

“ ‘In these woods. Where I come from, this place is called the Impassable Wilderness.’ This made Richard laugh so hard his cigar flew out of his mouth, and he had to fumble around at his feet to find it again. ‘Impassable Wilderness? oh boy, would that it was. I might have a little more time at home. Nah I don’t know who told you that, but you Outside folk have got it all wrong. ‘Course, you’re the first of your kind I’ve ever seen here, so it stands to reason that no one ever made an effort to find out about the Wood—Wild, North, or South.’ He looked at Prue and smiled.

Based on the quotation above, Prue rings the bell and across the Gosh Bridge and tries to run. But the wood slowly disappearing then she falls into the river. She feels cold and the water is wetting her clothes. While looking at the forest, she begins to cry. She wipes her watery eyes and sees a tall tree in the Wood. Beside the tall tree, she sees the Mystic stands. After Prue opens the Gosh Bridge, she meets mystics and mystics tells Prue that the place is called North Wood. It is known that Gosh bridge connects Portland and North Wood. Owl rex or prince tells Prue to ask help in North Wood and meets Mystics. North Wood is different with South Wood. South Wood seems like the city and North Wood is just rural. The atmosphere is so pure, no luxury building, just a small shed. "The air was clear and lightly tinged by the smell of burning leaves and peat." (Meloy, 2011: 373) The quotation describes the beauty of the North Wood looks. The nature in North Wood is still pure and the air is so fresh. It is also shown in their style in using dress. "As she grows closer, she saw that the figures were her size, animals, and humans, they were dressed in simple, flaxen gowns." (Meloy, 2011: 377) When Prue gets closer into the North Wood, she sees the society has the same size between animals and humans, they wear simple dresses. The quotation shows the simplicity of their life. She arrives in the North Wood, and she begins to look for Mystic to help her. When she comes, exactly, Mystics knows that she is a half-caste. Without thinking much, the Mystic comes near to Prue and asks her about her coming. Prue says she needs help from Mystics to find her brother who is taken by Alexandra. Actually, the Mystics introduce her self. "I am the Elder Mystics. My name is Iphigenia." (Meloy, 2011: 378) She is a mystic from North wood. Mystics are able to control the plants in the wood because of their blood.

On the quotation above means that Prue tries to kill her imagination about how cruel the animal in the Wood and probably something happened to Mac. At the same time, Prue feels hopeless for her imagination to bring her brother back. While Alexandra tells Prue to back her home. Alexandra promises to Prue to bring baby Mac if she finds him. As the conversation below:

“I swear to you,” she said, “On the grave of my only son. As a woman and a mother,” Alexandra eyes, too, appeared to be filling with tears. “I will found your bother. And when I do, I will charge my soldiers to return him, immediately, to your home and your family.” (Meloy, 2011: 303)

Based on the quotation above, Alexandra make an oath to Prue on the grave of her son that she will find her brother Mac. While her tears is falling down. And she says that she will instruct her army to return her brother Mac to her house and her family. Whereas, Alexandra wants to sacrifice baby Mac for ivy trees. In fact, Alexandra is the one who steals baby Mac from Prue by sending the coyotes into Portland. Alexandra says that Prue cannot live in the place that she never imagines before. Because I.W and Portland are different, better Prue does not live in the magic place. She is confused about what has happened to her and Mac. And how to tell her parent that Mac was brought by the coyotes in the deepest Wood. Her parent will think that Prue just imagines something. It is non sense. Or she will be punished by her parents because she cannot save Mac.

3.2.11 Prue Repatriated by the Dowager Governor

Prue does not know if her brother Mac is taken by Alexandra. Alexandra repatriates Prue to her home because if she knows about her plan, she will against

her. To avoid the outsider entering the Impassable Wilderness, they strengthen the magic of Periphery. But, Alexandra's plan fails because Prue is half-caste of Wood magic. That is why she can enter the I.W easily.

“Prue’s head was spinning. She realized, as she was marched through the woods by the coyotes, that she’d not actually stood on her own since the crash landing, and she was noticing that there was a distinct, needling pain in her ankle as well as her chest.”(Meloy, 2011: 296)

On the quotation above, Prue is upset because she has been arrested by Alexandra's army. She walks through the wood, even though she cannot stand by well. But, Alexandra instructs her army to understand the condition of Prue. There is a wound in her ankles and chest.

3.2.12 Prue Goes to North Wood to Find Help

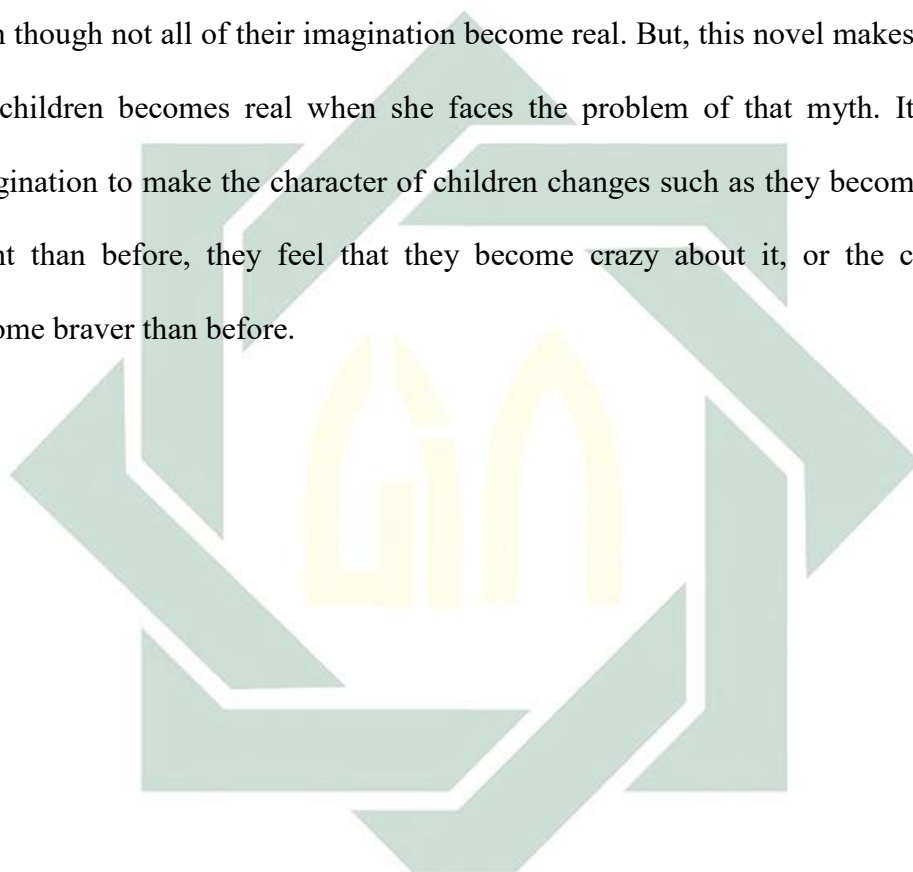
The Governor of South Wood gives residence to Prue as long as the government is looking for her brother. Prue is tightly guarded by the police while in South Wood. Rumors about the outsider are able to enter wood safely is heard by owl rex, the prince of South Wood. The prince of South Wood points her to go to North Wood to help her finding Mac. At North Wood, Prince tells Prue to meet Mystic. Prue asks help to Richard to accompany her to go to North Wood because everybody will look for her.

“The owl, just before the police showed up, said if all else fails I should go to North Wood. To see the Mystics. Enver here seems to think I can catch a ride with an eagle if I could just get myself across the border to the Avian Principality. And since the whole South Wood is searching for me and any bird that happens to be in the vicinity, I’d need to do that undetected.” (Meloy, 2011: 242)

Bridge. After crossing the Gosh Bridge, they must ring the bell to call the witch, she is Alexandra. To open the Gosh Bridge, they must throw the runes. Runes are trinkets which can open the gosh bridge. Alexandra comes and asks them about what they want. Her parents want Alexandra to give them a child. But, Alexandra gives them a provision. If they get the second child, it will belong to Alexandra. So, Alexandra touch stomach's mother. After a while, the mother gets pregnant. While her parent tells Prue that Mac is Alexandra's child because Mac is the second child. "This woman you met," her dad said slowly. "This Governess. Your mother and I, we've met her before." (Meloy, 2011: 328) They come back home and the gosh bridge is closed by the dark clouds that are very creepy. Prue feels shocked because she is alive because of Alexandra's magic. Her dad tells that maybe this is the time for Alexandra to take her baby back. So, their parents do not want Prue to come back to look for baby Mac. They are thankful to Alexandra for giving them Prue in their life. Prue cannot imagine that she is a mixed blood of the wood. That is why Prue can enter I.W safely because she comes from that place. "So, that was it. You were born." (Meloy, 2011: 333) Prue realize that her dad ever asked her to not go to I.W and asks something about I.W. Prue also remember when she goes to I.W, the people are curious about Prue; why she can enter I.W easily since she is an outsider people. On the other hand, the official government has protected the Wood by making magic called periphery to avoid the outsider entering I.W.

is just made by a human being. It is because the periphery magic which covers the wood from an outsider.

Those all the results found by the researcher. The children like to imagine something that they hear, see, or read. Their imagination sometimes seems real even though not all of their imagination become real. But, this novel makes one of the children becomes real when she faces the problem of that myth. It is the imagination to make the character of children changes such as they become more silent than before, they feel that they become crazy about it, or the children become braver than before.



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