

CHAPTER 4

DATA ANALYSIS

In this chapter, the writer explains the journey of Andy Dufresne as a hero in *The Shawshank Redemption* movie. The writer uses a theory by Carol S. Pearson as the main theory, and Joseph Campbell's theory which is related to hero's journey. According to Pearson (1986), the hero's journey has six stages: Innocent to Orphan, Wanderer, Warrior, Martyr, Magician, and Return. The writer divides the discussion into two parts. The first part is the first six stages of hero journey. The second part is the second six stages of hero journey. These two parts are necessary since Andy Dufresne experiences the six stages of hero journey twice.

4.1 The First Six Stages of Andy Dufresne's Hero Journey

4.1.1 Innocent to Orphan

A. Innocent

Innocent stage usually happens when the character was a child (Pearson, 1986, p. 25). In this stage, children usually feel happier about their life compared to adults. The Innocent used to have a better life before reaching a very different life as an adult where the Innocent experience the unfair world.

The writer found that Andy Dufresne experiences the Innocent stage in *The Shawshank Redemption* movie. He was an ordinary banker before he is accused of

murdering his wife and her lover because he was in the scene where they were murdered.

District Attorney : When they arrived, you went up to the house and murdered them

Andy Dufresne : No. I was sobering up. I got back in the car, and I drove home to sleep it off. Along the way, I stopped, and I threw my gun into the Royal River.

(The Shawshank Redemption, 00:03:31 until 00:03:44)

The dialogue above shows that Andy denies the District Attorney's statement that he murdered his wife and her lover. Instead, Andy claims himself as an innocent person because he tells that after he sees his wife and her lover, Andy gets back to his car and throws his gun in the river. He does not agree with the District Attorney's statement.

B. Fall

The Innocent will experience the Fall before becoming an Orphan (Pearson, 1986). This "falling Innocent" has to accept that his life is totally changing because he has "crossed the threshold" (Campbell as cited in Vogler, 1999, p. 3) and he will get a penalty in the form of suffering. In this movie, the writer found that Andy Dufresne has passed the Fall. It happens when Andy is sentenced guilty for murdering his wife and her lover.

Judge : I hereby order you to serve two life sentences, back to back. One for each of your victims. So be it. (*The Shawshank Redemption*, 00:06:30-00:06:37)

This dialogue shows that by the time the Judge sentences him, his life is officially changing. Andy Dufresne, who used to be a banker, has to live in the Shawshank Prison as a prisoner. He has to live in prison as a penalty of murdering his wife and her lover.

C. The Orphan

The first moment of becoming an Orphan after the Fall is the hardest moment (Pearson, 1986). The Orphan has to face his new life alone. This falling innocent experiences the unknown world which is more dangerous because there are so many villains around him. Pearson also explains that Innocent becomes Orphan when the person realizes that the law is unfair and the court may not protect him. The writer found that the main character, Andy Dufresne, is in the Orphan stage when Andy becomes a prisoner. He has no friends there, and he realizes that there are so many villains around him. When Andy spends his first night in the prison, he sees a new prisoner died after being punched by the officers. The next morning, Andy tries to find out who the dead prisoner is only to find that other prisoners do not even care about the incident. Another villain in the cell near Andy's is a homosexual who tries to seduce Andy. This man annoyingly talks to Andy when he takes a shower. He asks if there is any prisoner who has already asks Andy to be his "close friend" or not.

Andy feels annoyed and leaves him without saying a word. As a result, the homosexual prisoner who holds a grudge over Andy because Andy does not want to be his “close friend”, traps Andy in an empty room and punches him.



Figure 4. 1 Andy is punched by the Sisters (Bogs and friends)
(The Shawshank Redemption, 00:43:32)

In this stage, the Orphan who lives alone in his new world tries to find a giving tree. In *The Shawshank Redemption*, Andy meets a prisoner named Red. Red is different from other prisoners. He has an access to smuggle stuffs from the outside. Learning about this access, Andy tries to be friend with Red in order to get a mini rock hammer.

Andy : I understand you're a man that knows how to get things.

Red : I'm known to locate certain things, from time to time.

Andy : I wonder if you might get me a rock hammer.

Red : A what?

Andy : A rock hammer.

(The Shawshank Redemption, 00:25:37-00:25:45)

This mini rock hammer will be the hero's talisman received from the giving tree. The giving tree is someone who can provide the Hero's needs during the journey, and in this part, Andy's giving tree is Red. Andy asks for a mini rock hammer to Red because he is a rock hound, and he wants to fill his activity in the prison by polishing rocks. This rock hammer will be Andy's important thing during his prison time. Andy makes a tunnel in his cell using this mini rock hammer.

4.1.2 The Wanderer

In this stage, the Wanderer will explore the journey alone. When the Wanderer is exploring his journey, he will be threatened and feels lonely in his first attempt. In this situation, the Wanderer will learn how to avoid loneliness by establishing a better relationship with people around him.

In *The Shawshank Redemption* movie, the writer found that Andy Dufresne is experiencing the Wanderer stage. This wanderer stage is shown in Andy's struggles during his stay in the Shawshank prison. Andy, who used to be a banker, experiences very different life. As a prisoner, he has to eat unpleasant foods almost every day, takes a shower with other prisoners in the same shower room, works hard in the laundry room, fights with other prisoners who did not like him, and does a lot of works in the prison. Even though these new activities are contrast with his previous

life, Andy tries to adapt in every condition and situation in the Shawshank Prison. In his early time in prison, Andy is alone, he does not know anybody and he does not have any friends. He only has a helper, Red, who will provide him stuffs from outside the prison. Andy's experience in the Shawshank Prison shows that he is a Wanderer according to Pearson's theory. As Pearson once said, the Wanderer is brave enough to face several conditions such as surviving alone in the cruel world and being isolated.

Fortunately, as time goes by, Andy starts to make friends with several prisoners. In one scene, Andy is beaten by Bogs, the prisoner who hates him because Andy refuses to be Bogs's "close friend". Andy injures severely and has to stay in the infirmary for one month. When he recovers and comes back to his cell, other prisoners who befriend him decide to give Andy a surprise. This "surprise" is also called reward and the journey home stage by Campbell (1949, p. 255). The reward can be in the form of anything. This reward is given to the Hero because he has passed the Supreme Ordeal, the hardest obstacle during the journey (Campbell as cited in Vogler, 1999, p. 5).

Red : I'm thinking Andy could use a nice welcome back when he gets out of the infirmary.

The other prisoner : Sounds good to us. I figure we owe him that much for the beer.

Red : The man likes to play chess. Let's get him some rocks. (*The Shawshank Redemption*, 00:45:56-00:46:09)

The other prisoners want to give a box of rocks as a reward to Andy because when Andy and the other prisoners are having a project to renovate the Shawshank Prison's rooftop, Andy hears Captain Hadley has an issue about his children's financial plans. As a banker, Andy offers to help Captain Hadley make financial plans for his children. Andy tells Captain Hadley about his ability and his experience as a banker before he was prisoned. Knowing that Andy has an ability to make a financial plan, Captain Hadley accepts Andy's offer and as a reward, Andy asks for a box of beer from Captain Hadley. After renovating the Shawshank Prison's rooftop, the police officers give all of the prisoners a bottle of beer for each person. When all of the prisoners are drinking beer, Heywood sees that Andy is just sitting and does not take any bottle of beer. Then he gives a bottle of beer to Andy, but Andy refuses it because he does not drink alcohol anymore. The other prisoners are very thankful to Andy. This is the reason why the other prisoners want to give him a reward in the form of a box of rocks. Even though Andy does not drink alcohol anymore, he asks for a box of beer to the police officers in order to make a good relationship to the other prisoners. This shows that even though Andy is experiencing his journey only by himself, but he learns how to make a better relationship with people around him, just like a Wanderer.

4.1.3 The Warrior

The archetype of the Warrior is to stay and fight or defend himself (Pearson, 1986). In order to defend himself, the Warrior must have some power. This “power” has four types: physical, psychological, intellectual, and spiritual. In *The Shawshank Redemption* movie, the writer found that Andy uses physical power when he has to face the great ordeal. This great ordeal happens when Andy has to fight against Bogs and his friends to defend himself. Right after Andy refuses to be Bogs’s “close friend”, he has a hard feeling to Andy. Bogs and his friends, or usually called the Sisters, abuse Andy several times. Sometimes they trap Andy in an empty room, punch him, and beat him. Andy, who is alone, has to fight against several prisoners. Sometimes he wins, but sometimes he loses too. Even though sometimes he wins, he still gets some bruises on his face and his body. These bruises show that Andy has already used his physical power to fight against the villain.

Not only physical power, Andy also uses his intellectual power. This intellectual power shows in the form of his knowledge about geology and how he makes a plan to escape from the Shawshank Prison. During his prison time, Andy tries to write his name on the wall in his cell. Surprisingly, he finds that the wall in his cell is very brittle. Knowing this fact, Andy orders a mini rock hammer to his giving tree, Red. Using that mini rock hammer, he wants to make a tunnel in his cell to escape from the prison. Because he makes a quite big hole in his cell, Andy has to cover it because the police officers will have an annual inspection every month. Again, Andy orders stuff from Red. He asks for a big poster of Rita Hayworth to

cover the hole. This scene shows that Andy makes a plan using his intellectual power. He has already planned to escape from Shawshank prison since he knows that there is a possibility near him.

4.1.4 The Martyr

One type of sacrificing is transformative sacrifice (Pearson, 1986). The aim of transformative sacrifice is not to manipulate God or other people in order to get a benefit from it, but an expression of genuine love and care. When a Hero is in the Martyr stage, he realizes that he will not let other people experience the suffering that he experienced because he wants the suffer stops. Pearson also explains that the Hero will genuinely give his life to make the world a better place. One of the characteristics of transformative sacrifice is that the Hero does not only die to save other people, but also he willingly spends his whole live helping other people. This stage is not experienced by Andy Dufresne.

4.1.5 The Magician

The aim of the Magician is not to force the society to make a change (Pearson, 1986). The Magician knows that in order to have a peaceful world, everyone has to take their own journey. The position of the Magician in this stage is to be a magnet. The function of this magnet is to attract and spread a positive energy to people around him. When people get attracted to the Magician, he has to inspire them to make a better change in the world where they are living now.

The writer found that Andy experiences this stage when he is making a huge change in the Shawshank Prison Library. When Andy is asked to assist Brooks, the prison's librarian, he sees that the library is not interesting and the books are old. Knowing the situation of the library, Andy has an idea to ask new books from the government. At first, Brooks is unsure with Andy's idea because the process will take a long time. Even though Brooks is not really sure with his idea, Andy does not give up. He writes a letter every single day to ask for book donations from the government. Day by day he writes the letter although he does not get any feedback from the government until his sixth years of writing the letter. Andy is very happy when he is asked to come to the Warden's room and sees several boxes of books and vinyl for the Shawshank Library.

After receiving lots of donations from the government, Andy and the other prisoners renovate the library. They make the library an interesting place to visit. Not only that, Andy and the other prisoners decide to change the name of the Shawshank Prison Library into Brooks Hatlen Memorial Library because they want to give an honor to Brooks who was already passed away. This library that is used to be an uninteresting library now becomes the best library in New England. This shows that Andy has succeed to transform his kingdom just like a Magician.

Red : Andy had transformed a storage room smelling of rats turds and turpentine into the best prison library in New England, complete with a fine selection of Hank Williams. (*The Shawshank Redemption*, 01:17:53-01:18:05)

On the day after the library is renovated, many prisoners come to read books and listen to music. This library becomes a new world for the prisoners in Shawshank. The prisoners who used to feel bored, now has found their new place to fill their activity. One of the examples is Heywood. He does not like reading a book, but when the library gets some boxes of vinyl, he always comes to the library to listen to his favorite singer, Hank Williams.

4.1.6 The Return

The Return stage is like an equilibrium. Equilibrium is a calm state of mind and a balance of emotions (Oxford Learner's Dictionary, 2019). As mentioned by Pearson (1986), when the hero returns, his kingdom is changing. The changing of the kingdom is because the Hero transforms the kingdom into a better place.

In this stage, the condition of the Shawshank prison is very organized. People find a new treasure in the prison. Red works in the library helping Andy organizes the books, while Andy does his daily routine as a librarian and an account who becomes the Warden's financial advisor. At this moment, the situation in the Shawshank prison is very conducive.

4.2 The Second Six Stages of Andy Dufresne's Hero Journey

As a Hero, Andy keeps taking a journey because as mentioned by Pearson (1986), the hero's journey is not a linear path, but a spiral. People keep circling through this archetypal pattern to know deeper about themselves.

4.2.1 The Innocent to Orphan

A. The Innocent

Being imprisoned for a long time is not easy, especially for Andy. Prison time is slow, especially after 19 years. In order not to get bored in the prison, Andy fills in his time with activities. One day when Andy is organizing books in the library, Tommy, a new prisoner, comes to him. Tommy is a young prisoner who wants to get his education certificate. Knowing that Andy is well educated, Tommy asks Andy to help him to get the certificate. Honestly, Andy knows that his life in the Shawshank prison is getting monotone. At first, he refuses to help Tommy because he thinks that it will just waste his time. This shows that Andy wants to tell Tommy that he is busy and he has activities to do. Whereas, deep down in his heart he knows that he already gets bored with his daily routine. In the end, Andy decides to help Tommy because he does not want to deny the fact that he needs a new project to avoid boredom in the prison.

Red : Prison time is slow time. So you do what you can to keep going. Some fellas collect stamps. Others build matchstick houses. Andy built a library. Now he needed a new project. Tommy was it. It was the same reason he spent years shaping and polishing those rocks. The same reason he hung his fantasy girlies on the wall. In prison, a man will do most anything to keep his mind occupied. (*The Shawshank Redemption*, 01:27:30-01:28:04)

B. The Fall

In this stage, Andy experiences the Fall when Tommy, the new prisoner, tells him that he meet Elmo Blatch. Tommy's inmate in the previous prison, who confessed of getting an assignment to murder a golf pro. In his confession to Tommy, Blatch mentioned that the golf pro was with a married woman at the time of the murder. Blatch continued telling Tommy that the police pinned the woman's husband, a banker to be the murderer. Upon hearing this story, Andy is so surprised. He is sure that Tommy is telling the truth. Andy, then, goes to the warden's office to tell this story and asked if there is a possibility for him to be released from the prison.

Warden : Well... it's obvious this fella Williams is impressed with you. He hears your tale of woe and quite naturally wants to cheer you up. He's young, and not terribly bright. Not surprising he wouldn't know what a state he'd put you in.

Andy : Sir, he's telling the truth.

Andy tries to convince the warden that Tommy is telling a true story

Warden : That's assuming Blatch is even still there. The chances are he'd be released by now.

Andy : They'd have his last address, names of relatives. There's a chance isn't there? How can you be so obtuse?

Warden : What? What did you call me?

The warden gets offended because Andy calls him an obtuse

Andy : I'm just trying to set your mind at ease, that's all. Sir, I...

Warden : Solitary. A month.

(The Shawshank Redemption, 01:32:21-01:32:38)

Unfortunately, the warden does not believe in that story and blames on Tommy for telling an untrue story to Andy. Andy is so upset because the warden does not support him and he thinks that warden is not fair to him. Realizing that the warden is not fair, Andy is very angry so that he calls the judge “an obtuse” — the word that makes the warden gets angry. He puts Andy on the solitary cell for a month, the longest time a prisoner is being in the solitary cell.

C. The Orphan

After the second Fall, Andy experiences the stage of the Orphan's life once again. The orphan stage is the opposite of the Innocent's life (Pearson, 1986). Andy experiences the Orphan stage the second time when he feels powerless and when he realizes that his life is surrounded by so many villains. *Shawshank Redemption* movie shows that Andy is very sad because the one who knows the truth, Tommy, is dead. When Andy is in the solitary cell, the warden asks Tommy to talk to him outside the Shawshank Prison. He asks whether the story about Elmo Blatch is true or not. Tommy tells the warden that he is telling a true story to Andy. Knowing that the story is true, the warden gives a signal to Captain Hadley to shoot Tommy right in his

heart. After the accident that happened to Tommy, Andy realizes that there are so many villains around him and he has no physical power to beat.

In this situation, Andy asks for a 6 feet rope from Heywood as Andy knows that Heywood can provide him with stuffs he needs at that time. This scene proves Pearson's theory that the Orphan will look for someone who can provide him something that he needs; this provider is called "the giving tree". Andy's asking Heywood for a long rope shows that Heywood is Andy's "giving tree". No one knows why Andy asks for a long rope. The other prisoners worry if Andy does what Brooks did, committing suicide.

4.2.2 The Wanderer

In this stage, the hero will be a Wanderer who will explore the journey only by himself. During the journey, the Wanderer tries to find his/her true self. In *Shawshank Redemption* movie, Andy has planned to escape from the prison since he knows that the wall in his cell is brittle. He asks for a rock hammer to build a tunnel and a big poster to cover the tunnel.

His efforts to escape from the Shawshank Prison takes around nineteen years and during that time, Andy keeps digging the wall in his cell, hide the stone in his jeans, and throw it when he is in the yard. No one knows about his plan including his close friend, Red. Andy does this because he believes that he is innocent and he tries so hard to escape from Shawshank. According to this scene, it proves that Andy has experienced his journey only by himself and passed the Wanderer stage.

4.2.3 The Warrior

In this stage, Andy realizes that he cannot use physical power to fight the warden and escape from the Shawshank Prison, so he uses his intellectual power to fight against the villains and escape from the cage. When Andy knows that the wall in his cell is brittle, he asks Red to get him a poster of Rita Heyworth. Andy uses the poster to cover a hole that he makes on his wall. He digs the tunnel for almost 20 years. After using his intellectual power to make a way to escape from the prison, he uses this power to fight against the villain (the warden and Hadley).

Andy offers himself to help Captain Hadley to make a financial plan for his kids. When everyone knows that Andy has a financial skill, the warden asks him to hide the warden's practice of money laundry behind a legitimate money report. When Andy has escaped from the prison, he sends the Warden's report book to Portland Daily Bugle. The money laundry scheme reported by Portland Daily Bugle on their newspaper is noticed by the police. The cops, then, catches Captain Hadley because he takes part in the warden's money laundry scheme.



Figure 4. 2 The police find Warden shoots himself

(*The Shawshank Redemption*, 02:04:07)

When the cops go to the warden's office, the warden has already prepared a gun with six bullets. Before the cops enter his office, the warden shoots himself in the head. This stage is a warrior stage as Andy has slayed the dragons (Captain Hadley and the Warden).

4.2.4 The Martyr

The writer does not find that Andy is experiencing the Martyr stage because after he passes the Warrior stage, the plot is highlighting Red's life in the Shawshank prison after Andy escapes.

4.2.5 The Magician

The Magician is a pioneer who makes a new creation. As mentioned by Pearson (1986), the Magician teaches people to know their capacity to make a creation that never happen before. In *The Shawshank Redemption* movie, Andy changes his life in his new journey. Andy, who used to be caged in Shawshank Prison, could escape by making a tunnel using his own hand. His life is totally changing from being a prisoner for almost 20 years then becomes a millionaire. He goes to Maine National Bank to take a lot of money that he gets from the warden.



Figure 4. 3 Andy transforms to be a rich man after escaping from Shawshank
(*The Shawshank Redemption*, 02:01:02)

When he works as the warden's financial advisor, Andy secretly prepares all of the documents to make a proper ID such as birth certificate, driving license, social security card. All of the documents are using a new name that just exists on paper and he sends the warden's money to his new bank account. After having lots of money, he buys a car and moves to a small city called Zihuatanejo. He has his own business and new activity. Andy, who is used to work in the Shawshank Prison, now becomes a man who runs his own business and lives his new life.

4.2.6 The Return

In the classic hero myth, the kingdom is just like a wasteland. Pearson (1986) explains that when the hero returns, his kingdom is changing. The rain pours, the babies are born, and the people feel hopeful and alive. Andy's life in the Shawshank prison is not good. He experiences so many unpleasant accidents. But when Andy comes out from there, his life is changing. When Andy finally escapes from the

Shawshank Prison, the rain is pouring and cleans all of the dirt on his body. He changes his cloth and starts his new life just like a newborn baby. His life is filled with hope and he believes that hope is a good thing, and a good thing will never die.

Pearson also adds that the hero is not only taking a journey, finding treasure of our selves, sharing the treasure with others, but also the one who transforms the kingdom. When Andy succeeded to escape from the Shawshank Prison, he asks Red to join with him to live in Zihuatanejo. He wants Red to have a new life there. Red decides to follow his friend, Andy, to Zihuatanejo.

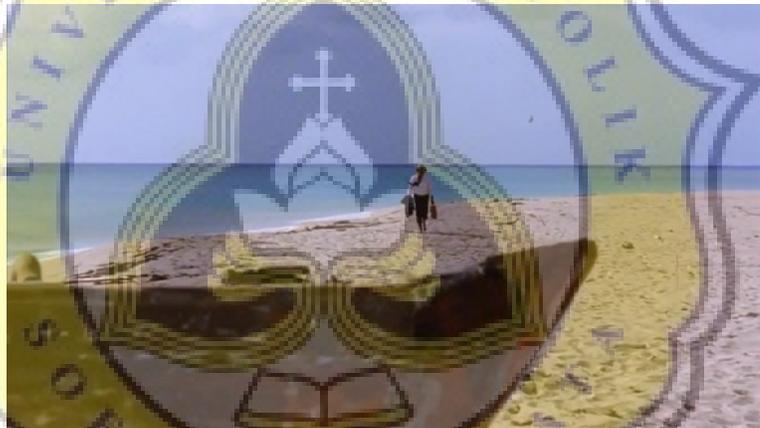
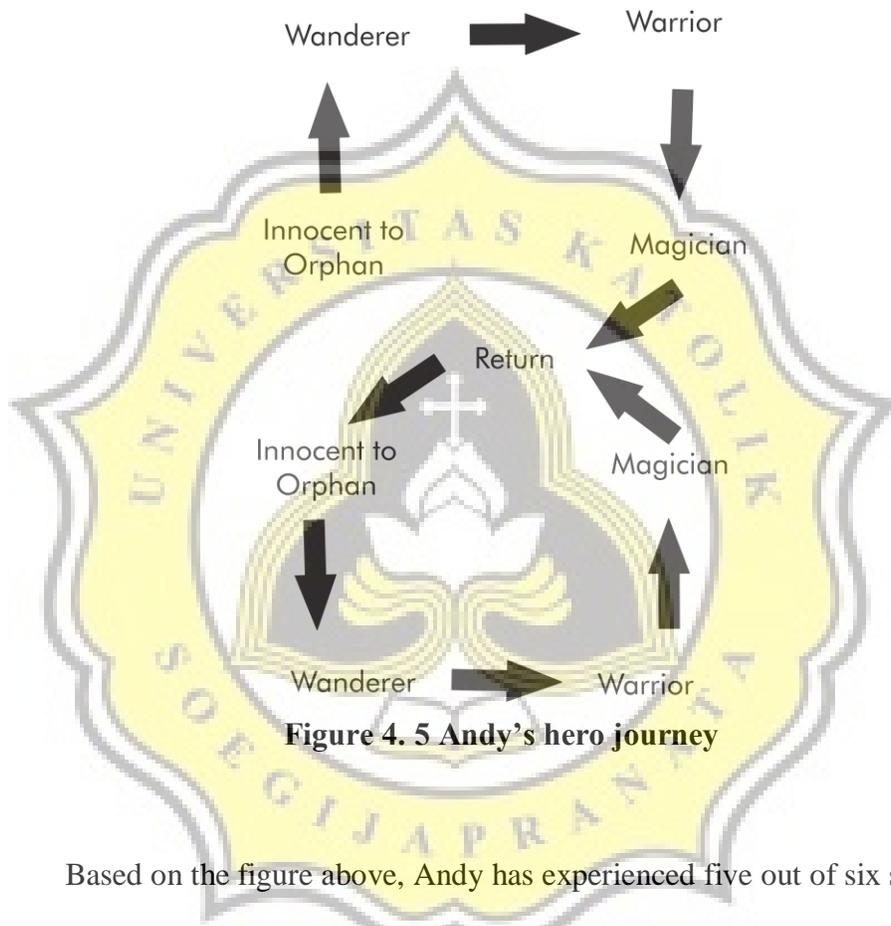


Figure 4. 4 Red joins Andy to start a new life in Zihuatanejo
(The Shawshank Redemption, 02:17:45)

When Red arrives there, he realizes that his life and Andy's life are totally transformed into something beautiful. Living in a small place with his best friend, starting a new business by building a little hotel, buying an old boat to take the guests travelling around the hotel, and enjoying life are all they have.

From the result above, the writer finds that Andy Dufresne, as the Hero, experiences two cycles of hero's journey. It proves Pearson's theory that the stages of hero's journey are spiral. Based on the result, the writer made a figure which can explain the stages of hero's journey are cycling or spiral.



Based on the figure above, Andy has experienced five out of six stages of hero's journey which happen twice. In both of the first cycle and the second cycle, Andy has experienced all of the stages except the Martyr stage. The hero's journey which is experienced by Andy is categorized as an unique phenomenon because it happens twice. From the previous study, the other researchers usually only find one cycle, and it does not make a spiral form but just a linear form.