

DREAMS IN PATRICK NESS' *A MONSTER CALLS*

A Research Paper

Presented to

The Department of Languages, Mass Communication and Humanities

Central Philippine University

Iloilo City

In Fulfilment of the Requirements

In English 323 (Research Paper in English Language and Literature)



By

ARLYLE VANCE D. MARAVILLA

March 2019

DREAMS IN PATRICK NESS' *A MONSTER CALLS*

Arlyle Vance D. Maravilla

ABSTRACT

This critical study aimed to find out how dreams are integrated in the narrative of *A Monster Calls* by Patrick Ness published in 2011. Specifically, it sought to identify the recurring symbols, archetypal figures and ideas expressed by the dream sequences. Among other things, this study aspires to be beneficial to literature students in expanding their sources of research of dreams in literary works especially in narrative prose. Using the archetypal approach, the descriptive content analysis of the novel revealed that (1) the symbolism of the yew tree, the nightmare and the clocks (12:07) were all instrumental in the development of the plot and overall theme; (2) The Hero, The Wise Woman, The Lover, The Detached Manipulator, The Denying Innocent One, The Outcast, The Transcendent Hero, The Sensitive-intuitive Healer and The Mother were also used in the development of the overall theme; and, (3) the core message of the dreams to Conor was to understand the complexity of human behavior, the overall theme of the novel. Dreams are more than just mere experiences in the unconscious world. Their physiological functions may not be well defined or clearly pin-pointed by neuro-scientists, but the unsolved mystery is what makes it an intriguing field of study for people from all walks of life. Hopefully, this can serve as a starting point to the readers in the further study of dreams.