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The Hero Pattern from a Psychological View in the Book “What Comes Next”

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Abstract

How psychology affects the Hero Pattern followed by Adrian Thomas in the book *What Comes Next?*

The investigator will apply the qualitative method, since all the information gathered was taken from the opinion of the investigator and sources. Besides that, this investigation was done based on the situations presented on the books and on the appliance of the Hero Pattern, which was created based on the opinion and own search of Joseph Campbell.

In this research, the investigator discovered that the psychology has an important role in the story due to the nature of the main character and the Hero Pattern.

As a conclusion, the investigation was successful since the subject under review was totally analyzed in order to explain in a proper and complete way the book *What Comes Next*. In order to make the investigation more wide and complete, the investigator applied the Hero Pattern Approach with the purpose of analyzing the main character and how he evolved throughout the story, until he gained the title of hero and confirmed that the book followed the pattern.

Resumen

¿Cómo afecta la psicología el Patrón del Héroe que Adrian Thomas sigue en el libro El Profesor?

La investigadora aplicará el método cualitativo dado a que toda la información reunida fue tomada de la opinión de la investigadora y diversas fuentes. Además de eso, la investigación fue hecha basada en las situaciones que se presentaron en el libro y en la aplicación del Patrón del Héroe, el cual fue creado basado en la opinión e investigación individual de Joseph Campbell.

En este estudio, la investigadora descubrió que la psicología tiene una parte muy importante en la historia debido a la naturaleza del personaje principal y el Patrón del Héroe.

Como conclusión, la investigación ha sido exitosa ya que el objeto bajo estudio ha sido totalmente analizado con el objetivo de explicar el libro El Profesor de forma adecuada y completa. Con tal de hacer la investigación más amplia y completa, la investigadora aplicó el Héroe del Patrón con el propósito de analizar el personaje principal y cómo evolucionó a lo largo de la historia hasta obtener el título de héroe y confirmar que el libro sigue el patrón.

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Chapter I

Introductory Framework

This chapter is going to introduce the book under study and the motifs why it is being affected by the Hero Journey, as proposed by Joseph Campbell. The book *What Comes Next* was written by the American author John Katzenbach, who is highly regarded as an author specialized in criminal dramas and psychological thrillers. The investigator will make a research on the mental disease that affects the main character, as well as psychology as an influence in the Hero Journey, which will be also analyzed in detail.

1.1 Background of the Study

The book selected is John Katzenbach's *What Comes Next*, which describes how mental instability and the uncontrollable desire of being in control can affect the decisions an individual makes. The main goal of the research is to prove how society, mental unbalance, and sexual desire could lead to impulsive actions that put in risk the life of the human doing the action and the humans surrounding him or her. Lewy Bodies Dementia is a disease that affects the brain activities and decisions of the person who suffers it and it is related to Alzheimer and Parkinson's diseases, which is the core of *What Comes Next*.

The author of the story has experience with psychological terminology and social and individual behavior in humans, since he is a thriller book writer. On the other hand, the investigator has knowledge on psychological books, as she is focused on reading and analyzing books in which the individual's behavior is under analysis and the atmosphere is tense due to the criminal actions of the characters. In addition, the investigator has been

reading information about mental disorders and kidnaping in order to make a proper analysis of the book that is being presented through the investigation.

According to the National Institute of Health (2017), “LDB [Lewy Body’s Dementia] is a disease associated with abnormal deposits of a protein called alpha-synuclein in the brain. These deposits, called Lewy bodies, affect chemicals in the brain whose changes, in turn, can lead to problems with thinking, movement, behavior, and mood. LBD is one of the most common causes of dementia, after Alzheimer’s disease and vascular disease.” This means that the production of unusual neurites (cell body of a neuron) produces a protein - alpha-synuclein-, which has an essential role in the development of the cognitive functions. Once the uncommon protein settles in the brain, the frontal lobe (which is related with emotions, problem solving, reasoning, planning, social behavior, and voluntary movements) is affected, and that damage will alter the actions and behavior of the person.

This type of dementia is defined as an overall term that describes a wide range of symptoms associated with a decline in memory or other thinking skills severe enough to reduce a person’s ability to perform daily activities. In addition, it will affect the way in which the person who is affected behaves. The ones with this disease can present problematic behavior because since they hallucinate, the behavior will be different from the others, for they will become nervous, unstable, aggressive, emotional, bold, and weak in terms of health.

Based on the Alzheimer’s Association (2017), dementia has been incorrectly referred to as “senility” or “senile dementia,” which is the incorrect belief that this dementia is regular or common in aging. Even though LBD and Alzheimer diseases share some

symptoms, there are not the same. Throughout the book, the main character makes a clear emphasis on the Lewy Bodies Dementia, which is the disease that affects him.

According to doctors from Verywell (2017), Alzheimer's disease and LBD are types of dementia, which have several similarities, but with clear differences. The main characteristic between Alzheimer's and LBD is that in the first disease, the person's ability to think and use his or her memory is going to gradually decline over time; while in the second disease, the person might not recognize the relatives and in the next day, he or she will recall all the names of the family members. In the case of physical movement, Alzheimer's does not produce any physical deterioration; however, LBD will create difficulties in walking and a decrease in balance, and ability to control physical movements, making the person fall in a regular basis.

Another factor in both diseases (that makes them similar) is the visual hallucinations. In Alzheimer, these are not as prevalent as in LBD's, which make people see things that are not there. The survival onset for the Alzheimer's disease is eight years, and for the Lewy Bodies Dementia, seven years. Alzheimer's diseases are part of the 60-80 percent of cases, and the vascular dementia (which occurs after a stroke) is the second most common dementia type all around the world. On the other hand, regarding the Lewy Bodies Dementia, doctors report incidence rates of 3.5 cases per year per 100,000 people, meaning that this is a rare disease with a lower rate than Alzheimer. Both diseases lead to death in a matter of years and are related to the mental instability.

Lewy Bodies Disease is divided in three stages: early, middle, and later. All these stages are essential in the development of the disease. In the early stage, hallucinations, delusions, restlessness, acting out dreams during sleep, and some movement difficulties are

shown; also, some individuals seem to get stuck while they are moving around or develop urinary urgency and incontinence. Unlike Alzheimer disease, the memory is still intact. For the middle stage, the symptoms resemble more to Parkinson's, which as per Mayo Clinic (2015), it is a progressive disorder of the nervous system that affects movement; it usually starts with a barely noticeable tremor in just one hand. The symptoms include increased impairment of the body's motor functions, difficulty with speech, impaired ability to swallow, and increased paranoia and delusions. Cognition begins to decline and there is a decrease in attention, significant periods of confusion are presented in this stage.

In the final or later stage, extreme muscle rigidity and sensitivity to touch develops. The patient will need help to perform almost all activities of daily living. Speech is often very difficult and it may be whispered or absent, making the ill lose their ability of speech. Lewy Bodies Dementia typically causes the individual to become extremely susceptible to pneumonia and other infections because of the weakness. In the final stage, the patient dies due to the weakness produced by the disease.

In *What Comes Next*, the main character is forced to live his last years of life with LBD, while he is in the dilemma of rescuing a lady or dying in a slow way. As mentioned before, the author selected this disease to create conscience, since his best friend died due to that disease. This topic (mental illness) is not common in literature due to the romanticism in this century; however, this book was chosen to show a different type of analysis that will show a wide range of topics such as mental diseases, psychology, criminal conducts, and the Hero Pattern. In this investigation, the stigmas of the mental diseases are going to be used to determine how they affect society and literature, nowadays.

According to Swinnen and Schweda (2015), due to the negative thoughts regarding dementia, including imagery and alarmist rhetoric, an increasing number of patient organizations, political initiatives, and academic approaches are advocating different understandings of dementia and more open, inclusive, and accepting attitudes towards those affected by the disease. Dementia is no longer limited to biomedical reasons, but also is being integrated into public imagination and popular culture, gaining multiple new interpretations, evaluations, and functions in a variety of cultural domains, social spheres, and national contexts.

Dementia is being shown in different qualities and appearances in film, literature, or art. Unfortunately, in the case of the film industry, dementia patients are shown as the villains of the story, such as The Joker in the DC movies or Jack Torrance in *The Shining*. For literature, dementia is represented in characters with mental instability such as Alice Howland in *Still Alice* or Adrian Thomas; for these two characters, dementia converts them in victims of the disease, who battle against the menace of losing everything they have because of the mental disease.

In art, dementia can be represented in the works of Van Gogh, in Beethoven's music (he suffered from bipolar disorder, which made him create happy yet sad pieces), Munch (his most famous painting, "The Scream" is the representation of the dementia he suffered), and Francisco Goya. All these artists represented their mental illnesses through art, beginning the acceptance of the disease in the art. Nonetheless, there is not enough acceptance or awareness in dementia; for even if the art, literature, and film representation of mental illness are getting more popular in these last seven years, the disease is not as accepted as it is in art.

The process the main character goes through is called “The Hero Pattern,” which is briefly defined as a process in literature that most of the characters (heroes or villains) follow in order to be considered a hero. In *What Comes Next*, the main character, named Adrian Thomas, follows all the steps in a particular way in order to be considered a hero and the center of the entire story.

This pattern is usually applied in dystopic or fantasy stories such as *The Hunger Games* (by Suzanne Collins), *Harry Potter* (by J.K Rowling), *The Lord of Rings* (by J.R.R Tolkien), *Divergent* (by Veronica Roth), *The Maze Runner* (by James Dashner), *Throne of Glass* (by Sarah J. Maas), *The Chronicles of Narnia* (by C.S Lewis), *Alice in Wonderland* (by Charles Lutwidge Dodgson), and *Sherlock Holmes* (by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle), among others. This is also followed in comic books that show the stories of Batman, Wonder Woman, Flash, Captain America, Iron Man, Thor, Superman, Black Panther, Aquaman, etc., all of whom follow the Hero Pattern.

However, this guide in literature can be applicable to everyday people while dealing with their daily struggles, including a mental illness as in the case of *Still Alice* (by Lisa Genova), which is the story of a woman who is diagnosed with Alzheimer disease in her early fifties. The Hero Pattern can be applied in all literature genres, although the mental diseases are not usually applied in this pattern because of the instability of the mentally ill person.

1.2 Research Question

How psychology affects the Hero Pattern followed by Adrian Thomas in the book *What Comes Next*?

1.3 Purpose and Significance of the Study

The purpose of the study is to analyze the function of psychology in the Hero Pattern presented in *What Comes Next*. In this book, psychology plays an important role, since the main character is a Clinic Psychologist and suffers Lewy Body's Dementia, a disease that affects how the person sees the world and how the behavior is being developed in their remaining years of life. In addition, it is necessary to comprehend that having the mental disease made everything harder for the main character, who was going through a difficult situation.

With this investigation, the readers will be able to analyze, through the Hero Pattern, the part of psychology in the development of the character and his story. The Hero Pattern myth is generally perceived as applicable to the literature of previous times or to characters with divine or superior characteristics. However, for the book under investigation, the pattern is being applied to a normal character who lives in the modern times and has to deal with the stigma that affects the individuals with conditions which affect their mental health, social behavior, and psychology.

1.4 Objectives of the Investigation

1.4.1 General Objective

Analyze how the psychology can affect the Hero Pattern in the book *What Comes Next*, by John Katzenbach

1.4.2 Specific Objectives

- To analyze the behavior of the main character throughout the story
- To explain the actions of the main character according to the Hero Pattern

- To identify the conflict of the novel's main character between saving the young lady or taking medication for his mental disease
- To apply the Hero Pattern in the story and determine how it affects its development.

1.5 Limitations of the Study

The main limitation was the time factor, since this type of investigation requires a serious amount of time. Moreover, the second limitation was the topic of mental disease that affects the main character, since it required an investigation in the medical and psychiatric areas, besides the literary area.

The third limitation was the difficulty of finding analysis based on this book; for this book has not been analyzed by experts in the medical, mental, nor psychiatric areas developed in the book. Most of the investigations were done by recollecting information from different sources (psychologists and psychiatrics) during the period of this research. The fourth limitation in the months of investigation was the availability of some professionals in the area under study, since they have jobs and other situations to attend. Most of the psychologists and psychiatrics in San Jose had complicated job schedules, making the contact difficult.

Chapter II

Theoretical Framework

This chapter is going to be focused on the literary theories and approaches applied in the investigation of the book *What Comes Next*. It will also explain the meaning of literature, theory, and an explanation of the Hero Pattern and a comparison between the pattern under study and the book in analysis. Themes, symbols, and motifs will be also reviewed throughout the chapter.

2.1 Literary Theories and Approaches

Literary theories has been proposed by academics interested in analyzing literature in a specific and deeper way based on tendencies, seasons, social rules, and more. In order to explain more in depth literary theories, it is necessary to begin with the basic definitions of literature. According to Thoughtco (2017), literature can be defined as “A term used to describe written and sometimes spoken material. [...] literature most commonly refers to works of the creative imagination, including poetry, drama, fiction, nonfiction, journalism, and in some instances, song.” This can be summarized as literature being the creative works that include books in its different genres, and in some cases, songs.

Dictionary.com (2017) provides other definition of literature, stating that it is a noun and “Writings in which expression and form, in connection with ideas of permanent and universal interest, are characteristic or essential features, as poetry, novels, history, biography, and essays.” It also states that literature is the “Entire body of writings of a specific language, period, people; writings dealing with a particular subject; the profession of a writer or author; literary work or production; any kind of printed material; appreciation

of letters and books.” All those meanings are used to define the unique meaning of literature, which can be considered a profession, appreciation of letters and books, a characteristic of a specific language, period or people, or a writing with a particular subject.

The definition of literature given by the Merriam-Webster Dictionary (2017) explains that it is the production of a literary work as an occupation, it can be also writings in prose or verse (specially writings with excellent form or expression of permanent or universal interest); the body of written works produced in a particular language, country, or age; and the body of writings on a particular subject or a printed matter.

In the point of view of Krystal (2014), literature is not only what is written but what is voiced, expressed, invented in whatever form. Literature can be shown in the case of maps, sermons, comic strips, cartoons, speeches, photographs, movies, war memorials, and music that falls under the literary category. Even though they do not have the same value as they had in the earlier generations, books are still important. This means that literature is not only shown in books as an expression of art, but also in other examples of creativity such as comics (they can be from companies like Marvel, DC Comics, or independent artists like Robert Kirkman or Alan Moore). Literature is not limited to books, it can have other representations.

For Simon and Delyse Ryan (2004), literature has to do with letters, the written as opposed to the spoken word, though not everything that is written down can be considered as literature. There is a recurring agreement between theorists though for a work to be called literature, as it must display excellence in form and style. Eagleton (1996) states that literature has a relationship with language and it transforms and intensifies ordinary

language, deviates systematically from everyday speech. In addition, literature is the art, which arises out of the human ability to create language.

The most common definition of literature is that it covers the major genres of poetry, drama, and novel or fiction. For this definition, it is easy to say that per the first investigators of literature, not everything that is written can be considered as literature, since it must have excellence in all the terms of the written language, it must follow all the grammar rules imposed by dictionaries, and it also has to be a congruent history. Besides that, literature is used to communicate and share part of the language with other cultures. It is the ability of the humans to communicate through language. For this, literature can be used to connect people around the world.

For Encyclopædia Britannica (2017), literature is the body of written works, which name has traditionally been applied to the imaginative works of poetry and prose distinguished by the intentions of their authors and the perceived aesthetic (pleasing in appearance) excellence of their execution. Literature has been classified according to a variety of systems, including language, national origin, historical period, genre, and subject matter. In this definition, literature is applied to poems and prose, which are beautiful and perfect based on the grammar rules. Poetry is not usually considered a part of literature; however, this definition gives a special place to this type of literature, since it is dedicated to define it.

The investigator's opinion for the definition given above is that literature can also be defined as the combination of words that create a story, which can be read around the world. Those works will be categorized based on genre, period, origin, language, and specific subject. Even though poetry is perfect and beautiful in grammar, it is not

considered as a part of literature because it is under a different category. Based on the definition of literature, all the works that can be categorized should be considered as literature, including poetry and prose.

In all the definitions given above, literature is described as a written representation of words related to the creativity of the author. That representation can be through poetry, prose, songs, novel, fiction, dramas, thriller, erotic, historical, biographies, photographs, comic strips, war memorials, publishing, news, journeys, magazines, instructions, and tales. Literature can be used to express thoughts, ideas, or to share stories that can be fictional or nonfictional, historical, biographies. Literature has a wide range of definitions, all of them related to the written representation of ideas and culture. Literature can be divided based on the presented genre, since it can be a drama, historical, thriller, romantic, or classical. No matter how many definitions are introduced about the topic, literature will always be the written form of words, with creativity or without it.

In order to explain the meaning of theory, WebFinance (2017) stated that it is “A set of assumptions, propositions, or accepted facts that attempts to provide a plausible or rational explanation of cause-and-effect relationships among a group of observed phenomenon [...]” This means that theory is the combination of accepted facts that give a rational explanation of a cause and its effect after observing a happening.

The Merriam-Webster (2017) shows the definition of theory as the analysis of a set of facts in their relation to one another, an abstract thought, the general or abstract principles of a body of fact, a science, or an art; a belief, policy or procedure proposed or followed as the basis of action, an ideal or hypothetical set of facts, principles, or circumstances; a plausible or scientifically acceptable general principle or body of

principles offered to explain phenomena, or an hypothesis assumed for the sake of argument or investigation. This is when a person makes an investigation or analysis in order to determine a set of real or hypothetical facts about a specific issue that is affecting the population or a specific subject.

According to Faculty (2017), a theory “Explains how some aspect of human behavior or performance is organized. It thus enables us to make predictions about that behavior; a theory is composed by the concept (symbolic representation of an actual thing) and the principles (expresses the relationship between two or more concepts or constructs).” The theory will explain the aspect of human behavior or the performance that has been organized. This procedure will enable to make predictions about behavior, and the theory will be composed by the symbolic representation of an actual thing (the one that is being under the theory), and the relationship between two or more concepts.

Oxford (2017) states that the theory is a supposition or system of ideas intended to explain something, especially one based on general principles independent of the thing to be explained; a set of principles on which the practice of an activity is based; an idea used to account for a situation or justify a course of action; or, in the case of mathematics, it is a collection of propositions to illustrate the principles of a subject. Also, it is used to describe what is supposed to happen or be possible, usually with the implication that it does not in fact happen. The theory is used to suppose ideas to explain something based on principles of the thing to be explained. It can be also a set of principles on which the practice is based on a specific activity; an idea to justify a course or action that has been done or will be made; it is applied to collect propositions to illustrate principles of a subject. The theory is the combination of thoughts combined to explain a subject that is being analyzed, since it

affects the behavior; the person that will apply principles in order to get to the correct theory to explain the facts that are affecting the society's or the individual's behavior.

For the previous definitions of theory, the definition in common is the thought used to explain a phenomena that is happening, which makes the theory an accepted combination of thoughts and analysis to solve a situation. Literature and theory can be combined to create the "literary theory," which is defined as the body of ideas and methods we use in the practical reading of literature.

The literary theory is not only referred to the meaning of a work of literature, but also to the theories that will reveal what literature can truly mean. This type of theory is a description of the underlying principles by which we attempt to understand literature. The literary theory formulates the relationship between author and work, and it develops the significance of race, class, and gender for the study from the standpoint of the biography of the author and an analysis of their thematic presence within texts (Brewton, 2016).

For the book under study, *What Comes Next*, the literary theory states that this book is considered as a literary fiction work. The literary fiction is a genre category used to describe fiction that is valued highly for its quality of form and creative use of language, and it has been accepted into the category of 'literature' (books culturally accepted as 'literary' because they have common features such as elevated writing style). Literary fiction explores subtleties and complexities of language, and symbolism and tends to be character-driven rather than plot driven.

Often, literary fiction makes more demands on its readers than genre fiction. This happens because it merits a higher level of intellectual engagement; the themes and subjects

of the text and its social or political and/or historical context are important to how the reader reads literary fiction. Literary fiction is also arguably defined by a kind of elitism (consciousness of or pride in belonging to a select or favored group); although, literary novelists may come from any number of backgrounds, literary fiction is mostly written and read by privileged class. This is seen as a work that is created and read by an educated middle and upper class while genre fiction is often seen as more working class (Now Novel, 2017).

Literary theory is applied in the analysis of the literary work. The methods that will be applied to this investigation will be the Hero Pattern and the Post Analytic Theory, which is focused on the ego, desire, the unconscious, and defenses of the characters. In addition, it can be used to understand the text by the psychoanalysis of the motives, characters, symbols, actions, or other devices in order to discover the meaning of the work. The approach that will be applied will be the Psychological, and it will be focused on the Hero Pattern and how it is affected by the psychology of the character.

The Hero Pattern, or Hero Journey, was created by Joseph Campbell, who saw a pattern in all the literature works in which the main character had to follow a specific procedure that defined his or her mental and physical abilities to become the hero of their story. This pattern was called the Hero Pattern and it has been approved by literature specialists and it is applied in most of the literature works. There are twelve steps that need to be followed in order to analyze the story with the Hero Journey (1949).

- The Ordinary World: this is the introduction of the hero, who is uneasy or unaware of the dilemma he or she is about to get through. The hero is shown in his or her

environment; some kind of polarity in the hero's life is causing stress to the character.

- **Call to Adventure:** means a situation is presented in the hero's routinary life and he or she is forced to take a decision: whether accepting the call, or denying it. In the call of adventure, the main character must face the beginnings of change.
- **The Refusal of the Call:** this happens when the hero is scared of the unknown and prefers to stay in the tranquility of his or her home, without having any kind of exciting experience. Though this is a brief stage (because a natural hero always accepts the dangers), the hero will consider all the dangers that the acceptance of the call may have and how their lives will be affected.
- **Meeting with the Mentor, or the supernatural aid:** this occurs when the hero accepts the call and all the things that may happen in the future. In this stage, the hero will meet an older person that will provide the needed help and guidance to do the journey in a wise way. This traveler will give him or her the training, equipment. In rare cases, the hero reaches its mentor within a source of courage and wisdom; in most of the cases, the supernatural aid or mentor is an elderly male or a woman with mystique features (it can be a fairy or an angel).
- **Crossing the Threshold or their home:** in this step, according to Campbell (1949), "The hero goes forward in his adventure until he comes to the 'threshold guardian' at the entrance to the zone of magnified power." For this stage, the hero leaves the comfort in his or her life in order to follow the call; in this new place, the main character is going to enter a new region or condition with unfamiliar values, rules, or traditions.

- Tests, allies and enemies: for this singular stage, the hero will be tested to prove what he or she got to be considered a hero. During this part of the journey, the character will gain some enemies and some allies.
- Approach: it happens when the hero and allies prepare for a major challenge in this new world. They will prepare themselves in a physical and mental way in order to be able to defeat the enemy and have the glory; all of them will be prepared with the help of the mentor.
- The Ordeal: this one occurs in the middle of the story. The hero will enter in a specific space in the new world that will make him or her confront the main antagonist. In some cases, the fight is not necessarily with a physical person, but it can be with a personal dilemma or a big fear. The fight, if it done against a human, can be deathly; once the hero defeats the villain, a new life begins.
- The Reward: the hero takes possession of the treasure won by facing death; however, even if the hero is announced as a warrior or hero, he or she can lose the treasure again.
- The Road Back: occurs near the end of the book; in this scene, the hero will have to make his or her way back home, keeping the treasure safe; during the trip, a chase from a new enemy may occur just to signalize the urgency and danger of the mission.
- The Resurrection: this is developed in the climax, when the hero is harshly tested on the threshold of home. The hero will have to make a last sacrifice in which he or she will be purified, while the death invades his or her body and then the hero is reborn

with a higher level. Since the hero made another sacrifice, the problems from the beginning will be resolved.

- The Return with the Elixir: in this part, the hero returns home (or continues the journey) having in his or her will the power of changing the world as a hero. This last stage is usually the final step in the Hero Pattern, concluding this way the journey and trials the main character had to face to become a hero.

In this way, the Hero Pattern determines the steps that must be followed to classify a character into a hero, and it can be also used to classify the villain (in the book under analysis, the villains are Michael and Linda) with the difference that they will have to face negative situations that instead of making them good characters will change their perspective in life and will forced them to be the antagonists in the story. In the case of the antagonist of a story, the journey will make him or her a tough person, capable of doing awful acts just to follow their wish of doing something bigger and powerful that will change the history in humankind.

Main Character's Hero Pattern

- The Ordinary World: Adrian is introduced as a college professor who has been diagnosed with Lewy Bodies Dementia.
- The Call to Adventure: he sees how a young lady (Jennifer Riggins) is kidnapped.
- Refusal of the Call: Adrian has to confront the dilemma between leaving the entire situation in the police's hands or doing his own research in order to find Jennifer.
- Meeting with a Mentor: Adrian looks for the help of the Officer Terri Collins, who can be able to help him finding Jennifer using the law.

- Crossing the Threshold: Adrian decides to make the rescue by himself, looking for the criminal behavior of the kidnapper.
- Tests, allies, and enemies: Adrian allies with Mark Wolfe to find Jennifer.
- The Approach: it is shown when the hero is forced to face his biggest fear of losing his memory and forgetting everything he knows to help Jennifer.
- The Ordeal: Adrian and Mark find out where Jennifer is located; they both travel to the place where she is being held as a hostage; Adrian fights against the villains of the story.
- The Reward: Adrian saves Jennifer even though he almost died in the adventure.
- The Road Back: Jennifer is still safe. Michael, Linda, and Terri are dead, and Mark is forgiven by the law because he helped in the rescue.
- The Resurrection: Adrian is safe and awake in a mental healthcare institute.
- Return with the Elixir: Adrian is still in the mental hospital and Jennifer is studying clinical psychology to follow Adrian's steps and honor him with her future investigations.

In terms of psychology, the character presents a mental condition, which makes him have hallucinations and improper behavior. Adrian has hallucinations in which he sees his dead wife, son, and brother. They constantly help them in his decisions; although, he knows they are a product of his disease. As he is affected by the LBD, his behavior is shown as unstable, since one moment he can be courageous and in the other, he is scared of his disease and the things he is doing in order to help Jennifer. Adrian even states that he was strong because of his wife, but since she was gone, he became weaker until he realized that he needed to be strong for Jennifer. Adrian asks Mark Wolfe (a pornography expert,

exhibitionist, and a sex offender who had problems with the law and with his behavior) to help him in the research of Jennifer, offering him money, knowing that Mark needed that to help his mother with her treatment against Alzheimer. Other thing that reflects the psychology in the behavior of Adrian is that he knew how to make Mark helped him by using his 9mm to show a threat to his life and security.

2.2 Themes, Symbols, and Motifs

The theme in *What Comes Next* is the fight of the main character against two psychopaths who kidnapped a teenager with the purpose of using her in pornographic material. During the reading and analysis of the book, the investigator found several symbols: dementia, hallucinations, kidnap, the pink cap, a 9mm semiautomatic Ruger, suicide, war, pornographic movies, Mister Brown Fur, the farm, blindfold, the hood, Adrian's name, Linda, Brian, Wolfe, Michael, camera, underwear, Tommy, Thomas, death, cancer, web, the website name and the book's name.

The dementia represents the instability of Adrian in the entire story, how the age was affecting him. It also represents the fragile mental health of Adrian, since he constantly saw things and people that were not there, such as his family members that were deceased in different conditions several years ago. The hallucinations with his family showed the wish of dying that Adrian held. He wanted to be with his already deceased family; however, he kept fighting against his disease in order to help Jennifer. During all the story, Adrian saw his wife in the different stages she went through before her death. In the case of Brian, Adrian's younger brother, the protagonist saw him in his different stages before he committed suicide. Adrian also saw his son in his stages prior to his death as a photographer.

The kidnap represents how the innocence of Jennifer began to vanish, since she was taken away. In addition, it can represent her desire of running away from her problems; however, she only got herself into more trouble for running away from her safety.

The pink cap represents the childhood of Jennifer and her happier past. The pink is the clear representation of sweetness, innocence, compassion, caring, love, unconditional love, understanding, and passion combined with purity. She was sweet, even though she did not show it with others; she was innocent, compassionate, caring, lovely, and she loved her father in an unconditional way (she was wishing to see him again). However, Jennifer was not an understanding person because she could not understand the danger she was in until it was too late. The cap represented the happiness she felt when her father was alive and shared with her.

The 9mm semiautomatic Ruger represents the death surrounding Adrian. After Adrian received the diagnosis from his doctor, he wanted to commit suicide right after he saw how Jennifer was kidnapped; however, he decided to keep the weapon away from him and focus on the investigation he had to make. The weapon is shown again, when Adrian decides to make Mark Wolfe his ally to find Jennifer. The professional used the Ruger to menace Mark with killing his mother if he did not accept to help him. The semiautomatic was used by Brian when he committed suicide; Adrian kept the pistol as a reminder of his brother and how he lost him.

The name Adrian is a symbol in the story, since this name has different meanings in different cultures. For example, in America and Germany, this name means “dark;” and throughout the book, Adrian went through dark and difficult moments, and he even made dark things as surfing in the porn web and hurting others just to get what he wanted

(Jennifer). The Greek meaning of the name Adrian is “rich,” and this character was a man who had a good amount of money thanks to his job as a professor and psychologist; besides that, Adrian was a rich man in knowledge of criminal behavior. In Latin, this name represents the dark richness, reflected with his mention of his credit card having more money than Mark’s value and using the money to make the sexual assailant help him and put in danger his conditional liberty. In addition to the prior point, Adrian manipulated Mark with his wide understandings in the psychological matters.

Suicide represents the need of death from Adrian. He was looking for his suicide to meet his family and put an end to his suffering and loneliness. Jennifer considered killing herself after realizing she was going to die; no matter what she did, she desired meeting again with her father and stop the pain she was feeling after being raped by Michael and humiliated by Linda in several occasions. The suicide is represented as the easiest way to get out of a problem that seems to do not have a solution. However, both characters kept living, Adrian because he needed to save Jennifer at all costs, and Jennifer because she could not find a weapon or object that could help her to commit suicide. This means that while one was living to save the other, the other was living because there was nothing to kill herself with.

The war represents the trouble of Adrian between committing suicide or keep on living to help Jennifer. It showed the conflict between Adrian, his past, his present, and his uncertain future, which was blurry because of his illness. This event also represents the way in how the son of Adrian died, and the way how Brian’s life changed in a negative way before committing suicide. The war is the representation of blood and death, and at the end

of the book, Adrian and Terri have a war against Michael and Linda, leaving the farm in which Jennifer was held captive a mess of blood and dead bodies.

Pornographic movies are the representation of the perversion that is shown in the book by the antagonists of the story and Mark Wolfe. In the case of Michael and Linda, they were dedicated to the kidnap of women to create a history of pornography and violence that ended with the death of the victims. Michael and Linda used the pornography to tease the watchers in doing improper things, and they also wanted to have the control of all the situations happening to Jennifer in order to make the story they were creating more exciting for the followers. It can be said that pornography is the darkest subject in the story, for it damaged the life of Jennifer, Adrian, Mark, and destroyed the life of Terri, Michael, and Linda.

Mister Brown Fur is the representation of Jennifer's innocence and the love her father felt for her. The teddy bear was the only connection Jennifer had with her past, and it showed the difficulty she was having in living through the situation she was going on. Jennifer held to Mister Brown Fur and constantly spoke to him to remember she was still alive. Although, Jennifer was divided between living and dying, she always looked for memories she had with the teddy bear and her father in order to find a place to retreat her mind, when she was raped by Michael or injured by Linda.

The farm represents the loneliness that the characters had in general. Adrian felt lonely, since the death of his brother Brian, and his feeling of solitude became bigger when his son Tommy died, but it was until his wife Cassandra died that he felt that he was completely alone in the world. Jennifer felt lonely because her father and best friend died

and left her only with her mother, who was too focused on herself to even care for her own daughter in pain.

In the case of the antagonists of the story, for Linda, the loneliness in her life did not exist. However, it is easy to see that element if her lifestyle is put in review; she had everything a young lady would want in her life (a stable and well paid job, a caring boyfriend, and a physique that made everyone turned around to see her); nevertheless, she did not feel those elements as a key to be happy, so she looked for what she needed in pornography and different crimes. In the case of Michael, he was never a popular man due to his lack of social abilities, so he turned his attention to Linda and her need of attention. During the story, there is no mention of their family, so the investigator deduced that whether Michael and Linda do not have a family, or they are totally alone in the world (which is mentioned several times when the narrator suggested that they were the only one for each other).

In the case of the allies, Mark Wolfe felt loneliness, since he could not have a regular life because of all the crimes he made in the past, and his mother was dealing with her disease (Alzheimer). Terri Collins felt lonely because she was in charge of her family and could not share that much with her little boys because of her work. In the case of Cassandra, she felt lonely after Tommy's death because he was always with her when Adrian was at work. Brian felt lonely because the money he had could not buy him the happiness and peace he was looking for so desperately.

The blindfold used to cover Jennifer's eyes represents the ignorance of the authority (Terri) in the case of Jennifer. Although Terri was conscious of the pornography business, she did not believe in Adrian when it was about the location of Jennifer and the things that

may be happening to her. In modern days, most of the authorities ignore the fact that there are more victims of this situation than the ones that are actually saved from it. In psychology, having the eyes and head covered represents the darkness that a person has within his soul, and Jennifer showed her darkness in her death wishes. The hood covering Jennifer's head made her vulnerable to all the dangers surrounding her, during her captivity. Even if Linda and Michael were covering her face to protect her identity and for her to do not be found, Jennifer felt vulnerable and intimidated by this action, since she could not see what was going on in her surroundings until it was too late. After making sure Jennifer was not going to do something risky, Linda and Michael decided to replace the hood with a blindfold that kept Jennifer in her vulnerable state, but she managed to peek under it.

Another symbol found by the investigator in the book under analysis is the camera used to show everything Jennifer was doing. This object represents the need of seeing everything. Linda and Michael used several cameras to keep their audience connected with the story they were sharing; also, they kept an eye on Jennifer through it. Even though cameras are usually used with artistic or professional means, these criminals used this device to reflect and share the perversion they had in themselves. It is necessary to point out that in the pornography web, the runner of the transmission is in charge of letting know what the victim is doing through live-streaming.

The white van is a symbol in this book because all around the world, people is being kidnapped and the kidnapers runaway in vans. Though this car is usually used by families; in this book, the van is used to take away a young lady from her family.

The underwear that was placed in Jennifer was the representation of the lust of Michael and Linda, who selected the lingerie to excite the followers of the “show.” The couple used the same type of underwear in all of their victims, as a signature of how they worked in the crime. Underwear is commonly shown once a person is in confidence with the one that is seeing it, so showing Jennifer’s underwear was a way to make the followers think that she trusted in them to see her intimacy, thing she did not do.

Jennifer’s rape represented the moment in which she lost not only her virginity, but also her wish to live. After being forced to have sexual intercourse with Michael, Jennifer wanted to commit suicide and meet with her father. In the moment in which Jennifer was used to satisfy the perversions of Michael, Linda, and the watchers of the program, she felt dirty and damaged, which is the feeling that rape victims feel while and after they are raped.

The name Linda holds a symbol. The person with this name is characterized because she brings completion to anything they start; they are generous but like to see returns of what they are giving. In addition, they have an executive ability, and they are leaders since birth. The women is moral, balanced, honest, intellectual, wise, practical, and appreciate beauty; they are intuitive, artistic, dramatic, and love science. All those words represented in a minimal way Linda’s character, since she does not have a moral sense nor balance, but she is honest, intellectual, executive, practical, and she appreciates beauty (even if it is shown in a pornographic form).

The name Michael means, “No person is like God.” However, Michael did feel like a god, since he thought he was invincible and had the control of everything that was happening in his life. In history, the males with the name Michael did history by being

brave and full of wisdom, but that is not the case of Michael, since he made the mistake of thinking, he was invincible. Michael is also the American name of Miguel, who was one of the Archangels of God and also the one who defeated Satan and gained the name of Prince Michael.

The name Brian is related to loyalty in the Celtic period of history. In spite of being a name with an unknown root, Brian is a name that was used in Ireland before it became popular and reached a global recognition. The character Brian was loyal with his family and friends, reason why he was selected as the doctor of his commando in war.

The name Jennifer has different meanings based on the culture. The Arthurian meaning is “fair,” the American is “the fair one,” the Celtic meaning is “the white wave,” and the Cornish meaning is “fair and yielding.” These meanings represent Jennifer as a fair person, which can be shown in the epilogue of the book when she leaves the university campus to buy flowers to Terri Collins’s grave in a thankful gesture, and it is also reflected in her visits to Adrian in the mental hospital.

The name Tommy means that the person likes to control everyone within his influence, and shapes the things to his liking. The ones with this name are believed to have God’s protection, so the person is sensitive, affectionate, imaginative and cooperative, spiritually aware, and prone to self-sacrifice. In the book, Tommy was shown as a sweet and loving man who gave all his attention to his family and work. Also, Tommy was seeking for freedom, opportunities to enjoy his life and going to places he would never go in other situations, another characteristic of this character and this name. During Adrian’s hallucinations, Tommy was shown as a young and wise man who guided his father to the right path by letting him know that the answer was in the little details and that Adrian

needed to open his eyes a little bit more in order to see what was really happening around him. In spite of not being the most active hallucination, Tommy was an important part of Adrian's story, since he was a constant ghost in the main character's memory. Tommy appeared in the most critical moments in the story, showing himself as a selfless hero that just wanted to help the one he loved to save a young lady he never met before, but felt obligated to help her, since he saw how she was taken away from humanity. The last name Thomas was originated in the rugged landscape of Wales, being a popular last name in the Medieval Europe to represent the Bible. Throughout the book, there is not a higher mention of God nor religion, proving that the book is not based on Christianity, but on crime and moral matters.

The last name Wolfe makes mention to the animal inside Mark; who is constantly thinking in having sexual relations with younger ladies to satisfy his perversions. Mark was more interested in his own safety than in others'. However, he accepted to assist Adrian to satisfy his perverted needs, while searching in the web for Jennifer. Even though, he was in danger by being close to the pornography world, Mark dived deeper with the excuse of helping the old man. In the last scene in which Mark had participation in the story, he was touching Jennifer's skin, as he put his sweater over her shoulders to cover her nakedness. After Jennifer was saved, Mark disappeared, showing the nature of a wolf by walking alone and away from everything and everyone.

The web represents the temptations that all the characters had: death from Adrian and Jennifer, sex from Michael, Linda, and Mark; vengeance from Jennifer, throughout the book. In the case of Michael and Linda, they were killed by their temptation of having power and recognition; Adrian was killed, making his wish a reality; and Mark almost fell

in his temptation by having Jennifer close. In the end, the only character that did not fall in temptation was Jennifer.

Death is the center of the story, since most of the characters ended up dying. It also represents the death of Bob, John Katzenbach's (the author) best friend, who died from the disease that Adrian had in the story. The main character dies by the euthanasia made by Jennifer, who wanted to save him from his misery and mental state. Linda and Michael died in hands of the justice and Adrian. Terri died, while she was helping Adrian and Jennifer. Jennifer's father died of cancer, Cassie died by depression, Brian because he committed suicide, and Tommy because he was documenting a war and was in the middle of an attack.

Cancer is also a symbol in this story, since it was the disease that killed Jennifer's father and Cassie. It can even be said that the situation in general was a social cancer, since Michael and Linda were doing something that is legally punished by being monstrous and inhuman acts.

The final symbol found during the investigation was the name of the website whatcomesnext.com, which is also the name of the book (without the domain), and it represents the fear of what was going to happen in the story. The author selected this title, since he wanted to make his audience know that during the reading of the book, anything could happen to the characters that were presented.

All the symbols presented above are a representation of the story, since all those elements created the atmosphere needed in order to keep the reader interested in the storyline and dilemmas that were presented by the author. The book *What Comes Next* showed how the mental instability and the uncontrollable desire of having the control in

human's mind can affect the decisions individuals make. The author of this book had experience in criminal scenarios, situations, and in the investigation of how the criminal minds' work at the time of committing an illegal act, specially murder, kidnap, and anonymous menaces that would put the characters' lives in danger.

During all the investigation, the investigator noticed some elements that determined how the story could be shown in the literature point of view, making the analysis more accurate and reliable in terms of psychology and literature, which are:

Hero Pattern with all the steps applicable in this story: status quo (position that the hero has in the society); the ordinary world (introduction of the hero to the audience to create sympathy with his situation, which in the book is dementia and loneliness); the call to adventure (the hero is witness of a situation that forces him to make a decision between leaving his comfortable life or doing something to save the day); the refusal of the call (the hero is afraid of what will happen if he accepts the responsibility of doing something); meeting with the mentor (someone with experience guides the hero); crossing the threshold or leaving their home (getting involved in the danger and what it can cost to the hero); the tests, allies and enemies (confront of fears and traumas); the approach (preparation of the biggest challenge); the ordeal (confrontation between the hero and the villain, deathly results for either sides); the reward (possession of the treasure); the road back (return to the home of the hero with the treasure); the resurrection (the hero is glorified in another test); and the return with the elixir (end of the journey). This last stage is usually the final step in the Hero Pattern, concluding this way the journey and trials the main character had to face to become a hero.

Theme. Fight between the main character (the hero of the story) and two psychopaths (Michael and Linda) who kidnapped a teenager with the purpose of using her in pornographic material and kill her after a certain period of time.

Symbols. Dementia, hallucinations, kidnap, the pink cap, a 9mm semiautomatic Ruger, suicide, war, pornographic movies, Mister Brown Fur, the farm, blindfold, the hood, Adrian's, Linda's, Brian's, Mark's, Wolfe's, Jennifer's, Tommy's name, camera, underwear, death, cancer, web, the website's and the book's name are symbols shown in all the story several times; reflecting the core of the book and the intentions of the author in reflecting the darkness in the characters' lives and actions.

The Hero Pattern has been kept in the last twenty years as an important tool to create stories involving characters with a special situation that will make them become a hero based on the pattern created by Joseph Campbell. This pattern is mainly applied in dystopic or fantasy stories such as *The Hunger Games* (by Suzanne Collins), *Harry Potter* (by J.K Rowling), *Lord of Rings* (by J.R.R Tolkien), *Divergent* (by Veronica Roth), *The Maze Runner* (by James Dashner), *Throne of Glass* (by Sarah J. Maas), *The Chronicles of Narnia* (by C.S Lewis), *Alice in Wonderland* (by Charles Lutwidge Dodgson), *Sherlock Holmes* (by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle), among others. This is also followed in comic books that show the stories of Batman, Wonder Woman, Flash, Captain America, Iron Man, Thor, Superman, Black Panther, Aquaman [...], whom all follow the Hero Pattern.

Even though, this pattern seems to be applied only in the life of superheroes or humans with a special situation or capabilities as shown in books, the Hero Pattern can be applied in the daily life of common people, since all of them have daily struggles that will lead them to the victory and recognition they seek. This can be reflected in the book *What*

Comes Next, *The Madman's Tale*, and *Still Alice* —all of them show the story of common individuals with a mental disease that forced them to follow the steps to be considered special heroes. It is important to mention that all the investigation was done with educational purposes.

Chapter III

Methodological Framework

This chapter is going to focus on the definition of research method and the most common types that are applied in investigations (quantitative, qualitative, and mixed). In addition to that, the investigator is going to provide the most important information about the author's biography, the plot of the book, and the explanation of the data collecting instruments.

3.1 Research Methods

In order to explain the type of the research method that will be applied in the investigation, it is necessary to explain the meaning of research method and its common types (qualitative, quantitative, and mixed). According to Cambridge Dictionary (2017), a research method is a particular way of studying something in order to discover new information about it or understand it better. In this definition, it can be said that this method is used to get the totality of the information needed to comprehend a specific topic.

For Kothari (2004), a research can be defined as a scientific and systematic search for pertinent information on a specific topic. So, research is going to be the art of scientific investigation. The research method can also be described as a careful investigation or inquiry especially through the search for new facts in any branch of knowledge; it can also be a systematized effort of gaining new knowledge.

The research method has three different branches that can be applied in the investigation; those are the qualitative, quantitative, and mixed method. According to the University of Southern California (2016),

Quantitative methods emphasize objective measurements and the statistical, mathematical, or numerical analysis of data collected through polls,

questionnaires, and surveys, or by manipulating pre-existing statistical data using computational techniques. Quantitative research focuses on gathering numerical data and generalizing it across groups of people or to explain a particular phenomenon.

In the definition stated above, it can be said that the quantitative methods are based on statistics and numerical facts. The investigators tend to make a different type of investigation to recollect all the data to have it in a more reliable form. This research is mainly focused on collecting numerical data to study, analyze, or explain a particular situation that might be affecting the society under review. In addition, based on Skills You Need (2011), the quantitative data can be collected through surveys, observations, or secondary data. In the case of the surveys, they can be conducted whether online, by phone, or in person; they will be relying on the same questions asked to a large number of people. For the observations, they may either involve counting the number of times that a particular phenomenon occurred or coding observational data to translate it into numbers. Finally, for the secondary data, the investigator can check out the company accounts.

According to People of Our Everyday Life (2017), the main advantage of the quantitative research is that it allows the researcher to measure and analyze data. Besides that, the relationship between an independent and dependent variable is studied in detail. This method is advantageous because the researcher is more objective about the findings of the research. This method can be used to test hypotheses in experiments because of its ability to measure data using statistics. However, the main disadvantage of quantitative research is that the context of the study or experiment is ignored. This research does not study things in a natural setting or discusses the meaning things have for different people as the qualitative research does. The second disadvantage is that a large sample of the

population must be studied; the larger sample of people researched, the more statistically accurate the results will be (People of our Everyday, 2017).

According to Learn Higher (2008), the advantages of the quantitative research method are that it allows a broader study, involving a greater number of subjects, and enhancing the generalization of the results. It also allows a greater objectivity and accuracy of results, since the quantitative methods are designed to provide summaries of data that support generalizations about the phenomenon under study. In order to make this a reality in the research, this method has to involve few variables and many cases, and apply prescribed procedures to ensure validity and reliability. Another advantage is that it can be analyzed and compared with similar studies, since it allows to summarize vast sources of information and facilitate comparisons across categories and over time; also, personal bias can be avoided by researchers keeping a distance from participating subjects and employing unknown subjects for them.

Even though the advantages are wide, there are several disadvantages of applying this research method. For Learn Higher (2008), this method collects much narrower and superficial dataset, the results are limited as they provide numerical descriptions rather than detailed narrative, and it usually gives less elaborate accounts of human perception. Besides that, the research is often carried out in an unnatural, artificial environment, so an exact level of control can be applied. It is necessary to point out that this level of control might not be in place in the real world results. In addition to these disadvantages, the preset answers will not necessarily reflect how people really feel about a subject and might just be the closest match.

Regarding the qualitative research method, the USC (2009) states that the word qualitative makes an emphasis on the qualities of entities and on processes and meanings

that are not experimentally examined or measured in terms of quantity, amount, intensity, or frequency. Usually, the researchers that apply the qualitative method make stress on the socially constructed nature of reality; creating a close relationship between the phenomenon under study and the researcher. The investigator seeks answers to questions that stress how social experience is created and given meaning. The social and behavioral aspects are taken in consideration to make the researcher more perspective on how to approach a problem.

In the qualitative method, the data can be collected by data, personal experience and engagement, emphatic neutrality, or dynamic systems. In the first method, the data will be the observations, interviews with direct quotations about people's personal perspectives and lived experiences. They are often derived from conducted studies and review of the culture. For the personal experience and engagement, the researcher has direct contact and gets close to the people, situation, and phenomenon under study, making the investigators personal experiences an important part of the inquiry and critical understanding of the phenomenon. In the emphatic neutrality, the study will always seek an understanding without judgment by showing openness, sensitivity, respect, awareness, and responsiveness by also being present through mindfulness. Lastly, in the dynamic systems, the researcher is mindful and attentive to the system and situational dynamics, even if the focus is on an individual, an organization, a community, or an entire culture (USC, 2017).

Based on Snap Surveys (2011) opinion, the qualitative research is primarily an exploratory research because it is used to gain an understanding of underlying reasons, opinions, and motivations. This research provides insights into the problem or it can help to develop ideas or hypotheses for potential quantitative research. This is also used to uncover trends in thought and opinions, and dive deeper into the problem while the investigator applies unstructured or semi-structured techniques.

The qualitative research is useful during the early stages of a study when the researcher may be unsure of exactly what will be studied or what to focus on. One of the main advantages of this type of research is that it does not need a strict design plan before it begins; actually, this gives the researcher the freedom to let the study unfold more naturally. The second advantage to qualitative research is that the researcher gains more detailed and rich data in the form of comprehensive written descriptions or visual evidence, such as photographs. In general terms, this type of research looks at context and social meaning and how it affects individuals, which is particularly advantageous in the social sciences and interactions (People of Our Everyday Life, 2017).

According to Jones (2017), “The researcher of a study using qualitative research is heavily involved in the process, which gives the researcher a subjective view of the study and its participants. The researcher interprets the research according to his or her own biased view, which skews the data gathered. Another disadvantage is that this research method is very time consuming and can last for months or even years.” For the previous disadvantage, it can be said that even though the qualitative research is an excellent form of knowing other’s opinions, it is a tiring and time consuming research method, since it is a more personal and cautious type of investigation.

For Learn Higher (2008), the biggest advantages of applying the qualitative research method are that it provides depth and detail, since it looks deeper than analyzing ranks and counts by recording attitudes, feelings, and behaviors. In addition, it creates openness by encouraging people to expand on their responses to open up a new topic area that was not considered from the beginning; it simulates people’s individual experiences, since a detailed picture can be built up about why people act in certain ways and their feelings about these actions are taken in consideration to apply this method. The fourth advantage is

that it attempts to avoid pre-judgments; if it is used alongside quantitative data collection, it can explain why a particular response was given.

Nonetheless, there are four main disadvantages for this research method, as it has to be said that usually fewer people use this method, as it is more time consuming. In addition, this method is less easy to generalize because since fewer people are generally studied, it is not possible to generalize results for that specific population; exact numbers are reported more than percentages. The third disadvantage is that there is a difficulty in making systematic comparisons because people may have widely differing responses that are highly subjective. The last main disadvantage of this method is that it is dependent on the skills of the researcher, particularly in the case of conducting interviews, focus groups and observation (Learn Higher, 2008).

It can be said that the main difference between the quantitative and the qualitative research methods, is that while the first one is totally based on facts, numbers, or statistics, the former is primarily based on people's opinions taking more in consideration the thoughts and beliefs of the affected ones during the phenomenon than on the numbers provided by the specialists analyzing it. Besides that, the quantitative method only directs the investigator to an already completed analysis, while the qualitative method can give the option of applying the quantitative method to have better conclusions and solutions for the situation under investigation.

To explain the mixed research method, the Resource Centre (2016) say that, "The mixed research method is a methodology for conducting research that involves collecting, analyzing, and integrating quantitative (e.g., experiments, surveys) and qualitative (e.g., focus groups, interviews) research. This approach is used when this integration provides a better understanding of the research problem than either of each alone." The mixed research

can be applied whenever the investigator needs more information than the one gathered by each individual method.

The mixed method should be used when the investigator wants to validate or corroborate the results obtained from other methods, when the investigator needs to use one method to inform another method, or when he or she wants to continuously look at a research question from different angles and clarify unexpected findings or potential contradictions. It can also be applied when the researcher wants to elaborate, clarify, or build on findings from other methods, when a theory about a phenomenon of interest has to be developed to be tested, or when the researcher wants to generalize findings from qualitative research (Resource Centre, 2016).

In regards to this investigation, the investigator will apply the qualitative method, since all the information gathered was taken from the opinion of the investigator and sources. Besides that, this investigation was done based on the situations presented on the books and on the appliance of the Hero Pattern, which was created based on the opinion and own search of Joseph Campbell.

3.2 Author's Biography

John Katzenbach began his novelist career in 1982 with his first book *In the Heat of the Summer*. The main focus of this author is the psychological or thriller books, since he had experience in the matter due to his job as a crime and courthouse reporter for the Miami Herald. His most important work is *The Analyst*, which is in pre-production for a movie adaptation. The book *What Comes Next* was written in memory of his best friend Bob, who was diagnosed with Lewy Bodies Dementia and died before John was able to conclude the book.

3.3 Book's Plot

What Comes Next shares the story of Adrian Thomas, a PhD in Clinical Psychology who used to give lessons in the college of his community. He was diagnosed with Lewy Bodies Dementia, a disease that affects the mental stability and social behavior. When Adrian was arriving to his house, he saw a teenager (Jennifer Riggins) walking down the street with a determined stare in her eyes. The main character saw how she turned in the corner, just when a white van was passing by; seconds later, the van accelerated, making Adrian see in that direction and realize that the pink cap that belonged to the teenager was in the street.

Adrian took the cap and got into his home, deciding whether committing suicide as he had planned after the diagnosis or calling the police to report the kidnap. The man decided that he had to contact the police, so he went to the police station and made the corresponding report to Officer Terri Collins, the woman in charge of the station and the one that knew more Jennifer, since the young lady tried to run away from her house several times. Even though Adrian took the first step in helping Jennifer, it was not enough and the process to make the investigation to find the teenager would be long and complicated.

The main character decided to make his own research, making a sexual assailant (named Mark Wolfe) help him by offering money or killing his mother if he did not help him. Mark and Adrian begun a research on the internet, looking for Jennifer in the pornographic web. As they were looking for Jennifer, Adrian's mental health begun to decrease, making him have hallucinations and suicidal thoughts due to his instability and loneliness. Adrian and Mark dived deeper in the internet, making their biggest efforts in finding Jennifer as Terri was trying to make them stop, since their search was, according to the law, illegal and dangerous.

After making their best effort, Adrian and Mark found Jennifer in a farm near to the town they lived. Adrian found Jennifer and they tried to run away before the kidnappers (Michael and Linda) realized that Jennifer was gone. Both enemies found Jennifer and Adrian, and a gun-fight started between the criminals and the professor. Terri Collins arrived near the end of everything, when Adrian was deadly injured and Jennifer was hiding from Michael and Linda. Terri died, leaving Jennifer alone with Mark, who helped her by giving her his jacket to cover her nudeness.

By the end of the story, Adrian was in a mental care institution, being unable to speak due to his disease. Jennifer was studying Clinical Psychology to follow Adrian's steps, and Mark was gone. Jennifer visited Adrian and after reading his favorite poem, she applied the euthanasia to him, making him die and leave behind his mortal disease.

3.4 Data Collection Instruments

In the next chapter, the investigator will analyze several paragraphs from the literary work versus applicable literary theories, after that, an explanation of how one is related to the other will be given for bigger comprehension of the text versus literary theory. This information pretends to show with clearness how literary theories applied in the investigation match with the analyzed literary work. In this occasion, the information will be shown in paragraph format (text, theory, explanation). Usually, the information is also given in chart format; however, the investigator will present the information in the paragraph format.

Paragraph or Quote	Theory	Explanation

Chapter IV

Data Analysis

This chapter is going to explain the definition of approach; as well as the explanation of all the theories versus literary work applied in the investigation. The definitions of themes, motifs, and symbols are going to be reviewed as well, by explaining in a proper way how they affect all the literary work and what themes, symbols, and motifs were found in the book under study.

4.1 Approaches to the Investigation

In order to explain the relationship between the approach and the book under study, it is necessary to define the meaning of approach and its relation with the book. Generally, the term “approach” is defined as to come near or nearer to something or someone in space, time, quality or amount. It can be stated that by making an approach in a literary work, the investigator will get closer to the real meaning through the correspondent investigation and analysis. Hence, in this investigation, the literary approach or theory applied is the Hero Pattern; this with the purpose of explaining why the main character is considered as a hero in the book *What Comes Next*.

4.2 Theories vs Literary Work

The investigator will present some paragraphs and quotes to explain the literary theory that is being applied and the reason why it is being used for the specific quote or paragraph.

- ✓ Paragraph or quote: “I’m sorry, Professor Thomas. I believe you are suffering the progressive stages of a relative unusual disease named Lewy Bodies Dementia. Do you know what it consists of?” (page 18)

Literary theory: Hero Pattern → Ordinary World.

Explanation: In this quote, the doctor presents the diagnose results to Adrian Thomas, letting him know that he has a mental disease that can be lethal for him. This is the beginning of the mental decay of the main character and core of the story. The Hero Pattern stage that is applied in this quote is the Ordinary World, in which Adrian is presented as a man diagnosed with Lewy Bodies Dementia. The reader empathize with the character in the first pages of the book, since for common individuals, being diagnosed with a lethal disease can be shocking and depressing. After reviewing the first stage, the second analysis is based in the first stage.

- ✓ Quote: “I am sorry of telling you this, but normally, we are giving from five to seven years. Maybe. And I think you have begun to suffer the beginning of this disease... since a year ago, so that would be the maximum. And in many cases, the things evolve quickly... If you want a second opinion...” (page 19)

Literary theory: Hero Pattern → Ordinary World.

Explanation: In the quote above, the doctor said to Adrian that his life expectancy with the Lewy Bodies Dementia being presented a year ago. The main character only has five years of life, if he lives in a peaceful form; but if he suffers any high level of stress, he might die in three years or less. The Hero Pattern stage is still the Ordinary World since Adrian is being introduced in the first chapter. Adrian is the one who receives the results of the diagnostic exam, representing all the humans that received an exam with a negative result. The third quote under review is under the Ordinary World.

- ✓ Quote: “But I don’t feel sick.” (page 19)

Literary theory: Hero Pattern → Ordinary World.

Explanation: The main character refuses to accept his fate as a lonely and diseased man, for he states that he is not feeling sick; hence, he cannot have any kind of illness. This quote and situation can make the reader question their own mental health, since in most cases, the patients diagnosed with a mental disease or disorder, do not realize they have the problem because they thought they were totally healthy. The Hero Pattern stage is the Ordinary World. In the fourth quote, Adrian is facing the Ordinary World stage.

- ✓ Quote: “So I am healthy enough to see my own destruction? Like in a front row seat to see my own decay?” (pages 19 and 20)

Literary theory: Hero Pattern → Ordinary World.

Explanation: Adrian is feeling annoyed, since there is nothing he could do to stop his mental decay. Although, he is a healthy man, he knows there is nothing he can do; he can only sit and wait for his death to come. In real life, this situation happens in a daily basis; most of the diseased patients have to await for their death, being unable to stop the progress of it. In this quote, the main character is being shown in the Ordinary World. In the following paragraph, Dr. Thomas is located in the first stage of the Hero Pattern.

- ✓ Paragraph: *Mrs. Ruger nine millimeters semiautomatic*, he thought. The weapon was kept in the nightstand’s first drawer. The charger of thirteen bullets was full, but he knew he was going to need only one bullet. (page 21)

Literary theory: Hero Pattern → Ordinary World.

Explanation: Adrian considers committing suicide once he arrives home. He does not want to die due to a mental disease, so he considers finishing his life. In real life, there is a high percentage (16.7%) of individuals who commit suicide after they

receive a new regarding their health; usually, the suicide is carried out if the disease they have is mortal, such as a cancer, AIDS, Alzheimer, or a psychiatric disease.

Adrian would become the representation of the ones who committed suicide to avoid suffering because of the disease. Although, the hero is considering committing suicide, he is located in the Ordinary Stage in the Hero Pattern. In the next paragraph, the hero is between the Ordinary World and the Call to Adventure stages.

- ✓ Paragraph: He looked again. The girl was gone. But she left her pink baseball cap in the street. (page 27)

Literary theory: Hero Pattern → Ordinary World and Call to Adventure.

Explanation: In this paragraph, Adrian notices that the girl he saw walking down the street was gone and she left her pink cap in the middle of the street, which is not something a teenager would do. In some cases, a person is an indirect witness of the kidnap of a person even if they do not know the act that is being held near them. In the Hero's Journey, this can be taken as the end of the Ordinary World and the beginning of the Call to Adventure. In the next paragraph, Adrian is in a transition from Ordinary World to Call to Adventure.

- ✓ Paragraph: For a moment, he asked himself if he had to write a poem about his way of planning things: "Ultimate acts before the final act." *That is a good title*, he thought. (page 34)

Literary theory: Hero Pattern → Ordinary World and Call to Adventure.

Explanation: Adrian is considering writing a poem explaining the reason of his suicide; also, he was planning to say goodbye to all the ones he loves. Most of people who commit suicide leave a note or letter explaining the reasons why they

decided to end their lives. This is a trend that most of people follow when they commit suicide. Usually, they write the letter or note to explain why they decided to leave their families and friends, to let them know they are not guilty of the decision taken (sometimes the person will accuse someone of the suicide), and to apologize for all they have done when they were living. Adrian wanted to write a poem, since he is fan of that literature form to share his thoughts and plans before he shot himself. As the previous paragraph, this is a transition from the Ordinary World to the Call to Adventure. For the seventh paragraph, Adrian is attending the call to adventure.

- ✓ Paragraph: He sighed and walked to the door, leaving his brother behind, in the sidewalk. He rang the bell twice, and just when he was turning around to leave, he listened hurried footsteps inside. The door creaked when it was opened and he was face-to-face with a middle-aged woman, with a dishtowel in her hands, reddened eyes and thin blond hair. She smelled like smoke, worry, and she looked like she had not slept in a month. (page 110)

Literary theory: Hero Pattern → Call to Adventure.

Explanation: In the paragraph above, Adrian was looking, in all the houses of the neighborhood, for the adult in charge of Jennifer's wellbeing, trying to make his best to find her. When he knocked the door, Jennifer's mother attended to his call, reflecting the desolation she felt, since her daughter was missing. In this scene, the main character is attending the call to adventure, which is the second stage in the Hero Pattern. Adrian decided to do his best to find Jennifer, or at least to try to do it, since he did not have all the knowledge needed to find a person. In real life, this act represents the wish of finding missing people that the police and federals are

actually looking in their daily lives. Continuing with the Hero Pattern, Adrian is going to face the refusal of the call in the following quote.

- ✓ Quote: “What I’ve learned at war was that fear is the best ally we have. It keeps us safe when we need it, it gives us a way to see the world that, even if it is a little bit blurry, it exceeds itself by the precaution side, which, brother, by general rule, keeps you alive one more day and with the ass away from problems.” (page 140 and 141)

Literary theory: Hero Pattern → Refusal of the Call.

Explanation: This quote is said by Adrian’s brother in one of his many hallucinations. Brian said that fear is one of the best things humans have in their lives, since it is what keeps them safe and alive, making a reference to when in real life people do not risk their lives because of the fear they are feeling at the moment. In this passage, Brian gives his support to his brother by letting him know that it is okay to be scared, but that he has to take the risk and save Jennifer from the kidnappers. In this quote, Adrian was struggling with himself in The Refusal of the Call, since he was scared and did not want to get into something bigger than his capabilities. Besides that, Adrian was not sure if he could be able to find Jennifer due to his age and mental disease. The hallucination of his brother encouraged him to get into the situation and apply his wide knowledge in human behavior to find Jennifer. In the ninth paragraph, the hero is still fighting with himself in the refusal of the call.

- ✓ Quote: “I don’t know. People go back home. They want their dinner. They want to see their family. They close the door to the street and wrap up their day. Who is watching what is going on in the street at that hour of the day? Who is looking for something out of place? Not many people, detective. People seek for routine. They

seek normalcy. That is what they are waiting. A unicorn could appear floating in the street and probably no one would notice it.” (pages 214 and 215)

Literary theory: Hero Pattern → Refusal of the Call.

Explanation: In this quote, Adrian stated that the majority of people only worry about their lives instead of others, making a major reference to Jennifer’s kidnap and the fact that he was the only one who noticed it, because he was on the street. As in the book, in real life, once people got into their houses, they just unplug themselves from everything in the exterior world; they focus more in their families, and dinner than on the exterior and what might be happening. The main character is presented in the Refusal of the Call, as he is talking to Detective Collins. In this quote, Adrian is being aware of how helpful he can be in the situation, but the detective is not totally convinced of accepting his help, since Adrian seems inattentive and somehow diseased. For the following quote under analysis, Adrian is going to follow the stage of meeting the mentor.

- ✓ Quote: “What is he doing? Dammit, Brian! I need your help right now! What should I do?” (page 264)

Literary theory: Hero Pattern → Meeting the Mentor.

Explanation: Adrian showed that he was relying on his dead brother to continue with his plan of making Mark Wolfe help him to find Jennifer. The main character had no idea of what to do next, so he was looking for his brother’s help and guidance; however, Brian was gone and Adrian was left alone. In real life, the majority of people need someone to rely on in difficult situations (such as romantic, familiar, or personal) to make sure they can face that problem; Adrian is the representation of all the common people who rely on someone and do not know

what to do when they do not give an advice. The hero is in the Meeting the Mentor stage, since his dead brother's hallucination is the one guiding him in the journey.

Adrian will go through the beginning of crossing the threshold in the next quote.

- ✓ Quote: "Detective, you are still trying to find out which was the committed crime in order to categorize it and follow an established procedure. I don't have any of those restrictions. I know what I saw. I also know the human behavior and I've been studying traceable answers such in animals and human beings. So your behavior in this situation does not surprises me that much." (page 274)

Literary theory: Hero Pattern → Crossing the Threshold.

Explanation: In this part, Adrian said to detective Collins that he is sure of what he saw and that it was going to take a long time knowing what happened to Jennifer.

Besides that, the main character let her know that he had wide experience analyzing human behavior and he was capable of finding Jennifer by himself (message implied). In real life, the police tends to take a large amount of time in categorizing the crime and presenting the case to find qualifying agents to handle the investigation and search for the victim. Adrian is getting closer to the Crossing the Threshold Stage, since he is getting ready to abandon the investigation he was doing with the detective in order to make it by his own and taking his own risks. After confronting the beginning of the fifth stage, Adrian will be fully involved in it in the next quote.

- ✓ Quote: "I guess it was a naivety from myself to suppose that the police would do something." (page 274)

Literary theory: Hero Pattern → Crossing the Threshold.

Explanation: The protagonist of the story confronts the detective by letting her know that he thinks the police is useless in solving the case. This quote is an example of the frustration common people feel towards the police or federal agents when they are not able to solve a case immediately to ease their pain. Adrian is in the fifth stage, Crossing the Threshold, because he is leaving his comfort zone to search for Jennifer. After analyzing this quote, Adrian will be facing the Test, Allies and Enemies stage from the Hero Pattern.

- ✓ Quote: “If I shoot you, do you think someone would give a darn? I’m old. Maybe I’m a little bit crazy. Anything that can happen to me would be irrelevant. But your mother..., well, she needs you, right? And you, Mister Wolfe, you are still young. Do you think that dying for something like that is okay? You don’t even know what I want.” (page 336)

Literary theory: Hero Pattern → Tests, Allies and Enemies.

Explanation: In this quote, Adrian is aiming Mark Wolfe, a sexual assaulant, in order to make him help him finding Jennifer. The stage of the Hero Pattern that is being applied to this quote is the Tests, Allies and Enemies, since Adrian is making a new alliance with a criminal in order to understand the actions of the kidnapers. The hero will be facing the second part of the sixth stage of the journey.

- ✓ Quote: “Well, what I have is something similar to what your mother has. But worse. It makes me do all kind of erratic stuff and I don’t fully understand why I do them. because of that, there is a high chance that at any minute from now on I forget why I am here and maybe this cannon, as you’ve expressed so eloquently, shoots itself because I will forget why I need you and I will only remember that you are a

championship sexual assailant and a piece of excrement that deserves going directly to hell...” (pages 358 and 359)

Literary theory: Hero Pattern → Tests, Allies and Enemies.

Explanation: In this part of the book, Adrian is confronting Mark (who does not want to help him in the doctor’s search) by telling him that he can easily kill him because of his mental disease, which is similar to Alzheimer, but it gets worse with time. In this way, Adrian gained a new ally, even if it was through manipulation and threats. The hero is in the sixth stage, Test, Allies, and Enemies. After finding a new ally, Adrian is going to move towards The Approach to become closer of his main purpose: finding Jennifer.

- ✓ Quote: “Success is invaluable, Mister Wolfe. It does not have a price. But, on the other hand, I’m not willing to pay for the failure.” (page 435)

Literary theory: Hero Pattern → The Approach.

Explanation: In this quote, Adrian and Mark were discussing about the time Mark is spending in the internet research to find Jennifer in the web. Adrian suggested Mark that if they find Jennifer, he would pay him everything he wanted, but if they failed, he was not going to give him a penny out of his bank account. This quote applies to the seventh step in the Hero Pattern (The Approach), since they are getting ready to make a deeper investigation and find Jennifer as soon as possible, because they know that they are running out of time. Since Adrian was about to face his biggest fear, he is going to face The Ordeal stage in the hero pattern.

- ✓ Paragraph: “And as Adrian watched, he saw that she blindly extended her hand, looking around, until her thin arm wrapped a familiar figure that she embraced to her chest, which was going up and down. He once saw an old, wasted and tattered

teddy bear, a boy toy tied to a backpack in an incongruent form. But know it was covered by unsteady and impotent arms.” (pages 476 and 477)

Literary theory: Hero Pattern → The Ordeal.

Explanation: In the paragraph above, Adrian and Mark discovered a web site in which a lady was being recorded and shown on the internet in a pornographic web. In the beginning, Adrian was dubitative about the identity of the woman, but as soon as he saw that she took a teddy bear, he realized that the lady was Jennifer. In this part of the story, Adrian was facing his biggest fear (realizing that a young and innocent teenager was victim of the perversions of the world), which made him move to the eight step, The Ordeal. In real life, common people would have been petrified of realizing that a teenager is being used to fulfill the sexual and perverted desires of a man who desperately seeks control and power over a harmless person. In the next paragraph, Adrian is into The Reward stage.

- ✓ Paragraph: Adrian saw the weapon, he saw that the teenager’s eyes were totally open and he knew that the young lady was in a kind of victim’s shock. He thought in all the years he spent studying on a laboratory the fear of isolation. Not a single experiment had been as electrifying as that precise moment in the little cell, in front a naked girl with exorbitant eyes that he was waiting to be covered, but she was aiming him with the damaging side of a big gun. All his scientific truths, gathered through the years, did not mean anything. The reality in front of him was the total truth. In that instant, he understood that in her eyes, he must be as terrifying as everything around her. (page 569)

Literary theory: Hero Pattern → The Reward.

Explanation: In this part of the story, Adrian finally found Jennifer after a tiring and problematic research against the law. The hero found the place in which Jennifer was being held (a farm in a forgotten zone of the city) by the sexual criminals. As Adrian was looking for Jennifer, he realized that he might end up dying to save the teenager, but he decided to take the chance and save her. After entering into the house through the basement's window, Adrian found the exact room in which Jennifer was hidden. Once he saw her, he realized that she was terrified and that she was pointing a gun in his direction to protect herself of the new danger he represented to her. Adrian decided to move slowly and let her know that he was going to help her and that he was going to take her and Mister Brown Fur to their house as soon as possible. Even though Adrian knew everything about psychology, he knew that the situation with Jennifer would be more complicated, since she was mentally unstable due to the traumas she went through. In this situation, Adrian is going through the ninth stage, The Reward, since he found Jennifer and was doing his best to take her away from Michael and Linda, by putting his own life in a total danger due to the hazardous environment.

In real life, not everybody would take the risk of looking for someone that she/he does not know, especially if it is a teenager that was running away from her house because of the poor relationship with her mother. However, there have been cases in which family members of a kidnapped victim found the person and saved her or him from the criminal. In this situation, Adrian represented how the humanity of a person can make them take the risk of saving someone that either is unknown or is a family member that needs to be saved. The next paragraph under review will explain why Adrian is going through The Road Back in the pattern.

- ✓ Paragraph: “Adrian and Jennifer advanced sideways, crouching against the more distant from the shooting wall. Both screamed as if they were reached by the bullets, but they were not. That seemed impossible and lucky at the same time, but Adrian realized that the shoot angle from the superior floor was limiting the efficacy of the shooting, even if the bullets for military use exploded against the walls and floor, and illuminated the shadows and darkness. The only exit route that was left was the one that Adrian used to get into the basement. The little basement window shined with the exterior light. Getting into her was something dangerous since if the person that was shooting went down two or three steps, he or she would cover all the basement. The only chance of hiding would be going back to Jennifer’s cell; however, Adrian knew that the teenager would not go back to that place, even if he begged her to do it. He could not ask her to go back there. Even if the cell were the only safe place—and that was questionable—, Jennifer would never see it on that way. She was curled up next to him, hugging her teddy bear and Adrian’s arm, whining.” (page 578)

Literary theory: Hero Pattern → The Road Back.

Explanation: In the paragraph above, Adrian was trying to make his way out of the basement with Jennifer, but Michael and Linda began shooting in the direction they were hiding. Adrian was trying to find a solution to keep Jennifer safe and runaway with her, since he was there to help her to get out of the place she was being held as captive. As the bullets were exploding against the walls and the floor of the basement, almost hurting Jennifer and Adrian, he realized that the only way they could leave the place was climbing up and going through the window that Adrian broke to get into the place. In this scene, Adrian was scared of losing Jennifer, since

the only thing he wanted was to save her from the danger she was. Jennifer was hiding herself next to Adrian, knowing that he would protect her because he was risking his life just for her.

The main character is in *The Road Back*, since he is making the way out of the cell with Jennifer, until Michael and Linda attacked them with the purpose of killing them. Adrian decided to gather some things that were close to him to make a mountain and climb to the window to escape. In real life, usually the ones that rescue the victim are the police or federal agents, so there are not many cases of gunfights; nonetheless, sometimes it happens and the kidnapper is killed by the agents. The main character is going to be facing the last two stages (The Resurrection and Return with the Elixir) of the Hero Pattern in the next paragraph.

- ✓ Paragraph: “She found Adrian sitting in a wheel chair, in a shadowed corner. He was slightly inclined from the waist up, as if he were looking at something just in front of him, although the angle of his head indicated Jennifer that he could not even see the beautiful afternoon’s sun light. His hands and lips were shaking, as if they were symptoms of the Parkinson disease. His hair was totally white, sparse and tangled. The good physical condition he once had on the past and trusted was gone till being totally vanished. His arms were as thin as sticks, his thin legs were shaking nervously. He was like a skeleton and he had not been shaved, so the grey in his grown beard shadowed his sunken cheeks and chin. His eyes were dull. If he recognized Jennifer, there was no way she could know that.” (page 602)

Literary theory: Hero Pattern → The Resurrection and Return with the Elixir.

Explanation: In this part of the story, Adrian is shown as a totally sick and lost man, due to the Lewy Bodies Dementia that affected him, after being shot by Linda and

Michael. This scene is shown several years after he rescued Jennifer, and it shows how he ended up after his heroic actions to get Jennifer back home and have a normal life once she recovered from her traumatic experience. Jennifer studied Clinical Psychology in the college Adrian used to teach in to honor his job and continue with his research on criminal behavior. The college student visited Adrian every Thursday to read poems to him. In this description, Adrian is reflected as an elder man without control nor knowledge of what is happening in the external world, since his disease made him be in a kind of coma.

The main character was facing the last two steps of the Hero Pattern: The Resurrection and The Return with the Elixir. In The Resurrection, Adrian survived to the attack back in the farm where he rescued Jennifer; however, he ended up in a mental state that kept him away from the reality surrounding him. In this stage, the main situation of the book (Jennifer's kidnap) was solved with the death of Michael and Linda. In the last stage of the story, The Return with the Elixir, Adrian was in a mental healthcare institution to be taken care by mental specialists and nurses to help him keep living, even though he was not mentally active. Jennifer is the one that constantly looks after him to make sure he is being properly treated.

In real life, this is not a common situation. As stated before, in the majority of the cases, the ones that rescue the victim of a kidnap are the agents, so they attend to the crime scene with special equipment to avoid being injured and close the case as soon as possible, and thus take the criminal to court. However, there had been cases in which an agent is seriously injured and therefore ends up having a physical difficulty or even dying. This happens in weird cases, since most of them recover

from the injury and keep working with a higher motivation, as it was taken as a personal attack.

4.3 Themes, Motifs, and Symbols

In order to explain the themes, motifs, and symbols in the book, it is necessary to present the definition of each literary device.

Themes

According to *Literary Devices* (2017), a theme is the main idea or an underlying meaning of a literary work that may be stated directly or indirectly. The major and minor themes are two types of themes that appear in literary works. The major theme is an idea that a writer repeats in his or her work, making it the most significant idea in the literary work. On the other hand, the minor theme refers to an idea that appears briefly and gives away another minor theme. In other words, the theme can be described as the core of the book, the idea that created the entire story. The theme is divided in two types of theme: major and minor. The major theme is the one that is being presented several times during the story, making clear that it is the main idea in the literary work. The minor theme is the one that is mentioned in a brief way (it can be two or three times in all the literary work) and gives away another theme, so it is connected with other themes, while the major theme is individual.

Notari (2003) states that, “The theme in a story is its underlying message, or ‘big idea.’ In other words, what critical belief about life is the author trying to convey in the writing of a novel, play, short story or poem. This belief or idea transcends cultural barriers. It is usually universal in nature. When a theme is universal, it touches on the human

experience, regardless of race or language. It is what the story means. Often, a piece of writing will have more than one theme.” From such definition, the theme can be described as the biggest idea in the story; the idea that gives a message. This theme needs to be important enough to catch the reader’s attention and make them to get more interested in reading the story, since if the theme is universal, it will create empathy in any culture or language. If the theme is good enough, it will give a bigger meaning to the story.

According to *Literary Terms* (2017), the theme is the central idea, topic, or point of a story, essay, or narrative. It will be divided in major and minor themes. The major theme is the most important and enduring theme of the narrative, being the most significant themes of the story, and often are part of it. The minor theme is less important and less enduring; they may appear in a part of the narrative only to be replaced by another theme in the narrative. They will provide discussion points in one chapter or two, but they will not define the entire story. In the previous definition, the theme is the main idea of the story and can be divided in two themes: major and minor. The major will change the entire story, since it will be the most important point in it, but the minor is going to be mentioned in one or two chapters, not affecting the entire story.

In the book *What Comes Next*, the main theme is the fight of the main character against two psychopaths who kidnapped a teenager with the purpose of using her in adult movies material. This is the main or major theme, since all the story revolves around it. The main character (Adrian) does his own research to find the victim (Jennifer) and save her from the enemies or villains in the story (Michael and Linda). This theme began in the first chapter, when the hero saw how Jennifer was taken away, and ended in the forty-fifth chapter, when he rescued Jennifer.

A minor theme is the research Adrian made to look for criminals that made history. The main character searched for kidnappers that may have influenced the actions of Michael and Linda. This theme was shown in one chapter and it was never mentioned afterwards, since Adrian found what he needed in that chapter. A third theme in the book were the hallucinations of the main character due to his mental disease. This is considered as a major theme, since it is shown throughout the story and creates empathy towards the character due to his need of having someone he loves to help him in all the adventure.

A fourth and minor theme in the book is Michael and Linda's desire of being famous and immortal through their crimes. This is mentioned in one chapter and, although it is kept as a background theme for the antagonists of the story, it is changed by a different theme. The fifth theme, which is a minor one, is the wish of committing suicide. This is presented by Adrian at the beginning of the story, when he received the diagnose results of his disease, and it is presented in the middle of the story by Jennifer, who considered committing suicide after she was raped by Michael. All these themes presented various situations that created more empathy in the relation reader-character. Through the mentioned themes, the author showed the characters in a different and more humanitarian way, showing that even though they are characters from a fiction work, they also have feelings, fears, and needs.

Motifs

According to the web page Literary Devices (2017), a motif is an object or idea that repeats itself throughout a literary work. It can be seen as an image, sound, action, or other figures that have a symbolic significance and contribute to the development of the theme. Motifs are commonly mistaken with symbols, but the main difference of both devices is

that while the motif is a recurrent image, idea, sound or word that explains the theme of the work, the symbols are images, ideas, sounds or words that represent something else in the story.

In the definition stated above, it can be said that the motif is an object or idea that is constantly repeated in the literary work. It can be shown as an image, sound, action, or other figure that resembles a significance that contributes in the development of the theme of the story. Usually, the motifs are confused with symbols, since they have a lot of similarities; however, the motifs have a special meaning, while the symbols will represent something different in the story.

In the point of view of Casano (2017),

“A motif is a recurring symbol which takes on a figurative meaning. We see them in books, films, and poems. In fact, almost every text commonly uses the literary device of the motif. A motif can be almost anything: an idea, an object, a concept, a character archetype, the weather, a color, or even a statement. Motifs are used to establish a theme or a certain mood; they have a symbolic meaning. They are not usually associated with hidden meanings because the writer wants you to recognize them since they play a role in defining the makeup of a narrative.”

In the definition given above, the motif can be described as a constant symbol in the entire story. The motifs are seen in all literary works, such as books, films, poems, and comic books, so every text will use the motif as a literary device. Generally, the motif can be an idea, an object, a concept, a character archetype, external conditions such as weather and environment, a color that is recurrent in the story, or a statement that created a chain

reaction in the literary work. Motifs create a mood in the book, film, poem, or comic book that enhances the audience to continue reading the story presented by the author. Besides that, the motif is not related with a hidden meaning, because the main idea of the writer is making the reader know the motif in the story to comprehend the main idea in an easier way.

Writing Explained (2017) says that a motif is a literary term that is an idea, object, or concept that repeats itself throughout a text. A motif gives clues to a theme or reinforces ideas an author wants to emphasize and it must be repeated in the text to be considered a motif. The main function of a motif in a story is to offer subtle clues to the author's message, as the motif is reinforcing the theme. Even though, all the literary works have a theme or main idea, not all of them will present a motif. However, the author may include a motif with the objective of creating a particular mood that will give a clue to the audience about the theme. Some examples of motifs in literature can be the death, good and evil, an specific statement done by the main character, or a character with high relevance (but not considered as a main character), a color, or an object.

In the definition given in the previous paragraph, the motif is explained as an idea, concept or object that is repeated throughout the story. The motif will always give a clue to the reader of what the theme is about, while it reinforces the main idea of the author and the reason why the story is going such way. The motif will not be present in some literary works, although the author might decide to choose or create a motif to determine the clues that will guide the reader to the theme and main idea of the story. The motifs can be shown as an event that happened in the story like death, a characteristic of the characters

(goodness or evilness), words, a color, or an object (it can be a gift or something with high importance in the story).

In *What Comes Next*, the first motif is death, which is presented since the first chapter, when the main character considered suicide. This guides the reader to understand that one of the themes in the story is suicide, which is considered by the hero and the victim of the story. Besides the main characters, death was presented in Adrian's deceased wife, son, and brother.

A second motif in the book are the hallucinations that Adrian had in the entire story due to his mental disease (which can be considered a theme). Adrian constantly had hallucinations about his wife, son, and brother, whom all were dead. In the book, those hallucinations guided him to take difficult decisions. The third motif in the story is the Ruler, which is also related to the concept of death. Adrian considered committing suicide at the beginning of the story, just as his brother did.

Symbols

According to *Literary Devices* (2017), symbolism is the use of symbols to signify ideas and qualities by giving them symbolic meanings that are different from their literal sense; they can take different forms. Generally, it is an object representing another to give it an entirely different meaning, which is much deeper and more significant. However, there are times in which an event, an action, or a word spoken by someone may have a symbolic value. The meaning of the symbols can shift depending on the context they are used in; for

example, a chain can be a symbol of union in one context, but a symbol of imprisonment in another. Besides that, the symbolic meaning of an object or an action is understood by when, where, and how it is used; nevertheless, it also depends on who reads them.

The definition given above states that the symbols signify ideas and qualities through a symbolic meaning, which is different from the literal sense, since they can take different representations. A symbol is commonly an object that represents another in order to give it a completely different and deeper significance; nonetheless, sometimes an event, action, or a word said by a character can represent a symbol or have a symbolic value. The meaning of the symbol can change depending on the context of the story that is being presented. An example can be a smile: in a context, the smile is a representation of friendship, but in other context, it can be the representation of secrecy and mischief. The symbolic meaning of an object or action will have a specific meaning depending on the reader and the context shown in the story.

According to Thomas (2017),

“The symbolism exists whenever something is meant to represent something else. Symbolism is a figure of speech that is used when an author wants to create a certain mood or emotion in a work of literature. It is the use of an object, person, situation or word to represent something else, like an idea, in literature. The common types of symbolism include the metaphor (comparison between two unlike things without using the words 'like' or 'as'), allegory (extended metaphor, can be an entire story, poem or book with symbolism that continues throughout the literary piece).”

Symbolism is shown when something with a specific connotation means something else. This is a figure of speech that is applied when an author wants to create a special mood or emotion in the book or literary work. The symbol can be represented in an object, person, situation or word. Such elements can represent an idea or a feeling. In most cases, the symbolism will apply the metaphor (device that compares two objects in a subtle way, since the author does not use the comparative words “like” or “as”) and the allegory (which is an extended metaphor that can be done in all the story, poem, or book in which the symbolism is extended in the entire complete story).

The definition given by Literary Devices (2017) states that a symbol is a literal device that contains several layers of meaning, often concealed at first sight, and it is representative of several other aspects, concepts, or traits than those that are visible in the literal translation alone. A symbol is using an object or action that means something more than its literal meaning. From such definition, a symbol can be showed as a literary device that contains different types of meaning that can be identified at first sight and it is represented by other aspects, concepts, or traits than the ones that are visible in the literal meaning. When the author is using a word with a meaning to give a deeper connotation to something else, he or she is creating a symbol, since he/she is giving it a different meaning that can be discrete.

According to Parker (2017), there are seven common symbols of literature that are shown in the majority of literary works, especially the ones in gothic novels. The symbols are colors (represent emotions like love, anger, or sadness), water (it can be associated with religion or death), fire (representation of anger, passion, love, pain, or death), night (related to darkness, peace, or tranquility), day (symbolizes the rising of the sun, represents new

life), light (representation of truth, enlightenment, safety, or it can be used as a holy image), and dark (night, darkness, death).

In *What Comes Next*, there are several symbols that create a mood in the story. First, the name Adrian is a symbol in the story since this name has different meanings in different cultures. According to *The Name Meaning*, in America and Germany, this name means “dark;” and in the book, Adrian went through dark and difficult moments, and he even made dark things as surfing in the porn web, and hurting others just to get what he wanted (Jennifer). The Greek meaning of the name Adrian is “rich,” and this character was a man who had a good amount of money thanks to his job as a professor and psychologist; besides that, Adrian was a rich man in knowledge on criminal behavior. In Latin, this name represents the dark richness, which is showed when he said that his credit card had more money than what Mark was worth and he used his money to make the sexual assailant helped him and put in danger his conditional liberty; in addition to the prior point, Adrian manipulated Mark with his wide understandings of psychological matters.

Secondly, the last name Wolfe makes mention to the animal inside Mark, who is constantly thinking in having sexual relations with younger women to satisfy his perversions. Mark was more interested in his own safety than in others; however, he accepted to assist Adrian to satisfy his perverted needs while searching in the web for Jennifer. Even though he was in danger by being close to the pornography world, Mark dived deeper with the excuse of helping the old man. The last scene in which Mark had a participation in the story, he was touching Jennifer’s skin as he put his sweater over her shoulders to cover her nakedness. After Jennifer was saved, Mark disappeared, showing the nature of a wolf by walking alone and away from everything and everyone.

Third, the 9mm semiautomatic Ruger represents the death surrounding Adrian. After Adrian received the diagnosis from his doctor, he wanted to commit suicide right before he saw how Jennifer was kidnapped. However, he decided to keep the weapon away from him and focused on the investigation he had to make. The weapon is shown again when Adrian decides to make Mark Wolfe his ally to find Jennifer. The professional used the Ruger to menace Mark with killing his mother if he did not accept to help him. The semiautomatic was used by Brian when he committed suicide, and Adrian kept the pistol as a reminder of his brother and how he lost him.

Fourth, the pink cap represents the childhood of Jennifer and her happy past. Pink is the clear representation of sweetness, innocence, compassion, caring, love, unconditional love, understanding, passion combined with purity. She was sweet, even though she did not show it with others. She was innocent, compassionate, caring, lovely, and she loved her father in an unconditional way (she was wishing to die to see him again); however, Jennifer was not an understanding person because she could not understand the danger she was in until it was too late. The cap represented the happiness she felt when her father was alive and shared with her. In addition, the cap represents the mystery that Jennifer was creating, since she was wearing a cap to avoid being recognized by someone she knew.

The last symbol found during the investigation was the name of the website whatcomesnext.com, which is also the name of the book (without the domain), and it represents the fear of what was going to happen in the story. The author selected this title since he wanted to make his audience know that during the reading of the book, anything could happen to the characters that were presented.

Chapter V

Conclusions and Recommendations

In this chapter, the investigator is going to present her conclusions by explaining the reasons why the investigation was successful and by mentioning the subjects that were reviewed, how the author's life influenced the book, and how the characters can be related with real life individuals. In addition, the investigator will state the objectives and how she reached them during the investigation, and then she will give some recommendations for future investigations.

5.1 Investigator's Conclusions

Based on the investigator's point of view, the investigation was successful since the subject under review was totally analyzed in order to explain in a proper and complete way the book *What Comes Next*. In order to make the investigation more wide and complete, the investigator applied the Hero Pattern Approach with the purpose of analyzing the main character and how he evolved throughout the story, until he gained the title of hero and confirmed that the book followed the pattern.

A second reason for the success of the investigation was the fact that the story is applicable in real life scenarios. *What Comes Next* was the result of the combination of a mental disease diagnosed to the main character, which was inspired in the author's best friend, and a kidnapping with the main purpose of sexually abusing the victim. In real life, this is, unfortunately, a common situation, since in most of the content in adult pages it is shown due to the kidnap of women of different ages, or even young boys that are between the ages of five and fifteen years old. In the case of the mental disease, Lewy Bodies

Disease, is an unusual disease that can be confused with Alzheimer, since they have similar symptoms and characteristics.

In order to find a connection between the characters and real life humans, the investigator made a comparison between both sides, noticing that the main character and hero, Adrian Thomas represents the ideal of the hero who sacrifices his life to save the victim. As an example of such characteristic, there are several characters that made that sacrifice, such as Superman, Iron Man, Captain America, Spider-Man, Flash, Frodo, Celeana Sardothien, and in religion, Jesus Christ. Nowadays, Adrian Thomas is reflected on police agents that put their lives in danger to save a victim from the abuser; it can be a sexual assailant, an assassin, or an aggressive partner. He can also be reflected on a family member that puts his or her life in danger just to return home with his or her relative. Even if that is not widely known, all the individuals have a little bit of Adrian within themselves, since all of them can make the sacrifice of saving someone they truly care or love, not most of them do not do it as the human is selfish in nature.

Jennifer Riggins' character can be shown in real life as the victim that needs to be saved and help to keep going on. She can also be described as the representation of being strong and keep moving on after the worst happened in the life of the person. At the beginning of the story, Jennifer's character was described as a teenager that was running away from her house due to family problems and an abusive relationship from her mother's boyfriend. The teenager was also a lonely lady that had no friends and was constantly bullied in her high school; so this character also showed the danger that the school abuse can represent in the psychology of teenagers. It has been proved that bullying can lead the

victim into committing suicide, making the family suffer due to the tragic loss and the negative result of the situation.

At the end of the story, Jennifer confronted her biggest fears and managed to live with her trauma of being physically, mentally, and sexually abused by two sexual assailants; growing up as a young and strong woman that followed Adrian's steps and studied to honor him. Nowadays, there is a big amount of sexual assault and kidnapping survivors that are sharing their stories with the world to create awareness and help other victims to speak up and heal their wounds. Moreover, there are campaigns that help victims to overcome the traumas they were forced to confront, so the relation between Jennifer and the real world situations is reliable and correct.

Michael and Linda (the antagonists of the book) are the vivid representation of the sexual desires of the world and the wickedness that is polluting the society. Both characters were desperate for having the absolute control, making them dangerous and manipulative with others just for fun. In real life, they can be compared with all the criminals that are constantly tricking others to have fun and feel powerful. These two characters can also be compared to the fact that they are related with the adult movie industry, which is growing day by day and it is getting into more houses. Besides that, this type of movies are destroying homes and relationships, altering the psychology of the people who constantly watch this material. Michael and Linda come from destroyed families, showing how damaged they were to reach the point of murdering and kidnapping women for their entertainment and money.

The author's influence in this book was notorious, since he got the inspiration of writing *What Comes Next* when his best friend, Bob, a man that reached the limit in the

medium age, and who was diagnosed with dementia in his frontal lobe. That dementia became bigger and made Bob go through a lot of pain and mental difficulties until the day he finally died. Since John saw how the life of his best friend was being destroyed due to the disease, he decided to make a character based on him, sharing with his readers around the world the pain, fear, and difficulties his friend Bob went through by using the character of Adrian Thomas to reflect it.

A second influence of the author that is easily found in the book is the genre. John had been specialized in writing psychological thrillers due to his wide experience in criminal acts, such as kidnapping, murder, and sexual assault life threats, since he worked in several newspapers in the court and tribunal sections. Putting characters' lives in danger is the main theme of John Katzenbach's works, making the reader evaluate their own decisions and behavior if they were in the same position or situation as the characters in the book.

The author stated in the prologue of *What Comes Next*, that he was looking for a main character that would be meaningful for him. Also, he said that he had the main idea of the story, but he was missing a character that would create empathy in the audience; for this reason, John created a character that remembered him his best friend and biggest support in his personal life.

5.2 Objectives Reached

At the beginning of the investigation, the investigator made four specific objectives in order to make the investigation in a more organized and reliable way. Those objective were (1) analyze the behavior of the main character throughout the story, (2) explain the

actions of the main character according to the Hero Pattern, (3) identify the conflict of the novel's main character between saving the young lady or taking medication for his mental disease, and (4) apply the Hero Pattern in the story and determine how it affects its development.

5.2.1 To analyze the behavior of the main character throughout the story

During the investigation, the researcher analyzed the behavior presented by Adrian Thomas, looking for the main reasons why he behaved in the way he did. The most common behaviors and thoughts that the main character presented were suicidal, absent-mindedness, fearful, fearless, confused, and dangerous actions. Adrian considered committing suicide due to his diagnosis. Besides that, the main character was totally alone in the world, since his wife, son, and brother died few years ago, leaving him alone. Adrian did not want to die as a mentally sick person, so he considered ending his life to save himself from the suffering that the mental disease will make him go through.

The absent-mindedness of the character was created due to the advance of the disease. It made him go from being completely focused to totally distracted, making him unstable since he was unable to focus on one thing for more than five or ten minutes. This situation was shown during the entire story, making his ally, Mark Wolfe, feel frustrated, since while he was doing all the investigation, Adrian was distracted thinking in something that was not related to Jennifer. Besides Mark, another ally that felt frustration and confusion towards Adrian's behavior was Detective Collins, who realized that something was wrong in Adrian's head due to his instability.

In the book, there were times in which Adrian presented a fearful behavior such as when he had his first hallucination, when he realized that Jennifer was kidnapped and he could not stop the act and when he talked with the detective and she did not take his word in a serious way because he was old and senile. The hero of the story also felt fear when he was doing the research, but he was unable to find Jennifer by himself. Another part of the book where he felt fear was when he finally found Jennifer and tried to rescue her, but they were attacked by Michael and Linda, whom tried to kill them.

There were times in the story where he was the total opposite of fearful, becoming fearless. That happened when he was looking in all the houses of the neighborhood to see if someone knew the owner of the pink cap he found in the middle of the street. A second scene in which Adrian was fearless, was when he decided to force Mark Wolfe to help him. The main character used the Ruger, which he considered to use to commit suicide, against Mark, making him know that he could have a mental blackout and kill him. Another moment where Adrian did not show any signal of fear was when he entered to the basement where Jennifer was being held as captive.

Confusion was shown throughout the book; making the reader considered that Adrian was not the best hero, but the most reliable. Adrian felt confusion most of the times; however, that did not stop him from doing what he had to help Jennifer. The main character was confused because that was the first time he had to face a situation like that. As he stated in one conversation in the book, he was more used to analyze the human behavior in laboratories, seeking for the reasons why humans behaved the way they did in specific situations; so he was not fully comfortable with the situation he got himself into. In addition to that, Adrian felt confused because the mental disease he had was taking control

of his mental capacities, making him a little bit slow in the matters of physical and mental response.

The most notorious behavior that Adrian presented was the dangerous one. They were totally presented when he made Mark to be his ally, and when he saved Jennifer from Michael and Linda. Since Adrian was presenting an unstable mentality, he was automatically considered as a dangerous man due to his determination of saving Jennifer at any cost.

In order to analyze Adrian's behavior during the story, the investigator read the book in its totality and made a research to compare the behavior presented by the main character and the behavior that those who have Lewy Bodies Dementia disease present. In the majority of the cases, the patient presents a normal behavior, being totally harmless. John made his main character dangerous and unsteady due to the stressful situation he was going through.

5.2.2 To explain the actions of the main character according to the Hero Pattern

The second objective of the investigation was to explain the actions of the main character (Adrian Thomas) based on the Hero Pattern. Based on the pattern, Adrian was going through a journey that he did not want in his life due to his mental situation; nonetheless, he faced all the situation just to save Jennifer Riggins. The first stage (The Ordinary World), introduced Adrian as a man full of fear and loneliness due to his diagnose and age. The reader saw how scared he was about facing his disease alone, so he decided to commit suicide. In the second stage, The Call to Adventure, he saw how Jennifer was

kidnapped. After taking her pink cap, he decided to continue his life until he made sure that Jennifer was rescued from the kidnappers. In the third stage (Refusal of the Call), Adrian was fighting with himself, since he wanted to die, but he also wanted to apply his wide knowledge to rescue Jennifer. In the fourth stage, Meeting with the Mentor, Adrian went to the police station to say what he saw, that is something that most of people would do in that situation.

In these four stages, Adrian was presenting the behavior of a common citizen with a personal problem that was debating himself between ending his life and leaving everything behind, or helping the police finding a young citizen that needed help. Based on the Hero Pattern, Adrian Thomas began his hero journey once he took the pink cap and accepted the new challenge that he had to confront. The only reason why Adrian decided to keep living was to save Jennifer.

In the fifth stage (Crossing the Threshold), the main character took the critical decision of saving Jennifer by himself, making sure to be cautious during all the investigation and adventure. The sixth stage (Tests, allies and enemies) is focused on how Adrian created a new ally in an uncommon way. In The Approach, the hero was pushed over his limits with his fear of losing the memory and forgetting all he knew to help Jennifer. In the Ordeal, Adrian and Mark found where Jennifer was located.

In this second part, Adrian was showing a hazardous and even manipulative behavior, since he was determined to save Jennifer. In this part of the book, he held a weapon with him to be sure that he would be safe, and he also used the gun to make Mark helped him. The dark side of the character was shown when he offered money to Mark (a

sexual assailant) to convince him in helping him. Adrian ignored the law in its totality once he realized that detective Collins was taking too long to make the research to find Jennifer.

In the Reward, Adrian finally saved Jennifer after the deep and mentally tiring research he made with Mark. In the Road Back, Adrian tried to escape with Jennifer, but he was almost killed by Michael and Linda in the process. The Resurrection showed Adrian in a mental institution, since the disease took control of his mind and body. In the final stage, Return with the Elixir, Adrian is euthanized.

In the third part of the analysis, Adrian reflected all the brave actions humans could have if they were in the same position as he was. He put his life in danger to save Jennifer, proving how brave he was, and demonstrating that even he was not a mentally stable person, he was able to save someone and change a life. Unfortunately, Adrian's disease was stronger than he was and took control of his life.

5.2.3 To identify the conflict of the novel's main character between saving the young lady or taking medication for his mental disease

The main conflict that the character had in certain points of the story was between taking the medication for his mental disease of helping Jennifer without being under the drugs' control. If Adrian decided to take the medication, he would not be able to think clearly because of the effect of the drug; while if he did not take that medication, he would be able to think as clear as it was possible and find better solutions. During the investigation, the researcher realized that the reasons why Adrian refused taking his medication were Jennifer and his need of seeing his family through hallucinations. The

main character thought that by having his wife, brother, and son together with him, he would have all the answers he needed to solve the problem ahead.

5.2.4 To apply the Hero Pattern in the story and determine how it affects its development

The literary theory applied in the investigation was the Hero Pattern, which provided twelve steps that must be followed to make the character a hero. During the investigation, the researcher applied such pattern with its steps in the analysis, determining that the main character followed all the steps in his own way. The investigator compared the steps that were required with the story, matching all the stages with all the events that happened in the book.

During this study, the investigator based the research on the mythological point of view being affected by the psychology of the Hero Pattern. In general terms, mythology is the belief related with gods, demigods or legendary heroes from a particular group of people, making stories sharing the life and adventures of a special character that changed the mythological history. Psychology is defined as the science that studies the mind and behavior, focusing more in the reasons why a person does specific actions that can affect his or her life. Lastly, the Hero Pattern was created by Joseph Campbell to identify a mythological hero in a literary work.

In order to make the investigation more complete, the investigator combined mythology, psychology and the Hero Pattern getting based on the belief of having a hero that save the day, the actions that that hero made or followed in order to save the day or person, and the pattern the hero has to follow to be consider a hero in all the rule. In this

way, the researcher analyzed the mythology in the book *What Comes Next* being influenced by the psychology in the Hero Pattern.

5.3 Recommendations

After reviewing the investigation, the investigator recommends the audience the following:

- a. A proper way to improve the method is comparing the Hero Pattern, the society of the main character, and the actual society.
- b. In order to avoid having inconveniences or difficulties during the research paper, it is highly suggested to make this investigation with plenty of time, preferably between four and seven months.
- c. For future investigations, it is recommended to make a deep investigation and analysis based on other approaches and lines of investigation such as criminal behavior (based on Michael and Linda's actions) or psychological traumas (based on Jennifer's experience).

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Appendixes