

## THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MINOR CHARACTER IN ROWLING'S HARRY POTTER AND THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX

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**Abstract:** Literary works is a form of someone's creation that has meaning or has a purpose by the author. Literary as a result of human creation will never be separated from language which is the main medium in literary works. This research aims to analyze the minor character, Luna Lovegood using qualitative research method based on the theory of Robert Stanton. Stanton said that there are four ways to analyze a character: character's words, character's behavior, conversations between character, and character's action. The writer uses an intrinsic approach to analyze the character of Luna Lovegood. The data taken from the novel by J.K Rowling, Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix. After conducting research on the novel Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix, the findings obtained by the writer regarding the character of Luna Lovegood are, Luna has characters such as appreciation of beauty and excellence which is obtained based on character's words. Kindness obtained based on character's behavior. Bravery, curiosity and humility obtained based on the conversations between character. And kindness, bravery too also found based on character's action.

**Keywords:** *Character, Analysis, Novel, Harry Potter, Luna Lovegood*

### INTRODUCTION

Literary works is a form of someone's creation that has meaning or has a purpose by the author (Ibrahim, Wuntu & Lolowang, 2021) and (Lolowang, 2010). Literary as a result of human creation will never be separated from language which is the main medium in literary works. Like English which has become an international language. (Mogea, 2019) stated English is an international language used all over the world, for education, technology, political, and commercial purpose. Basically literary work are taken from some of the problems or what

humans experience. But by adding a high imagination by the author, they can create literary works that are extraordinary and beyond the human mind. (Lontaan, Mamentu & Sabudu, 2022) stated that literature is the reflection and expression of human life in the world of truth and beauty. Literature can be described as something written through the process imagination which is an imitation or a reflection from real life (Dengah, Maru & Lolowang, 2021) and (Potu, Andries & Lolowang, 2021). It cannot be denied that literary works are something extraordinary to be enjoyed. Literary works can arouse someone's imagination so as to make someone seem to be in a literary work. (Komenaung, Liando & Lolowang, 2021:68) stated that, Literature is different from the other informative writing such as geography or history because it has different language in use. Literature usually uses diction or imagery, while informative language used the daily language.

Novels are one of the most widely enjoyed or read in literary works. In fact, many novels have been made into films in order to add to the imagination of the readers. (Maukar, 2009:814) and (Onthoni, Rorintulus & Lolowang, 2022) stated that, our imagination is taken far away from reality and escapes from the ordinary world where everything isn't the same anymore. By making a film based on the novel's, readers can better see and understand the content, characters, stories, impressions and messages contained in the novels. "Novel is generally thought of as containing about fourty five thousand words or more." (Kenney, 1966:103)

Responses of the readers to novel certainly varies (Kessek, Maru & Lolowang, 2021). Not only the novel, but also the characters in the novel. Character is something that everyone should have, each person has a character that is different from one another (Talumepa, Rorintulus & Lolowang, 2022). For example in the novel by J.K Rowling which has been adapted into a film, Harry Potter And The Order of the Phoenix. The novel is part of the Harry Potter series, J.K Rowling's most successful novel. And as we all know, all the Harry Potter novel series have been adapted into film. Harry Potter tells about wizarding world which has unique things in it. In the novel, there are many different characters. Starting from the main

character, namely Harry Potter, and then Hermione Granger, Ron Weasley, Voldemort, Dumbledore, and even Luna Lovegood.

In the 5th novel of the Harry Potter series, Luna Lovegood has a character that can be said to be unique. In fact she was wearing a necklace made of bottle caps and had a look as if she was confused everyday. So, the writer wants to analyze the character of Luna to find out more. It doesn't matter when she is a minor character. Minor characters are not unworthy of research, there are several minor characters in novels and films that are worthy of research (Keles, Wuntu & Lolowang, 2022). Even some of them can provide lessons for readers or viewers, such as the character of Luna Lovegood.

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

This research uses descriptive qualitative research methods. (Creswell, 2013) states qualitative research is a research method to explore and understand the meaning that some individuals or groups of people think come from social or humans problems. (Maleong, 2010:51) reveals that in qualitative descriptive research, the data collected is in the form of words and pictures, not numbers. It can be concluded that qualitative descriptive research is an activity in the form of analysis of novel and extracting information in order to obtain data that is as, the results of which emphasize more on data description.

The data in this study were taken from the novel Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix and the writer also took sources through articles and journals to support in completing the required data

Collecting data is important of this research. The data collecting from character of the novel and the writer reads the data source and then records what is needed. Namely collecting data from the novel Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix. And the goal is to know about Luna Lovegood's character.

In analyzing the character in this study, the writer is using an intrinsic approach because character is one of the elements of the intrinsic approach. According to (Wellek & Warren, 1963), there are two approaches to analyzing a literary work,

namely the intrinsic approach and the extrinsic approach. And the intrinsic approach deals with characters, plots, themes, settings, styles, and other elements.

The writer will use theory to analyze the character based on the theory of (Stanton, 1965:18). Robert Stanton categorizes several parts of analyzing character :

- 1.) Character's words
- 2.) Character's behavior
- 3.) Conversations between characters
- 4.) Character's action

The writer only analyze using the theory of Robert Stanton based on the data that lead to the character of Luna Lovegood. The data are taken only from the work itself that is the novel Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix.

Research procedure :

- The writer read the novel that will be studied Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix.
- The writer collects data from the novel to be studied, also read articles or journals as supporting information.

The writer conclude the result and write a report.

## **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

In a literary work, there are some things that are important. One of those things is character. In this chapter, the writer analyzes the character of Luna Lovegood using Robert Stanton's 1965 theory. (Stanton, 1965) himself says in his book *An Introduction To Fiction*, that there are 4 important parts in analyzing characters, namely: according to character's words, character's behavior, conversations between characters, and character's actions.

### ***Character's Words***

- Appreciation of beauty and excellence

Luna appeared holding Pigwidgeon's cage in her arms; the tiny owl was twittering excitedly as usual.

"Here you are," she said. "He's a sweet little owl, isn't he?"

"Er . . . yeah . . . He's all right," said Ron gruffly. - (Rowling, 2003:198)

The writer finds that one of the characters of Luna Lovegood is appreciating the things that she thinks are beautiful. The form of appreciation is to praise the beauty of these things. Can be seen in the 5th novel Harry Potter, Harry Potter and the Order of The Phoenix, on page 178 when she sees the Pigwidgeon owl.

"Hello," she said vaguely, looking around at what remained of the decorations. "These are nice, did you put them up?"

"No," said Harry, "it was Dobby the house-elf."

"Mistletoe," said Luna dreamily, pointing at a large clump of white berries placed almost over Harry's head. He jumped out from under it. "Good thinking," said Luna very seriously. "It's often infested with nargles." - (Rowling, 2003:452-453)

And on page 452 when Luna saw the Christmas decorations made by Harry and Dobby the house elf, she praised the decoration. She appreciates every beautiful thing.

#### *Character's behavior*

- Kindness

"Hi," As she passed, she exclaimed with a smile. Later, Luna Lovegood showed in, lagging behind the rest of the class, with a speck of dirt on her nose and her hair wrapped in a knot at the top of her head. She made a beeline towards Harry as soon as she noticed him, her pronounced eyes seemed to expand excitedly. His pupils turned in interest to observe in large numbers. Without even a quick hello, Luna exhaled deeply before speaking : "I believe He-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named is back, and I believe you fought him and escaped from him."

“Er – right,” said Harry awkwardly. Luna was wearing what looked like a pair of orange radishes for earrings. – (Rowling, 2003:261)

The writer found the character of Luna Lovegood, that is, she has a good/kind character. Can see Luna’s behavior towards her friends on page 261, when she always greets her friends cheerfully, even though her friends always take her as a joke. And she believed in Harry when no one believed in Harry.

“Hello,” said a dreamy, hazy voice behind them. When Harry looked up, he noticed that Luna Lovegood had strayed from the Ravenclaw table. She had acquired a life-size lion's head hat that was positioned dangerously on her head, and many people were staring at her, some of them openly laughing and pointing.

“I’m supporting Gryffindor,” said Luna, pointing unnecessarily at her hat. “Look what it does. . . .”

She raised her arm and used her wand to tap the cap. Everyone in the area jumped as it roared realistically while opening its mouth wide.

“It’s good, isn’t it?” said Luna happily. “I wanted to have it chewing up a serpent to represent Slytherin, you know, but there wasn’t time. Anyway . . . good luck, Ronald!” – (Rowling, 2003:403)

Further on page 403, when she support Gryffindor house whe the Quidditch race is about to start, while she’s not from Gryffindor house, but Ravenclaw. Not to forget also when ahe supported Ron Weasley, one of the people who thought Luna was weird.

“My dad thinks it’s an awful paper,” Luna spoke in, unexpectedly joining the conversation. She chewed on her cocktail onion and looked at Rita with her huge, protruding, slightly insane eyes.. “He publishes important stories that he thinks the public needs to know. He doesn’t care about making money.”

Rita looked disparagingly at Luna. “I’m guessing your father runs some stupid little village newsletter?” She spoke. What are the dates of the upcoming Bring-and-Fly Sale and Twenty-Five Ways to Mingle with Muggles?

“No,” said Luna, dipping her onion back into her gillywater, “He’s the editor of The Quibbler.” - (Rowling, 2003:568)

On page 568 when she supports her father’s work while her friends insults her father’s work.

“It’s good, isn’t it?” Luna said as she squished herself onto the bench between Fred and Ron at the Gryffindor table. “It came out yesterday, I asked Dad to send you a free copy. I expect all these,” she waved a hand at the assembled owls still scrabbling around on the table in front of Harry, “are letters from readers.” - (Rowling, 2003:579)

And in 579 when Luna helped Harry get the newspaper The Quibbler from her father so Harry could see himself in the paper. Not only in friendship that makes Luna seem to have a good character, but she is also a good child towards her father.

#### *Conversations between characters*

- Bravery

“Did everyone see that Grubbly-Plank woman?” asked Ginny. “What’s she doing back here? Hagrid can’t have left, can he?”

“I’ll be quite glad if he has,” said Luna. “He isn’t a very good teacher, is he?”

“Yes, he is!” said Harry, Ron, and Ginny angrily.

Hermione cleared her throat as Harry shot her a look, and she uttered, “Erm . . . yes . . . he’s very good.”

“Well, we think he’s a bit of a joke in Ravenclaw,” said Luna, unfazed. - (Rowling, 2003:200)

On page 200, the writer finds one of Luna Lovegood’s characters, which is brave. Where on page 200, Luna boldly says her opinion of Hagrid, that she would be happy if Hagrid left school. And said that the students in Ravenclaw house thought Hagrid was ridiculous. Meanwhile, Hagrid was her own teacher.

- Curiosity

“Okay, if you can think of a way of doing this quickly, I’m with you, otherwise I’m going to the Department of Mysteries right now..”

“The Department of Mysteries?” said Luna, looking mildly surprised. “But how are you going to get there?” Again, Harry ignored her. – (Rowling, 2003:736)

“She got carried away,” said Harry.

“By a herd of centaurs.”

“And they left you behind?” asked Ginny, looking astonished.

“No, they got chased off by Grawp,” said Harry.

“Who’s Grawp?” Luna asked interestedly.

“Hagrid’s little brother,” said Ron promptly. – (Rowling, 2003:760)

“You know what could be in there?” said Luna eagerly, as the wall started to spin yet again.

“Something blibbering, no doubt,” said Hermione under her breath, and Neville gave a nervous little laugh. – (Rowling, 2003:776)

The writer found another character from Luna Lovegood. Curiosity. It turns out that Luna has a sense of curiosity, it can be seen in the conversation above, where Luna always asks her friends even questions whose answers are unknown to her friends.

- Humility

“Hello,” said Luna vaguely, glancing around at him as she stepped back from the notice.

“How come you’re not at the feast?” Harry asked.

“Well, I’ve lost most of my possessions,” said Luna serenely.

“People take them and hide them, you know. But as it’s the last night, I really do need them back, so I’ve been putting up signs.” She pointed to the notice board where, indeed, she had tacked a list of all her missing clothing items and books along with a request for their return. Harry experienced an odd emotion that was

very dissimilar to the grief and hatred that had filled him since Sirius's passing. It took him a while to realize he was feeling sorry for Luna.

"How come people hide your stuff?" he asked her, frowning. "Oh . . . well . . ." She shrugged.

"I think they think I'm a bit odd, you know. Some people call me 'Loony' Lovegood, actually." Harry looked at her and the new feeling of pity intensified rather painfully.

"That's no reason for them to take your things," he said flatly. "D'you want help finding them?"

"Oh no," she said, smiling at him. "They'll come back, they always do in the end. It was just that I wanted to pack tonight. Anyway . . . why aren't you at the feast?" - (Rowling, 2003:862-863)

Humility. The writer finds humility in Luna Lovegood's character. When she realized that her friends called her Loony Lovegood because Luna's behavior is so strange, but she even let it be.

### *Character's action*

- Kindness

"I'll carry that owl, if you like," Luna turned to Harry and reached for Pigwidgeon while Neville delicately tucked Trevor away in a pocket on the inside.

"Oh – er – thanks," "I'll give you the cage," Harry replied, lifting Hedwig more safely into his arms. - (Rowling, 2003:195)

On page 195, it is shown the act of kindness that Luna did when she helped her friend, Harry. Luna helped Harry hold the Pigwidgeon owl.

"I think her ankle's broken, I heard something crack," whispered Luna, who was bending over her and who alone seemed to be unhurt.

"Four of them chased us into a dark room full of planets, it was a very odd place, some of the time we were just floating in the dark –"

“Harry, we saw Uranus up close!” said Ron, still giggling feebly. “Get it, Harry? We saw Uranus – ha ha ha –”

A bubble of blood grew at the corner of Ron’s mouth and burst.

“Anyway, one of them grabbed Ginny’s foot, I used the Reductor Curse and blew up Pluto in his face, but . . .”

Luna gestured hopelessly at Ginny, who was breathing in a very shallow way, her eyes still closed.

“And what about Ron?” said Harry fearfully, as Ron continued to giggle, still hanging off the front of Harry’s robes.

“I don’t know what they hit him with,” said Luna sadly, “but he’s gone a bit funny, I could hardly get him along at all. . . .”

“Harry,” said Ron, pulling Harry’s ear down to his mouth and still giggling weakly, “you know who this girl is, Harry? She’s Loony . . . Loony Lovegood . . . ha ha ha . . .”

“We’ve got to get out of here,” said Harry firmly. “Luna, can you help Ginny?”

“Yes,” said Luna, sticking her wand behind her ear for safekeeping, putting an arm around Ginny’s waist and pulling her up. – (Rowling, 2003:795-796)

The writer also finds that Luna Lovegood has a good character, not only in Luna’s daily behavior. But it can also be seen in Luna’s actions when she wanted to help her friend, Ginny who was injured when they were attacked by death eaters. Luna did not leave Ginny, but instead she brought Ginny to meet her other friends even though with difficulty. Until the end she helped Ginny to get out of that place with Neville.

- Bravery

“Well, we’ll have to fly, won’t we?” The closest to a matter-of-fact tone Harry had ever heard Luna adopt was when she spoke.

“Okay,” said Harry irritably, rounding on her, “first of all, ‘we’ aren’t doing anything if you’re including yourself in that, and second of all, Ron’s the only one with a broomstick that isn’t being guarded by a security troll, so —” . ...

“We were all in the D.A. together,” said Neville quietly. “It was all supposed to be about fighting You-Know-Who, wasn’t it? And this is the first chance we’ve had to do something real — or was that all just a game or something?”

“No — of course it wasn’t —” said Harry impatiently.

“Then we should come too,” said Neville simply. “We want to help.”

“That’s right,” said Luna, smiling happily. ...

“Well, it doesn’t matter anyway,” said Harry frustratedly, “because we still don’t know how to get there —”

“I thought we’d settled that?” said Luna maddeningly. “We’re flying!”

“Look,” said Ron, barely containing his anger, “you might be able to fly without a broomstick but the rest of us can’t sprout wings whenever we —”

“There are other ways of flying than with broomsticks,” said Luna serenely.

“I s’pose we’re going to ride on the back of the Kacky Snorgle or whatever it is?” Ron demanded.

“The Crumple-Horned Snorkack can’t fly,” said Luna in a dignified voice, “but they can, and Hagrid says they’re very good at finding places their riders are looking for.”

Harry turned about. Two thestrals were observing the whispered dialogue as though they knew every word while standing between two trees, their white eyes sparkling eerily.

“Yes!” As he approached them, he muttered. Harry enthusiastically extended his hand and touched the closest one’s glistening neck as they tossed their reptile heads and flung back long black manes. Why on earth would he ever consider them ugly?

“Is it those mad horse things?” said Ron uncertainly, staring at a point slightly to the left of the thestral Harry was patting. “Those ones you can’t see unless you’ve watched someone snuff it?”

“Yeah,” said Harry.

“How many?”

“Just two.”

“Well, we need three,” said Hermione, who was still looking a little shaken, but determined just the same.

“Four, Hermione,” said Ginny, scowling.

“I think there are six of us, actually,” said Luna calmly, counting.

“Don’t be stupid, we can’t all go!” said Harry angrily. “Look, you three” – he pointed at Neville, Ginny, and Luna – “you’re not involved in this, you’re not –”

More demonstrations broke out from them. His scar also ached, but this time it was much worse. He had no time to protest because every second they took to postpone was valuable. – (Rowling, 761-763)

Luna’s courageous character is not only when she dares to say what’s on her mind, but also when she dares to take risks when she wants to help her friend. Can be seen on pages 761-763, when Luna and her two friends, Neville and Ginny who insist on helping Harry, Ron and Hermione go to the Ministry of Magic to help Sirius Black. At that time, Luna even they all knew what danger they would get later, but she still wanted to go to the Ministry of Magic even though she had an argument with Harry.

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