MORAL VALUES REVEALED BY THE MAJOR CHARACTER IN SOLVING HER CONFLICT IN NEIL GAIMAN’S CORALINE

AN UNDERGRADUATE THESIS
Presented as Particular Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Sarjana Sastra in English Letters

By
MARTINA VENI HANAYANI
Student Number: 114214074

ENGLISH LETTERS STUDY PROGRAMME
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LETTERS
FACULTY OF LETTERS
SANATA DHARMA UNIVERSITY
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Defended before the Board of Examiners on 24 July 2017
And declared Acceptable

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Martina Veni Handayani
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Yogyakarta, 16 June 2017

Martina Veni Handayani
If you have time to think of beautiful end, then live beautifully until the end.
I dedicated this thesis to My Lord who has blessed me with beautiful people in my life, especially my parents. Thank you for your trust.
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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TITLE PAGE</td>
<td>ii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPROVAL PAGE</td>
<td>iii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCEPTANCE PAGE</td>
<td>iv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEMBAR PERNYATAAN PERSETUJUAN PUBLIKASI</td>
<td>v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY</td>
<td>vi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOTTO PAGE</td>
<td>vii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEDICATION PAGE</td>
<td>viii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</td>
<td>ix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TABLE OF CONTENTS</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABSTRACT</td>
<td>xi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABSTRAK</td>
<td>xii</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION

- A. Background of the Study                                            | 1    |
- B. Problem Formulation                                                | 5    |
- C. Objectives of the Study                                            | 5    |
- D. Definition of Terms                                                | 5    |

## CHAPTER II: REVIEW OF LITERATURE

- A. Review of Related Studies                                          | 6    |
- B. Review of Related Theories                                         | 8    |
  1. Theory of Character and Characterization                           | 8    |
  2. Theory of Conflict                                                 | 11   |
  3. Theory of Moral Value in Literature                               | 12   |
- C. Theoretical Framework                                             | 12   |

## CHAPTER III: METHODOLOGY

- A. Object of the Study                                                | 13   |
- B. Approach of the Study                                              | 14   |
- C. Method of the Study                                                | 15   |

## CHAPTER IV: ANALYSIS

- A. The Characteristics of Coraline (The Major Character)             | 16   |
- B. The Conflicts that Coraline Faces                                  | 23   |
- C. The Moral Value Revealed through the Major Character in Solving her Conflict | 32   |

## CHAPTER V: CONCLUSION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>40</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIBLIOGRAPHY</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ABSTRACT


The object of this study is a novel entitled Coraline. It is a dark fantasy novel which is written by Neil Gaiman. The novel was first published in 2002 by Bloomsbury and Harper Collins. It was awarded the 2003 Hugo Award for Best Novella, the 2003 Nebula Award for Best Novella, and the 2002 Bram Stoker Award for Best Work for Young Readers.

There are three objectives of this study. The first objective is to depict the characterization of the major character Coraline in the novel. The second objective is to analyze the conflict which the major character (Coraline) experiences. The third objective is to find out the moral value that is revealed through the major character solving conflict.

The research method applied in this study is library research with the primary source a novel by Neil Gaiman entitled Coraline. The secondary sources are taken from books and thesis that are related to the theory applied in this study. Theories which are applied in this study are the theory of character, theory of characterization, theory of conflict, and moral value theory.

The result of the study shows that the characteristics of major character are adventurous, brave, curious, and creative. Those characteristics lead the major character to the conflict in the magical world. There are two kinds of conflict in the story, internal conflict and external conflict. The internal conflict is Coraline vs herself. The external conflicts are Coraline vs the other mother and Coraline vs environment. Through the major character’s conflict-solving, it is revealed the moral value from the novel. The first moral value is be grateful and appreciate what you have in life. Second, what makes you brave is doing something even when you are scared. Third, be careful of what you wish for.
ABSTRAK


Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk, pertama menggambarkan karakterisasi dari tokoh utama pada cerita bernama Coraline. Kedua, menganalisis konflik yang dialami oleh tokoh utama dalam cerita Ketiga, menganalisa pesan moral yang terdapat pada cerita melalui penyelesaian konflik oleh tokoh utama.

Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode penelitian pustaka dimana sumber utama adalah novel Coraline itu sendiri. Materi penunjang adalah buku dan makalah-makalah yang berhubungan dengan teori yang digunakan di dalam penelitian ini. Teori-teori yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah sebagai berikut, teori tentang tokoh, teori penokohan, teori konflik, dan teori pesan moral.

A. Background of the Study

Neil Gaiman’s book entitled *Coraline* is interesting to discuss. *Coraline* is a dark fantasy children’s book. It is a New York Times best seller book (Gaiman, 2002). It has got many awards such as the Hugo Award for Best Novella. This book is adapted into a movie which get many attentions from the audiences. It was produced by Laika and distributed by Focus Features. The movie also got many awards such as Annie Awards and Academy Awards. Gaiman in *Coraline* depicts a portrayal of family life which focuses on the child named Coraline. Throughout the story, Coraline’s life depicts the relationship in the family.

The novel is interesting to read. It has unique plot and characters. The characteristics of Coraline and the story give important role to analyze the story. Coraline has unique characteristic for a child in her age. She is not afraid of something that is clearly dangerous for her. The experience that Coraline gets also gives new perspective of thinking for children. It also reminds the parents who read the story to always care for their children. *San Francisco Chronicle Book Review* also gives comment about this book “Coraline is by turns creepy and funny, bittersweet and playful. A book that can be read quickly and enjoyed deeply” (Gaiman, 2002: -). There is acclaim from expert such as Terry Pratchett, she said that “This book will send a shiver down your spine, out through your
shoes, and into a taxi to the airport. It has the delicate horror of the finest fairy tales, and it is a masterpiece” (Gaiman, 2002: -)

In Coraline, we have dramatization of the life of Coraline which tells about her conflict. This novel can be analyzed from the intrinsic or extrinsic elements. One of the intrinsic elements is moral value. Moral values have relationship with the character because moral is revealed by the character. Moral value is depicted through the characterization of the character. It makes the discussion of the character the important point in this study. Moral is derived from Latin language "mores" which means manners or moral (Ross, 1972:8). The attitude of person depends on the determination of right or wrong of a certain act. Value means the criterion of conventional principle. In other word, moral value is “our judgements of what ought to be for ourselves and for others in moral conduct” (Brown, 1999:45).

In literary work, moral is used to teach the reader. Each story has a message which the author wants to reveal in his or her literary works. Moral is different from theme. Moral may look like as a form of a theme in the simple idea but themes are not moral. The point of view of moral is always influenced by way of life. Moral values that are given by the author are usually related to life problems such as behaviour, attitude, and politeness. Moral of literary works is viewed as a message and a mandate.

Gaiman tells a story about children’s life in Coraline. A child named Coraline, lives with her father and mother. They move to a new house with some strange neighbours. Coraline thinks that her parents does not love and care for her.
Coraline’s parents are always busy with their work and do not have time for Coraline. They always tell Coraline to play with her toy or her neighbours. Coraline’s feeling about loneliness and sadness attract monsters from the magical world to come in to her house and they try to lure Coraline. The monsters disguise themselves as Coraline’s parent but they have different personality and attitude toward Coraline. Coraline thinks that the real parents should be like the parents in the magical world. She likes being in the house in the magical world, she is never bored in that place. It turns out that the other parents in the magical world are monsters who want to eat up Coraline. They do not really love Coraline like her real parents. The monster in the magical world kidnap Coraline’s parents and she needs to save them. Coraline fights against the other mother by searching the missing soul and her parents. She encounters many dangers and dreadful entity. Coraline does not give up eventhough she knows that she may lose.

Coraline’s brave and adventurous characteristics show her way of life. Coraline’s characteristics and life reveal the message in the story. The conflict that Coraline faces in the magical world gives big development in Coraline’s life. It changes the way of thinking for Coraline. The messages from the story which are carried by the main character’s life reveals the moral value.
B. Problem Formulation

There are three problem formulations to be analysed in this thesis. They are:

1. How is the main character Coraline described in the novel?
2. What are the conflicts Coraline faces?
3. What are the moral values revealed in the way Coraline overcomes the conflict?

C. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study is to answer the three problem formulations. From those questions, it is expected that the moral values are revealed through the major character in Coraline. First, it is to explain the characteristic of main character in the novel. Second, it explains how Caroline faces her conflict in the story. Third, it is to reveal the moral values which are depicted through in the way Coraline overcomes the conflict in her life.

D. Definition of Terms

To avoid the confusion and differences in understanding some words, defining certain terms which are used in this study is very important. This definition of term also makes some words clear because each person may has his or her own interpretation, therefore, some terms in this study is explained in the following. The first term is moral value; as mentioned earlier, moral value is “our judgements of what ought to be for ourselves and for other in moral conduct” (Brown, 1999:45). The second term is characters. Characters are “the persons represented in a dramatic or narrative work, who
are interpreted by the reader as being endowed with particular moral, intellectual, and emotional qualities by inferences from what the people say and their distinctive ways of saying it the dialogue and from what they do the action” (Abram, 1999:32-33). The last term is conflict, which is defined as “clash of action, ideas, desires, or wills between two individuals or among people in the society” (Perrine, 1974: 44).
CHAPTER II
REVIEW OF LITERATURE

A. Review of Related Studies

In this review, the writer discusses some reviews and critical essays that deal with the novel from various researchers.

The study on Neil Gaiman's *Coraline* were already done by other researchers. In order to get the basic or the main position for this undergraduate thesis, other studies are used to compare this undergraduate thesis and other studies. The first study is an article entitled “Magical Realism in Neil Gaiman's *Coraline*”, written by Saeede Hosseinpour, Nahid Shahbazi Moghadam. This study focuses on the magical and supernatural realism. It tells about the realistic life and supernatural world to which Coraline is taken.

Another inexplicable element in the story that reinforces the bond of two paradoxical realms is the spirits of three children imprisoned by the other mother. Gaiman's novel deploys the theme and introduces some child ghosts to young readers. So, as one of the characteristics of the magical realist narration, the depiction of the supernatural in a matter-of-fact manner makes both the heroine and the readership accept the existence of the ghosts without being filled with astonishment (Hosseinpour, 2016: 91).

The study explains about the detailed description of supernatural circumstances and magic objects as the quality of magical realism. The main character encounters anthropomorphic animals, a mice circus, and an ageless female monster. The field of magical realism creates an example of the genre in the realm of children's literature. The confrontation between Coraline and the magical world and the primary one is a tool for creating a confrontation between
reality and supernatural. The study mentions that “Coraline, thus, can be regarded as a typical example of children’s magical realist stories the eerie scenes of which, in Coats’s terms, help children to indirectly experience circumstances that adequately represent for them the violent, bleeding cut that is psychically necessary for them to learn” (Hosseinpour, 2016: 100).

Unlike the previous study, “An Eye for an I: Neil Gaiman's Coraline and Questions of Identity” which is written by David Rudd focusess on the personality of Coraline and the usage of word “I”.

The “I” is also shown to be ephemeral, only existing in terms of its relationship with other signifiers; so “I” becomes undermined. It can certainly represent the individual, but only in a fleeting, non-individual way that is open to all other humans. In other words, out of context, it is hard for the “I” to signify anything meaningfully, to ward off the abject whiteness of the page (Rudd, 2008: 15).

There are doubts that the word "I" in Coraline refers only to her. The word “I” becomes undermined because there are many "I" refers to other object. The other discussion in this study is the personality and identity of Caroline. Coraline personality changes, she affects an innocence she no longer possesses, performing childhood, using it as a masquerade (Rudd, 2008: 17). This study is used to give broad understanding of the novel. The discussion between Rudd and this study is different while Rudd explained about the word in the novel.

Different from the two studies above, the last study is taken from undergraduate thesis which discusses the moral value in novel. Desilva Putri Utami from Sanata Dharma University wrote her undergraduate thesis. “The Moral Values Revealed Through The Major Character’s Bad Character
Experiences in Toni Morrison’s *A Mercy* which analyze the moral values. She explained about the main character named Florens. Florens is black African woman who become slave under White’s authority. Second the researcher analyzed about Florens’s bad experiences in the novel. Then, the researcher analyzed about several moral values that she gets from Florens’s bad experiences. One of the moral values is that don’t judge someone before you know the reality. Florens judges her mother as the bad one because her mother brings her to the White owner. Actually her mother has seen the White as a good person, so her mother believes that Florens would be safe with him rather than her mother. The moral values are the similarity point between Utami and this study. While the difference lies in the novel that we analyze. The writer’s novel is *Coraline* while the researcher’s novel is *A Mercy*.

B. Review of Related Theories

To answer the problem formulations stated previously, these are some theories which are used:

1. **Theory of Character and Characterization**

   The definition of character is explained by M.H. Abrams in his book *A Glossary of Literary Terms*. He explains that experiences and feelings of the character are shown by the author in his or her works of literature. M.H. Abrams stated:

   Characters are the persons presented in a dramatic or narrative work, who are interpreted by reader as being endowed with moral, dispositional, and emotional qualities that are expressed in what they say – the dialogue – and by what they do – the action (1999:23)
Character is a person or object that is responsible for the thoughts and actions within a literary works. Characters are extremely important because they are the medium through which a reader interacts with a piece of literature. Every character has his or her own personality, which a author uses to assist in forming the plot of a story. A character in a work is usually interpreted by the reader through his dialogue, action, and motivation. Motivation means character's temperament, desires, and moral nature for their speech and actions. Based on the role, character can be categorized into two parts:

a. Major Character

A major character is the most important or central person on the story. Usually, the story is always focused on this character from the beginning to the end (Abrams, 1999: 20).

b. Minor Character

Minor characters appear in a certain setting to support and become the background of the major character because they are not fully developed and just help the major character to reveal his characterization to the readers (Abrams, 1999: 20).

Character has important role in making up the story. In the Understanding Unseens, M.J. Murphy explained nine ways of how to see the characters and characterization in literary works. Those are as follows:

First, Personal Description, an author can describe a person's appearance and clothes. Second, Character as seen by another, an author uses character's eyes and opinions to describe a character. Third, Speech, what a character says can give the reader an insight of another person's
characteristics. Fourth, past life; the author gives a clue to past events that help the readers to shape a person's characteristics. Then, Conversation of others, the conversations of other people and the things they say about a character can be a clue to a person's characteristics. Reactions, by allowing the readers to know how a person reacts to various situations and events, an author can also give them a clue to a person's characteristics. Direct comment, the author can describe or comment on a person's characteristics directly. Thoughts, an author can give the readers a direct knowledge of what a character is thinking about. And the last is mannerisms, means a person's mannerisms, habits can be described by the author to tell his readers something about the person's characteristics (1972:161-173).

Murphy explains that there are nine ways to see the characterization of the characters in literary works. The description of the characters which are described by the appearance and clothes and the characters can be seen by other characters such as the opinion and the eyes of characters. The important methods to support this research are the conversations, reactions, direct comments, thoughts, and mannerisms. The conversations of other characters can be a clue to find the characteristics. The reactions of various situations or events can also give the characteristics of the character. Then, the direct comment can give the direct comments of the characters. The thoughts of the characters can give the direct knowledge about what the characters are thinking about. Mannerisms, habit which is described by the author to tell the characteristics.

The theories above are used to find the characteristic of the characters. It is clear that the important elements of the action done by the characters. From the dialogue and the action, the readers can understand what kind of characteristic that the characters have. The readers need to read the whole story to understand the characters and to avoid the misinterpretation of characters.
2. **Theory of Conflict**

According to Abrams, plot is “the structure of the narrative’s world action, which is ordered and rendered, toward achieving particular emotional and artistic effect” (Abrams, 1999: 127). However, Robert and Jacobs in their book *Fiction: an Introduction to Reading and Writing* explains that plot is “a plan or groundwork for a story, based in conflicting human motivations, with actions resulting from believable and realistic human response” (Robert, 1987:9).

Furthermore, Robert and Jacobs clearly stated that plot in narrative work often deals with the conflict. They say that conflicts is “the basic part that needs to be created in order to establish a set of events in forming story” (Robert, 1987:9).

Meanwhile, Abrams divided conflicts into two: the conflicts between individuals and the conflicts between opposing desire or values in a character’s own mind (Abrams, 1999:28).

Stanton in his book *An Introduction to Fiction* explains these two parts as:

a. **Internal Conflict**

This is the conflict between two desires within a character. The conflict could happen because the opposing desires or values in the character’s own mind, and he has to choose the best of him.

b. **External Conflict**

External conflict is the conflict between a character and his environment. It is a conflict between the characters against the condition. It
happened because the characters have different opinion about life (Stanton, 1965:16).

3. Theory of Moral Values in Literature

Several books explain about moral as ethics and ethics as moral. Moral is the standard used to judge some actions are good or bad. Gallagher's *The Basis for Christian Ethics*, distinguishes factors in moral act into three. First is judgement, some acts are said be good or bad depending on particular cases. Second is choice, people go to the dilemmatic condition if they face a condition that asks them for following social judgment or their own choice. Lastly, the objective elements of a moral act, it includes the act itself and the realities which are affected by the act and will be decided whether the act is morally good or not.

Moody explains that moral value exists in a literary works that connect with human’s noble behavior and attitude. The moral value is seen through character behavior, the way the character thinks and the way the character faces the problem. Besides a good character, the evil/ bad behavior sometimes is carried by the antagonist character. The various degrees of goodness and badness for most human beings have at least some features (Moody, 1971:48). Authors create diverse characteristic to a certain character in order to show that there is the diversity between the good character and the bad character especially to learn moral value in literary works. Sometimes society and the reality connect with author’s work to draw the good and bad character. The author gives some moral value in literary work such as plays, drama, and novel. Hence, the readers get the
idea of moral value from literary work and understand them with the character’s behavior inside of it.

C. Theoretical Framework

To answer the problem formulation, the contribution of theories are needed. Thus, the review of related study is needed to add more information, critique, and comment towards Coraline. The review of related theories along with the review of related studies gives deeper insight about the study.

There are theories needed, such as the theory of character and characterization. The theory of character and characterization are suitable to answer the first question in the problem formulation. By applying this theory, the writer able to describe the characterization of the character.

The theories of conflict is used to answer the second problem formulation. This theory will help the writer to see the conflict in the novel Coraline. The theory of the moral values is used to answer the third problem formulation, way Coraline overcomes the conflict. The theory of moral value is used to find out moral values based on Coraline experiences.
CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

A. Object of the Study

The object of this study in this research is *Coraline*. The novel was written by Neil Gaiman. It is published by Dave McKean, 2002. There are several Gaiman works such as comics, novels and children’s books, short fiction and poetry, and nonfiction. He writes several novels such as: *Good Omens*, *Neverwhere*, *Stardust*, *American Gods*, *Coraline*, *Anansi Boys*, *Interwold*, *The Graveyard Book*, *The Silver Dream*, *The Ocean at the End of the Lane* and *Eternity’s Wheel*. In this study, the writer used his novel *Coraline*. *Coraline* is a dark fantasy children’s book. It is a New York Times best seller book (Gaiman, 2002). It also gets many awards because of the story itself such as the Hugo Award for Best Novella.

The book consists of thirteen chapters, each chapter tells about Coraline’s adventure in real world and magical world. *Coraline* is telling a story about looking for excitement. Coraline ventures through a mysterious door into a world that is similar, yet disturbingly different from her own, where she must challenge a dreadful entity in order to save herself, her parents, and the missing soul.

*Coraline* is telling a story about looking for excitement, *Coraline* and her parents move into a new apartment where she feels bored and alone. She walks
through a secret door in her new home and discovers an alternate version of her life with only one slight difference-everything is better. And everyone has buttons for eyes. Coraline’s ‘other mother’ invites her to stay forever in the magical world, and Coraline begins to realize that this alternate universe is a trick to lure her in so her other Mother can essentially ‘eat up her soul’. She has to rescue her parents from the other mother and make it home safely, relying on her tricks and help of a sassy talking cat. At the end of the story, Coraline successfully rescues her parents and gets home safely after fighting against the other mother from magical world.

B. Approach of the Study

In order to obtain a deep understanding about literary work, the writer needed a certain approach to analyze it. This study is connected with moral values revealed in the way Coraline overcomes the conflict. This study deals with morality, so then writer needs an approach to analyze it.

In order to do the analysis, the writer uses moral philosophical approach. This approach is appropriate with the purpose of this study which helps the writer to catch the moral values of the major character's experience. "Moral philosophical approach is the approach which examine the moral and philosophical issue in a text, focusing mostly on what it says, what is being taught in the text, not on its technique" (Guerin, 2005: 70).

As Guerin says, “authors working on moral bent consider figurative language and other aesthetic aspects of a literary work as secondary aspects of the
work”. The most important thing within a literary work would be the moral or philosophical teaching. In revealing implied moral lessons in Coraline, thus, this moral philosophical approach is the most suitable, as it insists on ascertaining and stating what is taught, rather than the aesthetic aspects of the novel as emphasized by Guerin (1979: 61).

C. Method of the Study

To answer the research problem, the method that is used is library research. The writer did research based on book and some sources from the internet browsing. The primary source is *Coraline* written by Neil Gaiman. The secondary sources consist of several books which describe the theory of character and characterization, conflicts and moral value.

The first step was reading the novel several times to gain deeper understanding about the story. The researcher then took notes and highlighted some important information while reading. Some important things from book that can support this study were written. It helped to analyze the novel and avoid confusion to analyze the novel. Moreover, the writer decided to reveal the moral value through the major character experiences.

The next step was to think about the topic that was discussed in this study. This study focuses on the moral values revealed through the major character while solving her conflict. Next, formulated the problem and answer the problem formulation. It means analyzing the collected data and supporting the data with related theories approach and studies.
CHAPTER IV
ANALYSIS

There are three problems in the problem formulation which are discussed in this analysis. Firstly, it discusses how the major female characters are being described in the novel. Secondly, it discusses about how Coraline faces her conflict in her life. In this part, it explains the conflict and the action of Coraline to overcoming her conflict. Thirdly, it explains how the moral value is conveyed through the female character by observing the conflict and the action that Coraline takes.

A. The Characteristics of Coraline (The Major Character)

Coraline Jones is an 11 year old girl with various characteristics. Coraline is a rather skinny girl with spindly legs. Her appearance can be seen from the picture that has been printed in the novel. Coraline’s is adventurous, brave, curious, and creative.

1. Curious

The first important characteristics is curious. Coraline’s curiosity gets her into rebellious phase. Every time Coraline finds something that interests her, she always wants to observe it. She does not care what other people say, even though her parents already warn her not to do something or go to some places.
One time, Coraline is bored and she has nothing to do, so she wants to explore the drawing room. Her parents do not allow her to go to the drawing room after Coraline’s grandmother died. Coraline still wants to get in to the drawing room, she insists that she wants to see the drawing room.

“Can I go into the drawing room?” The drawing room was where the Joneses kept the expensive (and uncomfortable) furniture Coraline's grandmother had left them when she died. Coraline wasn’t allowed in there. Nobody went in there. It was only for the best (Gaiman, 2002 : 09).

It is clear that no one can come into the drawing room but Coraline insists to enter that room. Coraline’s mother finally gives permission for Coraline to enter the room by saying “If you don’t make a mess. And you don’t touch anything.” (Gaiman, 2002 : 09). From the conversation between Coraline and her mother it can be seen that Coraline’s curiosity turn into rebellious phase by ignoring her mother warns.

The other proof which shows Coraline’s character is Coraline goes to see the well in the garden. Miss Spink and Miss Forcible (Coraline’s neighbour) already warn her that the well is dangerous and Coraline needs to be kept away from it. Coraline does not follow their advice and she still goes to see the well, “So Coraline set off to explore for it, so that she knew where it was, so keep away from it properly” (Gaiman, 2002 : 05). Coraline finds the well in her third day, and without hesitation she explores the well.

The well had been covered up by wooden boards, to stop anyone falling in. There was a small knot hole in one of the boards, and Coraline spent an afternoon dropping pebbles and acorns through the hole and waiting, and counting, until she heard the plop as they hit the water far below (Gaiman, 2002 : 06).
The explanation of the well proves that Coraline observes the well. Coraline also plays in near the well by throwing some pebbles. She does not hear the warning from her neighbours to stay away from the well. Instead of leaving the well, Coraline spends the afternoon in near well. This character of Coraline is the important part of Coraline’s life. Her curiosity gets in to conflict in the magical world which Coraline enters. Coraline gets into trouble because her curiosity.

2. Adventurous

One important trait that Coraline has is adventurous. She likes to explore everything. It can be seen from the reaction that Coraline gives toward every event. Right after Coraline moves into her new house, she explores her house and her surroundings.

The day after they moved in, Coraline went exploring. She explored the garden. It was a big garden; at the very back was an old tennis court, but no one in the house played tennis and the fence around the court had holes in it and the fence around the court had holes in it and the net had mostly rotted away; there was an old rose garden, filled with stunted, flybown rosebushes; there was a rockery that was all rocks; there was a fairy ring, made of squidgy brown toadstools which smelled dreadful if you accidentally trod on them (Gaiman, 2002: 5).

The quotation above proves that Coraline has adventurous character through her reaction toward her moving to the new place. The explanation of the place is clear and detailed that means Coraline really explores the place. Coraline likes to explore, it can be seen in the novel; there are many words which use word “explore”. This word “explore” relates to her adventurous character. The
The conversation between Coraline and her father shows Coraline’s adventurous character.

“What does your mother say?”
“She says you’re not going out in weather like that, Coraline Jones.”
“Then, no.”
“But I want to carry on exploring.” (Gaiman, 2002: 08-09)

The conversation between Coraline and her father shows that Coraline wants to explore the place eventhough her mother does not give permission. Coraline’s parents always tell Coraline to read books, play with toys, or visit their neighbours. She does not want to do all of those things, she only wants to explore.

“I don’t want to do those things. I want to explore.” From what Coraline says, it is clear that she has adventurous character.

The direct comment from Miss Forcible also proves that Coraline has adventuress character. It can be seen in the conversation between Coraline and Miss Forcible.

“You’d have to be an explorer to find your way around this fog.”
“I’m an explorer,” said Coraline
“Of course you are, luvvy,” said Miss Forcible (Gaiman, 2002: 17).

The conversation above shows that Coraline has adventurous character. In magical world, Coraline is still not afraid. She explores everything to find some clues, even though she does not really know about the place, she keeps exploring the magical world,- “I’m exploring,”Coraline told the cat (Gaiman, 2002:87).

From the definition in the dictionary, adventure and explore has similar meaning. It is a condition when a person like to get an exciting and dangerous experience.
3. Brave

Coraline is not afraid to observe anything. She has bravery to experience various things. Miss Spink and Miss Forcible say that Coraline is in danger but Coraline is not afraid. Coraline feels excited when she hears that she is in danger. She does not feel insure or ask to help, its actions shows her brave character. It can be seen in this quotation “In the midst, it was a ghost-world. In danger? Thought Coraline to herself. It sounded exciting. It didn’t sound like a bad thing. Not really” (Gaiman, 2002: 25).

It is clear that Coraline is excited to get in danger, it can be seen from the data above. Coraline does not think that it is bad to be in danger. Her neighbour has already warned her to be safe and stay at home instead of exploring something suspicious. Coraline does not care about their warning, she still goes into the suspicious door which leads her into the magical world.

Coraline is trapped in the magical world. The other mother is a monster that kidnaps her parents and other children. Without hestation, Coraline challenges the monster to play a game with her and the rewards are the other children’ soul and her parents’. Coraline is not scared eventhough she knows that it is almost impossible to win against a monster.

“How then you let me go. You let everyone go – my real father and mother, the dead children, everyone you’ve trapped here.”

“Yes,” she said. “I think I like this game. But what kind of game shall it be? A riddle game? A test of knowledge or of skill?”


“And what is it you think you should be finding in this hide and go seek game, Coraline Jones?”
“My parents,” said Coraline. “And the souls of the children behind the mirror.”
“A deal,” said the other mother (Gaiman, 2002: 110)

It is a rare occasion in which a girl challenges a monster bravely. Coraline is really brave, she bargains with the monster and makes a deal. The conversation between Coraline and the other mother shows Coraline’s brave character.

Another proof which shows Coraline’s brave character is in the magical world. Coraline tries to find the way out and help her parents and the missing souls. She does not really know what kind of place she comes into. She also thinks that she will not survive in the magical world but she keeps trying to find some clues. “And I need all the ways out of here that I can get. So I shall keep walking” (Gaiman, 2002: 87). She talks to herself to keep her mind stay focused. Coraline still does not find anything, it feels like she walks into nothing.

The world she was walking through was a pale nothingness, like a blank sheet of paper or an enormous, empty white room. It had no temperature, no smell, no texture, and no taste. (Gaiman, 2002:87).

From the description of the condition in magical world, it is clear that the magical world is scary and terrifying. Coraline walks into a scary place and she is still not afraid. Her exploration in the magical world shows that Coraline is a brave girl.

4. Creative

Another trait of Coraline is creative. She has many unique and smart ideas in her mind. It is shown when Coraline has a fight with the other mother in magical world. Coraline wants to know the shape of soul, so that she can
recognize it. Coraline tries to get more clues by deceiving the other mother, even though it does not work.

“Fine,” said Coraline. “Don’t tell me. I don’t care. It doesn’t matter if you help me or not. Everyone knows that a soul is the same size of a beach ball.”

She was hoping the other mother would say something like “Nonsense, they’re the size of ripe onions - orsuitcases - or grandfather clocks,” but the other mother simply smiled, and the tap-tap-tapping of her fingernail against her eye was as steady and relentless as the drip of water into the sink (Gaiman, 2002: 113).

The data above show the creative mind of Coraline. She tries to get information by provoking the other mother but at the end it does not work. Coraline does not get the information and she thinks that it can be everywhere because the other mother is nowhere, which means that she can be everywhere. She tries to search the bedroom where there are many objects to see. She examines the toys but she thinks that no one looks like a soul. Coraline remembers that she has a stone with the hole in it. She tries to look from the hole but there is none. There is a whispering voice from the dark and Coraline tries to figure it out by looking in the hole once more.

Through the stone, the world was gray and colorless, like a pencil drawing. Everything in it was gray - no, not quite everything; something glinted on the floor, something the color of a scarlet and orange tulip nodding in the May sun (Gaiman, 2002: 116).

Coraline finds out that the room has different environment when she looks at from the hole. She examines everything in the room, and she finds the gray glass marble in the fireplace. It is definitely the soul that she is looking for. At first she has no clue about the shape of the soul, after that she finds the soul one by one. The other mother knows the Coraline is successful and the other mother
can not stay still. The other mother tries to prevent Coraline from finding the other souls. The other mother loses her patience and she tries to get the marble and keep Coraline. Coraline does not give up to fight against the other mother.

And hard as she could, she threw the black cat toward the other mother. It yowled and landed on the other mother’s head, claws flailing, teeth bared, fierce and angry. Fur on end, it looked half again as big as it was in real life (Gaiman, 2002: 158).

Coraline’s fast thinking saves her and the cat from the other mother. By throwing the black cat, the other mother is growling and hard to move. The action of Coraline shows that she is creative and her creativity saves her from many things that danger her life.

From the explanation above, it can be seen that Coraline is adventurous, brave, curious, and creative. Her characteristics are shown in the novel clearly. The whole story focus on Coraline’s life that it is necessary to know the characteristic of Coraline. Coraline’s characteristics are connected from one to another, it has important role to understand the moral value of the story.

B. The Conflicts that Coraline Faces

This book is mainly about a girl who encounters a parallel world behind the door of her house where she must face her parallel mother who is ruler of that strange land and has a dangerous obsession with her. Mostly, the conflict of Coraline is external conflict which is human vs human (Coraline vs the other mother), Coraline vs environment and Coraline vs her parents. There is also internal conflict of Coraline which is human vs herself/himself (Coraline vs herself).
1. **External Conflict**

a. **Coraline vs the Other Mother**

   In *Coraline*, the conflict is girl vs. the other mother since most of the actions take place when she tries to escape from her weird, sick other mom, and trying to rescue others as well from her claws. All of the story are focus in the conflict between Coraline and the other mother.

   The story starts when Coraline's parents are away, she opens up that weird door again, and finds a passageway to another world where she has "other" parents. The other mother in the magical world wants Coraline to stay in that world. She decides to come back home, but this other world is going to cause her some trouble. This is the first time Coraline meets the other parents in the magical world. Everything is different from her real world and she really likes it.

   Coraline is the one who first makes contact with the other mother. When exploring her new house, she crosses the door that leads to her domain. The other mother is luring Coraline into her realm. She fills it with things designed to entertain a small girl and deliberately plays on Coraline’s insecurities. The other mother lures Coraline to enter her world successfully. All of the things that Coraline likes are available in the other world. It makes Coraline want to stay in that world.

   Coraline initially finds that everything in the other world is a more perfect version of what exists in the real world. Nothing is missing, and nothing is really new. Rather, everything is better, including her parents and neighbors, the toys in her room, and the food she eats. Her other mother is completely attentive and
cooks simple, delicious food. Her other father is witty and charismatic, and sings songs written for and about Coraline. The other Misses Spink and Forcible are always performing theatre. The other toys in her room are animated. And, the nameless black cat speaks. The attitude of Coraline’s parents and neighbours are really different from the real world.

Coraline has apprehension about the other world. Even before entering the other world, she experiences strange warnings from those around her. When the real Misses Spink and Forcible read Coraline’s tea leaves, they warn her that she is in danger and give her a stone for protection. The warning from her neighbour are shown in the conversation between Coraline and her neighbours.

“Oh dear,” she said. “You were right, April. She is in danger.”

“See, Miriam,” said Miss Spink triumphantly.

“My eyes are as good as they ever were...”

“What should I do then?” asked Coraline, who was slightly alarmed by this (Gaiman, 2002: 23).

Because of the danger that Miss Spink says, she gives a stone to Coraline. Miss Spink says that the stone is good for bad things. The stone has a hole in it and the hole went all the way through the middle of the stone.

Inside the other world, the black cat tells her she was wise for bringing “protection,” most likely referring to the stone (Gaiman, 2002: 38), and she finds rats that sing a familiar, ominous song. The most striking warning is that her other parents have black, button eyes in place of real eyes. Her other mother is prettier and slimmer than her real mother, but has sharp, curved fingernails. The other mother’s features make her at once more attractive yet intimidating, and her constant attention is enticing yet constrictive. When her other parents ask her to
stay forever and abandon her real family, Coraline rejects their offer and leaves the other world.

Coraline comes back again to the other world and she is ready to face the other mother. She tries to make a deal with the other mother, she wants to get back her parents and the missing souls. Coraline needs to defeat the other mother by finding the marble of soul. It can be seen in the story that Coraline tries to convince the other mother.

“And what is it you think you should be finding in this hide and go seek game, Coraline Jones?”
Coraline hesitated. Then, “My parents,” said Coraline. “And the souls of the children the mirror.”
“A deal,” said the other mother. “Now, eat up your breakfast, my sweet. Don’t worry, it won’t hurt you” (Gaiman, 2002:110).

After long searching in the other world, Coraline finds all the missing souls. Coraline still needs to find her parents, so she comes to the other mother because she knows that the other mother hides it. Coraline insists that her parents are hidden in the passageway between the house. Coraline tells the other mother to open the door and it is empty. The other mother thinks that she is already win but she is not. Coraline has a better idea to defeat the other mother,

“Now,” she said, “you’re going to stay here for ever and always.”
“No,” said Coraline. “I’m not.” And, hard as she could, she threw the black cat toward the other mother. It yowled and landed on the other mother’s head, claws flailing, teeth bared, fierce and angry. Fur on end, it looked half again as big as it was in real life (Gaiman, 2002:158).

It can be seen that Coraline wins against the other mother. The other mother can not walk properly, she is growling in the floor trying to catch Coraline. Coraline runs to the door, she can escapes from the other world by
entering the door. Coraline pushed the door and the door starts to slip closed and the other mother can not catch Coraline anymore.

b. Coraline vs Environment

There are many obstacles in the other world. Coraline needs to pass the obstacles to find her way to home. The other external conflict in Coraline is herself vs environment. Coraline does not know anything about this magical world but she needs to explore it. It can be seen in the story when Coraline searches the missing soul in the other world.

Something stung her face and hands like sand blowing on a beach on a windy day. She covered her eyes and pushed forward. The sand stings got worse, and it got harder and harder to walk, as if she were pushing into wind on a particularly blustery day. It was a vicious wind, and a cold one. She took a step backwards, the way she had come (Gaiman, 2002:117).

Coraline struggles to get the missing soul. She needs to pass the obstacle, there is a strange voice “Oh, keep going” (Gaiman, 2002:117) which encourage Coraline to overcome it.

In theater, Coraline tries to find the missing soul and she is faced with many scary things again “hairless, jellyish” (Gaiman, 2002:117). Coraline thinks that it must be a monster. It might be once have had faces. She also finds some nest of the dog bats in the ceiling. There are many weird things in the theater but she must overcome it.

There was something up on the back wall behind the ruined stage. It was grayish white, twice the size of Coraline herself, and it was stuck to the back wall like a slug. Coraline took a deep breath. “I’m not afraid,” she
told herself, but she scrambled up onto the old stage, fingers sinking into the rotting wood as she pulled herself up (Gaiman, 2002:120).

She can overcome many obstacles in the theater, even though she is a little girl. She has never been so scared, but still she still walks forward until she find the marble. After a long walk, Coraline finds the second marble. It is held by a scary creature “the creature’s skin felt slippery, as if it had been covered in jelly” (Gaiman, 2002: 122). Coraline tries to approach the marble and the fingers loses their grip and the marble slips into Coraline’s hand.

c. Coraline vs Her Parents

Coraline and her parents do not have good relationship. Coraline’s parents always busy with their works and do not have time for Coraline. Coraline feels lonely and bored because no one want to play with her. Coraline’s parents always tells Coraline to play with her toys or her neighbours. Coraline is not happy with her life in her new house because there is nothing to do.

“What should I do?” asked Coraline.
“Read a book,” said her mother. “Watch a video. Play with your toys. Go and pester Miss Spink or Miss Forcible, or the crazy old man upstairs.”
“No,” said Coraline, “I don’t want to do those things. I want to explore.”
“I don’t really mind what you do,” said Coraline’s mother, “as long as you don’t make a mess” (Gaiman, 2002 : 7).

From the quotation above it is clear that Coraline’s mother always ignore her children. Coraline’s mother only think about her needs, Coraline can do anything she wants as long as does not disturb the parents. Coraline is bored with her toys and her books, she really wants to do something exciting but no one can grant her wishes.
Coraline also has not good relationship with her father. Coraline’s father often ignore Coraline, it is shown in the story “he said when she came in, without turning around” (Gaiman, 2002 : 8). Coraline calls her father and he only says hello without look at Coraline’s face. It is bad for children because children need more attention and her father does not show any affection towards Coraline. Coraline tries to get attention from her father but her father says “And leave me alone to work” (Gaiman, 2002 : 9). This is clear that Coraline’s father does not want to play with Coraline.

Coraline’s father always cooks dinner for the family and Coraline does not like it. Coraline’s father always cooks something disgusting and weird. Coraline always tell her father that she does not his recipe, it is not delicious and it tastes weird. Coraline’s father does not care with Coraline’s word and he always cooks what he wants.

Coraline was disgusted. “Daddy,” she said, “You’ve made a recipe again.” “It’s leek and potato stew with tarragon garnish and melted Gruyere cheese,” he admitted. “You know I don’t like recipes,” she told her father. “If you tried it, maybe you’d like it,” said Coraline’s father, but she shook her head (Gaiman, 2002 : 11-12).

Coraline’s father does not think about his children, he only thinks about himself. He does not consider what his children like or not. These quotation are the prove of conflict between Coraline and her parents. Coraline always tries to get her parent’s attention but she never gets it. These conflicts are the reason which lead Coraline into the other world.
2. **Internal Conflict**

Internal conflict in this story is Coraline struggle with herself. Coraline has conflict in her thought which she needs to overcome. There are

a. **Fear vs Bravery**

Coraline has an internal conflict that is struggle with herself. When Coraline returns to the real world, her home is empty and her parents never return. After one night, she consults with the best authority figures that she can think of: her neighbors. Coraline’s neighbors not only ignore her concerns about her missing parents, but also tell her they will be away for a couple of days. Coraline is forced to take care of herself for two days, and even has to go to the supermarket to buy food. During her second night alone, she is awoken by the black cat and sees an omen: her parents standing in a mirror’s reflection writing “HELP US” in the foggy glass. When she calls the police, the police officer asks her to wake up her parents for comfort from her nightmares. Police does not believe what Coraline tell to them and think that Coraline only gets a nightmare.

“You ask your mother to make you a big old mug of hot chocolate, and then give you a great big old hug. There’s nothing like hot chocolate and hug for making the nightmares go away. And if she starts to tell you off for waking her up at this time of night, why you tell her that that’s what the policeman said.” He had a deep, reassuring voice (Gaiman, 2002: 65).

Coraline is worried about her parents who are missing. She can not stand being alone in her house, then she decides to save her parents. The conflict developed after Coraline realizes that if she wants things to be normal she has to be brave and get over her fears. Without any help from adults, Coraline decides to re-enter the other world to save her parents from the other mother.
“Don’t be silly,” said Coraline. “I’m going back for them because they are my parents. And if they noticed I was gone I’m sure they would do the same for me. You know you’re talking again?” (Gaiman, 2002: 70).

Coraline goes back to the magical world with the black cat. She does not get help from the adults because no one believes her story. So, she needs to be brave to save her parents from the other mother – “when you’re scared but you still do it anyway, that’s brave” (Gaiman, 2002: 70). The internal conflict that she experiences makes she braver to continue her journey.

Coraline goes back to the magical world and meets the other mother. She wants to save her parents but she also finds out that there are any other kid souls which are trapped in the magical world. The other mother lures kids from the real world to come in magical world. Then, the other mother locks them in the dark room without giving any food – “She stole our hearts, and she stole our souls, and she took our lives away, and she forgot about us in the dark” (Gaiman, 2002: 100). It means that she needs to find her parents and the other kids souls. If she can win her mother and father back from the other mother, she can also win free the kid souls.

To save Coraline’s parents and the other souls, Coraline makes a deal with the other mother. Coraline plays “find treasure” games with the other mother. Coraline needs to find the soul marble and her parents. If she finds all the marble, she can get away from the magical world and get home.

“If I lose I’ll stay here with you forever and I’ll let you love me. I’ll be a most dutiful daughter. I’ll eat your food and play Happy Families. And I’ll let you sew your buttons into my eyes.”

Her other mother stared at her, black buttons unblinking. “That sounds very fine,” she said. “And if you do not lose?”
“Then you let me go. You let everyone go—my real father and mother, the dead children, everyone you’ve trapped here” (Gaiman, 2002: 109).

Coraline must find the soul and parents quickly, so that she does not get killed in the magical world. She explores all the magical world which is limited. The magical world only has forest and one house which the other mother lives. She looks everywhere but does not find any clue. One time, she tries to look from the stone that Miss Spink gives. The stone gives a different scenery and it leads Coraline to the missing soul.

The other mother tries to break her promise with Coraline. The other mother tries to fail Coraline find the missing soul but she does not win. After Coraline finds the three soul, the other mother tries to steal the soul from Coraline. The other mother has no intention of letting Coraline go or of keeping her word. Coraline always feels insecure. she does not think that she can win fight against the other mother. She has conflict with herself, she thinks that she can survive if she does not save other people. In the end, she thinks that she needs to save her parents and the missing souls.

b. Frustate vs Grateful

In the beginning of the story, Coraline always complain about her life and her parents. She does not like her parents who always ignore her and does not give what she wants. It is like she is frustate with her life, she wants something more challenging and exciting. There is one thing that Coraline really hates, she hates her father cooking. Coraline’s father always makes disgusting food, he cooks his own recipe that Coraline does not like. When Coraline’s father cooks his recipe,
Coraline always sigh and eat another food. “Coraline sighed. Then she went to the freezer and got out some microwave chips and a microwave minipizza” (Gaiman, 2002 : 11). Coraline’s parents often ignore Coraline, they busy with themselves. It is shown in the story that Coraline’s mother does not remember Coraline’s date for school and her needs. Coraline’s mother also does not care about Coraline’s wants. Coraline tells her mother about her uniform and her mother ignores her.

“But Mum, everybody at school’s got gray blouses and everything. Nobody’s got green gloves. I could be the only one.” Her mother ignored her; she was talking to the shop assistant. They were talking about which kind of sweater to get for Coraline, and were agreeing that the best thing to do would be to get one that was embarrassingly large and baggy, in the hopes that one day she might grow into it (Gaiman, 2002: 28).

The quotation above shows that Coraline’s mother does not care about Coraline’s opinion. She only thinks about what she thinks suitable for her daughter eventhough her daughter does not like it. These behaviors make Coraline feels frustate and lure monster from the magical world. The monster from the magical world disguise herself as an ideal mother for Coraline.

The other mother that Coraline thinks as an ideal mother for her turns out a monster which wants to eat Coraline. It is not as Coraline thinks, she thinks that the magical world has everything she wants but it turns out as a creepy and frightening world. Coraline's experience in the magical world makes Coraline grateful with her life. In Coraline’s thought, she feels frustate with her life but at the end she feels grateful for what she has in life. Coraline’s struggle against the other mother makes internal conflict in the story. It is frustate versus grateful, the grateful wins against the frustate feeling in Coraline’s thought.
The positive traits in internal conflict always win in the internal conflict. It means, conflict that Coraline experience makes Coraline change her way of thinking. Coraline can overcome conflict that she gets and it makes she become better person.

C. The Moral Values Revealed through The Major Character in Solving Her Conflict.

Moral value is the idea of principle that teaches person to be better in behaviour. People can learn moral values from their act, especially their own experiences. The way to get moral values needs the agent who experiences something important. From its experiences, moral values can be drawn. Based on the novel Coraline, there are several values from the major character's experience by overcoming her conflict. In the previous section, Coraline’s characters and experiences to overcome her conflict have been discussed. Therefore, it is found some moral lessons derived from the major character.

1. Be grateful and appreciate what you have in life

Coraline wants everything to be perfect, she wants everything like what she wants. As a child, Coraline wants to get attention from her parents. Coraline's parents are really busy and tend to ignore her; she's often left alone to entertain herself and even take care of herself. That doesn't sound like the best family set-up. Coraline often talks to her parents and ask them to play with her. Coraline’s
parents always tells her to play with her toys or the neighbour. It seems that Coraline’s mother doesn’t really care about Coraline’s school life.

“When do you go back to school?” asked her mother.
“Next week,” said Coraline.
“Hmph,” said her mother. “I suppose I shall have to get you new school clothes. Remind me, dear, or else I’ll forget,” and she went back to typing things on the computer screen.
“What shall I do?” repeated Coraline.

The behavior of Coraline’s mother is not good because she does not really care about her own daughter. How come a mother does not remember her daughter’s school life and needs. Coraline’s mother tells Coraline to draw something so that she is not bothered by her daughter. It really makes Coraline feel sad and does not belong anywhere. She tries to ask her father and the answer also same as her mother.

“I’m bored,” she said.
“Learn how to tap dance,” he suggested without turning around. Coraline shook her head. “Why don’t you play with me,” she asked.
“Busy,” he said. “Working,” he added. He still hadn’t turned around to look at her. “Why don’t you go and bother Miss Spink and Miss Forcible?” (Gaiman, 2002: 20-21)

From the quotation above, it can be seen that Coraline’s father does not really care about his daughter. Coraline’s father does not even look at his daughter’s face when he talks to her. As a father, he should show more affection to his daughter, so that his children can feel love from her parents. It is worse when Coraline’s father asks Coraline to bother their neighbour instead of her own parents.
Coraline’s sadness and loneliness attract monster from the magical world. The monster act as an ideal parents for Coraline, their apperance is also similar to Coraline’s real parents. The monster acts like what Coraline really wants. They really care about Coraline and always talk to her nicely.

“I’m your other mother,” said the woman. “Go and tell your other father that lunch is ready,” She opened the door of the oven. Suddenly Coraline realized how hungry she was. It smelled wonderful. “Well, go on.” “Hello Coraline,” he said. “I’m starving.”

He got up and went with her into the kitchen. They sat at the kitchen table, and Coraline’s other mother brought them lunch. A huge, golden-brown roasted chicken, fried potatoes, tiny green peas. Coraline shoveled the food into her mouth. It tasted wonderful (Gaiman, 2002: 33).

It can be seen that the other parents treat Coraline well since she comes to the other world. Coraline is really happy to eat the delicious chicken that her mother never made. Coraline’s mother sometimes makes chicken, but it is always out of packets or frozen or very dry. Not to mention, it never tasted of anything. Coraline’s father also often makes a strange cook from chicken which make Coraline does not want to touch it. In this other world Coraline really love the chicken, it tastes wonderful and Coraline eat many slices of them.

The different treatment from the other mother makes Coraline want to stay with her. She says that she really likes living in the other world but it turns out that the other mother only convinces Coraline to consume her. The other mother kidnaps Coraline’s parents and Coraline needs to save her parents. Coraline fights against the other mother to save her parents and the three missing souls. Coraline overcomes her conflict and she can save her parents.
Coraline’s conflict against the other mother makes Coraline understand that no one really loves her except her own parents. Coraline is aware that there is no one who can replace her parents. Once, Coraline meets her parents again, she feels grateful. She finally understands that her parents actually love her.

Coraline walked down the hallway to her father’s study. He had his back to her, but she knew, just on seeing him, that his eyes, when he turned around, would be her father’s kind gray eyes, and she crept over and kissed him on the back of his balding head (Gaiman, 2002: 168-169).

Coraline shows her gratefulness by kissing her father. She knows that her father is actually kind, Coraline’s father has kind eyes which show his kindness. When Coraline kisses her father, her father looks around and smiles to her. Coraline says that she just misses him. Coraline’s father turns off his computer after hearing what Coraline says and picks Coraline up “which he had not done for such a long time, not since he had started pointing out to her she was much too old to be carried, and he carried her into the kitchen” (Gaiman, 2002:169). Coraline’s father shows that he cares to Coraline by picking her up. Coraline finally can appreciate what she has in life after she overcomes the conflict in the other world. She also understands that things are not always what they seem, she is grateful for what she has in life.

2. What makes you brave is doing something with courage although you are scared

Coraline is up there with the most courageous kids of all time. Coraline has a special kind of courage, fighting back against the other mother totally alone. In the end, her courage gives her more confidence, which of course will mean
even more courage in the future. Coraline comes to the other world, which is
totally different from the real word. There are many strange creatures and she has
to win against the other mother all by herself.

There is one time when Coraline tells her past with her father. Coraline
went to explore with her father in her old house. Coraline and her father got stung
from the bees while they ran from it. Coraline’s father tried to save Coraline by
standing there and the bees stung him instead of Coraline. Coraline’s father said
that he was not scared because he knew he had to give Coraline enough time to
run. Coraline’s father told Coraline that “he wasn’t brave because he wasn’t
scared” (Gaiman, 2002: 69). Coraline’s past story has more deep meaning, she
really believes in her father’s advice. Coraline’s father going back again to get his
glasses, when he knew the wasps were there, when he was really scared. That was
brave. This moral value is stated in the novel “when you’re scared but you still do
it anyway, that’s brave” (Gaiman, 2002: 70).

Coraline goes back to the other to save her parents from the other mother.
She knows that it is dangerous and maybe she can not survive from the other
mother. Coraline tells herself to be brave and fight against the other mother. She
needs to win so that she can meet with her parents again. “I will be brave, thought
Coraline. No, I am brave” (Gaiman, 2002:72). Coraline tells herself that she is
brave again and again, she does it to remain herself. She encourages herself. She
is not running away because the other mother has her parents.

Coraline needs to find the missing souls and her parents to win the game
against the other mother. She explores all of the place in the other world, she finds
many scary things and places but she still keeps going. She often tells herself that she is not afraid to encourage her, “I’m not afraid,” she told herself. “I’m not” (Gaiman, 2002: 120). She actually does not believe in herself but she still scrambles up onto the stages. There are many weird things in there, like spider’s egg case, inside the sac is something that looks like a person, but a person with two heads, with twice as many arms and legs as it should have. Coraline is afraid but she needs to fights against it. This makes Coraline brave. The conflict that Coraline faces in the other world makes Coraline braver. The experiences that Coraline gets in the other world gives her a new perspective of life.

3. Be careful of what you wish for

In the attic of the house lives an eccentric man who trains mice and in the basement live two eccentric and aged former actresses who have dogs. Coraline is bored, her parents have time only to type on their computers, and so Coraline discovers her own adventure.

In the novel, Coraline says “What kind of fun would it be if I just got whatever I wanted?” (Gaiman, 2002: 7). Coraline wishes that she wants to escape from her boredom, and get anything she wants. Coraline’s boredom leads her into a dangerous parallel world in which there is an Other Mother and an Other Father who are attentive to her, cook great meals, and have a home full of fantastic toys and moving furniture. They also have buttons for eyes. Unlike her real parents and house, the other world offers something more fun.
Coraline’s father always make new recipe for their dinner and Coraline really hates it because it tastes disgusting. Coraline tells her father “You know I don’t like recipes” (Gaiman, 2002:11) but her father keeps making the same mistakes. It is different from the other world which the food always tastes delicious. Coraline really bores with her life in the new house “Coraline had watched all the videos, she was bored with her toys, and she’d read all her books” (Gaiman, 2002:7). Coraline wants something new and interesting and the other world offers it to her. The home full of fantastic toys and moving furniture which makes Coraline amazed.

Coraline thinks that the other world is awesome and she really likes it to be there but it turns out that it is only temporary. Coraline’s parents are missing and she is left alone in her house. The other mother kidnaps Coraline’s parents and she needs to save them and escape from the other world. Coraline thinks that it will be fun to get everything she wants by having ”parents" that do everything for her, but she cannot get away from them and is constantly kept in a state where she is not allowed to think or do things for herself.

Coraline’s experiences in the other world makes her think more about her wishes. She faces many conflicts in the other world because she dreams a life which is too beautiful to be true. Coraline’s wish become true but it does not look like what she really wants. Coraline’s experience shows that we need to be more careful of what we wish.
CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

_Coraline_ written by Neil Gaiman is a story about a little girl who is trapped in the magical world and needs to fight against a monster by herself. The main character is Coraline, the protagonist in the story. The story focuses on Coraline's conflicts in the magical world. Coraline overcomes the conflict, and her actions elaborates some moral values that people might learn from her. In order to focus the analysis about these moral values, three problem formulations are used. The first one is the characteristics of Coraline. The second one is the conflict that Coraline faces. The third one is the moral values which are depicted through Coraline’s experience in the other world.

To get the moral values from the story, there are several theories which are used in this study. The first one is theory of character and characterization, the second is theory of conflict, the third is moral value theory. By analyzing the story, it can be concluded that the moral values are revealed through the conflict that Coraline faces.

The characteristics of Coraline are curious, adventurous, brave, and creative. These characteristics lead Coraline towards her adventure in the other world. Coraline’s characteristic can be seen in the story, it is stated in the conversation of the characters, the action of Coraline, and direct comment.
Coraline curiosity leads her to the other world which is dangerous for her but her other characters save her from the danger.

There are two kinds of conflicts in the story, internal conflict and external conflict. The internal conflict is Coraline vs herself. The external conflicts are Coraline vs the other mother and Coraline vs environment. Coraline comes to the other world and meets her other mother. At first, she really likes it because the other world offers all of things that she likes. Coraline is never bored in the other world and the other parents really cares about her, they treat Coraline well. Then, it turns out that the other mother wants to consume Coraline and she kidnaps Coraline’s real parents. Coraline must fight the other mother to get her parents back and escapes from the other world all by herself. Coraline knows that it is dangerous to fight against the other mother and she doubts she will win. Coraline is afraid to explore the other world but she tells herself that she is brave and not afraid of anything. At the end, Coraline wins against the other mother and gets back safely to her house.

From the conflict that Coraline faces in the other world, it can be seen that there are several moral values from the story. The first value is be grateful, appreciate what you have in life, the second thing is what makes you brave is doing something with courage although you’re scared, the third one is be careful of what you wish for. Those moral values are depicted through the experience of Coraline while she tries to overcome the conflicts in the other world. Coraline’s experience in the other world gives Coraline a new way of thinking and perspective of life.
BIBLIOGRAPHY


