THE SIGNIFICANCE OF DOBBY IN THE PLOT OF J.K. ROWLING’S
HARRY POTTER AND THE CHAMBER OF SECRET

AN UNDERGRADUATE THESIS

Presented as Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for the Degree of Sarjana Sastra
in English Letter

By
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A Sarjana Sastra Undergraduate Thesis

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Theresia Respati Estiningtyas
We’ve all got both light and dark inside us, what matters is the part we choose to act on. (Sirius Black)
This is for
Eliz, Riyan,
Dad and Mom
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Theresia Respati E.
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ABSTRACT


Characters are one of many important elements in a story. Whether it is a major or a minor one, characters help in constructing the plot in the story. The major character is the leader in the plot of the story and minor characters are the supporter. The roles of the minor character as a supporter are to help major character, emphasizing the quality of the major character, obstacle, and also the trigger that affect the major character’s mind, decision or action. Without the existence of the minor character, the plot of the story will be less convincing and lifelike.

This research deals with one of J. K. Rowling’s works Harry Potter and the Chamber of the Secret. In this study, the writer focuses on the significance of one minor character, Dobby the House-elf in the plot. To support this research the writer uses two intrinsic elements, character and plot. Those two elements are used to answer the two objectives of this research. These two objectives are the description of Dobby the House-elf’s characterization and the significance of Dobby the House-elf in the plot of Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret.

In order to find the answer to the problem formulation, the library research method is used. The formalistic approach is used to analyze the internal element based on the other internal element of the literary works. Some studies related to this research and the main subject, Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret, are also used. The writer also uses theory of character and characterization and theory of plot to answer the problem formulation.

The result of this analysis is Dobby the House-elf is having a significant role in the plot of Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret. After obtaining the characterization of Dobby the House-elf the final step is exploring his significant role in the plot. Dobby the House-elf with his characteristics is proven to have significant role in constructing the plot. The plot is constructed through his complications and decision he makes.
ABSTRAK


Hasil dari analisis ini adalah Dobby si peri-rumah memiliki peran penting dalam alur *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret*. Setelah mendapatkan karakterisasi Dobby si peri-rumah, langkah terakhir adalah menjajaki peranan pentingnya dalam alur cerita. Dobby si peri-rumah dengan karakteristiknya terbukti memiliki peranana penting dalam membangun alur. Alur terbangun melalui komplikasi dan keputusan yang dibuatnya.
CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Characters are one of many important elements in a story. Henkle states that character can be described as major and secondary or minor characters. The most important and complex characters in the novel are Major characters while Minor characters were characters who perform more limited functions and limited in ways that the major characters were not. (1965:60)

Whether it is a major or a minor one, in every story, characters has their own journey and goal or purpose to achieve. While the major character is leading reader in the plot of the story, minor characters are always there to support it. The supporter role of the minor character is not always as tedious as Baker Street Irregulars whose main purpose are to help gathering information for Sherlock Holmes in Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s book but probably more complex like Friday who serves Robinson Crusoe. Friday in Daniel Defoe’s Robinson Crusoe is saved from other cannibals and converts to Protestantism by Crusoe than become his loyal servant. Friday role in the story is not merely as a servant. His role as minor character is needed in order to emphasize the quality of the major character, Robinson Crusoe.

In some cases, minor character also can be the obstacle for the major character like Willy Harris in Lorraine Hansberry’s A Raisin in the Sun who has run off with all of the money that Walter Younger invested in the liquor store deal.
Minor character can also affect the major character’s mind, decision or action like the specter of Hamlet’s recently deceased father.

When it is obvious that major character holds the most significant role in a plot of the story, it is often to forget that minor character also has an equally significant role. So without the existence of the minor character, the plot of the story will be less convincing and lifelike. According to these facts, the writer is interested in studying the significance of the minor character in the plot of a story.

To understand the important roles of the minor character in the story, the writer chooses *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret* that was written by J.K. Rowling. This book has some interesting minor characters and also has a clear and organized plot. *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret* is one of seven books from *Harry Potter the Series* by J. K. Rowling. The Series itself became so phenomenal and read by people from many countries and different ages.

*Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret* is the second book from *Harry Potter the Series*. *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret* tells about Harry Potter, an eleven years old young wizard second year in Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. In the first book *Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone*, Harry is forced to confront Quirinus Quirrell, who later turns out to be controlled by Lord Voldemort, the evil wizard who has killed Harry’s Parents, in his quest for immortality using the power of the Philosopher's Stone. Continuation to the first book, in the second book Harry has to deal with a monster within the school which is released by the heir of Slytherin, one of the founders of Hogwarts, that none other than Lord Voldemort. Harry and his friends including one of the
minor character who will be discussed in this research, Dobby the house-elf, are working together to figure out what kind of monster that has attacked some students and slew it.

While most researchers choose to discuss more specific about major character in a story, the writer of this research has more interest in how a minor character, Dobby the house-elf will holds significant role in the story.

B. Problem Formulation

This study is aimed to find the significant role of the minor character in the plot, therefore two problems are formulated:

1. How is Dobby characterized in *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret*?
2. How is the Plot described in *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret*?
3. How does Dobby give significant role in the plot of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret*?

C. Objectives of the Study

This research aims to find about the importance of a minor character in the plot of the story. Based on the problem formulation, this research has three main objectives. The first objective is to see the characteristics of the minor character, Dobby by reading and studying the story.

Afterward, the second objective is to describe the Plot of the story. Then the third objective of this research is to explore the role of Dobby the minor character in the story by seeing its significant role in the plot as the main focus.
D. Definition of Terms

In order to avoid misinterpretation and misunderstanding of the topic, there is one term that is important to be clarified in analyzing this novel.

- Plot

Perrine defines Plot as the sequence of incidents or events of which a story is composed. It consists of cause and effect relationship where it arouses many conflicts. Here, those conflicts become the soul of plot. Thus, they make the story become alive. (1978: 43)

In Foster’s plot is defined as a narrative of events, the emphasis falling on causality. (1974: 60)
CHAPTER II
THEORETICAL REVIEW

A. Review of Related Studies

Most people who are also doing analysis on the character in Harry Potter books concern about the minor characters. One of the studies is by Eka Utami Ningsih, a student of English Letter Department who has studied the Significance of Dark Humor in J.K. Rowling’s Harry Potter Series revealed by Fred and George Weasley. In her study, she discusses the Dark Humor which is used by the minor character Fred and George Weasley, the twin brothers of Harry’s best friend Ron Weasley. Fred and George are minor characters but have a significant role in revealing dark humor in the novel as quotes follows:

Based on the Bungker’s opinion about the characteristics of Fred and George Weasley, the writer agree that revealing humor is the main role of them. Moreover, in her writing, Bunker indicated small pieces about what kind of humor that the Twin reveal; it is kind of wicked sense of humor. Beside, Bunker also mentioned that ‘intitive’ is one of the characteristics of Fred and George Weasley (2010: 9)

Melia Hapsari Sabarno in her thesis (2006) discusses about a character, Hermione Granger as representation of Rowling’s School life in Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban. She says that there are some similarities in the characteristic of Hermione Granger and the Author J.K. Rowling. Those similarities are the indicator that Hermione Granger is a representation of J. K. Rowling’s. In her thesis, Sabarno more focuses in comparing one of the major characters with the Author.
Another study about this novel has been done by Ory Kuswardani. In her study, she discusses Hagrid, similar to this research was one of some minor characters who also has significant role in the Plot. She discusses about Hagrid who has an important role in the story but is categorized as a minor character for not having any changes or development in his characteristic.

He does not change his behavior or even to be bad man. He placed himself as being stated by Perrine, a Static Character. This character is the character that only makes little changes in their personalities during the story. They remain stable from the beginning until the end of the story. They are described with less detail and they are not changed by some circumstances. (2008: 28)

Another thesis by Cita Paramita Wijaya discusses about the contribution of minor characters in developing the plot as seen in Dan Brown’s Da Vinci Code (2010). In her thesis she reveals how minor characters affect the major character in many aspects like their mind, point of view, being an obstacle or a leading point into the major character goal. Although this thesis does not discuss Harry Potter the Series, it studies about minor character that supports this research.

A book written by David Colbert entitled Magical Worlds of Harry Potter discusses the references to history, legends, and literature in J.K. Rowling’s Harry Potter Series. In his book, Colbert discusses about the connection between Rowling’s novels and myth, Greek mythology, folklore, the culture of Ancient Egypt, Ancient Rome and Aztec.

Considering there are many people who have already discussed about some characters either minor or major in Harry Potter the Series, the writer wants
to underline that the analysis about Dobby the house-elf’s role in the plot of the story has never been discussed by other researchers.

B. Review of Related Theories

This part consists of the theories that will be used in analyzing the problem formulations.

a. Theory of Character and Characterization

To analyze about Dobby who is a minor character but has significant role in the story, theory by Roger B. Henkle is used. In his book, the categorization of minor and major character has been discussed. He says that minor characters always seem to appear as an additional in the story.

Minor Character only presents what is often only one side if the experience. They are limited in ways that the major characters are not. They may be less sophisticated, so that their responses to the experience are less complex and interesting (1977: 97)

E.M. Foster says characters are divided into flat and round character. Both types of character may be given the vitality that good fiction demands. A flat character is the one who can be summed up in a single sentence. The minor character must necessarily remain flat, although not all minor character is flat. Usually flat characters are the minor characters. These characters are predictable, behave and talk in the same way. They are static and do not grow or change in the story like round character. (1974: 67)

Foster also explains that there are two advantages of being flat character. First, the character is recognized easily, not by the visual eye, which merely notes
the recurrence of a proper name, but by the reader’s emotional eye whenever she or he comes. The second advantage is that a flat character is easy to remember because the character stays the same from the beginning until the end of the story.

According to Murphy, there are nine ways that author can apply to present the characterization of characters in literary work:

i. Personal Description
The author can describe a character through his or her physical appearance like skin colour, eyes, hair, height, clothes, etc. Personal description is the simplest and common way to tell the readers the clues about character’s certain feature.

ii. Character as seen by Another
Here, instead of describing a character directly the author can describe him through the eyes and opinions of another character. The other characters’ explanation or opinion about one character gives the clue to the reader about his personality or attitude.

iii. Speech
The author can give the reader an insight of the character’s characteristic through what that character says. For example, when a character speaks, whether he is in conversation with another or monologing, or when he expresses an opinion, he is giving some clues about his character to the reader.
iv. Past life

The author can give the readers a clue to events in the past that have helped to shape a person’s characteristic by letting the reader learn something about a person’s past life. This can be done by direct comment by the author, through the person’s thoughts, through his conversation or through the medium of another person.

v. Conversation of Others

The author can also give the readers a clue to someone’s character through the conversations of other people and the things they say about him.

vi. Reaction

The Author’s description about how a character reacts to various situations and events in the story can give the reader an insight of the character’s characteristic.

vii. Direct comment

The author can describe or comment on a person’s character directly. Direct comment is one of the most common ways that most author use in giving his the opinion about the character.

viii. Thoughts

The author can give the readers direct knowledge of what a character is thinking about and make them understand his characteristic. In this case the author is able to tell the reader the thought of different character.
ix. Mannerism

The author can describe a person’s mannerism, habits, idiosyncrasies and also behavior whether positive or negative which tell us something about his personality (1971: 161-173).

b. Theory of Plot

E.M. Foster says that a plot is a plan or groundwork from a story, based in conflicting human motivation, with the actions resulting from believable and realistic human response. Plot is several incidents or events that create a story. But the incident or event happens because of human motivation so the result will be a realistic human response. (1974: 86)

Yelland, Jones and Easton state that plot is the framework of a story or the conscious arrangement of its events. Its pattern consists of:

i. Exposition

Exposition is the beginning of the story where the characters are introduced, the background sketched, and the problem stated. (Yelland, Jones, and Easton, 1953: 148) This statement means that the exposition is the basic item in the story.

ii. Ravelling or Complication

Ravelling or complication is the arouse of the characters’ interest coincide with the introduction of the difficulties. (Yelland, Jones, and Easton, 1953: 148) In other word, complication is the rising action of introducing conflict.
iii. Climax

Climax is the accumulation of the great expectancy and preceding incidents. (Yelland, Jones, and Easton, 1953: 148) This means that climax is the highest point of conflict.

iv. Denouement or Unravelling

Denouement is the conclusion of the finally worked out. (Yelland, Jones, and Easton, 1953: 148). Meaning that denouement is the resolution of the conflict or the set of actions bringing conclusion into the story.

This pattern is alternatively stated as exposition, rising action and falling action. (1953: 147-148)

Another theory by Rust Hills about relationship between plot and character also be used. In this theory, Hills discusses that plot and character are a unity. They cannot be separated, because it can result in a different idea of the story. Hills draws an analogy of the relationship between plot and character. It is like the subject and the verb in the sentences. Character is supposed to be the subject while the plot is the verb. Therefore, character cannot be separated from plot because like subject and verb in a sentence, both are there to express a complete thought (Hill, 1977: 54).

Another theory about relation between a plot and a character by Barnet, Berman and Bruto is stated that the things happen in most good fiction are the result of certain personalities or characters trait of the people. They also states about the influence between plot and character: “Plot and character are inseparable; Plot is not simply a series of happenings that come out of character,
that reveal character, and that influence character” (Barnet, Berman and Bruto, 1988: 711-712)

C. Theoretical Framework

In this part the writer summarizes the framework of the theory. As the aim of this research is to reveal the significant of the minor character, Dobby the house-elf in the plot of J.K. Rowling’s *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret*, the writer applies the theories that have been mentioned above. These theories help the writer to answer the problem formulation.

To answer the first question in problem formulation, the theory of character and characterization is used. This theory is used to find how the author characterizes the minor character. In this case how Dobby the house-elf behaves and reacts in some circumstances.

Then when the writer finds out how the character is characterized, the theory of Plot is used to answer the second question. The theory of plot used to find how the story develops. Then the writer use the finding to determines whether the character Dobby gives significant role or not in the plot which answer the third problem formulation.
CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

This chapter presents the methodology in this research. There are three subtitles in this chapter: Object of the study, in which the information of the novel is presented, the approach of the study, discussion on the approaches on this research, and Method of the study, in which the procedure of gathering and arranging the data used in writing this research, is discussed.

A. Object of the Study

In this part the writer wants to describe everything that relevant to the object of the study. The object of the study is a British writer J.K. Rowling’s famous novel entitled *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret*. *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret* is the second book of *Harry Potter the Series*. To understand the important roles of the minor character in the story, the writer chooses *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret* because this book has some interesting and strong minor characters especially Dobby the house-elf and also has a clear and organized plot.

*Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret* is published in United Kingdom by Bloomsbury on 2 July 1998 with number of pages is 251, then in the United States on 2 June 1999 by Scholastic Inc.

The book itself has won awards and high praise from critics for how it show about self-sacrifice, racism through the treatment of non-magical, non-human and non-living characters and how the writer show that a character is a
result of their choice. In the other hand some say that the book is not appropriate for younger children. It also brings some controversy in some religious authorities because of its magical theme.

There are several minor characters in *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret* who make significant role in the plot like Rubeus Hagrid the Gamekeeper, Dumbledore the Headmaster of Hogwarts, Lucius Malfoy, Draco Malfoy, Voldemort, Tom Riddle, Ginny Weasley, Gilderoy Lockhart and Dobby the house-elf. The writer chooses Dobby the house elf to discuss the minor character who has a significant role in the plot because in this novel its appearances and acts create significant changes in the development of the plot.

The plot of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* follows Harry's second year at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. The story is basically about a young wizard, named Harry Potter's adventure in investigating the mystery of several attacks in Hogwarts. On their way solving the mystery, Harry is helped by his best friends Hermione Granger and Ron Weasley. In the story, there is a series of messages on the walls on the school's corridors warn that the Chamber of Secrets has been opened. And others say that the heir of Slytherin, one of four founders of the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, will kill all students who do not come from all-magical families. Some attacks turn some students into stone and ghost of Hogwarts petrified follows these threats. Throughout the year, Harry and his friends Ron Weasley and Hermione Granger investigate story behind the attacks.
B. Approach of Study

Some critics have their own ways and approaches in analyzing the works of literature. Even though they analyze the same work of literature, they may use different ways. Their way in learning and understanding the literary work might be different and also have different approaches to define their researches. Therefore, as this research deals with only intrinsic elements such as character and plot, then it will be in line to apply the Formalistic approach to analyze the literary work.

According to Rohrberger and Woods (1971: 7), Formalistic approach insists on the total integrity of the literary piece. Focusing only on its esthetics value, this approach is concerned with demonstrating the harmonious involvement of all parts to the whole and with pointing out how meaning is derived from structure. It gives the idea of examining the work of literature without reference of the author’s life, the genre of work, literary history, or any reference to its social link.

More over Guerin and friends state that formalistic approach is an approach that involves close reading or intensive reading. Intensive reading is the way of the readers to have sensitivity to the words of the text and all their denotative and connotative values and implications and to look for structural relationships and patterns –not just in the words and their relationships but also in larger unit. (Guerin, 2004: 93-94)
This Approach is chosen to analyze *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret* to see significance of Dobby the house-elf as a minor character in the plot. This criticism is suitable because the focus of analysis is the work itself. The work will be examined without any reference of the author’s life, the genre of work, literary history, or any reference to its social link but only the element of the work itself.

C. Method of Study

The writer uses library research to answer the problem formulations since literary work is the focus on the study. There are two kind of sources used in this research. The primary source in analyzing the work is *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret* by J.K. Rowling.

The secondary sources are some theory books to provide the theory of character and theory of plot as well as formalistic approach such as; *A Glossary of Literary Terms* by Abram, *Aspect of the Novel and Related Writing* by E. M. Foster, *Reading the Novel: An Introduction to the techniques Interprenting Fiction* by Henkle, *Reading and Writing about Literature* by Rohrberger, *Writing in General and the Short Story in Particular* by Hills Rust, *A Handbook of Critical Approaches to Literature* by Guerin and friends, *Literary Stucture, Sound and Sense* by Perrine, *Understanding Unseen: : an Introduction to English Poetry and the English Novel for Overseas Students* by M. J. Murphy, *Literature for
Composition by Morton Berman and friends, The Magical Worlds of Harry Potter by David Colbert, A Handbook of Literary Terms by H. K. Yelland and friends.

In additional some thesis like The Significance of Hagrid in the Plot of J.K. Rowling’s Harry Potter the Series by Ory Kuswardani, The Significance of Dark Humor as Revealed by Fred and George Weasley in J.K. Rowling’s Harry Potter the Series by Eka Utami Ningsih, and The Contribution of Minor Characters in Developing the Plot as seen in Dan Brown’s Da Vinci Code by Cita Paramita Wijaya, The Significance of Hermione Granger to Represent Rowling’s School life in Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban by Melia Hapsari Sabarno are used as a references.

The first step that the writer took in studying the Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret was reading the novel comprehensively in order to understand the story thoroughly.

After deciding that the topic would be about minor character, who was Dobby the house-elf’s significant role in the plot, the writer collected the references. After that the writer started to apply the theories and approaches to answer the problem formulation. The theory of character was used to reveal how the Dobby minor character was characterized by the author while the theory of plot was used to reveal how the plot of the story developed. After that, the writer studied the significant role of Dobby throughout the plot and how the story might change without it.
CHAPTER IV
ANALYSIS

There are three parts of discussion in this research analysis. The first part analyzes the character of Dobby the house-elf by using the theories of character. The second part analyzes the systematic plot of the story using theories of plot in order to arrange the important events happened in the story. Then the third part shows the significant of Dobby the House-elf in the plot of the story.

A. The Characterization of Dobby the House-elf

According to a theory by Roger B. Henkle, Dobby is categorized as minor character because he always seems appearing as an additional in the story.

Minor Character only present what is often only one side if the experience. They are limited in ways that the major characters are not. They may be less sophisticated, so that their responses to the experience are less complex and interesting (1977: 97)

Supporting Henkle, E.M. Foster says characters divided into flat and round character. The minor character must necessarily remains flat, although not all minor character is flat. These characters are predictable, behave and talk in the same way, static and do not grow or change in the story like round character. (1974: 67)

Dobby always talks in the same way which is using the third person to speak about him in the story. “Oh, yes, sir,” said Dobby earnestly. “Dobby has come to tell you, sir… it is difficult, sir… Dobby wonders where to begin…” (p.
13). Therefore Dobby is a flat character because he behaves and talks in the same way and he is static because he does not grow or change in the story like round character as E.M. Foster states above.

Dobby is a House-elf. House-elves are short creatures with large bat-like ears, enormous eyes and high-pitch voice. They loyally serve wizards and witches and usually found under the employment of old wizarding families for the rest of their life. These families take residence in elaborated establishments like a big old manor or castle (p. 29).

The House-elves do not only serve one specific master, but the whole family of the master and whoever they are ordered to serve by their master. House-elves serve their master by doing every command. They are also doing the house hold works like cleaning, ironing, and washing. They are hard workers. In one occasion, Dobby follows his master, Lucius Malfoy to Hogwarts just to finish cleaning his shoes (p. 334).

House-elves consider their master’s order as the house-elf highest law. This law forces the house-elf to obey and self-punish when the house-elf disobey it or the result of the order does not satisfy the master (p. 176).

House-elves usually do not wear conventional clothing; instead they cover themselves with something else like towels, rags, tea cozies, or pillowcases as the mark of the house-elf’s enslavement. If the master presents the house-elves with clothes, they will be free from their master.

He blew his nose on a corner of the filthy pillowcase he wore, looking so pathetic that Harry felt his anger ebb away in spite of himself. “Why d’you wear that thing, Dobby?” he asked curiously.
“This, sir?” said Dobby, plucking at the pillowcase. “‘Tis a mark of the house-elf’s enslavement, sir. Dobby can only be freed if his masters present him with clothes, sir. The family is careful not to pass Dobby even a sock, sir, for then he would be free to leave their house forever.” (p. 177)

Some fans of the story speculate that the function of clothes and house-elf were related or based on the fairytale *The Elves and the Shoemaker*. In the story, there are a set of elves that makes shoes for a shoemaker. One day the shoemaker’s wife makes them little clothes. However, they have never been seen again after that. <http://www.cosforums.com/cosarchive/archive/index.php/t-37722.html> (2014).

House-elves apparently enjoy serving their master despite the seemingly horrid lifestyle. Being free is considered to be the ultimate insult for the house-elf and will put them in a shame forever. The house-elves consider any attempt to give them any payment or pensions as an insult. Their master satisfaction is the main achievement for them. They consider it a matter of pride that they serve faithfully and do not betray their families.

House-elves have their own brand of powerful magic that allows them to perform tasks from their masters that usually need domestic spells and Apparition. In order to use their magic, house-elves usually require permission from their master. Using magic without any consent from their master will be treated as a sign of transgression that leading to self-punishment. Unlike their master, house-elves do not require any type of focusing tools such as words or wand to perform their magic. They also are not limited by wizarding magic law. It seems that the order of their master is the law itself.
According to Murphy, there are nine ways to present the characterization of Dobby in J. K. Rowling’s *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret*: personal description, character as seen by another, speech, past life, conversation of others, reaction, direct comment, thoughts, and mannerism. The Characterization of Dobby obtain through five of them, personal description, reaction, speech, character as seen by others, and mannerism.

Dobby is a house-elf who serves the Malfoy family. In serving his family, Dobby is often treated badly. When house-elves are regularly treated as unequal and inferior to their master, Dobby is treated worst. In one occasion, when Lucius left McGonnagal’s office, he kicks Dobby because of his anger for his failed plan (p. 337). Dobby also describes that he was treated as a vermin by his master (p. 177-178).

Unlike any house-elves who are generally proud and happy to serve their master and considers freedom from his master as an insult and disgrace, Dobby yearns to be free.

“A house-elf must be set free, sir. And the family will never set Dobby free... Dobby will serve the family until he dies, sir...”

Harry stared.

“And I thought I had it bad staying here for another four weeks,” (p 14) he said. “This makes the Dursleys sound almost human. Can’t anyone help you? Can’t I?”

Almost at once, Harry wished he hadn’t spoken. Dobby dissolved again into wails of gratitude. (p. 14-15)

He is treated so badly. He is treated unequal and inferior than his master that he reacts so fiercely toward Harry hospitality.
“Sit down,” said Harry politely, pointing at the bed. To his horror, the elf burst into tears — very noisy tears. “Sit down!” he wailed. “Never… never ever…” Harry thought he heard the voices downstairs falter. “I’m sorry,” he whispered, “I didn’t mean to offend you or anything —” “Offend Dobby!” choked the elf. “Dobby has *never* been asked to sit down by a wizard — like an *equal* —” (p. 13)

In Fred and George Weasley’s point of view, Dobby is a fraud. He is just a joke sent by someone who does not want Harry return to Hogwarts. For Ron Weasley, Dobby is dangerous because of his intention to save Harry causing him more problems.

In *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret* by J.K. Rowling, Dobby the house-elf is described to have huge, tennis ball-sized green eyes and a long thin nose like a pencil and wore an old pillowcase with rips for arm and leg holes (p. 12) and in some occasions it is shown up with some injuries and bandages. He is loyal, righteous and has a tendency to self-harm.

1. **Loyal**

As a house-elf, Dobby is a loyal servant. Bound by his enslavement as a house-elf, Dobby’s loyalty to serve his family is forced on him. Despite any abuse, either physically or mentally, and his own judgment, Dobby has to obey his master’s order.

He is forced to obey his master bidding. Dobby serves his master by keeping the house hold and punishing himself if the master is unsatisfied with his work. His loyalty also binds him from doing what he thought right and binds him from feeling self worthy. The enslavement of house-elf also
prevents Dobby from spilling family secret and tells any bad things about them.

In their first meeting, Harry tries to cheer Dobby up by saying that Dobby cannot have met many decent wizards because of his overreaction toward Harry’s politeness. Dobby shakes his head then suddenly leaps up and starts banging his head furiously on the window and shouting, “Bad Dobby! Bad Dobby!” (p. 14). When Harry stopping and asking him about that, Dobby explains that he has to punish himself for he almost speaks ill of his family.

Their next meeting is in Hospital wing after the Quidditch match between Griffindor and Slytherin. Dobby slips the Chamber of Secret is opened before and history repeats itself. When Harry pushed him to tell who opened the chamber the last time, Dobby squealed that he can’t and mustn’t tell. (p. 179)

Even in one occasion, Harry tells his friends that it is unlikely for Dobby to be disloyal and spill his master’s secret.

“I don’t think he could,” said Harry. “I told you, every time he got close to letting something slip, he started banging his head against the wall.” (p. 28)

2. Righteous

Despite the fact that he serves one of the old wizard family who deals with and supporting dark magic, Dobby still views dark magic as something terrible and fearful thing.

“There is a plot, Harry Potter. A plot to make most terrible things happen at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry this year,”
whispered Dobby, suddenly trembling all over. “Dobby has known it for months, sir. Harry Potter must not put himself in peril. He is too important, sir!” (p. 16)

Even being faced with the fact that he is in thin line of breaking his loyalty to his master and with horrible and painful punishment, he has to endure by himself that his righteous mind gives him some strength to prevent Harry from coming back to Hogwarts and to send him home.

“Harry Potter is valiant and bold! He has braved so many dangers already! But Dobby has come to protect Harry Potter, to warn him, even if he does have to shut his ears in the oven door later… Harry Potter must not go back to Hogwarts.” (p. 16)

Being righteous also makes Dobby brave. When Harry successes in tricking Lucius Malfoy to freeing Dobby from his slavery, Lucius is so angry. He lunges at Harry, but Dobby is protecting him. Lucius is thrown backward. He crashes down the stairs, three at a time, landing in a crumple heap on the landing below. He gets up, his face livid, but Dobby raised a long, threatening finger and warns him not to touch Harry.

3. Self-harm

Dobby’s tendency to self-harm is caused by his loyalty. The self-harm is a way to punish him when he is being disloyal like disgrace, disobey or making mistakes to his family. Dobby punishes himself not only when his master orders him but also when he believes he has done something wrong. He usually uses something to hit his head or going as far as to iron his own hands.
On their first meeting, Dobby is overwhelmed by Harry hospitality and shakes his head unconsciously when Harry said that he cannot have met many decent wizards. When he realized that he almost spoke ill of his family, he leapt up and started banging his head furiously at the window. (p. 14)

On his visit to Hospital wing after putting a spell to a bludger that causes Harry being brought to the Hospital wing in the first place, Dobby slips that the Chamber of Secret opens again and the History repeat itself. When he realized that he slipped his master secret, he cracked the water jug beside Harry’s bed over his own head. (p. 178)

His visits to warn Harry also makes him self-harming as extra punishment. He shut his ears in the oven door for warning Harry at a first time in Dursley’s house (p. 14). When Harry ignores his warning, Dobby stopped the barrier of Platform nine three-quarters at King’s Cross Station from letting Harry through. Dobby had to iron his hands afterward (p. 176).

Dobby’s last attempt to give Harry the clue of the culprit who put the Riddle’s diary in Ginny Weasley’s hand was when he came with his master, Lucius Malfoy. When Lucius was protesting Dumbledore’s return as Headmaster, Dobby kept pointing at the diary then at Lucius Malfoy and then hitting himself hard on the head with his fist. Then he twisted his ears when Harry finally understood his clue. (p. 335-336)
B. The Plot of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret*

Following Dobby’s characterization, this part focuses on the plot of the story. By applying Yelland, Jones and Easton’s plot pattern the discussion of the plot will be divided into four parts.

a. Exposition or Introduction

Exposition is the beginning of the story where the characters are introduced, the background sketched, and the problem stated (1953: 148). The exposition of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret* begins with the introduction of the main character, Harry Potter, and his condition and situation around him.

It begins with the description of Harry Potter’s situation living with the Dursley’s house. This part also introduces other important characters in the story. Those people are Lucius Malfoy, Arthur Weasley, T. M. Riddle, Ron Weasley, Hermione Granger and Dobby the house-elf. Dobby’s meeting with Harry gives the reader the seed of the main problem.

It is Harry’s birthday but oblivious to this, his uncle preparing a dinner party for his client instead and tells Harry to stay quite in his room. Dobby the House-elf appears to wait in Harry’s room upstairs. The problem is introduced when Dobby warns him to not go back to Hogwarts as there will be dangerous and terrible things happening there.

“Harry Potter must not go back to Hogwarts. If Harry Potter goes back to Hogwarts, he will be in mortal danger”. “There is a plot, Harry Potter. A plot to make most terrible things happen at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft
and Wizardry this year,” whispered Dobby, suddenly trembling all over. (p. 16)

Besides the warning that he must not return to Hogwarts, Dobby refuses to tell what things that will happen and who plots it. Harry demands his letters from his friends that are stolen by Dobby back. Dobby, in frustration and desperation, blackmails Harry to promise not to return to Hogwarts if he wants the letters back but Harry defies him. Dobby uses a hover charm to smash the dinner party’s pudding. This leads Harry to receive a warning letter from Ministry of Magic a letter from Ministry of Magic for violating the Decree for the Reasonable Restriction of Underage Sorcery and being punished for fooling Dursleys about the law of using magic. Harry’s punishment is to be locked in his room.

Ron and his brothers rescue Harry and bring him to their home the Burrow using their father flying car, a Ford Anglia. Harry ends up staying in the Burrow for the rest of his holiday where Arthur Weasley, Ron’s father introduced.

In a book shop, Flourish and Blotts, Harry, Hermione and the Weasley meet Draco and Lucius Malfoy. Ron’s father, Arthur Weasley and Lucius Malfoy ends up in a fight over their view of non pure blood people. The incident sketches the characteristic of Lucius Malfoy and his perception about Arthur Weasley and muggle born.

On their way to Hogwarts, at King’s Cross Station, the barrier to Platform Nine and Three-Quarters closes for Harry and Ron. They decide to use Ron’s father’s flying car to go to Hogwarts. They arrive by landing on the Whomping Willow and getting beaten by it. They end up punished with detention.
Harry and Ron assign for their detention. Harry has to help Gilderoy answers his fan mails and Ron has to polish the school’s prizes and trophies. During their detention, Harry introduce to basilisk by hearing its terrifying, vicious voice that wants to kills and Ron learns that Tom Riddle is a student who gets a Special Award for Services to the School.

b. Ravelling or Complication

Ravelling or complication is the arouse of the characters’ interest coincide with the introduction of the difficulties. (Yelland, Jones, and Easton, 1953: 148) In other word, complication is the rising action of introducing conflict.

The Ravelling of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret* begins when a series of tragedies occur. One student after another is attacked and turned into stone. And finally Ginny Weasley, Harry Potter’s bestfriend’s sister disappears into the Chamber of Secret.

The first tragedy occurs in Halloween when Harry hears the vicious voice in the wall that he heard before in Gilderoy Lockhart’s office. Beside Harry, no one can hear it. The voice leads him to the second floor where he finds the bathroom is flooded and Mrs. Norris, Filch the caretaker of Hogwats’s cat, is hung from a torch bracket and petrified. On the wall, a message is read “The chamber of Secrets has been opened. Enemies of the Heir, beware”. This incident creates a suspicion that Harry is the Heir of Slytherin who tries to purify the school from any Muggle born,
During a Quidditch match between Griffindor and Slytherin, one of the Bludgers that is supposed to randomly attack every player focuses on attacking Harry. Despite being hit on the arm by the tampered Bludger, Harry manages to catch the Golden Snitch and wins the match. The Bludger causes Harry a broken arm. Unfortunately, Lockhart in attempt to fix Harry’s arm gets rid all the bones in his arm. Harry is sent to Hospital wing. Madam Pomfrey, the school nurse, gives him SkeleGro and forces him to stay overnight.

During Harry overnight stay, Dobby visits and reveals that it is him who responsible for sealing the barrier of Platform Nine and Three-Quarters and for the Bludger that causes Harry to stay at Hospital wing.

“It was you!” he said slowly. “You stopped the barrier from letting us through!”

“Indeed yes, sir,” said Dobby, nodding his head vigorously, ears flapping. “Dobby hid and watched for Harry Potter and sealed the gateway and Dobby had to iron his hands afterward” (p. 176)

Dobby mopped his bulging eyes and said suddenly, “Harry Potter must go home! Dobby thought his Bludger would be enough to make —” “Your Bludger?” said Harry, anger rising once more. “What d’you mean, your Bludger? You made that Bludger try and kill me (p. 177)

He explains that it is better for Harry to be sent home hurt than staying at Hogwarts and dies. Dobby lets a slip that the Chamber of Secret has been opened before and punishes himself by cracking the water jug over his head. When Harry pushes the answer from him about who has opened the Chamber before, Dobby loyally begs not to ask anymore so he will not spill any of his master’s secrets.

The second tragedy happens when Dumblededore, McGonagall and Madam Pomfrey enter the Hospital wing with petrified Colin Creevey. He is
found using his camera while the attacks happen. Dumbledore observes the camera and finds that the film inside is melting. He then says that The Chamber of Secrets has indeed been opened again.

Later, Harry and Ron find Tom Riddle’s diary in Moaning Myrtle’s Bathroom. From his detention, Ron remembers T. M. Riddle has won an award for a special service to the school fifty years ago. Hermione deduces that since Riddle receives the award around the last time the Chamber of Secrets has been opened, he might have received the prize for catching whoever responsible for the attack back then.

Harry tries writing to the diary and to his surprise Riddle writes back. Riddle explains and shows Harry that he is the one who catches the person who has opened the Chamber of Secret the last time. Riddle, who is afraid that the school has to be closed because of the attacks, catches Hagrid, the GameKeeper and one of Harry’s friends, fiddling with a large spider and reports him to Dippet. Harry and his friends decide not to ask Hagrid about this.

The third tragedy happens a couple months later when the Quidditch match between Griffindor and Hufflepuff has been scheduled. It is canceled due to another attack. The victims of the attack are Hermione Granger, one of Harry’s bestfriends and a Ravenclaw Prefect, Penelope Clearwater. Harry and Ron are led by Professor McGonagall to the hospital wing where petrified Hermione lays. She and the Ravenclaw Prefect are found near the library while holding a small mirror.
When Harry and Ron finally decide to go to talk to Hagrid, they arrive in his cabin just before Cornelius Fudge, the Minister for Magic and Dumbledore arrive. They come to send Hagrid to Azkaban prison as a precaution for he is the one who is suspected to open the Chamber of Secret the last time.

Later Lucius Malfoy comes and declares that he and the other governors of Hogwarts vote to suspend Dumbledore as the Headmaster. Before leaving, Hagrid and Dumbledore give their last words. Hagrid says that those who want to know the truth all they have to do is to follow the spiders and Dumbledore says he will only truly leave the school when none there remains loyal to him and if anyone needs help, it will always be available to those who ask for it.

Harry and Ron decide to listen to Hagrid’s last words and follow the spiders with Fang, Hagrid’s dog. The trail leads them to the Forbidden Forest. In there, they finally meet Aragog an ageing Acromatula which Harry sees in Riddle’s Diary. Aragog proofs Hargrid’s innocent for both killing the Muggle-born student and open the Chamber of Secret for he was never left the cupboard where Hagrid raised him. But in the end, Aragog lets his children to have them for dinner. Mr. Weasley’s flying Ford Anglia that has been hiding in Forbidden Forest since hit the Whomping Willow comes to rescue them.

In the Hospital wing, Harry notices a piece of paper in Hermione’s hand. The paper reveals that Hermione finds out the monster that attacks in Hogwarts and how it moves around through the plumbing. The monster is a basilisk. Basilisk is a giant snake that can kill with a look, weak toward rooster’s crow and feared by spiders. It explains the fleeting spider and the dead school rooster.
Basilisk being a snake also explains why only Harry who is a parseltongue, a person who can speak with snakes, can hear it.

When Harry and Ron are going to report their discoveries to Professor McGonagall, the forth tragedy happens. Ginny Weasley, Ron’s sister, is taken to the Chamber of Secret and another message is left *Her skeleton will lie in the Chamber forever.*

c. Climax

Climax is the accumulation of the great expectancy and preceding incidents. (Yelland, Jones, and Easton, 1953: 148) This means that climax is the highest point of conflict.

The climax of the story begins when Harry enters the Chamber of secret and finds Ginny Weasley lying on the ground, pale and cold. Dropping his wand, Harry runs to her. Tom Riddle approaching him with Harry’s wand.

Tom Riddle reveals that he is the one who has opened the Chamber of Secret fifty years ago and has stopped his attack because the school is going to close and Dumbledore who is the Transfiguration teacher at that time suspects him. Then he leaves his sixteen-years-old memory in a diary to finish his work of purging the school of muggle-born.

The diary ends up with Ginny who Tom Riddle possesses to release the Basilisk. When Ginny tries to dispose the diary at Moaning Myrtle’s bathroom, Harry finds it. When she finds out that Harry keeps it, she steals it back from his
dormitory. The Diary begins taking control of Ginny again. She writes on the wall and lures Harry to rescue her.

When Harry asks Tom Riddle why he cares that Harry defeats Lord Voldemort when he was a baby, Riddle reveals that he is Voldemort and a descendant of Salazar Slytherin.

After disagreement about who is the greatest sorcerer in the world, Voldemort or Dumbledore, Fawkes the phoenix and the Sorting Hat are summoned in display of Harry loyalty to Dumbledore.

Riddle summons the Basilisk and order to kill Harry. Fawkes pecks out the Basilisk’s eyes thus preventing its gaze from killing. Fawkes’ attack does not stop the Basilisk. A heavy sword with a hilt embedded with rubies, Godric Griffindor’s sword, falls from inside the Sorting Hat to help Harry defeat the Basilisk.

d. Denouement or Unravelling or Resolution

Denouement is the conclusion of the finally worked out (1953: 148). Meaning that denouement is the resolution of the conflict or the set of actions bringing conclusion into the story.

Denouement starts after Harry succeeding in killing the Basilisk, the monster inside the Chamber of Secret that attacks the students and the voice that Harry head in the wall. He kills it with the sword by plunging the sword into the roof of the Basilisk’s mouth.

Harry takes Riddle’s diary and plunges the Basilisk fang that stuck in his arms into the diary. Ink begins pouring out of the diary, the Tom Riddle’s memory
is destroyed and Ginny wakes up. Harry is dying from the Basilisk venom but Dumbledore’s Phoenix, Fawkes’s tears heals him. Harry and Ginny meet Ron and Lockhart and fly up the tunnel with Fawkes’ help then they head to McGonagall’s office.

In McGonagall’s office, Ginny returns to her parents. Harry and Ron receive house points and each get an Award for special service to the school. After that, Dumbledore asks to speak with Harry alone. When Harry and Dumbledore discuss Harry’s qualities for being in Slytherin instead of Gryffindor, Lucius Malfoy suddenly barges into the office. He outrages that Dumbledore has returned after being dismissed. Dobby, carries a stained rag in his attempt finish his job cleaning his master’s shoes, follows his master, Lucius into the office.

Dumbledore and Harry expose that Lucius sneaking Riddle’s Diary into Ginny’s school things during the fight in Flourish and Blotts with the help of Dobby’s unspoken hints. While his master protests for Dumbledore return as Headmaster, Dobby’s eyes fix meaningfully on Harry. He kept pointing at the diary, then at Lucius Malfoy, and then hitting himself hard on the head with his fist. He was doing this for several times until Harry understands what he means then he starts twisting his ears.

The elf was doing something very odd. His great eyes fixed meaningfully on Harry, he kept pointing at the diary, then at Mr. Malfoy, and then hitting himself hard on the head with his fist. (p 335)

And still, behind his back, Dobby was pointing, first to the diary, then to Lucius Malfoy, then punching himself in the head. And Harry suddenly understood. He nodded at Dobby, and Dobby backed into a corner, now twisting his ears in punishment. (p. 336)
The plan is to frame Ginny for the attacks because of Lucius Malfoy hatred toward her father, Arthur Weasley. Arthur Weasley is the one who suggests the Muggle protection Act, while Lucius upholds the idea of the purity of blood among wizards. Even though they cannot prove the accusation because Harry already destroyed Riddle’s memory inside the diary, Dumbledore warns Lucius Malfoy against planning such plot. He reminds him if similar thing happens Arthur will surely trace it back to him.

Harry tricks Lucius Malfoy into freeing Dobby by giving him one of his own socks inside the Riddle’s diary when he returns it to Lucius Malfoy. Lucius is angry and lunging toward Harry. Dobby, who is no longer Lucius servant, protects Harry by using his magic to throw Lucius Malfoy downstairs and warns him not to harm Harry.

In the end the petrified victims are cured using Professor Sprout’s mandrake. Hagrid is declared innocent and released from Azkaban. Lockhart is sent to a hospital after his accident in the Chamber of Secret. Lucius Malfoy is fired as school governor. Harry returns to his muggle family.

C. Significance of Dobby the House-elf to the Plot of the Story

Theory by Rust Hills about relationship between plot and character discusses that plot and character are a unity. They cannot be separated, because they are in complement each other. The similar thing happens for Dobby in *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret*. The existence of Dobby influences the development of plot as the plot influences Dobby’s characteristic.
Following Dobby’s characterization and the description of the plot of the story, this part focuses on the significant of Dobby the House-elf as the minor character in the plot of the story. By applying Yelland, Jones and Easton’s plot pattern in the discussion of the significant of Dobby the House-elf in the plot will be divided into four parts.

a. Exposition or Introduction

Dobby’s role in the Exposition is to introduce the reader to the problem, the horrible plot that is waiting in Hogwarts if Harry returns. As the exposition is the beginning of the story where the characters are introduced, the background sketched, and the problem stated (Yelland, Jones, and Easton, 1953: 148), Dobby’s appearance in exposition is not only to introduce the problem in the story, but also as a starting point that leads to introduce others characters and to open up the mystery of the plot involving the Chamber of Secret.

Because of Dobby’s dinner party incident and stealing Harry’s letters, Harry is punished then freed by Ron Weasley and his brothers. Harry stays in Weasley’s house where Ron’s father introduces himself for the first time. They then go together to Diagonalley to buy school supplies.

At Diagonallely in Flourish and Blotts, the readers are introduced to Lucius Malfoy for the first time and learnt his dislike to muggle born and muggle-lover like Mr. Weasley. In addition Harry witnesses Lucius picking and handing back Ginny’s book which turns to be a moment when he slips the Riddle’s diary.
Dobby’s righteous action in closing the barrier to platform nine and three-quarters leads Harry and Ron to use the flying car and get detention. These detentions introduce T. M. Riddle who turns out to be Voldemort as a hero for the school by Ron and introduce mysterious and vicious voice in the wall that turn out to be basilisk voice by Harry to the reader.

Dobby’s role as an obstacle for Harry in Exposition is the result by his characterization as a righteous house-elf in his way saving Harry. If Dobby does not appear to introduce the problem that the terrible plot is going to happen in Hogwarts, the reader will still be unaware of the problem and the Exposition still has not begun yet. Without Dobby as an obstacle in Exposition, the plot could not roll and develop in introducing other characters and their background.

These facts shown above clearly show how Dobby as a minor character has helped developing the plot from the first initial conflict to rising action where the mystery and tension are rising.

b. Ravelling or Complication

Dobby’s role in the Ravelling is to give more clues or lead to more clues to feed Harry interest in the Chamber of Secret and also being the obstacle that help the plot develop to reach Climax.

In the Ravelling of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret*, Dobby returns as another obstacle for Harry. Although his loyalty to his master prevents him to give more information, his actions create obstacles for Harry. In Ravelling where the characters’ interests rise coincides with the introduction of the
difficulties (Yelland, Jones, Easton, 1953: 148), Harry becomes the center of suspicion of the attack to Mrs. Norris. His new difficulty is suspected to be the heir of Slytherin.

If Dobby does not appear as an obstacle in Ravelling, Harry will not hit by the bludger, then being the victim of Lockhart poor charm that makes him losing his bones in his arm and ends up in Hospital wing.

In Hospital wing, his new interest about the Chamber of Secret is feed by Dobby’s confirmation that the Chamber of Secret is real and has been opened before. Harry also becomes the one who overhears the conversation among Dumbledore, McGonagall and madam Pomfrey that the Chamber of Secret is being opened again and whatever inside the Chamber, it is so powerful it can melt the film inside Colin Creevey’s Camera. According to these, without Dobby, the Ravelling is not going to start.

Dobby’s action in Exposition also affects events in Ravelling. He closes the barrier to Platform nine three-quarters at King’s Cross Station to stop Harry from going to Hogwarts. This action results in Harry and Ron using Ron’s father flying car to Hogwarts and get detention.

In his detention, Ron learns that Tom Riddle who turns out to be Voldemort has won an award at the time the Chamber of Secret open before. And in Harry’s detention, he hears a myterious and vicious voice which turn out to be Basiliks voice in the wall. And the flying car that they use to go to Hogwarts ends up saving them from swarms of Acromatulas.
These facts shown above clearly show how Dobby as a minor character has helped developing the plot from the rising action to the climax where the tension reaches its top.

c. Climax

In the Climax, Dobby does not actually appear but he plays his role indirectly. His clues about who opens the Chamber of Secret are solved. At their first meeting, Harry asks Dobby if the plot has anything to do with Lord Voldemort. Dobby denies it but he seems trying to give a clue about that.

A sudden, unpleasant thought struck him. “Hang on — this hasn’t got anything to do with Vol — sorry — with You-Know-Who, has it? You could just shake or nod,” he added hastily as Dobby’s head tilted worryingly close to the wall again. Slowly, Dobby shook his head.

“But — not He-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named, sir —”

But Dobby’s eyes were wide and he seemed to be trying to give Harry a hint. Harry, however, was completely lost. (p 16, 17)

Although Harry does not understand the clue, in his conversation with Tom Riddle in the Climax reveals that Lord Voldemort is Tom Riddle’s past, present and future. In the end of the story, Dobby finally explains his odd clue that He-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named has nothing to do with the evil plot. In his logic, when Lord Voldemort was still a young boy and using the name Tom Riddle, he could be named.

“I’ve just got one question, Dobby,” said Harry as Dobby pulled on Harry’s sock with shaking hands. “You told me all this had nothing to do with He-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named, remember? Well —”
“It was a clue, sir,” said Dobby, his eyes widening, as though this was obvious. “Was giving you a clue. The Dark Lord, before he changed his name, could be freely named, you see?” (p 229)

According to this, Dobby’s role in the Climax is to help answering Harry’s question about who opens the Chamber of Secret using his clues.

d. Denouement or Unravelling or Resolution

Dobby’s role in the Denouement is to help answering the mystery of who plans to release the basilisk in Hogwarts, puts the Riddle Diary into Ginny possession and causes the re-opening of the Chamber of Secret and the reason behind it.

It is in Denouement when the conclusion of the finally worked (Yelland, Jones, Easton, 1953: 148). Dobby’s traits of self-harming as the result of he is doing something that can be categorized as being disloyal to his master actually become the biggest clue in solving the mystery of someone plotting to open the Chamber of Secret and framing Ginny Weasley. Because of him, Harry can conclude that it is Lucius Malfoy who plans the terrible plot to release the Riddle memory, basilisk and to put the blame to his enemy, Arthur Weasley’s Daughter, Ginny.

What Harry learns from his previous encounter with Dobby is Dobby’s trait to self-harm that is caused by his loyalty is violated. Based on that, Harry can conclude that it is Lucius Malfoy who plans the terrible plot. He concludes that Lucius is Dobby’s master who is not a decent wizard and tends to torture Dobby. Lucius Malfoy as his master also explains Dobby knowing the plan for months.
Harry also correlates Lucius Malfoy and the Weasleys meeting in Flourish and Blotts is the moment when Lucius slips the Riddle’s diary into Ginny’s hand. His dislike to Arthur Weasley becomes his reason to frame Ginny.
CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

This chapter contains the conclusion of all the analysis in the previous chapters. From the analysis, it can be found that the minor character, Dobby the House-elf shows a significant role in the plot of the story. His contribution is revealed based on the facts in the story that is related to his characterization. The development of the plot is affected by the action that the minor characters make.

The first problem formulation finds out the characterization of Dobby the House-elf based on the facts in the story. The second one finds the significant role of Dobby in the plot.

Loyal, righteous and self-harm are Dobby’s characterizations and it can be seen clearly in all of his actions. Dobby the House-elf significant role in the plot is when he creates initial position in the exposition. He introduces the problem to the reader. Besides that he also becomes the starting point for the plot to develop in introducing other characters and their traits.

His righteous self makes him visit Harry Potter in the first place to warn him about the terrible plot. Then he makes several attempts to save Harry from returning and staying in Hogwarts in the exposition and the ravelling. His self-harm trait is the consequences of his loyalty to his master. Anytime he disobeys or disloys to his master, he is forced by the house-elf law to punish himself.

After meeting Harry in Dursley’s House, Dobby continues to be the obstacle even though he means to help Harry. Dobby puts Harry in some troubles.
But the troubles that he causes end up giving Harry helpful information about the problem and help the plot to develop.

In the Exposition, Dobby’s warning introduces the reader about the problem in the story. Besides that, his actions based on being righteous in saving Harry from terrible plot become obstacles for Harry but he helps the plot develop to introduce others important characters in the story.

In the Ravelling, Dobby’s role is as an obstacle. His actions lead some information about the Chamber of Secret and the monster inside of it. His role as an obstacle in the story also helps the plot develop to reach Climax.

In the Climax, Dobby’s role is to help answering Harry’s question about who opens the Chamber of Secret using his clues.

In the Denouement, Dobby’s trait to self-harm helps reveal that it is his master, Lucius Malfoy who plans the terrible plot at Hogwarts by planting the Riddle Diary in Ginny Weasley’s hand.

The conclusion given above clearly shows the significant role of Dobby the House-elf in the plot of the story as the obstacle for the main character. The writer finds that the minor characters have important role in a work of literature, in this case, a novel. They might not have a big part in the story but their existences affect the story so much.
BIBLIOGRAPHY


