
Character Exploration of the “Dolphin Song” Novel

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ABSTRACT

Literature is a linguistic, emotive, and artistically marked medium for expressing emotions or social life-related imagery. The main character in *Dolphin Song* goes through both internal and exterior difficulties, which are the center of this study. This book was written by Lauren St. John and published on July 1st, 2008. The informal presentation of the information will use material from *The Dolphin Song*. Researchers typically use informal presentations because this method enables the description and explanation of research results from the outputs of the analysis to be undertaken. What environmental issues are emphasized in Lauren St. John's novel *Dolphin Song*? is the topic that this study tries to answer. The researchers evaluate the environmental obstacles in order to address the research issue by using the synthesised theory of plot from Freytag and Tasrif as well as a study conducted by Anand (2013) as references. In this inquiry, formalist and ecocritical methods were employed. Exploitation of natural resources and pollution are the two environmental issues that the novel's plot raises. The author also highlights the issue of underwater noise pollution. The author also discusses the effects of LFA sonar on marine biodiversity. The researcher is particularly interested in the struggles of the major characters, as well as in the way that reading books can provide information, which is why this study was done.

INTRODUCTION

A creative work that contains the author's goal and purpose is called literature. A work of literature comprises ideas, systems, and concepts rather than simply possessing any ideas, theories, or systems of thought (Grace, 1956). A literary work, then, encompasses a variety of concepts, hypotheses, and thoughts. All of these factors result from writers using creative ideas as they are outlined in their works as well as from personal reflections on human existence that emerge through emotions, thoughts, ideas, and beliefs that are presented through language (Wellek and Warren, 1968). Novels are lengthy, intricate literary stories that imaginatively relate to human experience. The novel is also a genre of fiction, and fiction can be defined as the art or craft of crafting, through the written word, a narrative of human life that instructs or distracts, or both. The various forms that fiction can take are best viewed less as a set of separate categories and more as a continuum, or rather, clichés, with some short forms like anecdotes at one end of the scale and the longest novel imaginable at the other end of the scale. This study investigated character in the novel of Lauren St. John published in 2008. The main character in this novel was Martine who has just settled in a nature reserve in Cape Town, South Africa. Just as Martine is beginning to calm down, she was suddenly taken on a school trip and has to leave her giraffe "Jemmy" alone for two weeks. His class will embark on a sea voyage to witness the Sardine Run, a spectacular natural phenomenon off the coast of South Africa. What starts out as an exciting adventure quickly turns dangerous when a storm gathers and Martine and her classmates are thrown into a shark-infested sea. They are rescued by a pod of dolphins only to end up on a deserted island. Outcasts at odds with one another must figure out not only how to survive, but also how to help the dolphins when a terrible threat threatens them.

Depending on the illustration above, it is necessary to find out the types of conflict encountered by the main character in the *Dolphin Song* novel and analyze how the main character resolved the conflicts in *Dolphin*

Song novel. This study was restricted to the issue facing the main character and concentrates on the examination of the conflict under consideration. It is done precisely in regard to the issues that the main character encounters, the causes of those issues, and the remedies that will be explored after understanding the conflicts that the main characters experience. One type of study that falls under the purview of the literature is this one. The subject of this study is a book by the author called Dolphin Song. The findings of this study should have both theoretical and practical applications. This research is expected to be used as a reference material in providing ideas or descriptions for future research. In addition, researcher hopes that this research can contribute to the development of literary studies and to future researchers. This study is expected to provide information related to the discussion of literature, especially for researchers who will focus on discussing conflict in a literary work as a reference to improve students understanding of the role of conflict in literature.

This study talks about the novel's main character, Jason, and emphasizes how the conduct of Jason will be investigated using Carl Gustav Jung's theory. According to Jung's theory of personality, which is also known as the theory of personality, a person's soul personality is made up of all of their ideas, feelings, behaviors, and conscious and unconscious personality traits. This helps them to adapt to their social environment. Jack Lance did study for this book on the introverted personality quirk of the protagonist. The difference from Dewi's research (2017) from this research is because she uses theory from Jung while this study uses the theory from Kenney. The similarities between both studies were the method used for the research is using qualitative method.

The articles that have the same topic as the characters discussed there is :

1) A Novel Fish-Inspired Robot with a Double-Cam Mechanism

In this study, a new two-camera fish robot was developed based on a single active joint, in which the tail fin is driven by a newly proposed dual camera mechanism. Since changing the cam profile can produce a certain form of motion, under the condition that the motor rotates at a constant speed and does not rotate in the same direction, this mechanism can help researchers modulate the undulating motion of the tail fin, so that the desired swimming performance can be obtained accurately. The difference with my research is that in this article it discusses robotic fish, while in my research it discusses dolphins.

2) Environmental Issues Over The Plot In Dolphin Song By Lauren ST John

This study tries to list some characters who have an important role in determining the plot. The first is the main character of this novel, Martine Allen. In Lauren St John's “Dolphin Song”, Martine is a girl who has a talent for healing animals (p. 3). However, he is also described as someone who is afraid of deep water (p. 8). Throughout the plot, she plays the most important role, especially related to dolphins. Besides, he always appears in every chapter and he gets involved in every situation. The comparison with the results of my research is that the results of the review are the same but the role of a girl is different because it has a role not only related to dolphins.

3) What Is It Like to Be a Dolphin? Echolocation and Subjectivity in Video Games

In this game the player controls a dolphin being chased by a giant squid. To navigate safely away from this enemy, the dolphin must pass through a small hole in the towering seahorse wall, shown in Figure 1. This wall emerges quickly from the screen, giving the player little time to react, but a full listener. attention is still able to navigate this game world effectively, as the manual for Dolphin emphasizes: “Only by learning the dolphin's sonic language can you guide it through seahorse school, against giant squid, to gain magical powers from seagulls. which is hard to catch. In a hurry! Lend an ear...”⁴ This suggestive ellipsis (original from the

manual) leads to a description of the game's main mechanics. Just before each seahorse wall appears, an audio cue plays indicating the location of the opening. The difference between this article and my research is that this article tells a game about a dolphin chasing a squid while my research discusses a story about a dolphin and a princess.

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5) Dolphins in Popular Literature and Media

A review of how dolphins are portrayed in popular media (including literature, film, television, and music) reveals four themes that can influence public acceptance of current scientific research on dolphin cognition. The themes are: dolphins as fellow human beings, having the same intelligence or at least being able to communicate with or help humans; the dolphin as a representation of the romantic idea of ideal freedom in nature, embodying the principles of peace, harmony or love; dolphins as nave, innocent creatures who are submissive and need human protection; and dolphins are superior to humans, potentially affiliated with a higher power or intelligence. This review reveals that the use of dolphins in humor reinforces or rails against the four identified themes, indicating a general acceptance of these themes. The difference between this article and my research lies in the use of characters because this article uses many characters.

6) Cognitive skills in bottlenose dolphin communication

Bottlenose dolphins display a set of behavioral skills that make them an interesting model system for studying complexities in communication and cognition. They are capable of learning vowels, referential labeling, syntactic understanding, and mutual attention. In their own communication systems, these skills are used in individual recognition, group cohesion, and coordination, suggesting that social challenges are universal selection pressures for complexity in communication and cognition independent of the physical environment. The difference between the characters in this article and my research is the use of communication and cognition that is more subtle and more directed towards fiction

METHOD

Particularly in assessing the conflicts of the main characters in the book “Song of the Dolphins”, the researcher used qualitative method to analyze the data and provide the results. The talks that serve as origins of conflict and conflict itself constitute the research's data. The novel was chosen as the data source because the plot always involves the main character in the fight; second, this book depicts an engaging conflict that forces the main character to overcome a lot of obstacles; and third, this book was selected because it has a heartwarming tale. The data were collected through reading the novel, marking the sentences, understanding the step by step and taking note of the data to classify the conflicts into the related theories.

To choose the most crucial component of the required information and to get some supporting evidence from the novel, the data were evaluated. Based on the problem that has been discussed and addressed in a number of ways, the data were divided into two parts. The first stage was checking the data and classifying it according to its kinds, such as internal or external conflict, using Kenney's theory (1966) and the sources using Eunson's theory (2007). This process was carried out to determine whether the data collected are accurate or not. The following stage was to investigate how the protagonist of the book *Dolphin Song* resolves the problem utilizing Supratiknya theory (1999). In this step, the researcher has read the novel and highlighted the sentences that contain information relating to the problem statement.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The statistics were presented informally and drawn from the book of *Dolphin Song*. The researcher employed informal presentations because they enabled them to illustrate and explain the research's findings using the outcomes of the upcoming analysis. The data may be gathered using an informal descriptive approach, where words are used to explain the data before being converted into numbers. The research's conclusion includes a quote from the data to support and illustrative the presentation. According to research characteristics, descriptive research tried to accurately explain a phenomenon. The data were studied through interpretation rather than statistical analysis. With the use of conflict in the form of conservation, each section of the novel was explained using this technique.

Types of Conflict

Conflict is a kind of resistance where opposing groups engage in combat to advance a cause. An antagonist is a character who opposes the protagonist, who is a figure battling for a purpose, in literary works. Kenney (1966) asserted that disputes develop when pattern from the conclusion of the beginning to the start of the middle. Conflicts start to form as a result of the instability, giving rise to what is known as the climax. There are 2 (two) environmental issues in this first sequence of events. Exploitation of natural resources is the foremost environmental concern. The exploitation of dolphins was a major theme in Lauren St. John's book. She used dramatic language to express this problem, as it is written in the book: She had noted that the dolphin's lips was permanently grinning when it neared the poolside. She received the impression the dolphin was only grinning because it couldn't stop it, similar to a clown wiping away tears (p. 11). Because they are made to perform by their trainers, certain animals housed in circuses endure significant suffering, as the author wished to convey to the readers.

The author also brought up the use of another animal. The white giraffe, Jemmy, is allegedly "used" by Gwyn Thomas as a tourist attraction in order to raise money to care for the animals in the game reserve, as stated in the book: "...but her grandmother was adamant that the best way to ensure that the white giraffe stayed special was to allow people access to him in a controlled environment." In addition, the game reserve need the cash he was earning. Martine, it's just basic math. More animals can be saved if we can earn more money (p. 12). Based on what she said, Gwyn Thomas wants to ensure that she can successfully manage the game reserve and increase revenue by elevating Jemmy to the status of one of Sawubona's most well-known attractions.

Although it seems sense, allowing tourists to get up close and personal with Jemmy might be incorrect because, according to the story, he is a rare bear that serves as a metaphor for other animals, especially those who are endangered. Pollution, especially sound pollution, is the second topic brought up in the exposition. Subaquatic noise is one of the many sources of this type of pollution. Unusually, this problem has already been raised in the exposition and is also brought up repeatedly in other events.

Character Analysis

A character is a person in a literary work that mixes human illusions with artistic creation. In order to create a realistic impression at work, characters must be depicted and represented like real people (Kenney, 1966). Based on the foundation of the characters established, the writer must comprehend and be aware of the elements that contribute to a character looking realistic, such as mental, psychological, and biological demands. The picture of the story will look better if these can be accomplished. Fictional characters cannot be free like people since they are tied to the background of the story and the ambitions of the characters themselves, even if the characters in a work of literature are merely essays.

This study aims to list a number of people who play significant parts in establishing the plot. The first one is Martine, the protagonist of this book. Martine is a young woman in Lauren St. John's "Dolphin Song" who has a talent for healing animals (p. 3). She is, however, also regarded as having a fear of depths. water (p. 8). (p. 8). She has the most significant role in the overall plot, particularly in regards to the dolphins. She also always appears in every chapter and is engaged in each circumstance. There are additional characters in the book who aid in the plot's development. These individuals participate in specific events. As an illustration, consider Ben Khumalo, a young man. He appears to be quiet but is actually smart and brave, and he is Martine's best buddy. Additionally, he is the second figure who is present in practically all circumstances. Except for Martine and other people he knows very well, Ben says very little at school (p. 36), yet in reality he is a good lad. In the subsequent sequence of events, which is creating situations, Ben Khumalo is joined by other characters, such as the fellow castaways.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Following Freytag and Tasrif's synopsis of the plot theory, the plot of Dolphin Song is consistently structured. The story shifts from introduction, ongoing development of the situation, increasing action, climax, and conclusion up in the conclusion. Additionally, there are 2 (two) environmental concerns brought up about the novel's plot, which centers on the abuse of animals and noise pollution, especially the roar of the sea. Environmental concerns are also crucial for leading the plot's progression. Environmental concerns advance the plot of the the environment, the conflicts, and the characters. Additionally, this research can be used as a resource for the students to deepen their understanding of specific environmental issues that are discussed in literary works and to develop their critical thinking and environmental empathy. This study may also encourage educators to create educational resources that incorporate literature (novels, poetry, short stories, etc.) that addresses environmental issues. The 3C (Competence, Conscience, and Compassion) qualities can also be used by teachers to help children understand the importance of environmental issues. When students read and analyze literary works regarding nature and environmental issues, "competence" is evident. After instilling the value of "competence," teachers can mold their students' "conscience" by having them reflect briefly on whether or not they have already engaged in any actions that have an adverse effect on the environment (such as littering or using their air conditioners carelessly at home), and then decide the best course of action to put an end to those actions. Last but not least, you can boost the students' "compassion" by asking them to take action to demonstrate their love of nature, such taking care of their pets or plants.

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