

**THE INFLUENCE OF SYMBOLISM OF ANIMALS TO A PERSON  
IN ALICE IN WONDERLAND NOVEL**

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**Abstrak**

Simbolisme yang dibahas di *Alice in wonderland* adalah tentang pengaruh karakteristik hewan pada seseorang. Jenis penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui perkembangan karakteristik seorang gadis kecil yang dipengaruhi oleh karakter hewan dengan berbaur selama beberapa waktu. Penelitian ini menggunakan teori simbolisme. Pada akhir penelitian itu ditemukan bahwa Alice peran utama cerita dipengaruhi oleh lingkungannya. Cara untuk merespon stimulus dipengaruhi oleh pikiran hewan dengan dua cara positif dan negatif.

**Kata Kunci:** Simbolisme, Karakteristik

**Abstract**

Symbolism was discussed in *Alice in wonderland* was about the influence of the animals' characteristic on a person. This kind of research was to find out the development of a little girl's characteristic influenced by the animals' characteristic by mingling for some time. This research was using the theory of symbolism. In the end of the research was found that Alice the main role of the story was influenced by her environment. Her way to respond the stimulus was influenced by the animals' thought in two manners positive and negative.

**Keywords:** Symbolism, characteristic

**INTRODUCTION**

Symbolism is every feeling or sensation we have, every moment of consciousness, is different from every other; and it is, in consequence, impossible to render our sensations as we actually experience them through the conventional and universal language of ordinary literature (Beebe, 1960:10). It is something that needs to be observed. Symbolism of animals often appears in some children stories. It is triggering some

people to know more why the use of animal symbolism is very essential.

Nevertheless, involving animal symbolism is very interesting to discuss. The children tend to use the animal dolls to mingle with. So it is quite interesting to dig some deeper the importance of involving some animals in *Alice in wonderland*. How the influence of chosen animals in the novel builds the development of Alice's thought.

of more energetic remedies—”

## METHOD

There are some methods that used by the writer to complete his thesis. Kind of research, this kind of research was using qualitative method to gain the essence of the findings. Time of research, this research was conducted in April 2014. The purpose of study, the purpose of this study is to complete the requirement of graduation.

Procedure, The procedure of this research is observing the content of Alice in wonderland based on the question research. There are two research questions in this study. Each question needs some data to discuss found in the story. After the material discussed, it was dragged into conclusion. Data Collection, the data was found in the story. The material used to answer the two research questions. Data Analysis, to see the influence of animals' characteristic, it could be got from the story like seen bellow:

On page 52-53 can be seen:

“She stretched herself up on tiptoe, and peeped over the edge of the mushroom, and her eyes immediately met those of a large blue caterpillar, that was sitting on the top with its arms folded, quietly smoking a long hookah, and taking not the smallest notice of her or of anything else.”

A caterpillar is symbolized as a transformation. On the quotation “that was sitting on the top with its arms folded, quietly smoking a long hookah.” It seems that it is a kind of transformation from the ability of the caterpillar by crawling to fold its arm and to smoke. Choosing this kind of phenomenon the author would like to show the readers that the person with limited ability is still able to transform his capable to gain success. The barrier does not mean failure. Someone could create something useful for himself through doing something like what the caterpillar did. In real life caterpillar just crawls all the time. But in this case it was sitting on the top with its arms folded, quietly smoking a long hookah to enjoy its life.

The influence is not always positive. Sometimes it could be negative like seen bellow:

On page 32 is seen “In that case,” said the Dodo solemnly rising to its feet, “ I move that the meeting adjourn, for the immediate adoption

On the sentences above we find the word ‘adjourn’ make the means stop. It has close relationship with the characteristic of Dodo. Dodo is symbolized as death or something is not updated. Choosing this animal to take a part in this paragraph is very appropriate. Because the symbol and the occasion are affecting each other. The meeting adjourned. It met a deadlock. Dodo was desperate. It had no ideas what to do. It left the meeting to show its desperation. It did not want to sustain the hopeless conversation. It decided to leave the meeting unresolved. It totally got stuck.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

To draw the result of this research, it needs to find out some extract explanation on the previous chapter.

1. How do the animals represent the characteristic of people?

On chapter 3 part 1 can be found that some animals symbolize human characteristic. They have some habits to deal with others. Just like human being, the animals represent the characteristic of people to mingle with others. Some have some bad habits and some have good one and the others have in between. Some researchers determined the pattern of the symbol of the animals based on some features of the animals themselves. They exposed their behavior to their peers to deliver their intentions. Alice learned her life from them. The animals' characteristics colored her way of thinking. She responded her friends' ideas by copying the animals' way of thinking to deal with others. Some animals got involved in the story are a lot but just some mentioned which influenced Alice's Characteristics. They are: Mouse, Caterpillar, Turtle and Dodo. Those animals have different characteristics. Each characteristic influenced Alice's thought in dealing with others.

The mouse is associated symbolically with satanic demons and with all powers hostile to humanity. Mouse symbolism is usually humorous, but carries serious undertones. It represents the feeling of envy. It loves to dig out some negative side of other people to counter. It never apologizes others. It tends to spread its point of views to other to collaborate. On the other hand, caterpillars are the smartest one among the others. Caterpillars symbolize transformation, the caterpillar that shows itself. The transformation has already taken place and later on it experienced an awakening or enlightenment. It denotes stage of life prior to transition into next phase of life and a need to

prepare oneself. It is rich with ideas to make a change. It adapts easily to find some progress in its life. It is never short of ideas. It also loves to share its ideas to others to make a change. It loves to teach others how to make a change. There is another animal that shows stability. It shows patience to others. Like mentioned on the previous chapter, the Turtle is an ancient symbol that represents creation, endurance, strength, stability, longevity, fertility, and innocence. The Turtle also provides protection, good fortune, and brings happiness and good omens. It taught Alice how to keep the strength. It gave Alice good advice how to be a strong one. It sympathized others a lot. It loved to find out the best resolution to gain a win-win solution. In some cases, finding a resolution is sometimes difficult to reach. It even gets a deadlock. The idea is sometimes very difficult to come up when the circumstance of the party needs the resolution. The animal represents the deadlock of thinking is Dodo. Dodo represents the obsolete and dead. The Dodo's significance as one of the best-known extinct animals and its singular appearance led to its use in literature and popular culture as a symbol of an outdated concept or object. It is often used in the story to get involved with the deadlock thought. Nobody could contribute his single idea to gain resolution. The circumstances became rigid. The party was stuck in no deal result. Everybody in the party just could wait and wait till the no result reached.

2. How do the animals influence the development of Alice?

On chapter 3 part 1 and 2 can be found the characters of animals symbolize for people by interacting each other in everyday life. The influence of mingling between Alice with the animals is affecting both Alice's behavior and thought. In mingling with some animals, Alice could learn something to solve her problem. But in the other hand, she got influenced by the animals' characteristics to lead her into further difficulties. So there are two sides of characteristics Alice got negative and positive. Sometimes she got influenced with negative behavior of the animals and sometimes got influenced with something bad.

In negative manner, she got influenced by the mouse and Dodo. The mouse influenced her by criticizing others. It inspired her by prejudicing others. It influenced Alice to see the weakness of others from any corners. It also led Alice to condemn others by proving their weakness. The other animal has negative influence on Alice is Dodo. The Dodo influenced her by suspending thought. It showed Alice how difficult

to be a member of the party got stuck in certain condition. And of course it would be a difficult part in dealing a problem. In positive manner, she got influenced by Caterpillar and Turtle. The caterpillar influenced her by transforming ideas. It inspired Alice how to come up with fresh ideas. It taught Alice how to make a change to find the best result. On the other hand the turtle influenced her by enduring the patience. It taught her how to be patient to face a problem. And it showed her that to be patient is an important part of finding the best resolution. The endurance of patience needs to be prepared. Turtle as a close friend of Alice was patient enough to lead her to be patient. It gave some clues to guide her to realization that to find a better result she needed the endurance of patience. By being patience means giving the party to find out a better contribution to gain win-win conclusion.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the explanation above can be drawn conclusion that during a short dream, Alice got an extraordinary experience in mingling with her neighborhood friends. Her friends are animals but they can speak like human being. They built her characteristics in facing problems. The changes she experienced are: Criticizing others, suspending thought in delivering ideas, transforming ideas to gain goal and enduring the patience to reach better result.

## RECOMMENDATION

Using animal symbolism to deliver opinions to children is a good way. It is a kind of way to draw children's attention. It can help them focus on the material they read. Some teachers can use it to help students understand the material discussed much deeper.

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