

ANTAGONISTS OF HARRY POTTER SERIES AND HOW THEY ARE DESCRIBED**Zayniddinova M. F***National University of Uzbekistan named after Mirzo Ulugbek, 1st year.**Research advisor - senior teacher Fayziyeva M. S.*

Abstract: *Antagonist - a character who opposes the main character (protagonist) in order to achieve his goal. The conflict between the antagonist and the hero is one of the driving factors of the central conflict of the work. The character and number of antagonists in the play are written based on the protagonist. It should be remembered that the antagonist is not always considered a negative character. Although there are dozens of villains in the Harry Potter series of novels, only a few of them are Harry's rivals. This scientific work is dedicated to identifying these characters and studying them in the context of novels. In this way, different aspects of the struggle between good and evil are revealed in each of the works.*

Keywords: *character, villain, antagonist, protagonist, rivalry, Harry Potter, Voldemort, spell, influence.*

Antagonist (from the ancient Greek "rival", "enemy") is a character who opposes the main character in the way of achieving his goal in a work of fiction. Antagonist-protagonist opposition is one of the factors that make the central conflict strong and effective. The actions of the antagonist not only create obstacles for the protagonist to overcome, but can also lead to the development of the protagonist's character. It should be noted that an antagonist does not always imply a negative character, it is a character who opposes the main character and creates the main conflict. In the work, one main protagonist can have an unlimited number of antagonists, depending on the hero's views, ideas and goals, the type, number and level of his opponents can be different. A plot can exist without an antagonist. This article aims to expand on this concept and provide a broader understanding of the Wizarding World through the Harry Potter series of novels.

The Harry Potter series of novels is famous for its villains, from petty bullies and bullies to world-ruling dictators, so far literary scholars such as K. Bell, M. Anelli, E. Ostrin, S. Gallardo, J. Smith conducted their research. According to these scientists, not all the villains of Harry Potter carry equal power and importance. Most of them are just nuisances, whereas some of them threaten the life of the poor child. Harry himself faced a lot of villains during his years at Hogwarts. However, the Wizarding World is home to other famous villains such as Gellert Grindelwald, who is only mentioned in Book 7. Readers learned how powerful he is through "Fantastic Beasts" series. Below is a list of Harry Potter's worst enemies, based on their power and their level of antagonistic influence, looking at the wizarding world created by J.K. Rowling - the world of Harry Potter.

1. THE DURSLEYS

Over the years, Vernon, Petunia, and Dudley Dursley have been the main antagonists in Harry's life. They keep Harry in their house not because of kinship or because they want to do a favor for a poor orphan, but because they are afraid of Dumbledore, and for ten long

years he is ignored, mistreated, abused, and made to feel unwanted and unimportant. “For years, Aunt Petunia and Uncle Vernon had hoped that if they kept Harry as downtrodden as possible, they would be able to squash the magic out of him” . Even after Harry left for Hogwarts, he always had bad memories of the Dursley house.

Despite their high importance and influence in the events of the first novel, the Dursleys quickly become powerless to Harry. Harry soon realizes that he is stronger than them and that he has a new family of friends and mentors who truly value him. Although they are the first villains Harry meets, they are nothing compared to the other threats Harry will later face.

2. DRACO MALFOY

Draco Malfoy is Harry's arch-rival, stalking Harry throughout his school years and trying to humiliate him whenever he can. He and Harry were often pitted against each other in duels and other magical encounters in their early years, implying that their powers and abilities were nearly equal. However, when it becomes clear that Draco's heart is not evil enough to follow Voldemort's path, he stops displaying the same skills as Harry, allowing Harry to easily defeat him in their next encounters.

In the first two novels, Draco appears as one of the antagonists. In the novel *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*, Hermione prepares an extremely complex potion because the children are suspicious of him, and the children question Draco, but when it is clear that he is innocent, they stop their search because there are no more suspects. During the events of the later works, Harry faces relatively stronger opponents, and Draco fades into the background of the work. The reason for his weakness as an antagonist is not due to lack of potential, but due to the fact that his mindset has changed, which has not allowed him to fully develop as a dark wizard.

3. THE DEMENTORS

As far as magical creatures may go, it's hard to find ones worse than the Dementors. It's no wonder Dementors were chosen to guard Azkaban, the prison where the world's most dangerous witches and wizards are kept. They are difficult to avoid and impossible to ignore. Sadness and cold follows them wherever they go, they suck happiness out of everyone and everything around them. Wizards must master the Patronus Charm, an advanced magical skill, to chase them down. If allowed, the Dementors are eager to remove the criminal's soul with the Dementor's Kiss. As soon as they leave the Ministry, their free reign begins and a cloud of depression sweeps over the country.

These creatures, considered the antagonists of *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*, have a stronger impact on Harry due to his unfortunate past. Harry himself is more afraid of the Dementors than the Dark Lord: “When they get near me - I can hear Voldemort murdering my mum” . But with the help of Professor Lupin, the boy manages to overcome his fear. During the subsequent works, Harry will have to face them again and again, but it is in the novel "*Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*" that they reveal an important aspect of Harry's nature - Harry's attitude to fear and cowardness. He is not afraid of a certain person or thing, not of death, not of the most powerful dark wizards, but of the very concept of fear. He is afraid that one day, like the traitor Pettigrew, he will be able to play to the drum of his fear, to lead others to death in order to save his life. He is afraid that his loved ones will suffer because of him, that others will sacrifice their lives for him, and he feels

guilty for the injury of every comrade. The fear that lives in his body increases year by year, like the burden of responsibility on his shoulders.

4. **SEVERUS SNAPE**

Severus Snape always knows what to do. No matter who he works for, he always magically solves the problem. However, very little of his power is directed at evil. He is more of an obstacle than an ally for Voldemort, although the Dark Lord himself does not know it. But Snape is Harry's rival nonetheless. He carries childhood grudges against his father until his death, making life difficult for the child at every step. He captures Sirius Black and tries to get his soul absorbed out due to an old grudge. Snape's plans usually work, but his influence as a Harry Potter villain is overshadowed by his devotion to Lily's memory, earning him the title of one of the best Harry Potter characters.

- After all this time?

- Always, - said Snape .

But this is only a one-sided conclusion drawn from the movies. Snape is the main antagonist of Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows and the only person who hates Harry more than Voldemort. Readers who have read the entire series know that he truly hates Harry from the bottom of his heart, because he believes that if Harry had not been born, Lily would still be alive. Harry's appearance reminds him of his father James, which angers him, and he thinks that this "arrogant and selfish" boy's face is not worthy of Lily's eyes. He protects Harry only because he is Lily's son, a carrier of her eyes and memory. Also, Snape knows that the boy will grow up to be a wizard who fights against Voldemort in the future. More precisely, he expects that when Harry grows up, he will fight to avenge the evil that killed his mother Lily. The boy himself is aware of this, and while he does not start to love Snape dearly, a deep respect for his teacher appears in his heart. After all, it is a thousand times more difficult and dangerous to fight for those you hate and give your life protecting them than to make such sacrifices for your loved ones, because this time the main opponent will be the person himself.

5. **DOLORES UMBRIDGE**

Dolores Umbridge is the antagonist of 'Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix', and she is the only character in the book that everyone hates. Admittedly, there are enough reasons for this. Her unbridled hatred of half-breeds, her attempts to humiliate muggle-bloods in every possible way, her coming up with new and absurd rules every week, her forcing students to spend hours reading the simplified manual instead of teaching which is her actual job, her coughs that are known to be fake, or the fact that she looks like a frog in every way possible are at the top of the list of reasons. Through her connections at the Ministry, she becomes headmaster at Hogwarts. She "invents" new magical rules, laws and decrees for discipline, and physically and mentally tortures students who disregard them. She is well versed in magic, including dark magic and forbidden spells, but her magic ability is weak when it comes to casting simple twist and turn spells or dismantling the small and safe fireworks that 17-year-olds have made. The centaurs chase her away from Hogwarts, but she reappears at the Ministry and continues to cause troubles in The Deathly Hallows.

One of the things that earned her the hatred of readers is her greed for power along with her tendency to enjoy the pain of others. Although she does not openly follow the Dark Lord,

she is considered one of his supporters. There is no other way to explain that the eye of the deceased Moody appeared on her door. Among the villains in the play, she is the only one capable of using the Patronus charm, and even this protector is summoned not by the help of a truly good memory, but by someone's suffering. If Dolores was as a powerful witch as the Dark Lord, maybe she would have become the Pink Lord as well. In addition, she left a scar on Harry's body like Voldemort - the inscription on the back of his palm "I must not tell lies" will be a reminder of the new headmaster's short reign .

6. LORD VOLDEMORT

Tom Marvelo Riddle, or Lord Voldemort, controls a large part of the wizarding world, and his power as a dictator surpasses even Grindelwald. Voldemort's deep knowledge of the dark arts instills a fear in people that no other villain can achieve. Even when he is presumed dead, wizards fear his name and doubt that he can truly be completely defeated. His horcruxes make him an almost indestructible, invincible and immortal force. The interesting thing is that from a very young age he knew that he had magic and was proud of it. A 10-year-old boy who had not yet taken any magic lessons was able to use his abilities to intimidate and subjugate others, and enjoyed it. He may be the most powerful and feared wizard of all time, but that robs him of his identity, the last bits of his humanity. He is considered the main antagonist of the series and the main events end with his death.

In conclusion, it is worth noting that competition is an immortal subject. In the works, competition is always present in one form or another, and it is a mistake to consider one of the participants as a completely positive and the other as a negative character. It is also wrong to call negative characters antagonists. Sometimes a negative character is not an antagonist (Gellert Grindelwald , Igor Karkarov) or antagonist is not considered a negative character (S.Snape). In some cases, if there is no hero in the work that can be considered positive, sometimes the protagonist himself has chosen the wrong way of life (A.Camus "The Stranger"), and such heroes are called "anti-heroes" . Antagonists always originate from the protagonist - the main character. In addition, no person is one hundred percent free from flaws, everyone has some kind of defects, mistakes or bad habits, so everyone has people they don't like or are disliked by, and this is a natural social situation. The main task of literature is to convey this truth to people, to provide readers with a different but dear image of the world.

REFERENCES:

1. J.K.Rowling. Harry Potter and Goblet of Fire. London-2000. P.291.
2. J.K.Rowling. Harry Potter and Order of Phoenix. London-2003. P.204.
3. J.K.Rowling. Harry Potter and Prisoner of Azkaban. London-1999. P.3.
4. J.K.Rowling. Harry Potter and Prisoner of Azkaban. London-1999. P.123.
5. J.K.Rowling. Harry Potter and The Deathly Hallows. London-2007. B.363.
6. J.K.Rowling. Harry Potter and The Deathly Hallows. London-2007. P.378.
7. Louis E. Catron. Antagonist // Elements of Playwriting. – 1993. – P. 80-81.
8. Michael Tabb. Может ли протагонист быть антагонистом? – Cinemotion, 21.05.2015.
9. Sam Smiley. Playwriting: the structure of action. 1971. P. 56.
10. <https://harrypotter.fandom.com//harry-potter-wiki>