

CHAPTER IV

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

In this chapter, the results of the study are presented on the discussion of diversity reflected in R.J Palacio's *Wonder* novel. The results of the study present data obtained from data sources that are tailored to the research objectives. Data analysis results are expressed in the form of descriptions. After this step, then proceed with a discussion of the results of the analysis.

4.1 Research Finding

4.1.1 Kind of Diversity Reflected in the *Wonder* Novel

In life, we as a human being born differently with different conditions. Like where we born, how we grew up with a family, what beliefs that we chose and so on. This was also described by Palacio through one of her literary works, the *Wonder* novel, in which there is a great diversity.

Here are the types of diversity based on the characters:

4.1.1.1 Auggie

In Auggie's perspective, there are two types of diversity, namely racial diversity and diversity of family backgrounds. The first is racial diversity. Auggie, is the main character in the *Wonder* novel. Palacio describes a child born with deformities. Even though he had undergone surgery for several times, it still would not turn his face into a normal person in general. This makes Auggie different from "normal" people who has a normal nose, the eye that matches the other, normal lip shape and et cetera. But not with Auggie. Auggie's face, illustrated on the Via's part. The location of the eye is not normal, the shape of the nose is strange, this makes someone who first sees him feeling scared.

My Name is August, by the way. I won't describe what I look like. Whatever you're thinking, It's probably worse. (*Wonder*. p. 3)

His eyes are about an inch below where they should be face, almost to halfway down his cheeks. They slant downward.... (*Wonder*. p. 88-89)

The second is the diversity of family backgrounds. Even though he has a disfigured face, Auggie is very lucky to have a whole family and love each other. His mom and dad loved him very much. As Via who really knows the condition of her little brother looked like. Via described Auggie like the sun which means Auggie is everything for them.

Via doesn't see me as ordinary. She says she does, but if I were ordinary, she wouldn't feel like she needs to protect me as much. And Mom and Dad don't see me as ordinary, either. They see me as extraordinary. I think the only person in the world who realizes how ordinary I am is me. (*Wonder*. p. 3)

Auggie's Mom and Dad loves Auggie very much, they always think of any ways to take care him. As his father said:

Dad said looking at me in the rearview mirror. "It's not true. Here's the thing: Mommy and I love you so much we want to protect you any way we can. It's just sometimes we want to do it in different ways". (*Wonder*. p. 12)

4.1.1.2 Nate and Isabel

From Nate and Isabel's perspective, they have racial differences. Nate and Isabel or Auggie's parents are from different countries. Nate is of Russian and Polish descent while Isabel is of Brazilian descent. With two different countries, so have different races, cultures. This was told by Via:

Both sides of Dad's family were Jews from Russia and Poland. Poppa's grandparents fled the pogroms and ended up in NYC at the turn of the century. Tata's parents fled the Nazis and ended up in Argentina in the forties. Poppa and Tata met at a dance on the Lower East Side while she was in town visiting a cousin. They got married, moved to Bayside, and had Dad and Uncle Ben.

Mom's side of the family is from Brazil. Except for her mother, my beautiful Grans, and her dad, Agosto, who died before I was born, the rest of Mom's family—all her glamorous aunts, uncles, and cousins—still live in Alto Leblon, a ritzy suburb south of Rio. Grans and Agosto moved to Boston in the early sixties, and had Mom and Aunt Kate, who's married to Uncle Porter. (*Wonder*. p. 105)

4.1.1.3 Summer

Racial diversity is also illustrated by Palacio in the Summer's perspective. In a *Wonder* novel, a child named Summer is a different child from the others where in New York the majority have white skin. As Daryl Adair (2010) said the main indicators of race are skin color like white in Europe, black in Aboriginal and Pacific Islanders and the last yellow in Asian. She has curly hair, tanned skin and green eyes like leaves. This was conveyed through Auggie who saw Summer and said:

“Summer looked like her name. She had a tan, and her eyes were green like a leaf”

She had long wavy brown hair, and wore a brown T-shirt with a purple peace sign on it. (*Wonder*. p. 53)

4.1.14 Jack Will

Jack's perspective illustrated the diversity of social status. Jack was born into an ordinary family. His father is a teacher and his mother is a social worker. This is different from his friends who are the majority of schools in Beecher Prep is rich. Beecher Prep is an educated and private school. As Jack said:

My parents are not rich. I say this because people sometimes think that everyone who goes to private school is rich, but that isn't true with us. Dad's a teacher and Mom's a social worker, which means they don't have those kinds of jobs where people make gazillions of dollars. We used to have a car, but we sold it when Jamie started kindergarten at Beecher Prep. We don't live in a big townhouse or in it one of those doorman buildings along the park. We live on the top aid floor of a five-story walk-up we rent from an old lady named Dona Petra all the way on the "other" side of Broadway. That's "code" for the section of North River Heights where people don't want to park their cars. Me and Jamie share a room. I overhear my parents talk about things like "Can we do without an air conditioner one more year?" or "Maybe I can work two jobs this summer." (*Wonder*. p. 149)

4.1.1.4 Julian

Besides Jack, Julian also illustrated the diversity of social status. Julian is the son of a rich parents. This is different from the situation of Jack who was born not from rich family. He is the son of Melissa and Jules Albans. A person who is rich will usually be valued in the surrounding environment. Julian has a group where the children are popular kids at their school.

Julian, who everyone knows is rich, was like, "I hate that I have to go back to Paris this Christmas. It's so boring!" (*Wonder*. p. 53)

Julian is a child who is arrogant, bad, and picky in making friends. Julian's mom is arrogant too. That is why Julian is also bad because it is not far from the attitude of his parents. The character of a person grows according to the background of his family or their close people. Like if parents teach their children about manners, respect early on, then children can respect others. But if parents do not teach about goodness, then children will not know how to behave properly to someone. This happened to Julian. His

mother is very arrogant, like Julian who always demeans people who are "underneath".

4.1.1.6 Justin

Palacio illustrated the diversity of Justin's background. In Justin's part, he tells about Via's family. On the Valentine's Day sub chapter, Justin describes how his family life is different from the Via's family. His mom and dad are divorced since he was little and they hated each other. He never felt warmth in his family. As Justin said that his family is like:

my family's not like this at all. my mom and dad got divorced when i was four and they pretty much hate each other. i grew up spending half of every week in my dad's apartment in chelsea and the other half in my mom's place in brooklyn heights. i have a half brother who's five years older than me and barely knows i exist. for as long as i can remember, i've felt like my parents could hardly wait for me to be old enough to take care of myself. "you can go to the store by yourself." "here's the key to the apartment." it's funny how there's a word like overprotective to describe some parents, but no word that means the opposite. what word do you use to describe parents who don't protect enough? underprotective? neglectful? self-involved? lame? all of the above.

Olivia's family tell each other "i love you" all the time. i can't remember the last time anyone in my family said that to me. (*Wonder*. p. 192)

But that situation did not make him a "broken home". He grew up to be a good, sincere, and mature person in dealing with things. Justin really likes the Via's family. He liked the way they welcomed his arrival when Justin first met Via's parents and his brother, Auggie.

the dad gets up and shakes my hand, and the mom gives me a hug. i give auggie a hello fist-punch

it's so nice to meet you, justin! we've heard so much about you!

her parents couldn't be nicer. put me at ease right away. (*Wonder*. p. 190)

olivia's parents ask me about my music, how i got into the fiddle and stuff like that. and i tell them about how i used to play classical violin but I got into appalachian folk music and then zydeco. and they're listening to every word like they're really interested. (*Wonder*. p. 191)

4.1.1.7 Miranda

Just like Justin's family, Miranda's parents also divorced. Her father was with another woman while her mother was busy with her work. Since her parents divorced, Miranda never saw her father at all. She lives with her mother but they never talk to each other. That's the reason why Miranda likes the Auggie family that is whole and loving.

My parents got divorced the summer before ninth grade. My father was with someone else right away. In fact, though my mother never said so, I think this was the reason they got divorced. After the divorce, I hardly ever saw my father. And my mother acted stranger than ever. It's not that she was unstable or anything: just distant. Remote. My mother is the kind of person who has a happy face for the rest of the world but not a lot left over for me. She's never talked to me much—not about her feelings, her life. I don't know much about what she was like when she was my age. Don't know much about the things she liked or didn't like. The few times she mentioned her own parents, who I've never met, it was mostly about how she wanted to get as far away from them as she could once she'd grown up. She never told me why. I asked a few times, but she would pretend she hadn't heard me. (*Wonder*. p. 236)

4.1.2 The Way Diversity is Reflected in *Wonder* Novel

Here, the researcher uses the sociology of literature approach which in the study of literary works relates to the phenomenon of the relationship of literary work with reality. Furthermore, the aspects of sociology are reviewed in terms of characterization, setting, symbol, and imagery.

4.1.2.1 Characterization

Characterization is one of the important things in literary work. Even characterization also determines the formation of literary work. There are no literary works (in this case novels) without any narrated characters. In Merriam-Webster, characterization is the artistic representation in fiction or drama of human character or motives. According to Gill in *Mastering English Literature* (2006:10) character is product, while characterization is process. From that character, it will be a characterization where the characteristics of the figure is depicted.

The figures to be discussed are August Pullman (Auggie), Olivia Pullman (Via), Isabel and Nate Pullman (Auggie's mom and dad), Jack Will, Summer Dawson, Miranda, Justin, Julian, Charlotte, Savanna, Mr. Tushman and Mrs. Albans (Julian's Mom).

Characters and characterizations are mandatory in a novel or fictional story. So far, the character is there to tell the story. The following is a characterization analysis in the *Wonder* novel.

4.1.2.1.1 August Pullman (Auggie)

Auggie is the main character in this story. The main character is a character who has an important role in a story and is most often told. Even the main characters in certain novels, always appear on every event and almost be found on every page of the story book. In the *Wonder* novel, He is present more than the other figures, namely in the first part, sixth and the last part. Auggie was born with an abnormality that made his face look unusual and so different compared with the most people. August Pullman (Auggie) is just an

ordinary kid. Like other ten years old he playing Xbox, eat ice cream, and playing football. He is also funny, smart, and brave. However, if Auggie is just an ordinary kid, why do people always whisper and give him a strange look every time they see him?

“I know I’m not an ordinary ten-year-old kid. I mean, sure, I do ordinary things. I eat ice cream. I ride my bike. I play ball. I have an Xbox. Stuff like that makes me ordinary. I guess. And I feel ordinary. Inside. But I know ordinary kids don’t make other ordinary kids run away screaming in playgrounds. I know ordinary kids don’t get started at wherever they go.”
(*Wonder*. p. 3)

Auggie was used to the people who immediately turned their backs on him, or other children who immediately screamed or even cried when they saw him. People pity him and other children call him a monster, all the reactions he is used to dealing. His mother also knew how people always flinched when they saw Auggie, but his mother instead enrolled Auggie to school. Not going to school at home like Auggie did all this time, but the schools filled with lots of students and other employees.

Auggie knew people at school would continue to talk about it, he knew it would seem difficult for him to get friends.

Auggie desperately adapted at his new school, had lunch alone, then when he first recognized the betrayal of someone that he thought was his friend, when his closest friend left him forever and the last part that aroused courage and Auggie's confidence.

Even though he had undergone plastic surgery many times, still his face looked different. However, luckily Auggie, because he had a father, mother, and sister who sincerely loved him and defended him whenever there was another child who was disturbing.

Auggie as someone who has a big influence on the people around him. He made other people open his eyes wider and looked at him without prejudice. He makes other people more courageous

to do good. He makes other people realize the power in themselves that they have never even realized before.

Mom : “Thank you, Auggie”
Auggie : “For what?”
Mom : “For everything you’ve given us, for coming into our lives, for being you. You really are a wonder Auggie. You are a wonder.” (*Wonder*. p. 310)

4.1.2.1.2 Olivia Pullman (Via)

Via is Auggie's older sister and her school is in Faulkner High School. At school, Via met her boyfriend, Justin. Via has a close friend named Miranda. However, on the first day of Via School, Miranda chose to be friends with a popular kid so that Via and Miranda were far away. Via get jealous of his parents because she felt their attention for Auggie was bigger than Via.

Having a little brother with abnormalities certainly made her realize that her little brother needed more care and supervision. However, even if the disorder appears only on his face, who knows there are more abnormalities found in his nerve, maybe, or his breathing, that's why Auggie needs extra supervision than Olivia. My extra attention to Auggie in my opinion makes Via a little jealous of his own sister.

I never used to see August the way other people saw him. I knew he didn't look exactly normal, but I really didn't understand why strangers seemed so shocked when they saw him. Horrified. Sickened. Scared. There are so many words I can use to describe the looks on people's faces. And for a long time I didn't get it.
I'd just get mad. Mad when they stared. Mad when they looked away. "What the heck are you looking at?" I'd say to people, even grownups. (*Wonder*. p. 85)

On Auggie's first day of school, Via gave told to Auggie

“If they stare, let them stare, you can’t blend it when you’re born to stand out.” (*Wonder*:)

4.1.2.1.3 Isabel and Nate Pullman

Isabel and Nate Pullman are Auggie and Via's mom and dad. They are parents who are very supportive of their children in any case. Like a mother, Isabel has a strong character. Since being born Auggie, Isabel has stopped all activities related to her. According to Olivia, he even seems to make Auggie like the center of the earth that revolves in their life.

“August is the Sun. Me, Mom and Dad are planets orbiting the Sun.” (*Wonder*. p. 82)

Isabel and Nate Pullman love Auggie very much. On the first day of school they actually felt nervous to see Auggie because they were worried that his friends would "look weird" and make Auggie sad. But the father always supports him to stand up against anything.

Mom and Dad don’t see me as ordinary, either. They see me as extraordinary. I think the only person in the world who realizes how ordinary I am is me. (*Wonder*. p. 3)

“Okay, so this is it, big boy,” said Dad, putting his hand on top of my shoulders.

“Have a great first day. I love you,” said Via, giving a big kiss and hug.

“You too,” I said.

“I love you, Auggie,” said Dad hugging me.

“Bye.”

Then Mom hugged me, but I could tell she was about to cry, which would have totally embarrassed me, so I just gave her a fast hard hug, turned, and disappeared into the school. (*Wonder*. p.36)

Isabel very loved Auggie, no matter what he looked like, she always supporting Auggie when Auggie feeling sad. He sacrificed anything for Auggie.

Mom put the book down and wrapped her arms around me. She didn't seem surprised that I was crying. "It's okay," she whispered in my ear. "It'll be okay."

"I'm sorry," I said between sniffles.

"Shh," she said, wiping my tears with the back of her hand."

You have nothing to be sorry about

"Why do I have to be so ugly, Mommy?" I whispered.

"No, baby, you're not."

"I know I am."

She kissed me all over my face. She kissed my eyes that came down too far. She kissed my cheeks that looked punched in. She kissed my tortoise mouth.

She said soft words that I know were meant to help me, but words can't change my face. (*Wonder*. p. 60)

4.1.2.1.4 Jack Will

Jack is an extraordinary, kind and brave kid. Jack tried to be a good person even though he was scared not to be accompanied by "popular" kids at school, but Jack was someone who actually did not picky to choose friends.

One day, Mrs. Jack asked to welcome Auggie who was the first day of school. But Jack seems reluctant to carry out his mother's orders. Jack said: "Do I have to?" (*Wonder*. p. 135) that were indirectly reluctant to welcome Auggie.

I know it wasn't cool, but I kind of went "Uhh!" when I saw him because I honestly got scared. I know it wasn't cool, but I kind of went "Uhh!" when I saw him because I honestly got scared. I thought he was wearing a zombie mask or something. It was the kind of "uhh" you say when you're watching a scary movie and the bad guy like jumps out of the bushes. Anyway, I know it wasn't nice of me to do that,

and though the kid didn't hear me, I know his sister did.
(*Wonder*. p. 136)

Even though Jack's reaction to Auggie's appearance was bad, Jack still felt guilty and regret doing it. Jack also accepted Mr. Tushman accompanied Auggie around the school because he felt sympathy. However, he didn't immediately become friends with Auggie in the early days of school because his friends, "popular kids", didn't like Auggie and Jack was worried that he would be shunned by his friends if they were hanging out with Auggie. However, Jack realized that Auggie had turned out to be so good and fun to be made a friend.

..... now that I know him, I would say I actually do want to be friends with August. At first, I admit it, I was only friendly to him because Mr. Tushman asked me to be especially I nice and all that. But now I would choose to hang out with him. He laughs at all my jokes. And I kind of feel like I can tell August anything. Like he's a good friend. Like, if all the guys in the fifth grade were lined up against a wall and I got to choose anyone I wanted to hang out with, I would choose August. (*Wonder*. p. 143)

4.1.2.1.5 Summer Dawson

Summer is a reliable friend for Auggie. When other friends give negative impression to Auggie, but not with Summer who gives a warm impression in welcoming new friends, no matter what how she or he looked like. Summer is a good child, mature and a good friend for Auggie.

Summer is the first student from Beecher Prep who interacts with Auggie because of her own desire. Unlike Jack, Charlotte, and Julian who interact with Auggie first because they were asked by Mr. Tushman (the principal) to accompany Auggie on a tour of the new school. For Summer, being friends with Auggie is not a big deal.

“No. I’m friend with him because I want to be friends with him”. (*Wonder*. p. 119)

4.1.2.1.6 Miranda

Miranda is Via’s ex friend, but in high school, she began to stay away, Miranda chooses "popular" friends in her school. This is normal because Miranda's age is where someone is still unstable, still looking to find out who she is.

On the other hand, Miranda is a poor girl. Her parents divorced, she felt alone. It is not surprising that he really likes the Pullman family because she has never felt comfort in his own family.

My parents got divorced the summer before ninth grade. My father was with someone else right away. in fact, tough my mother never said so, I think this was the reason they got divorced. (*Wonder*. p. 236)

Even though Miranda made a mistake that she had far away with Via, but the longer she realized that Via was her best friend all this time, she began to know who she was. Miranda and Via again became best friend forever.

Miranda loves Via, Auggie and their parents. She truly loved them all beyond her own family. However, a mistake that she made her relationship with Via become faraway, the firmness and honesty that Miranda puts through her perspective are description of true love, friendship and family.

“One of the things I miss the most about Via’s friendship is her family”; “And, of course, I loved Auggie” (*Wonder*. p. 241)

4.1.2.1.7 Justin

In high school, Via, who had problems with her old friend, Miranda, met someone who would later become her lover: Justin. Justin is a mature, smart to hide feelings, respect someone and sincere. This was seen when he saw Auggie for the first time, he did not show any surprise, even though he was surprised. He respects whoever and however that person is.

i like to think i'm able to hide my surprise. i hope i do. surprise is one of those emotions that can be hard to fake, though. whether you're trying to look surprised when you're not or trying to not look surprised when you are.

i shake his hand. i shake the other kid's hand. don't want to focus on his face. cool room, i say. (*Wonder*. p. 187)

Justin is strong enough to handle the feeling of being "scared or surprised". he still calmly faced those feelings in order not to hurt someone's feelings. in this character teaches us to appreciate whatever a person's condition is.

so, what did you think? she asks me nervously the second we're inside her room. are you shocked?

no, i lie.

she smiles and looks away. you're shocked. (*Wonder*. p. 188)

Justin's perspective, the sentences he composed were poetic and almost all the sentences in this chapter were printed without capital letters. Except the letter O in the name Olivia in the opening sentence of the chapter.

olivia reminds me of a bird sometimes, how her feathers get all ruffled when she's mad. and when she's fragile like this, she's a little lost bird looking for its nest. so i give her my wing to hide under (*Wonder*. p. 203)

The reason Palacio made Justin's part is not use capital letters because Justin is a musician, where the lowercase letters

represent the side of a musician with a timid nature. As Palacio said on her website that is because:

I played trombone for seven years through middle school and high school. And I remember thinking back then, especially when I would get into the really low notes, that notes on a musical staff looked a little like lowercase letters of the alphabet. I don't play anything now but I can still read music, and I still think that way. Ascenders and descenders remind me of half note and quarter notes, depending on where they fall on the staff. The baseline of a letter is a bit like a ledger line. Certain serif faces even have strokes that call to mind that graceful little flag on top of the stem of a note. Maybe it's because I've been a graphic designer for so many years, but I'm trained to see typefaces and fonts not just as communication devices, but as visual cues for other things. So when it came to writing from Justin's point of view, because he's a musician, someone who thinks in musical terms, it just seemed natural for me to use lowercase letters to represent his thoughts in a very visual way. He's the kind of person who doesn't talk a lot, because he's naturally shy, but has a lot going on inside. The running monologue inside his head has no time for capital letters or punctuation: it's like his thoughts are streaming inside his mind.

4.1.2.1.8 Julian

Julian's perspective was not made in his own chapter by R. Palacio. But in this novel, there is a character named Julian as a bad person. Julian, an annoying man who often mocks August. He bullied Auggie because of physical differences. Julian also did not have sincere feelings for Auggie and influenced his friends to stay away from him. Like when he asked about Auggie's face, Auggie's hair, which certainly made Auggie feel sad.

“Why is your hair so long?” Julian said to me. He sounded like he was annoyed. (*Wonder*. p. 23)

“What's the deal with your face? I mean were you in a fire or something?”

“Julian that’s so rude!” said Charlotte. (*Wonder*. p. 23)
Then I noticed Julian was sitting a few seats away from her, talking to some other kids. I know he saw me, but he didn’t say hello. (*Wonder*. p. 37)

In the class, Julian asks Auggie again about his long hair. He asks if Auggie likes the Star Wars and mention one of the characters in it where the character has a burning face. It seems Julian likens it to character.

"Why do you have that tiny braid in the back of your hair? Is that like a Padawan thing?" "Yeah." I shrug-nodded.
"What's a Padawan thing?" said Ms. Petosa, smiling at me.
"It's from Star Wars," answered Julian. "A Padawan is a Jedi apprentice."
"What about Darth Sidious?" he said. "Do you like him?"
.... maybe Julian didn't mean anything at all. But in Star Wars Episode III: Revenge of the Sith, Darth Sidious's face gets burned by Sith lightning and becomes totally deformed. His skin gets all shriveled up and his whole face just kind of melts.
I peeked at Julian and he was looking at me. Yeah, he knew what he was saying. (*Wonder*. p. 43-44)

4.1.2.1.9 Mrs. Albans (Julian’s Mom)

In this novel, the perspective of Julian's mom is not much explained, but it is enough to explain that she is equally as wicked as her son, Julian. Even on the message sent to Mr. Tushman through email, Julian's mother called Auggie with the word "the new child with special needs." Even though at that time Beecher Prep's students entered the third month of school.

I am speaking specifically of the new child with special needs who both Jack and Julian were asked to 'befriend.' In retrospect, and having now seen the child in question at various school functions and in the class pictures, I think it may have been too much to ask of our children to be able to process all that. (*Wonder*. p. 162)

"I heard that Julian's mom actually Photoshopped August's face out of the class picture when she got it. She gave a copy to a couple of the other moms." (*Wonder*. p. 158-159)

4.1.2.1.10 Savanna

Savanna is a popular kid at Beecher Perp school. Everyone likes her and wants to be friends with her. But like Julian, Savanna is an arrogant person, bullied Auggie. Savanna invited Summer to her Halloween party and for Summer it was surprising because not everyone could get her invitation. However, Savanna invited Summer with a certain reason, that is bullied Auggie.

Anyway, the first thing that happened when I got to her party was that Savanna greeted me at the door and asked: "Where's your boyfriend, Summer?"

I didn't even know what she was talking about.

"I guess he doesn't have to wear a mask at Halloween, right?" she added. And then I knew she was talking about August. (*Wonder*. p. 122)

4.1.2.1.11 Charlotte

Charlotte is a neutral kid. He defended Auggie when he knew that Julian was bullied Auggie. Auggie likes Charlotte and Jack, who is not like Julian, asks things that are not worth to asking.

"But I really liked Jack," I said. "He was like, 'Shut up, Julian!' And Charlotte was like, 'You're so rude Julian!'" (*Wonder*. p. 34)

4.1.2.1.12 Mr. Tushman

The principal of Beecher Perp is Mr. Tushman. He is someone who is just and good who does not see who that person is. This was seen when Mr. Tushman defended the truth in the case of

Jack punching Julian for some reason. He did not take Jack out of school just because he knew Jack was a good boy. As Mr. Tushman via email:

I did not think asking these children to be especially kind to a new student would place any extra "burdens or hardships" on them. In fact, I thought it would teach them a thing or two about empathy, and friendship, and loyalty. (*Wonder*. p.163)

In his farewell speech, Mr. Tushman delivered a message like:

While reading up on his life in preparation for this award, I came upon a passage that he wrote that seemed particularly consistent with the themes I touched on earlier, themes I've been ruminating upon all year long. Not just the nature of kindness, but the nature of one's kindness. The power of one's friendship. The test of one's character. The strength of one's courage. (*Wonder*. p. 303)

4.1.2.2 Point of View

In the *Wonder* novel, R.J Palacio uses the first person perspective. According to Dr. Hallet said that the first point of view is told by the first person or "I". But in this novel is not just Auggie that tells the story from its perspective. *Wonder* novel contains eight parts, each part is told by different characters. Auggie as the main character opens the story in part one and Palacio makes three parts for Auggie, in parts six and eight, then part two is Via as Auggie's older sister tells about how she feels as the sister of the sister who has the strange disease. Following part three, Summer, she is one of Auggie's friends who is most sincere friends with him. In part four there is Jack Will, Jack is Auggie's friend too but Jack is friends with Auggie starting with a compulsion. There is Justin as Via's boyfriend in part five, Justin is a good young man because he wants to accept the true condition of Via's brother. Justin even encouraged Via to continue to love her brother and want to be friends with Miranda

again. Meanwhile in part seven, Miranda had the opportunity to tell about her friend's brother who had facial deformities. Miranda loves Auggie very much, even she feels she loves Auggie more than what Via does. Miranda is also close to Auggie. Then part eight, Auggie closes the story beautifully. After so many unpleasant things that happened to him during school and friends, Auggie managed to overcome it all.

4.1.2.3 Plot

Plot is a series of events in a story arranged as a sequence of parts in the whole of fiction. Plot is elements that build a story so that it becomes a complete story. Plot is a very important basic framework, because it regulates how actions are related to each other, how an event has a relationship with other events and how the characters are portrayed and play a role in the event. According to William Kenney (1966:13) suggested that plot structure consists of three parts, namely the first is an exposition on introduction, then conflicts, complications and climax and the last is falling action and resolution. Below this is the plot that illustrated in the *Wonder* novel.

4.1.2.3.1 Exposition

In the beginning of the story, tells how Auggie was born in the world. Auggie was born with a defect on his face. With that condition, Auggie went to school at home. After his condition improved, finally Isabel (Auggie's Mom) tried to send Auggie to a public school to have more experience. Other than that, Auggie was hesitant and afraid to socialize with many people.

4.1.2.3.2 Rising Action

First Auggie entered public school in the fifth grade, namely in Beecher Perp. Then the principal ordered three of his students, Jack Will, Julian and Charlotte to introduce to Auggie what was

in the Beecher Perp School. Jack Will and Charlotte are good children. Whereas Julian is a bad kid even he mocked Auggie. When he started school, Auggie was pushed away by most of the children. But there was one other person who was kind to Auggie, namely Summer. She was not forced to be friend with Auggie but of her own accord. Finally, Auggie and Summer are best friend.

4.1.2.3.3 Complication

When Halloween, Auggie wearing a Bleeding Scream costume. At that time, Auggie felt comfortable that he even wanted to be like Halloween every day because with his costume he did no need to know who he really was.

At that moment Auggie also heard Jack say to Julian that his friendship with Auggie was ordered by Mr. Tushman. They are not really pure friends. Auggie was sad to hear that.

Suddenly Jack felt the awkwardness when Auggie turned hate to him. But soon they returned well. Jack is annoyed with Julian and punches Julian. Therefore, Julian invited all his friends to stay away from Jack because Jack was friends with Auggie.

4.1.2.3.4 Climax

In the broarwood nature reserve, when Jack and Auggie are in the trees, they met with a senior who has a big problem. They bullied Auggie and some even said "aliens", others threw firecrackers at Jack and Auggie. Then there were Amos, Miles, and Henry coming to help their classmates. That is when Auggie got something that rarely happened before. Amos, Miles, and Henry who had been away from Auggie defended him.

4.1.2.3.5 Falling Action

Everyone knows that Amos, Miles, and Henry saved Auggie. Because of this, other children, began to be nice to

Auggie. During this time Auggie was very patient in dealing with all the insults. But with patience, that goodness produces enormous results. Eventually everyone began to accept Auggie.

4.1.2.3.6 Resolution

When Via successfully showed her performance in front of the stage and all the people cheered for her, Auggie imagined that it would happen to him. How happy he is. That finally happened clearly. On the graduation day of Beecher Perp students, Auggie won the Henry Ward Beecher medal and everyone cheered for Auggie. Auggie received the medal because of his courageous nature, which should be a role model especially for students of Beecher Perp.

4.1.2.4 Setting

Setting is divided into three namely description of places, times and events in the story. The characters in the story live in a certain place and time. therefore, the events experienced by the characters in the story occur at a certain place and time. According to Gill in *Mastering English Literature* (2006) stated that:

Memorable aspects of a novel are usually in the setting. They are engaging and have links with characters. (p.56)

Setting, used by the author to show how the character is placed (p.57)

The situation of the character and the views of the author are seen from the settings (P.58)

Through settings, the reader knows what the author views in a novel and knows how the character is placed. Below this is an important place of incident according to the author in the *Wonder* novel:

4.1.2.4.1 Beecher Perp

Auggie met Mr. Tushman in Beecher Perp. This is the first time Auggie has met him. Auggie told how Mr. Tushman reacted when he met him. Not as he thought, Mr. Tushman is very friendly and looks good.

So, when Mom and I arrived at Beecher Prep a few weeks before school started, and I saw Mr. Tushman waiting for us...

He looked nice. He first shook my mother's hand.

"Hello, Mr. Tushman, it's nice to see you again," said Mom.

"It's my son, August."

Mr. Tushman looked at me and smiled and nodded. He reached out so that I could shake him.

"Hello, August," he said, quite normally. "It is a pleasure to meet you." (*Wonder*. p. 15)

After that, Mr. Tushman told three students, Jack Will, Julian and Charlotte to accompany Auggie around the school so that they knew more about Beecher Perp.

4.1.2.4.2 The Performance Space

In the Performance Space, Julian, Jack and Charlotte introduces Auggie about what is in the room. Starting with opening the door, there is a stage. When they explained in detail what was in the room, Auggie saw Julian staring with a look that Auggie had seen before.

I noticed Julian staring at me out of the corner of his eye. This is something I see people do a lot with me. They think I don't know they're staring, but I can tell from the way their heads are tilted. (*Wonder*. p. 27)

After a while, there was a conversation, where Julian seemed to underestimate Auggie who had previously only been home schooling. Julian is not sure if Auggie is smart just by home

schooling. Because they think there is no real teacher in the home schooling.

"I'm taking the science elective," I said.

"Cool!" said Charlotte.

Julian looked directly at me. "The science elective is supposedly the hardest elective of all," he said. "No offense; but if you've never, ever been in a school before, why do you think you're suddenly going to be smart enough to take the science elective? I mean, have you ever even studied science before? Like real science, not like the kind you do in kits?"

"Yeah." I nodded.

"He was homeschooled, Julian!" said Charlotte.

"So teachers came to his house?" asked Julian, looking puzzled.

"No, his mother taught him!" answered

"Is she a teacher?" Julian said.

"Is your mother a teacher?" Charlotte asked me.

"No," I said.

"So she's not a real teacher!" said Julian, as if that proved his point. "That's what I mean. How can someone who's not a real teacher actually teach science?" (*Wonder*. p. 28-29)

After that, Julian asks something that makes Auggie sad. It is here that Julian does not like Auggie.

"Why is your hair so long?" Julian said to me. He sounded like he was annoyed.

I didn't know what to say, so I just shrugged.

"Can I ask you a question?" he said.

I shrugged again. Didn't he just ask me a question?

"What's the deal with your face? I mean, were you in a fire or something?"

"Julian, that's so rude!" said Charlotte.

"I'm not being rude," said Julian, "I'm just asking a question. Mr. Tushman said we could ask questions if we wanted to."

"Not rude questions like that," said Charlotte. "Besides, he was born like that. That's what Mr. Tushman said. You just weren't listening."

"I was so listening!" said Julian. "I just thought maybe he was in a fire, too."

"Geez, Julian," said Jack. "Just shut up."

"You shut up!" Julian yelled. (*Wonder*. p. 29)

4.1.2.4.3 Canteen

When lunch at school, all children are in canteen to eat. This was a difficult thing for Auggie to do because being in a crowded place was not a normal thing for him. When Auggie sat down with some of the people next to him, one of them said that he had a friend who wanted to sit there.

I tried to sit down at one table, but the kid in the next chair said, "Oh, sorry, but somebody else is sitting here." (*Wonder*. p. 49)

There, Auggie felt everyone was talking about it. Auggie said:

I knew that people were nudging each other, watching me out of the corners of their eyes. I thought I was used to those kinds of stares by now, but I guess I wasn't.

There was one table of girls that I knew were whispering about me because they were talking behind their hands. Their eyes and whispers kept bouncing over to me. (*Wonder*. p. 49-50)

After that, suddenly a child sat in front of Auggie. She is Summer. She is very kind, willing to make friends with anyone.

"Hey, is this seat taken?"

I looked up, and a girl I never saw before was standing across from my table with a lunch tray full of food. She had long wavy brown hair, and wore a brown T-shirt with a purple peace sign on it.

"Uh, no," I said.

She put her lunch tray on the table, plopped her backpack on the floor, and sat down across from me. She started to eat the mac and cheese on her plate. (*Wonder*. p. 51)

4.1.2.4.4 Classroom

When Halloween, Auggie heard Jack tell Julian that he didn't really want to be friends with Auggie, he was friends just because Mr. Tushman told to accompany Auggie. That happened while in class and Jack did not know that Auggie was there too because all the children were wearing costumes. Hearing this, Auggie was devastated and very sad to see Jack Will who had been a good friend of Auggie, apparently betrayed him.

"I can't imagine looking in the mirror every day and seeing myself like that. It would be too awful. And getting stared at all the time."

"Then why do you hang out with him so much?" asked Darth Sidious.

"I don't know," answered the mummy. "Tushman asked me to hang out with him at the beginning of the year, and he must have told all the teachers to put us next to each other in all our classes, or something." The mummy shrugged. I knew the shrug, Of course. I knew the voice. I knew I wanted to run out of the class right then and there. But I stood where I was and listened to Jack Will finish what he was saying. "I mean, the thing is: he always follows me around. What am I supposed to do?" "Just ditch him," said Julian.

I don't know what Jack answered because I walked out of the class without anyone knowing I had been there. My face felt like it was on fire while I walked back down the stairs. I was sweating under my costume. And I started crying. I couldn't keep it from happening. The tears were so thick in my eyes I could barely see, but I couldn't wipe them through the mask as I walked. I was looking for a little tiny spot to disappear into. I wanted a hole I could fall inside of: a little black hole that would eat me up. (*Wonder*. p. 77)

4.1.2.4.5 Room 301

There is some information that Charlotte must tell Jack that Julian makes assumptions to others about him. Julian throw a big party. Julian tells us that Jack hit him because he had an

emotional breakdown and kept everyone away from Jack. Here it appears that Julian is a bad child.

Meet me in room 301 right after school. Come by yourself!
Charlotte.....

.....

"Look, I feel bad about what's going on and I just wanted to tell you what I know. Promise you won't tell anyone I talked to you

"Promise. "

"So Julian had this huge holiday party over winter break," she said. "I mean, huge. My sister's friend had had her sweet sixteen at the same place last year. There were like two hundred people there, so I mean it's a huge place."

"Yeah, and?"

"Yeah, and . . . well, pretty much everybody in the whole grade was there."

"Not everybody," I joked.

"Right, not everybody. Duh. But like even parents were there, you know. Like my parents were there. You know Julian's mom is the vice president of the school board, right? So she knows a lot of people. Anyway, so basically what happened at the party was that Julian went around telling everyone that you punched him because you had emotional problems. . ."

"And that you would have gotten expelled, but his parents begged the school not to expel you . . .

"And that none of it would have happened in the first place if Tushman hadn't forced you to be friends with Auggie. He said his mom thinks that you, quote unquote, snapped under the pressure. . . o"

I couldn't believe what I was hearing. "No one bought into that, right?" I said.

Anyway, Julian said that he thinks being friends with Auggie is bringing you down, and that for your own good you need to stop hanging out with him so much. And if you start losing all your old friends, it'll be like a big wake-up call. So basically, for your own good, he's going to stop being your friend completely."

"News flash: I stopped being his friend completely first!"

"Yeah, but he's convinced all the boys to stop being your friend—for your own good. That's why nobody's talking to you."

"You're talking to me."

"Yeah, well, this is more of a boy thing," she explained. "The girls are staying neutral. Except Savanna's group, because they're going out with Julian's group. But to everybody else this is really a boy war." (*Wonder*. p. 170)

4.1.2.5 Symbol

Symbol is something that is usually a visible sign that replaces an idea or object. Something that can be in the form of animals, people, objects and something like that. According to Daniel K. Stewart (1966) in the *Journal of Communication* says that "symbols are related to meaning". Symbols are words, signs, or cues, which are used to represent something else such as meaning, quality, abstraction, ideas, and objects. In the *Wonder* novel, Palacio describes symbols such as astronaut helmets, the bleeding scream, Star Wars and the universe. Following are the meanings and explanations of the symbol in the *Wonder* novel:

4.1.2.5.1 The Astronaut Helmet.

Auggie really likes astronaut helmet because with his helmet, everyone does not know his real face and people who see him will not be afraid or surprised. But with that helmet Auggie cannot communicate with people. Therefore, Auggie's father threw away his helmet so that Auggie did not wear his helmet back and he became a more confident child. And sure enough, as he grew older, Auggie began to realize that he was comfortable without using the helmet and accepting him what he was looked like.

When I was a little, I used to wear an astronaut helmet everywhere I went. To the playground. To the supermarket.

To pick Via up from school. Even in the middle of summer, though it was so hot my face would sweat. I think I wore it for a couple of years, but I had to stop wearing it when I had my eye surgery. I was about seven, I think. And then I couldn't find the helmet after that. Mom looked everywhere for it. She figured that it had probably ended up in Gran's attic, and she kept meaning to look for it, but by then I had gotten used to not wearing it. (*Wonder*. p. 73)

4.1.2.5.2 The Bleeding Scream

Through bleeding scream mask, Auggie symbolizes that with that mask, we socialize regardless of who we are, without knowing us the truth. Like Auggie said:

I wish every day could be Halloween. We could all wear masks all the time. Then we could walk around and get to know each other before we got to see what we looked like under the masks. (*Wonder*. p. 73)

Walking through the halls that morning on my way to the lockers was, I have to say, absolutely awesome. Everything was different now. I was different. Where I usually walked with my head down, trying to avoid being seen, today I walked with my head up, looking around. I wanted to be seen. One kid wearing the same exact costume as mine, long white skull face oozing fake red blood, high-fived me as we passed each other on the stairs. I have no idea who he was, and he had no idea who I was, and I *Wondered* for a second if he would have ever done that if he'd known it was me under the mask. (*Wonder*. p. 77)

4.1.2.5.3 The Universe

Via describes her family as the universe. Auggie as the sun while Father, Mother and Via are planets around the sun. This concludes that all are worried about Auggie, all attention is centered on Auggie. The symbol of the sun is very important for

all planets, as well as Auggie which is very valuable for both parents and Via.

“August is the Sun. Me, Mom and Dad are planets orbiting the Sun.” (*Wonder*. p. 82)

4.1.2.5.4 Star Wars

Star Wars is an Auggie symbol when he was a little. Auggie is very obsessed with Star Wars. He even braided his hair because he wanted to be like Padawan in Star Wars. However, when he entered secondary school at Beecher Prep, the braid hair did not long lasting. Auggie cut him off because Julian mocked him.

“Why is your hair so long?” Julian said to me. He sounded like he was annoyed. (*Wonder*. p. 29)

Auggie cuts his braid hair because he wants to start something new, in a new environment too. At present Auggie has grown into an adult.

That night I cut off the little braid hair on the back of my head. (*Wonder*. p. 57)

4.1.2.6 Imagery

Imagery is the use of words created by the author that aims so that what is meant by the writer can enter the reader's mind (Robinson, 2019). Imagery is used to describe something through the reader's senses. Imagery related with human senses such as visual, smell, taste and touch. Below is an imagery found in the *Wonder* novel.

4.1.2.6.1 Summer

Palacio described about Summer in the sub chapter “The Summer Table”. As Auggie said that:

“Summer looked like her name. She had a tan, and her eyes were green like a leaf” (*Wonder*. p. 53)

4.1.2.6.2 Auggie’s face

Auggie has a difference on his face, he has a birth defect. Despite having undergone surgery several times, Auggie's face cannot be changed to a "normal". Auggie's face, described in detail on Part Via:

His eyes are about an inch below where they should be face, almost to halfway down his cheeks. They slant downward at an extreme angle, almost like diagonal slits that someone cut into his face, and the left one is noticeably lower than the right one. They bulge outward because his eye cavities are too shallow to accommodate them. The top eyelids are always halfway closed, like he's on the verge of sleeping. The lower eyelids sag so much they almost look like a piece of invisible string is pulling them downward: you can see the red part on the inside, like they're almost inside out. He doesn't have eyebrows or eyelashes. His nose is disproportionately big for his face, and kind of fleshy. His head is pinched in on the sides where the ears should be, like someone used giant pliers and crushed the middle part of his face. He doesn't have cheekbones. There are deep creases running down both sides of his nose to his mouth, which gives him a waxy appearance. Sometimes people assume he's been burned in a fire: his features look like they've been melted, like the drippings on the side of a candle. Several surgeries to correct his lip have left a few scars around his mouth, the most noticeable one being a jagged gash running from the middle of his upper lip to his nose. His upper teeth are small and splay out. He has a severe overbite and an extremely undersized jawbone. He has a very small chin. When he was very little, before a piece of his hip bone was

surgically implanted into his lower jaw, he really had no chin at all. His tongue would just hang out of his mouth with nothing underneath to block it. (*Wonder*. p. 88-89)

4.1.3 The Reasons Palacio Created Diversity in the *Wonder* Novel

R.J Palacio, or his real name is Raquel Jaramillo was born in New York City on July 13, 1963. *Wonder* novel is written by the author based on her own personal experience. One day Palacio and her son met a child with an abnormality on his face. feeling worry if her child reacts badly, Palacio tries to keep her child stay away from that child, but this makes the situation worse. As Palacio said in his interview:

"I was really angry at myself afterwards for the way I had responded," she admits. "What I should have done is simply turned to the little girl and started up a conversation and shown my kids that there was nothing to be afraid of. But instead what I ended up doing was leaving the scene so quickly that I missed that opportunity to turn the situation into a great teaching moment for my kids. And that got me thinking a lot about what it must be like to ... have to face a world every day that doesn't know how to face you back."

Scared to seeing her child crying, Palacio immediately took him away from the disabled child. It makes Palacio's feel that she had hurt his feelings (disability). Palacio regrets having missed a moment to teach her child how to deal with people who are "like that". We do not to be afraid. Palacio wants how we should deal with someone who has limitations. Therefore, from that incident, she wants to write about someone who lives with that. Someone who has limitations and is surrounded by people around him who have different characters, different backgrounds and different traits. In the article from the internet that Palacio said:

"Auggie's mom is Brazilian, his dad's Jewish; to me he's the epitome of diversity. But I don't think I would have changed how I approached that. For me, diversity can be as much about celebrating differences as it is about normalizing them to the point where they

really don't matter, inasmuch as everyone is different. In *Wonder*, every character has something they think sets them apart. But compared to Auggie's differences, all else pales. No one in the world looks like him. It makes everyone else seem very, very similar. The racial and ethnic differences between the others are nothing to him, because they all have eyes and ears and noses where they're supposed to be."

So, with that difference, Palacio wants to suggest us as human beings to appreciate every difference by "normalizing" them until they are truly considered ordinary. Writing from many perspectives (Auggie, his sister, his best friend, and bullying in school), the author helps the reader to learn how to view the world from the other perspective, especially those who are different from themselves.

4.2 Discussion

This research shows that in the *Wonder* novel there is diversity through the analysis sociology of literature. Using the theory sociology of literary, through aspects of characterizations, settings, point of view, imagery and symbols.

First, the researcher found the types of diversity that exist in the *Wonder* novel, namely racial diversity, diversity of social status and diversity of family backgrounds. An example of physical diversity in the *Wonder* novel is Auggie. Auggie is the main character in the *Wonder* novel who has a defect on his face. Then Summer that has a different skin color than others where the majority in New York City residents are white. An example of the diversity of social status is Jack who born into a middleclass family compared to the Julian's family that is very rich. Then there is diversity of family backgrounds where there is harmony, love and mutual protection for each other such as the Auggie family, there are also families whose parent divorce that can influence in their children such as lack of attention, affection and at cetera.

Second, the researcher found how diversity is reflected in the *Wonder* novel through characterizations. With characterization analysis, the researcher knows the character of each figures. There are antagonists and protagonists. The characters in the *Wonder* novel are: August Pullman, Olivia Pullman, Isabel and Nate Pullman, Jack Will, Summer Dawson, Miranda, Justin, Julian, Mrs. Albans, Charlotte, Savanna and Mr. Tushman. Through characterization analysis the researcher found many differences such as the nature and the way they solve with the problems. There are evil and good, patient and others. The main character, Auggie, is proof that the courageous nature cannot just appear, but appears when we succeed in conquering our inner fear.

In addition to characterization analysis, there are also points of view, plot, settings, imagery and symbols. From point of view and plot, the researcher found Palacio's way of creating a *Wonder* novel that tells the personal views of each character, especially in dealing with Auggie as a "physically deformity" person like normal people. There is Via or Olivia, Auggie's sister, who is actually deep in her heart holding a burden for her position as Auggie's sister. Sometimes she was embarrassed, but often he ignored it. Unfortunately, Olivia who just entered high school, had to adapt to the new environment. Many things are felt by Via. There are also stories from Summer and Jack who really like August. People who can see August in a different surface of the skin and face. There is also the point of view of Justin, Olivia's girlfriend, makes us who read realize the need to be grateful for everything they have. And Miranda, Oliva's best friend, who always loved August and considered her own younger brother.

At the end of this novel, tells about the beauty of celebrating togetherness and kindness. How the world will be more beautiful if everyone wants to be nice to others. How a figure like Auggie teaches us about courage, magnanimity, and fortitude. Auggie realized that everyone now saw him as Auggie, not as a weird-looking boy.

Third, the researcher found the author's reason, chose the issue of diversity in the *Wonder* novel. Palacio was inspired by her personal

experience, she met children who had different faces. The researcher found this reason from the Palacio's website. By creating a *Wonder*, which raises the issue of diversity aims to think we live in this world is indeed diverse, but with that difference means it is unique in every individual who has the right to be respected.