

## CHAPTER 3

### ANALYSIS

In this chapter, this research tries to answer the problem formulated in the first chapter; those are how Charlie Gordon described in the novel and what the effort that Charlie Gordon does to be a genius man.

This analysis below will consist of some parts of discussion. First part will discuss about Charlie's characterization. Then, the second parts will discuss about Charlie's effort to be a genius man. From the discussion below, hopefully this study will answer all of problem formulation.

For data source, this research uses the novel entitled *Flowers for Algernon* written by Daniel Keyes. Then, the data are taken from the narrations which has correlation with the problem statement and the dialogues among the characters as evidence.

#### **3.1. The Description of Charlie as Character in Daniel Keyes's *Flowers for Algernon***

Charlie Gordon is the major character in Daniel Keyes's *Flowers for Algernon*. According to Dinurriyah, Major Character is an important figure at the center of the story and usually they have a lot to say and appears frequently in the story (114). Charlie Gordon appears frequently and be an important figure of the story also. That's why Charlie Gordon is said as the major character. Then, Charlie's character is changeable throughout the story. It makes Charlie can be

said as round character. This statement is suitable with Kenney's theory that round character is complex, changeable and many sided (46).

Charlie Gordon in this story depicted as a thirty two years old mentally retarded man who lives in New York City. Charlie has IQ 68. With that IQ, he looks like an adult man but still child in mind.

"I hope they use me becaus Miss Kinnian says mabye they can make me smart. I want to be smart. My name is Charlie Gordon I werk in Donners bakery where Mr Donner gives me 11 dollers a week and bred or cake if I want. I am 32 yeres old and next munth is my birthday". (Keyes 1)

The data above shows that Charlie has low IQ. At the beginning of the story, Strauss tells Charlie to write everything in a report progress book. Charlie's writing is very bad. Many error-spelling founded in his writing. He also cannot puts dot (.) or comma (,) correctly. It shows that he has *Language Deficit*, a symptom of disabilities mental. For example he writes wrekk (work), yeres (years) and munth (month). Actually, every wrong word written by Charlie depends on his speech.

Charlie is depicted as a spiritfull man who wants to improve himself. He attends reading and writing classes at the Beekman College Center for Retarded Adults.

"He says I shud rite just like I talk and like I rite compushishens in Miss Kinnians class at the beekmin collidge center for retarded adults where I go to lern 3 times a week on my time off". (Keyes 1)

"He said Miss Kinnian tollid him I was her bestist pupil in the Beekman School for retarded adults and I tryed the hardist becaus I reely wantd to lern I wantid it more even then pepul who are smarter even then me. Dr Strauss askd me how come you went to the Beekman School all by yourself Charlie. How did you find out about it. I said I dont remember.









While he becomes more intelligent, his imagination growth also. In his imagination, Charlie can see and remember his past. Sometimes he dreams about his childhood and family.

When Charlie works at Donners Bakery, he has a lot of friends. Charlie likes them so much. Charlie always thinks that all of his friends like him too because they often joke and laugh together. Charlie does not know the truth that his friends mock and laugh at him when Charlie does some funny or ridiculous thing.

In the middle of the story, after getting his smart ability, Charlie knows the fact about his friends. The fact that his friends mock and laugh at him. One night, Charlie has been invited to a party. At the party, his friends tell Charlie to dance with a guest named Ellen. Although Charlie cannot dance, he accepts his friends' request. No one dances at that room except Charlie and Ellen. All of people make a circle to watch and laugh at them. Frank also tells to all of people at room about Charlie's dumb. It makes Charlie is ashamed and run from that place.

"Last night Joe Carp and Frank Reilly invited me to a party. There were lots of girls and Gimpy was there and Ernie too. We had a lot of fun for a while. "Dance with Ellen," Joe said. "She'll teach you the steps." Then he winked at her like he had something in his eye". (Keyes 40)

What Frank said reminded me. That was the same thing that happened at Halloran's. And that was what Joe and the rest of them were doing. Laughing at me. And the kids playing hide-and-go-seek were playing tricks on me and they were laughing at me too. The people at the party were a bunch of blurred faces all looking down and laughing at me. "Look at him. His face is red." "He's blushing. Charlie's blushing."































