IDENTITY AND RACISM IN J.K. ROWLING’S HARRY POTTER AND THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS

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ABSTRACT:

Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets by J.K. Rowling was published in London on 2 July 1998 by Bloomsbury. The book won high praise and awards from critics, young readers and the book industry. Many critics have noted that personal identity is a strong theme in the book and it addresses issues of racism through the treatment of non-magical, non-human and non-living characters. Tom Riddle’s diary, which controls Ginny Weasley, is a warning about the dangers of opening the chamber of secrets. A monster from the chamber petrifies anyone who comes in contact with it. This paper depicts parallel forms of racism directed against Muggles, half-blood and elves thus showing personal identity of Harry Potter in protecting the Hogwarts School.

KEYWORDS: Personal Identity, Racism, Mudblood, Ominous Warning, petrify