William Faulkner’s *The Hamlet* provides a rich source for analysis. The character of V.K. Ratliff is particularly interesting when considered from a narrative standpoint. Ratliff is not a traditional narrator within the novel. Rather, Faulkner uses him within the context of the novel to provide the reader with insight, commentary, and tales which would be less engrossing from a third person view. Because of the episodic nature of *The Hamlet*, it is difficult to separate the various ways in which Ratliff serves the reader categorically. This essay endeavors to follow Ratliff throughout the novel and examine those scenes and episodes which highlight Ratliff’s role as a narrative tool.