UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

ANXIETY, SOCIALISATION, SELF-IDEALISATION AND SEARCH FOR GLORY IN ZADIE SMITH'S WHITE TEETH AND ON BEAUTY

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ANXIETY, SOCIALISATION, SELF-IDEALISATION AND SEARCH FOR GLORY IN ZADIE SMITH'S *WHITE TEETH* AND *ON BEAUTY*

By

SHIMA SHOKRI

Thesis submitted to the school of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia, in fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts

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DEDICATION

To my beloved husband, my source of strength and aspiration, who has constantly

supported and encouraged me through this journey.

Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfilment of the Requirement for the Degree of Master of Arts

ANXIETY, SOCIALISATION, SELF-IDEALISATION AND SEARCH FOR GLORY IN ZADIE SMITH'S *WHITE TEETH* AND *ON BEAUTY*

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March 2015

Chair: Ida Baizura Binti Bahar, PhD

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Literary scholars of Zadie Smith's two novels, *White Teeth* (2000) and *On Beauty* (2005), have examined Millat and Levi, the two youngest male characters in the novels, based on their situations in post-colonial and multi-cultural societies by viewing them as representations of second generation immigrants. However, this thesis attempts to portray these selected characters as ordinary children who grow up in unfavourable conditions with their families and uncovers their problems as being rooted in their relationships with their fathers. For this purpose, I examine the personality development of the selected characters as a representation of neuroses within the conceptual frameworks outlined by Karen Horney's psychoanalytic social theory: basic anxiety, basic conflicts, the three movements and the search for glory. Through textual analysis, this study explores the root of the psychological anxiety in these two young male characters, Millat and Levi, in order to determine the role of socialisation in their behavioural and emotional responses as well as examines how the selected characters cope with their anxiety by the manifestation of their self-idealisations. The outcomes indicate that the root of their psychological anxieties can be traced to their familial relationships where Millat becomes aggressive while Levi is detached in trying to prove themselves. By relying on this defence mechanism, they create their idealised selves and lose their real selves. As a result, Millat becomes a killer and Levi becomes a thief. Application of Horney's conceptual framework on these novels helps to clarify that the selected characters' interpersonal and intrapsychic problems originated from the manner of their nurturing and are further affected by other deteriorating factors. Her psychoanalytic social theory also justifies that the difficulties faced by second generation immigrants are not entirely related to their hybridity, ethnicity, racism and displacement, amongst other factors. Therefore, future research could apply Horney's

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theory on literary works with multiculturalism, postcolonialism or immigration themes, in particular other Smith's literary works in contemporary English Literature.

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Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Master Sastera

KEBIMBANGAN, SOSIALISASI, KESEMPURNAAN DIRI DAN PENCARIAN KEGEMILANGAN DALAM NOVEL *WHITE TEETH* DAN *ON BEAUTY* KARYA ZADIE SMITH

Oleh

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Sarjana kesusasteraan bagi dua novel Zadie Smith, *White Teeth* (2000) dan *On Beauty* (2005), telah mengkaji Millat dan Levi, dua watak lelaki bongsu dalam novel tersebut, berdasarkan situasi mereka dalam masyarakat pascakolonial dan pelbagai budaya dengan melihat mereka sebagai representasi pendatang asing generasi kedua. Walau bagaimanapun, tesis ini cuba untuk memperlihatkan watak-watak yang terpilih ini sebagai kanak-kanak biasa yang membesar dalam keadaan yang tidak memuaskan dalam keluarga mereka dan mendedahkan masalah mereka seperti yang wujud dalam hubungan mereka dengan bapa mereka. Untuk tujuan ini, saya meneliti perkembangan personaliti watak yang terpilih sebagai representasi neurosis dalam kerangka konseptual yang digariskan oleh teori sosial psikoanalitik Karen Horney, iaitu kebimbangan asas, konflik asas, tiga pergerakan dan pencarian kesempurnaan. Melalui kaedah analisis teks, kajian ini menerokai punca kebimbangan psikologikal dalam kedua-dua watak lelaki muda, Millat dan Levi, untuk menentukan peranan sosialisasi dari segi respon tingkah laku dan emosi mereka serta mengkaji bagaimana watak-watak yang terpilih ini menangani kebimbangan mereka melalui pemanifestasian kesempurnaan diri mereka. Hasil kajian menunjukkan bahawa punca kebimbangan psikologi mereka boleh dikesan melalui hubungan kekeluargaan mereka, didapati watak Millat menjadi agresif manakala watak Levi menjadi terasing dalam usaha mereka untuk membuktikan diri mereka sendiri. Dengan bergantung pada mekanisme mempertahankan ini, mereka membina diri mereka sebagai sempurna dan ini menyebabkan mereka kehilangan diri mereka yang sebenar. Akibatnya, Millat menjadi pembunuh dan Levi menjadi pencuri. Penggunaan kerangka konseptual Horney dalam kedua-dua novel ini membantu pengkaji untuk menjelaskan bahawa masalah *interpersonal* dan *intrapsychic* kedua-dua watak yang terpilih disebabkan oleh cara

asuhan mereka dan seterusnya disebabkan oleh faktor-faktor buruk yang lain. Teori sosial psikoanalitik beliau juga memperlihatkan bahawa kesukaran yang dihadapi oleh pendatang asing generasi kedua tidak hanya semata-mata berkaitan dengan hibriditi mereka, faktor etnik, perkauman dan ketersingkiran juga merupakan antara faktor lain. Oleh sebab itu, kajian masa hadapan diharap dapat menerapkan teori Horney mengenai karya kesusasteraan dengan faktor kepelbagaian budaya, pascakolonisme atau tema imigrasi, khususnya karya kesusasteraan Smith yang lain dalam Kesusasteraan Inggeris kontemporari.

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I Certify that an Examination Committee has met on 09 March 2015 to conduct the final examination of Shima Shokri on her thesis entitled "Anxiety, Socialization, Self-Idealization And Search For Glory In Zadie Smith's White Teeth And On Beauty" in accordance with Universities and University College Act 1971 and Constitution of the Universiti Putra Malaysia [P.U. (A) 106] 15 March 1998. The Committee recommends that the student be awarded the Master of Arts.

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This is to confirm that:
- the research conducted and the writing of this thesis was under our supervision;
- supervision responsibilities as stated in the Universiti Putra Malaysia (Graduate Studies) Rules 2003 (Revision 2012-2013) are adhered to.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Study

The novel, as a literary genre, is a mirror of society, illustrating various aspects of life. Nowadays, we can read about most of the events that take place around us in novels and identify "real" people in most of the mimetic fictional characters in stories who represent the familiar people we meet in everyday life.In contrast to the characters in 19th century novels who were named according to their actions, such as Bounderby (a bounder), Skimpole, or Captain Cuttle in Charles Dickens' stories (Chatman 59), it would not be common to link the actions and traits of twenty-first century characters with the meanings of their names.

Novels commonly show the association of realism in fictional stories through the representation of complex characters enduring multifaceted experiences in a typical society(Abrams and Harpham 254). They describe their characters' situations in particular societies and environments as well as illustrate how they suffer or enjoy their lives, and how they succeed or fail in developing their personalities in order to have better lives.

Amongst the twentieth and twenty-first century novelists, authors, such as Julian Barnes (b. 1946), Hilary Mantel (b. 1952), David Mitchell (b. 1969), and Zadie Smith (b. 1975), have written about people who live in the modern era and portray their characters as people who suffer in their private lives. In particular, Zadie Smith's works are probably inspired by the people who lived around her and provided her with sufficient stimulation to write (Wachtel n.pag.).

In this study, I analyse two characters in two novels by Smith, Millat in *White Teeth* (2000) and Levi in *On Beauty* (2005). The stories *White Teeth* and *On Beauty* are about the characters' conflicts in their society and their inner feelings, as well as their psyches. Furthermore, these novels are about families who have interactional problems with their children. The children in these families suffer from lack of good communication with their parents as they cannot understand their children and do not respond accordingly to their problems. Therefore, they face anxiety in their childhood, which then cause them difficulties and conflicts in their inner psyche and, later on, in their relationships with society. Smith portrays her characters in a way that reveals their problems in their environment, relationships and psyches. As the stories progress, the

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characters have to overcome the complexities and uncertainties they face in their societies and in their own families.

In this study, I analyse the two selected characters by applying Karen Horney's psychoanalytic social theory. I examine them as individuals who have psychological problems with their families and the societies they live in. The focus of this study is on the characters' inner conflicts and anxieties which are related to their internal relationships with their families. I use the psychoanalytic social theory to examine only these characters, whose feelings, behaviours, thoughts and reactions are depicted through their personalities. Bernard J. Paris, in his book, *Imagine Human Beings: A Psychological Approach to Character and Conflict in Literature* (1997), states that it is possible to "try to understand the behaviour of realistically drawn characters in the same way we understand the behaviour of real people" ("Characters and Relationships" xi). Therefore, I hypothesise that Smith depicts her characters with certain characteristics to demonstrate the processes and situations that can cause a person living in a disharmonic atmosphere become neurotic.

1.2. Statement of the Problem

I hypothesise that the two youngest male characters in the two selected novels suffer from inner conflicts in their psyches as well as in their relationships with their families, which eventually lead them to exhibit some specific reactions and behaviours that can only be described as unreasonable. As a result, in order to reveal the anxieties and conflicts of Smith's two youngest male characters in the selected novels, it is necessary to analyse how each character is portrayed in the stories through their actions, thoughts and feelings

Previous studies on *White Teeth* have discussed the effects of living in a multicultural society. For instance, Vickers (2009), Tanck (2011) as well as Isik and Selen (2012) have examined the characters in post-colonial contexts using post-colonial and cultural theories. Previous studies on *White Teeth* have also focused on the theme of "identity" in multi-cultural societies. For example, Vickers (2009), in a comparative study on Sam Selvon's *The Lonely Londoners* (1965), Hanif Kureshi's *The Buddha of Suburbia* (1990), and Zadie Smith's *White Teeth,* suggests that, in multi-cultural societies, people try to re-negotiate their identities. Hence Millat, in *White Teeth*, as a second generation member of an immigrant family, attempts to find a way to express his identity as a British, a pursuit which his father has not been successful in. As a result, Vickers states that the influence of the generation gap on the re-negotiation of an identity among colonial immigrants is the implicit focus of this story. In another study, Işık and Selen (2012) describe Millat as being in a dilemma when they explore the "third place" and "hybridity" concepts by analysing the characters. As *White Teeth* is about an immigrant family who moves from Bangladesh to England, Tanck (2011) discusses also the effects of the traumatic experiences of migration on the migrants' identities and

explores the complex and interwoven relationships among multi-cultural families in London. He examines the concept of trauma in *White Teeth* and discovers that Millat's alienation is the result of the ethnic differences which give him a sense of rootlessness.

However, previous studies of *On Beauty* have concentrated on the themes of beauty and aesthetics. For example, Anna Grmelova (2012) and Kaoru Urano (2012) have compared Smith's *On Beauty* (2005) with *Howard's End* (1910) by E. M. Forster (1979-1970). Grmelova studies Smith's characterisation through Forster's idea in *Howard's End* and posits the view that Forster's characters are blind to beauty and are thus unable to make a connection with others. Hence, she indicates that Smith's character in *On Beauty*, Howard Belsey, is also unable to see the beauty of life and art which lead him to become alienated from himself, his children, and even his work. Grmelova also examines Levi, another Smith's character in *On Beauty*, by applying Forster's notion of music in Smith's characterisation. She proposes that Smith includes the hip-hop music, a modern popular musical genre, to show Levi's attempt to bring back his "black identity" and identify himself with Haitian immigrants (Grmelová 80).

On the other hand, Urano also studies Howard's characterisation through Forster's notion of beauty in *Howard's End.* According to Urano, Smith, in *On Beauty*, shows how the inability to appreciate the beauty leads the characters to be incapable of cultivating morality. Through concentrating on depicting the house in this novel, she states that the middle-class house, which is full of beauty, is ignored by its residence, particularly Howard. Its unopened luxury windows illustrate Howard's blindness towards beauty and sympathy. Additionally, the paintings on the walls indicate that, in Howard's beliefs, there is no connection between art and life as his interpretation of the painting is far-flung from his wife's. Hence, it shows again his blindness to his wife's situation, loneliness, and beauty. This inability to see the reality of his life makes him to be unfaithful to his family and particularly to his wife.

Besides the aforementioned studies, Meeuwisse (2011) also has discussed the characters' conflicts in both novels by concentrating on the issue of multiculturalism. He suggests that the rebellious behaviours of the younger generation, Millat in *White Teeth* and Levi *On Beauty,* toward their older generation, Samad in *White Teeth* and Howard in *On Beauty*, are because of their differences in the environment, characteristics and opinions.

Scholars, who studied the characters from their positions as immigrants, have mainly deliberated on their hybridity and identities to be the main problems of their personalities and characterisations. During the course of my research, I have discovered that limited research on the other perspectives of the characters in the two selected novels have been conducted so far. This is despite the fact that the problems of the characters are believed to be rooted in their search for glory - a "comprehensive drive", according to Horney, to actualise their self-idealisation (*Neurosis and Human Growth 24)* - and in the dominating psychological strategies they choose to take. I will

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elaborate on neurotic psychological strategies and the search for glory briefly in the conceptual framework section and discussfurther in Chapter Two. With this in view, I apply the psychoanalytic social theory by Horney because these important aspects of both novels have been overlooked so far.

1.3. Research Methodology

The methodology for this study is by textual analysis of the novels and the two selected characters are the focus of my study in order to examine their behaviours and actions in their interactions with other people and environments. In addition, Guerin's belief in applying the psychological approach as a type of literary criticism to have a better literary interpretation allows us to apply some techniques of the psychoanalysis practice. As psychoanalysis is a kind of therapy in order to treat people's mental disorders, it can also be used to analyse the behaviour of the characters that are presented in a story since an individual's traits are, in fact, the echo of the inner personal conditions. As a result, I have decided to employ Horney's psychoanalytic social theory, also known as Horneyan psychoanalytic theory, theory of neurosis or mature theory, as a kind of psychological approach to analyse the characters' anxiety and personal developments. I have used, as my primary data and sources of reference, all books and articles written by Horney including *"Our Inner Conflicts*" (1945) and, particularly, "*Neurosis and Human Growth"* (1950).

1.4. Justification of Text Selection

Zadie Smith (b. 1975) is a British novelist who wrote her first novel, at the age of twenty-four, after her graduation from Cambridge University. Her first and third novels, *White Teeth* (2000) and *On Beauty (2005)*, have been studied by, for example, Stephen Moss, James Wood, and Stephanie Merritt, regarding issues of immigration and migrants' difficulties as well as living in multicultural societies. Most scholars have been interested in studying her novels based on the themes of multiculturalism, race, hybridity and cultural identity. However, the characters and their personality developments in both novels have been overlooked in scholarship on the texts.According to Chatman (1993), the characters in these novels are as important as the plots and themes where he states that, in modern novels, plot actions need animate agents that can be human or animal, or inanimate agents like forest fires or tropical storms. Among these types of agents, characters are the most important ones and their personalities can be determined from their actions and traits. As a result, Chatman identifies the psychological importance of the characters through the concept of traits (58).

Smith wrote the two selected novels, *White Teeth* (2000) and *On Beauty* (2005) in the same pattern - both of them introduce familial relationships and their interactional problems to their readers. Moreover, these two novels contain different types of

characters. For this study, I aim to analyse complex characters who, according to Forster, "cannot be summed up in a single phrase […] because they have facets like human being[s]"(74, 81). Therefore, in order to examine, explore and discover the characters' motivations, thoughts and reactions towards other people and situations, I have identified two characters - one from each novel, Millat in *White Teeth* and Levi in *On Beauty* - who have been portrayed as complex and mimetic characters, according to Scholes and Kellogg (2006).

In line with the ideas of Paris, who believes that it is possible to "try to understand the behaviour of realistically drawn characters in the same way we understand the behaviour of real people" ("Characters and Relationships" xi), I will explore the interpersonal and intrapsychic strategies of the characters' defence to discover how they cope with their difficulties psychologically by using Horney's psychoanalytic social theory.

1.5. Conceptual Framework

The Psychoanalytic Social Theory by Karen Horney

In this section, I shall introduce the conceptual framework of my study, which is the psychoanalytic social theory by Karen Horney. This theory describes how people develop the 'interpersonal' and 'intrapsychic' methods of defence in order to cope with their unsatisfied psychological needs (Paris 18). Therefore, for this study, I use the following concepts as my framework in order to examine, explore and discover the characters' motivations and thoughts.

1.5.1. Basic Anxiety

Basic anxiety occurs when someone who does not have "favourable conditions for growth" develops "profound insecurity and vague apprehensiveness" and thus feels "isolated and helpless in a world conceived as potentially hostile" (Horney *Neurosis and Human Growth* 18). Horney believes that the root of basic anxiety can be found in childhood whilst it can also be seen in adulthood, which underlines all relationships of a person (*Our Inner Conflict* 47).

Horney also states that neurosis is a result of basic anxiety caused by "interpersonal relationships" (Cherry n.pag.). She lists a variety of things that can cause basic anxiety in people, such as:

> […] direct or indirect domination, indifference, erratic behaviour, lack of respect for the child's individual needs, lack of real guidance, disparaging attitudes, too much admiration or the absence of it, lack of reliable warmth, having to take sides in parental disagreements, too much or too little

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responsibility, over-protection, isolation from other children, injustice, discrimination, unkept promises, hostile atmosphere, […] (Our Inner Conflict 15).

There are a few neurotic needs that Horney outlines in her book, *Self-Analysis*. However, for the purpose of this study, I will discuss only the following:

- The neurotic need for affection and approval
- The neurotic need for power
- The neurotic need to exploit others
- The neurotic need for prestige
- The neurotic need for personal admiration
- The neurotic need for personal achievement
- The neurotic need for self-sufficiency and independence

1.5.2. The Three Movements of Neurotics

Horney believes that, in order to relieve basic anxiety, people tend to hold deep feelings of helplessness and isolation in a hostile world. Therefore, she describes the following three movements as the employed neurotic trends to resolve basic anxiety.

1. Moving toward others
2. Moving against others
3. Moving away from others

All these three movements help to relieve people of their basic anxiety. There is the choice of using this solution in a healthy way; to fight or to withdraw when it is necessary. However, if it is used in an unhealthy way in all relationships, then it is not used consciously. Horney also believes that an unhealthy person is directed by their neurosis and not by their own behaviour. In some situations, fighting or withdrawing, instead of accepting a condition, can be a dangerous response.

For the purpose of this study, and based on the two selected characters, Millat in *White Teeth* and Levi in *On Beauty,* the twofollowing movements are more applicable to the current study in order to analyse the selected characters in Smith's novels. Moreover, according to Horney (Our Inner Conflicts 59) the characteristics of the other movement - moving toward others - are more related to female characters whilst, for this study, the youngest male characters' personalities are examined based on the following:
1. Moving against others
2. Moving away from others

1.5.3. Idealized Self and the Search for Glory

Horney states that "living within a competitive society, and feeling at bottom—as he does—isolated and hostile, [the neurotic] can only develop an urgent need to lift

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himself above others" (*Neurosis and Human Growth* 21). Using one of the three movements in order to deal with people calms the feelings and thoughts and provides actual safety. Nevertheless, with the over-use of this strategy, the "real self" will degenerate and be lost, as Horney states, "gradually and unconsciously, the imagination sets to work and creates in his mind an idealised image of himself" (*Neurosis and Human Growth* 22). This 'self-idealisation' is described as "the comprehensive neurotic solution" (*Neurosis and Human Growth* 23) that results in the instant removal of the basic anxiety because a new sense of 'self' is created. Eventually, it will take over the place of the real self as the idealised, or desirable, self-functions according to the expected values and anticipations of the external competitive culture.

In an unhealthy environment, the neurotic individual attempts to develop a sense of self-realisation. He or she creates a sense of identity which is not his or her real self and this idealised self-image will be from among these three forms:
- The neurotic need for glory
- The need for perfection or "tyranny of the should"
2. Neurotic claims
- Sense of entitlement
- Idealised view of themselves
3. Neurotic pride
- False pride based on the unauthentic image of the idealized self

The concepts which I have explained in this section are the fundamental elements in Horney's theory that must be applied on the characters so as to study their personalities' development and psychological strategies. In order to have a better understanding of these elements, I will clearly define all of them in the Literature Review chapter, under the section titled Horney's Psychoanalytic Social Theory.

1.6. Research Objectives

The objectives of this study are as follows:
1. To explore the roots of the psychological anxieties displayed by the two selected characters.
2. To discover the effects of socialisation on the emotional and behavioural responses of the selected characters.
3. To examine Smith's portrayal of the selected characters which leads to the creation of self-idealisation and the search for glory?

1.7. Research Questions

Below are the research questions:

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1. Do the selected characters exhibit basic anxiety that could be described as neuroticism?
2. How does socialisation affect the characters' reactions towards religion, for Millat in *White Teeth* and race for Levi in *On Beauty*?
3. What type of "tyranny of self-idealisation" do the characters need as their psychological coping mechanism?

1.8. Significance of the Study

Since the novel is a literary genre which mirrors society, it will be useful then to examine, explore and discover the portrayals of characters as real human beings who mirror most people's behaviours in the real world in the selected works. Therefore, as the psyche of a person can be analysed through his or her actions and behaviours, the psyche of the characters in this study can also be analysed from their behavioural responses in the textual world.

The outcomes of this study are expected to be of both theoretical and practical values. For theoretical contributions, this study could serve as a reference for future analysis of related literary works. Also, I applied a twentieth-century theory as my research tool on a twenty-first century novel, which may demonstrate that this theory can be used to analyse contemporary characters that search for glory in order to be outstanding. As for practical usage, this study could complement the existing methods of analysing post-colonial novels albeit from a different angle and demonstrate an approach of studying characters that is impartial to hybridity and multi-cultural premises.

The literature review on the two selected novels in this study will rationalise that these novels have been studied from several points of view, such as post-colonialism and multiculturalism, trauma, aesthetic, hybridity and diaspora. However, the characters in Smith's novels, as modern characters in the twenty-first century, are believed to be searching for glory. Although the characters suffer from psychological conflicts in their daily lives, scholars who have analysed them within the post-colonial context have identified their problems as due to migration and living in a multi-cultural society. The significance of this study will thus be to illustrate the possibility of examining Smith's novels from scrutinizing her depictions of neurotic characters' actions and behaviours on their quests for glory, reasoning their improper and unsuitable choices and decisions, and probing their failures in their lives. In addition, this study could contribute to future researchon portrayals of immigrants in non-post-colonial conditions in helping to discover the causes of their successes and failures.

1.9. Limitations of the Study

This study could not examine all characters and all works by Smith since her novels are relatively long. Subsequently, to accomplish other objectives of the study, including character analysis, requires more time and lengthy discussion than is permissible for this level of research. Therefore, my study is limited to analysing only the two youngest male characters and their fathers.

Pertaining to theoretical limitations, it is difficult to extract any further resolutions of the characters since the selected novels do not have explicit endings. Hence, the characters could not be fully weighed against other concepts of Horney's theory. As a result, I have chosen only the relevant concepts of the theory which are related to these novels through which the selected characters can be analysed.

1.10. Definitions of Terms

Interpersonal Strategies:

They are defence strategies that, according to Horney, an individual adopt in order to cope with his anxiety. He chooses to move toward, against, or away from the others which results in him becoming compliant, aggressive, or detached. Each has a distinctive behavioural characteristic that combines with his opinions toward human nature, values and conditions.

Intrapsychic Strategies:

Appearance of an idealised image of the individual that is a consequence of his interpersonal strategies. So, he begins his search for glory and actualise his idealised self.

Neurotic:

An individual who is neurotic does not live under favourable conditions. He is unable to understand his potentialities, feelings and desires. He can only experience the feeling of fear and anger clearly and consciously. So he becomes alienated from his real self.

Basic Anxiety:

Basic anxiety is a child's feelings of isolation and helplessness. It stems from several factors that cause the feeling of insecurity in a child. These factors, as Horney listed,

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are direct or indirect domination, indifference, erratic behaviour, lack of respect for the child's individual needs, lack of real guidance, disparaging attitudes, too much admiration or the absence of it, lack of reliable warmth, having to take sides in parental disagreements, too much or too little responsibility, over protection, isolation from other children, injustice, discrimination, unkept promises and hostile atmosphere.

Neurotic Needs:

The individual has basic needs which can help him to understand his true nature, conditions and values. When these healthy needs remain unfulfilled, they turn into neurotic needs that lead the individual to become alienated from his real self. Therefore, he develops these neurotic needs, such as the craving for affection, power, exploitation, personal achievements and independence, which are not healthy and essential for human beings, as part of his defence mechanism.

Aggressive person:

He moves against the others and does not believe in any feelings from the others toward himself. He looks for being stronger and having power. He needs to have power, prestige and success. He attempts to be a good fighter.

Detached person:

He moves away from the others and keep himself away from any fights. He cannot find anything in common with the others and believes that they cannot understand him. He has his own world. He has a need to keep emotional relationship away. He also has a need for self-sufficiency.

Search for Glory:

It springs from the need for superiority, being above others and actualising the idealised self. There are two general characteristics in the search for glory:
Compulsive nature: the neurotic "must" become successful in any argument without perceiving the right or wrong side of it.
Imaginative character: a criterion which Horney describes as "indiscriminateness". Imagination plays a great role in the search for glory by developing the process of self-idealisation.

Idealised self or self- idealisation:

The neurotic unconsciously makes an idealised image in his mind through his imagination where he can become a hero, saint, genius or leader. In other words, he idealises himself based on his interests. Self-idealisation would give him the sense of being superior. So the individual identifies himself through his idealised image that gradually becomes his idealised self. Eventually, his idealised self-replaces his real self because it seems more realistic to him.

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