

A study on Feminism and Psychoanalytical theory on John Steinbeck's Flight

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Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to describe about a mother who is a widow and a boy in the short story "Flight" by John Steinbeck. Here he is speaking about Torres family. How the women facing struggles to take care of her three children. "Behind every successful women is herself". The importance of women in any society she is a mother or a sister or a daughter or a hard worker. Here the women as a mother and also a hard worker. And also it shows how the mother lost her eldest son because of her wish. She wants her son to become a man because of this reason she lost her son. The boy died as soon as he becomes a man because of this the mother become disappointed. "In psycho-analysis nothing is true except the exaggerations". Pepe, the boy who is very lazy and he is not accepted by the society as a mature person and it is the reason for his death. Society is the main reason for his depression.

Keywords: Torres family, struggles, hard worker, wish, mature person, and depression.

Feminism is a range of political movement, ideologies and social movements, which define establish and achieve political, economic, personal and social equality of sexes. This includes education and professional opportunities for women. Feminist theory is the extension of feminism into theoretical or philosophical field. In the field of literary criticism Elaine show alter describes the development of feminist theory as having three phases.

First she calls 'feminist criticism'

Second she calls 'gynocriticism'

Third she calls 'gender theory'

Here second she class gynocriticism, in which women is 'producer of textual meaning'. Likewise in this short story flight the mother mama Torres who is a widow and a poor man. 'If you want something said, ask a man. If you want something done, ask a woman'.

Flight opens at an unspecified time probable in the 1930s on the Torres farm on the California coast, fifteen miles south of Monterey, this story takes place is one of the locales common in Steinbeck's stories the west coast of California. The mother, mama who plays important role in this short story. The Torres farm is alone from the village it is not central of coast, rather it located 15 miles south of Monterey." *Mama Torres, a lean, dry women with ancient eyes, had ruled*

the farm for ten years, ever since her husband tripped over a stone in the field one day and fell full length on a rattlesnake". Mama Torres who plays the role of mother is this story. Who is taking care of her three children? To take care of her three children, she faced many struggles and suffering. After the death of her Torres family. She worked in her own Torres farm and a hard worker. Without anyone's help she take care of her three children. After the death of her husband she has worked in the field for 10 year. Name of her children's are pepe, Emilio, Rosy. Pepe the eldest son of mama. Compare with other two children pepe is very lazy and he always quite himself. Other two children Emilio and Rosy are used to help Mama in the farm. Mama had wish on her son Pepe, who is a boy in a young man's body, because of his laziness mama become depression on it. When her son become a man, she was very happy but the happy was not live for long days. Soon after pepe moved from his family. Then he died. Here the woman, Mama who had a wish to see his son as a man even though the wish fulfilled but she cannot reach it fully.

"It is almost always the case that whatever has wounded you will also be instrumental in your healing".

Psychoanalysis is a set of theories and therapeutic techniques related to the study of the unconscious mind, which together form a method of treatment for mental health disorder. "Mama nodded. Yes, thou art a man, my poor little pepe, Thou art a man I have seen it coming on thee. I have watched you throwing the knife into the post, and I have been afraid for a moment her face had softened but now it grew stern again".

Pepe the protagonist of this story, who is depressed by the society. He is not accepted by the society as a man. It was the main reason for his depression, laziness, and his unhappy life. Because of this depression he always numb himself and he used to play with the knife, it While he is moving to the town his mother gave him a green silk handkerchief and round black hat. These were his father's. When he reached the town, he visited the bar, there he fought with a man and he killed the man. It just because of his immaturity. This story has three settings,

The Torres ranch

Monterey California

The Mountains

But, in these three place Pepe doesn't found any comfort. A few people came into the kitchen of Mrs. Rodriguez. There was wine to drink. Pepe drunk wine. The little quarrel the man started toward pepe and the knife it went almost by itself. Because in Monterey he is considered just a boy not a man. When he insulted by the society, then only he feels that which is needed and he took revenge on the society and unfortunately he kills a man. Second setting, in his family, his mother thinks that he is lazy and shiftless. His mother thought that pepe want to be considered the

man of his family, but, he yet to do anything to prove himself, he cannot do anything to help the family. In third setting is he, survive alone to safe himself in the mountain itself. So he flies to mountain. When he was moving to mountain, his mother gave him, his father's hat and rifle in order to survive him alone. He settled in mountain.

Steinbeck clearly say that pepe's notion of 'being a man' he believing that, when he kills a man that he is men. It shows that what is adult or what he graps here. Here Steinbeck suggesting that the culture of violence, which helps pepe to kill a man. Pepe's internal conflict is to be a man. When he said to his mother, he is a man, his mother dismisses it and she calls him like 'peanut' and a 'little chicken'. His first trip to Monterey where, he drinks a lot and he kills a man with his knife which called as a toy' when he running from the law, he loses everything, like his hat, knife, horse, rifle and his life." *Pepe stepped over to the corner where his brother and sister slept among the sheepskins. He leaned down and shook them gently*". His external conflict on the story is, Pepe's pursuers. When the hunters came to hunt him even he is not match to hunt. Because when he went hide himself he leaves everything one by one, through the way. so it helps the hunters to catch him when he moves into one place to one he leaves one, one things there itself. By the first shoot itself his horse and he died.

Conclusion

The character of mama, who is a flat character and here she is a hard worker, without anyone's help she brought her children in a stand. In shows the courage of the women. The character of Peep, who affected by the society very much. Instead of giving him solution for his problem they started to heat him. They doesn't accept him as a man. The people like Pepe are need more guidance, we can council them through this they can get some clear idea on their problems. Here, Pepe if he share his problems to anyone, he might escape from the problem but he doesn't share anyone. And also, in her family no one care about, they just leave him, as his wish. Even his mother also doesn't take any effort on his problem.

Reference

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