

The psychological perception of the glass menagerie from author's perspective: Critical perception and view

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Abstract - The ambiguities and interpretations, and *perceptions* of a content-based work *psychologically* and *critically* can be occurred for clarifying of the cognition, insight, and vision of the individual learners in their own learning especially in language learning. These conditions are usually viewed in real novels affecting the learning process in term of *psychological* understanding of the conceptual meanings of the text interpretation. The present review paper is based on the assimilation of the main author and the researcher' perspective and *perception* of a real story. Thus, the creative approaches in language teaching can attract particular attention to the realistic perception of a text. As a result, the aim of the present study is to criticize and assimilates the place of characters of the book based on 'relevance-theory' to foster learner's *perception*, self-absorption, self-abnegation in a *content-based* study. This study is an exclusive one which is likely to personalize and animate the elements of the book.

Keywords: critical view, content-based, perception, personality, psychological

1. Introduction

The story of *The Glass Menagerie* is concerned the Wingfield family of four. A couple with two children, one daughter and one boy. Louis, father of family, quit his wife with children. And Amanda Wingfield with her children lived in a shabby St. Louis apartment. Amanda always was worry that her son Tom abandon them like her husband had done. She had to spend her entire time with her son and daughter. Laura was Tom's younger sister who was suffered from one of her limp legs. Laura was disable. She suffered from nervous stress. This defect had conquered her soul so much that it had taken all her courage and boldness and she felt Inferiority. The physical defects at her feet made her not even participate in typing classes for fear of sabotage.

Tom worked at the warehouse. He got into a job he didn't like. He loved poesy and writing and wrote about his dreams and what he liked. Because Tom had a poetic nature, his friends nicknamed him Shakespeare. He sometimes engaged in a small discussion with his mother about his food or spent most of his time in cinema. And Laura had disconnected with the outside world and was often at home. Sometimes she went out to buy bread. Laura was a shy girl and not comfortable with strangers. Amanda was delighted with her youth memories and told her children how she had responded positively to her father's marriage proposal with having gentlemen callers over and over again. Amanda's life was with both reality and fantasy. She faced many hardships to support her children.

They had life monotonous and without excitement life so that each of them had been bound by their own thoughts. They had a closed mind and did not like to think about the realities. They fled from the real world to their dark, fantasy world. The mother and her two children each live in their own illusions and emotions. The mother did nothing except to tell of her successful past, and the boy had no other idea except to think of poetry and seeing in the movie, theater and disregarding his original work (shoemaking). Now sixteen years has passed and Wingfield family tried to rid itself of isolation and frustration.

Laura had a fragile spirit and liked the little glass animals. She had the collection of the figurines composed of delicate glass which were shaped like animals. All those glass animals had a name. There is a particular affinity between Laura and the unicorn. Amanda encouraged her to practice typing. She had an old phonograph records which heard them a lot. One day, Amanda went to Laura's school and find out she has dropped out several months earlier. Because she skipped class and spent her days walking along the streets, going to the zoo, or watching movies. Amanda thought what has happened to them and her daughter spent all her time with her glass animals and talks to them. She also thought that the future of her children is ruining. Amanda thought that love in Laura's life can help her. There was always talk of this young man at home. Even if was not talk about him, his thought was on my mother's distressed face and my sister's scared eyes and innocent behavior. Laura hopes for life. Therefore, Amanda decided to find a gentleman caller for Laura. Then, she asked Tom to invite his friend, Jim O'Connor, for dinner. Because Laura has told her that she has liked only a high school boy named Jim. Laura noted that when she went school, he was engaged, and she said that he must be married by now. Amanda always declared that Laura will marry to someone ideal.

Jim O'Connor was Tom's friend who he worked with at the warehouse. Amanda knew Jim is dream and saving angel of her daughter. Jim is invited to dinner

by Tom and Laura loved him since high school; she was always admired him and Jim also remembered Laura fondly. Amanda told Laura about her gentlemen callers and Laura had never had any callers. Amanda was very attentive to Laura's dress to look good. Laura told her mother that she cannot come for dinner if it is the same Jim. But her mother asked her to stay beside them. Amanda relieved Laura's panic and began preparing salad fish for dinner in the kitchen. Tom warned Amanda that Jim does not know that he has been specifically invited to meet Laura and this just a simple invitation. The news was not important to Amanda, who was sure Laura will stun Jim. Tom asks her not to expect too much from Laura. He reminded Amanda that Laura is paralysis and lives in a fantasy world.

When the doorbell rings, Amanda insisted Laura open the door, she awkwardly greeted Jim. Tom explained to Jim that she is extremely shy. At dinner, Laura was physically sick and had to leave the dinner table with an apology. Amanda told her to rest on the sofa. Amanda, Jim, and Tom sit and Amanda looked at Jim anxiously. After dinner, Amanda sent the gentleman caller into the living room to keep Laura company while she and Tom were in the kitchen. Suddenly, electricity went out and Amanda lights the candle and asked Jim to checked the fuses, but he certainly didn't find any problems. Amanda then asked Tom if he has paid the electricity bill. He confessed that he didn't. Laura seemed a little more comfortable and talked to him. She reminds him that they knew each other in high school. He had forgotten, but when she mentioned the nickname he gave her, Blue Roses, he remembered. Laura told Jim about her glass collection. Jim encouraged him to socialize with people and her defect are no reason to hide herself. He showed no surprise that Laura talks to her glass animals and fantasize, unlike he considers it an interesting thing. Jim noticed the music coming from the dance hall across the alley. He led her to Walt Cluffy around the room and Jim unintentionally broke the unicorn because he bumped into the table where the unicorn is resting on and the unicorn fell and its horn broke off. He thought Laura must have been very upset, but Laura said I can imagine it has been fine. This shows that Laura using her imaginary life can easily overlook the reality and reject its consequences that come with it. She liked to design and imagine whatever she wants in her mind. Jim told her that she is different from anyone else he knows, that she is pretty and taught her to have self-confidence. Jim was attracted by Laura's simplicity, gentleness, and beauty and kissed her. Jim immediately apologized for the kiss and said he is already engaged. Laura is shattered when hear that. Her dream was destroyed. Jim had to explain Amanda that he is engaged and must go. Amanda was very upset for her daughter and accused Jim in fury. Amanda's wishes for finding a husband for Laura was smashed. Amanda told Tom that it has been a deliberate trick on them.

Tom left to discover his own dreams but he could not get too far from the past. His mental problems were a constant and painful. Some years later, he thought back on his sister whom he can never forget. Amanda's concerned with what her son read and where he went at night and all of them stemmed from the possibility that he leaves them like his father who loved long distances. Whenever Tom strayed, Amanda was in doubt. This story was the conflicts that engage Wingfield family. Full of frustration with his job, life, reality, etc. Ambiguity of characters and pain of unsympathetic had created difficult conditions. The night that Tom was out late and drunk and was in illusion did not miss Amanda's eyes and she did not talk to him until he apologized. His father was a heavy drinker as well. She questioned Tom again over again about where he goes at night. Laura's love and concern for Tom was enough to make her wake up at 5am to

see if he is at home. Tom disliked his job because the warehouse did not help him to be the things he wanted. Amanda constantly talked to him about her worries over Laura's future. Amanda's attempt to enroll Laura in business college and Young People's League meetings at church did not help her to speak to people and she spent all her time with old records and her glass menagerie. Amanda and Tom are constantly discussed about their family responsibilities, but Laura never participated in such discussions. Amanda had told Tom that she cannot leave them until Laura is dependent on him. Amanda did her best to make her children happy. Amanda was selfish because she was ashamed of Tom's behavior and didn't accept Laura's flaws.

Tom told Jim he has bored with the movies and wants to move. He has taken the money intended to pay for that month's electric bill and used it for joining the Union of Merchant Seamen. That party night, when he found out Jim had a fiancé, his mother blamed him for why you didn't know about your co-worker. And she said Because you are a selfish dreamer. Tom intended to go, his mother said where are you going? Tom told to the movie and his mother said our life is not important for you, Tom told I don't go to the cinema. Amanda said Then go to the moon. Tom followed in his father's footsteps. He was engaged in his imagination and tensions that heard Laura's voice. He turned around and looked into his sister's eyes, Laura, and said that I am more faithful than I intended to leave you. Tom was a frustrated boy who was responsible for the costs of the house alone. Tom like his father leaved the house and surrendered himself to the ups and downs of the endless road.

In the glass menagerie, no one sees, it as if all of them were living in their dream. Seeing reality was equal to the moment of ruin of their inner world. In vacuum cannot be lived. This story goes on based on Tom's memories. The author, Tennessee Williams (1944), has gotten loan Tom's personality from himself. Tom got tired of working in the shoe factory and wanted to become a poet, he escaped the reality by going to the cinema and local clubs. To reduce the tension between her and her mother, he went to the cinema and stayed there until late. On the one hand he felt responsible for his duties in the family and on the other he thought of escaping forever. It indicated that people in the lower classes of America are still suffering from the great global economic downturn of that era and its impact on their lives is still tangible. Amanda with her constant domination, turned her children into speechless and isolated humans. Amanda by closing her eyes on her children and not paying attention to the personality of her children, had made the family atmosphere so that his son run away. Eventually, her son left the family just like her husband.

In this life there is an undeniable kind of realism. This story is narrated in the mental space of the imagination, and may be why it is full of symbolism, realism and music, because they are all elements of the imaginary world.

Laura's glass animals are alive and have feel from her view. She compensates her defect which has left loneliness, isolation, and embarrassment for her by collecting and maintaining a collection of glass animals. She took refuge in his glass sculptures, imagining them and filling loneliness with them. Jim encouraged Laura to perform new activities and work on mental/behavioral attitudes, but Laura remained in her imaginative goals and sense of inferiority.

Tennessee Williams (1944)'s tragic story, *The Glass Menagerie* deals with social/economic problems of the community at that time and extreme habits and dependencies such as poverty, disability, inferiority, bildungsroman, daydreaming, daydreaming, introversion, fragility, obsession, and mental problems.

2. The depicting the characters of the book

To depict the real characters were utilized the supernatural and dramatic elements such as glass statues, unicorn and imaginary gentleman caller. The repressive nature of the head of the family was something that could come back to America's social upheavals at the time. Therefore, there was a move towards a realistic tradition. The wounds and emotions of this story are based on reality and the narrator of the story is the author of the story (Williams), who has experienced such life with the same conditions.

At the beginning of the story, there was no trace of hope and everything that they liked became the main dimension of their lives. In the end, hidden violence and the continued maintenance of family interests became a serious problem. Avoiding deficiencies was the only solution that came to mind. How can someone who calms himself down with thoughts be realistic? Thus, disappointment manifests itself in a particular way in the lives of family children.

The family girl does not interfere in the conflict between mother and son, indicating that she is in a *critical* situation that needs to release the rest and take refuge on your own to the rest and take refuge on her own loneliness. These problems are most commonly seen at the lower middle class. The family boy's relationship with the outside of the house was such that he did not even know his close friend or colleague well. A father who loved distances and left the family when her children were young thus annihilated a sense of self-confidence from her children.

The reason Laura was collecting the glass statues that these statues were animals was because she hated the world of humans. She listened to their silence and talked to them about what she liked. Theoretical and philosophical, or ignorance of sociological, *psychological*, *critical*, or anthropological views to this story can represent a halo of uncertainties.

The transformation in the context of the *Glass Menagerie* by Neda Hengami (2017), director, was called formalism and she interpreted the multiplicity of human beings and the presence of Tom and his childhood as magical realism, while at the same time was loyal to psychology. According to Neda Hamegani's *critical view*, unfortunately, most of our directors are unaware of that is rooted in social originalities and non-Iranian in nature as well as suffer from a chronic alienation that, instead of helping the community to create new ideas for progress, they themselves become defect and difficulty in order to pass through. The flow stems from the need of the Iranian community, and its absence will make us all anxious, and theater is the best tool to strive for enlightenment.

Criticism of a story, a literal work, or various genres and text types have often been a challenging work due to linguistic differences or cultural issues. 'Relevance theory' has capability to identify and extract the precise concepts of the text. Relevance theory' has been proposed by Sperber and Wilson (1995) for the understanding and interpretation of utterances, and it is a cognitive-pragmatic approach. It is with the suppositions which make a presumption of relevance is conveyed by its own optimal relevance. It contains both the informative intention and the communicative intention in both explicit and implicit levels; this comprehension theory efforts to compute the impact of cognitive and linguistic subsets (Grice, 1989: 359-368).

3. Results and Discussion

3.1 The psychological insight of the story based on 'relevance theory'

The Menagerie glass, as different concepts and *perceptions* on sociological, *psychological* and philosophical levels can imply the incompatibility of exploitation along with the hatred of the human world that war and the acceleration of technology have diminished its value. Laura liked horned horses more than any other animal, but she gave it to Jim. Laura thought the animals need her as she tried to make up for the vacuum and meet their needs. Amanda sometimes remembers her youth and tries to keep them fresh. Laura was aware of the external realities of Tom and Amanda.

There are different and unusual interpretations of American society gradually gained during World War I, such as the unicorn's broken horn; it is apparently cruel that Jim knows the solution. In fact, Laura's *critical view* and position, as well as resemblance to others is a way to connect her with society. Through character design, Williams (1944) can arouse the anger and sympathy of the audience.

Extremely simple situations that are all more or less parallel to one another at the same condition, where we are exposed to the tension between family members, which throughout the narrative is the only difference in the shell and form of this lack, but the aspects of the behavioral unit are found within each of their characters and interactions, the most important of which is non-extension, as in all contexts of the is appropriately seen realism. Such situations lead to a particular semantic network that, at the outermost layer, creates a uniform and faithful atmosphere of instrumentalism, which regardless of the different aspects and trends like the bold role of women's *psychology*, it seems to aim to emphasize the lost emotions and values of a society where the place of human relations as an important whole no longer holds the importance of the past; Because the heavy shadow of World War I on the one hand, and the commercial and political success as part of the structure of every society on the other, has neglected it.

The gap between generations, the invention of the lamp and the phonograph was a major global revolution, and Amanda, as a more or less ancient generation who saw the nineteenth century, was still fascinated by the use of master and slave life, at least no one expected the serious position of the emerging electronics and electrodynamics technology of the future.

The psychic factor of sublimation that all members of the Wingfield family suffer. Satisfying the various inner vacuum on the pretext of giving preference to others. About Laura to glass sculptures. About Tom to art. About Amanda to her children and even before them to her husband, who she ignores her gentleman caller with such a mental act on the pretext of knowing her over others and ultimately himself. Realism is evident through the function of the metaphorical tone.

The *psychological* factor of the woman's need for the man's need for her as an undeniable psychological need in the field of women's *psychology*, which is an intrinsic factor in cleaning glass statues and their support by Laura.

As a whole, the Wingfield family represents families that have lost their guardians over the years, either as a result of the war or as factors that have reinforced the sense of deterrence after its end its examples are numerous in the works of decades after American literature and cinema.

As before said, the characters of the story are related to the author's past life, who has passed away this tragedy. Williams (1944) in place of a pessimistic person will inject many pessimism to his writings. For this reason, the final problem resolutions of

all his plays usually happen as the most bitter possible stance as *The Glass Menagerie*. The unique personalization has itself granted the lots common attributes to created characters. The inherent mental illness, angonizing past or present, expelling from society in different forms, depending on art and anything are the slight cases that author has himself paid attention.

All of the main characters of the Williams's works have understandability and *content-based*. Puerility along with pity are seen in all parts of the study. The lack of skill for connecting to the children was another big problem. A framework of painful and unsuccessful memories, bitter silence, tension, stress from future, and adversities were always with all of the story characters. Social pressure had made difficult conditions for them as well. Compulsory suppression and obedience, as well as determinism at that time had dreadful futurities for Wingfield family.

4. Conclusion

The purpose of the study was to address the constraints and endurances that arise from cultural/social pressures within a 'relevance theory' framework. Since a critical perception and view engages the reader, it can make the readers differently look at the world. The approach used in the present review can heighten reader's senses, and add expression and emphasis so that reader can experience and feel as the author. 'Relevance theory' is a theoretical framework which focuses on step-by-step approach to gather the *perceptive* information from extracting real meaning of the book. This theory is appropriate for the conceptual and literal *criticism* of learner's insight.

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