



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CREATIVE RESEARCH THOUGHTS (IJCRT)

An International Open Access, Peer-reviewed, Refereed Journal

Study Of Duel Personality In A Strange Case Of Dr. Jekyll And Mr. Hyde

Sarang Gajanan Haribhau

English Department,

Shri Yoganand Swami Arts College, Basmath

Abstract: Duel personality in literature refers to the study of a character performing the two various identities at two different situations. Robert Stevenson, a late Victorian Period author, brings social reforms, industrial growth throughout his writings. His works moreover are blended with supernatural elements with modernist influences leading to inner state of a person with psychological realism. The present study intends to describe the duel personality of the characters in the novel. Robert Stevenson brings this duel personality with the help of psychoanalysis. The present study analyses the duel personality in the novel entitled *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* on the basis of the study on structural elements as well as on the psychoanalytical study of the characters. Duality believes that the human mind and human body are juxtaposed separate entities. The present study highlights the duel personality of Dr. Jekyll who represents good side of human nature while Mr. Hyde represents the darker side of human thinking.

Key words: Duel personality, psychoanalysis, human behaviour

Robert Stevenson, a best Scottish writer was best known for his fictional works including *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Dr. Hyde* and mostly considered as the writer of Victorian era as his writings reflect the themes of duality of human nature, search of identity, moral ambiguity and struggle between good and evil. Stevenson's writing make him distinguished from others in terms of blend of directness and complexity, vivid language and control of narrative pace. Since he was belonging in the Victorian period, he was inspired by the rapid changes of science and technology. This change made a negative impact on society. It later on promoted to raise the social issues like lack of morality and hypocrisy. The antisocial background challenged Stevenson to wake and expose the human behavior through his novels. The present novel is also symbolical in which two characters present the contemporary life of Victorian era.

Dr. Jekyll, the central character in the present novella is portrayed as the character with dual personalities. Opposite to Dr. Jekyll is Mr. Hyde who is considered as a flat character. From the very beginning of the novel the character of Mr. Hyde remains flat. According to Feist, from within the individual abnormality comes out from the region of the mind of a person i.e. from Id, Ego and superego. The present paper intends to study the human psyche and the study of humankind with the help of these two characters. After the study of these two different characters, we may say that neither a dual nature nor complete good or total evil natures being dominant are normal but the nature of a common man is very complicated in the cocoon of good and evil ethics.

1. The Concept of Duality

A dual nature is part of the possibility of addressing the nature of reality. This possibility allows authors to be part of all matters and sides like good and evil. Good and evil are the fundamental ethics in morality which represent opposite values. Good signifies something good and desirable whereas evil signifies something harmful, malicious and wrong. The two characters in the present novel represent the duality of human nature. Here Dr. Jekyll wants to address the image of himself - a completely moral being with elevating virtues and justice and opposite to him is Mr. Hyde, who represents suffering, harm, injustice and vice. Mr. Hyde looks a demon, trying continuously performing criminal deeds. Both characters in the present novel naming Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde though are mostly introduced and studied as the points of a moral philosophy, but as they are still studied in a scientific quest. So, they stand the most notorious issue, varied from wholeness and away from all possibilities in the contemporary era of Robert Stevenson.

2. Character Analysis

The novel leads with only two special characters as Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. The character of, Dr. Jekyll is a mostly revered and respected; whereas Mr. Hyde is a mysterious person who is depicted as an disrespected, detested and hated character. The surprising thing in the novel is that the both characters are same but behave differently. When we study the novel our minds turns to be dubious as the same character performs the different role in the same novel. The intention of projection of so called behavior of the same person in dualism the society might be because of the interest of the novelist showing how the people behave in society. One may assert that the Dr. Jekyll's character it is based on the fact that scientists are unwilling to escape from the cells they create during experimentation. Dr. Jekyll in the present novel is mostly revered character; he is renowned as the kind hearted person but sometimes criticized as too good. Though Dr. Jekyll provides utterance to the evil in his soul by various unspeakable acts, is afraid of doing so openly in public because his inner heart warns him of the fear of social criticism. During the period of his experiments, Robert Stevenson succeeds in producing a fabrication that challenges him to free this evil in him from the control of his good self. Mr. Hyde an opposite character of Dr. Jekyll is pure evil and amoral. Not only his psyche is different from Dr. Jekyll but also his body is grotesque and deformed. Thus, Dr. Jekyll thinks that he can receive the pleasure that both parts of his being crave without each being encumbered by the demands of the other. However, Mr. Hyde evokes feelings

of dread and abhorrence in Dr. Jekyll's friends who beseech him to give up his "friendship" with this Edward Hyde. Edward Hyde gradually becomes ever more powerful than his 'good' counterpart and ultimately leads Dr. Jekyll to his doom. "Jekyll and Hyde" as an eponymous term has become a synonym for multiple personality in scientific and lay literature and the novel has also been considered a case demonstration of substance dependence.

Stevenson evidently exposes the dual nature of human kind through in both of Jekyll's experiments and its product in the form of Mr. Hyde. The first change in the novel, which misleads the readers, is the failure of the experiment of Dr. Jekyll to believe that such misfortune is purely accidental. This accidental misbehavior makes readers dubious and raises the question why Dr. Jekyll was conducting such anti-social experiments. But by the end of the novel readers receive answers of these question noting that the novel was dealing with the distressing the topic of duality of human behavior. For Stevenson Hyde stands a token of display of the raw and primal passion which Dr. Jekyll want hearty. Identity and are rendered upon the story, directly influencing its various individuals. The realization of such dual nature also stems from the process of succinctly acquiring such compassionate ethic from within his mind, be it negative or positive. The novel also realizes that there are many connections serving dual individuals such as Jekyll and Hyde has been shown not only to serve as a reminder but also to attempt to illuminate those wishing or willing in society.

3. The Battle between Good and Evil:

The present novel revolves around the battle between good and evil. As Dr. Jekyll tries to balance these two sides of him, he realizes that he will not be able to create his own world without feeling like he is compensating one side at the expense of the other. As a result he creates Mr. Hyde as a new person bringing balance between two different sides of worlds. Dr. Jekyll at the very outset of his experiment makes a quest of self development which permits human being not to be restricted by their human flaws. His creation of Mr. Hyde is a way to wash away his mental torments from the heartburn misery, crimes and guilt. He feels that Mr. Hyde is not the evil side of a split identity or two separate identities. But he finds the badness of Mr. Hyde as being apart.

4. Conclusion

To sum up, *A strange case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* illustrates the different relationships between the human and inhuman. The paper has also revealed how unconscious thoughts reveal us the truth about duality and identity and that there are unconscious psychological mechanisms in our minds that protect and prevent us from the reality of this idea. Pretty well all serious representations are manifestations of what appears a great duality of substance, peculiar to this business of living. On the one hand, we see a constantly and very complicated changing human behavior and feelings, and, below them, organic nature subject to straightforward and easily grasped laws.

Cited works:

1. Robinson H. Dualism. In: Stich S, Warfield T, editors. *The Blackwell guide to philosophy of mind*. Oxford: Blackwell; 2003. pp. 85–101
2. Stevenson RL. *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* (1886) New York: Bantam Books; 1981
3. Elwin M. *The strange case of Robert Louis Stevenson*. London: Macdonald; 1950. p. 79.
4. Ezekowitz RA. *Genetic heterogeneity of mannose-binding proteins: The Jekyll and Hyde of innate immunity?* Am J Hum Genet. 1998; 62:6–9. doi: 10.1086/301696.
5. Rieber RW. *The duality of the brain and the multiplicity of minds: Can you have it both ways?* Hist Psychiatry. 2002; 13:3–17. doi: 10.1177/0957154X0201304901.
6. Altschuler EL. *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde: A primer on substance dependence*. Am J Psychiatry. 2000; 157:484. doi: 10.1176/appi.ajp.157.3.484.

