

Deficiency of Ethical Morals among Human Instinct and Behaviour: A Cannibalistic Study of “The Beach of Falesa” and “The Ebb Tide” by Robert Louis Stevenson

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ABSTRACT

Human beings have the power of dignity due to being embellished with laudable compassion and adore for each other. They feel and share the pain, sorrows and throbbing wounds as well as bring colors to the lives of their fellows. Contrary to this, this world is also full of people that are thirsty for the blood of others. They lack the soft corner in their hearts, deficient in ethical morals and humanity extinct in such types of people. “Cannibalism” is a literary theory that explains the human behavior and attitude of these sluggish natives. This theory explains the most devastating trend of human society towards life and remained a source of light for readers, researchers and knowledge seekers to bestow themselves with the rudimentary aspects of life and understand human behavior. Robert Louis Stevenson was a marvelous writer of all eras, he has beautifully described the flaws of human society and enlightens the most devastating and overwhelming concerns of humankind. Therefore, he is well known even today for being providing life-changing novels, stories and poetry. In the present article we have selected two famous short novels of Robert Louis Stevenson namely; “The Beach of Falesa” and “The Ebb Tide” for enlightening the theory of Cannibalism. This article will bestow the reader with various characters of both novels such as John Wiltshire, Case and Uma from “The Beach of Falesa” along with Herrick, Davis, Huish and Attwater from “The Ebb Tide”. Furthermore, it will also provide a detailed analysis of both novels for describing the human behavior and attitude towards life explained well in the above enlighten articles.

Key words: Cannibalism, Human Behavior, Ethical Morals, Robert Louis Stevenson

Introduction

Mankind is at higher rank of supremacy due to being kind hearted, bestowed with love and feelings of affection for other living entities. They feel the pain of other people and try to lessen it (De Montellano and Bernard, 1983; Claessen et al., 2004; Ho, 2019). Similarly, they enjoy the happiness of others and participate to increase it many folds. However, sometimes, reverse to this happens and man becomes the foe of the other (Berman, 2016; Das, 2019; Hibbard, 2019). Consequently, they try to snatch the happiness of others, they want to become the owner of other's belonging and for the fulfillment of their personal benefits they cross all the limits of humanity. At that moment of time they forget the difference between the human and monster (Purniset al., 2016; Brown, 2019; Roby, 2019; Rodríguez, Jesús et al., 2019). Due to this dilemma, destruction happens into the society and people try to save their lives, resources, respect and even their loved ones from the bad temptation of other human beings. “Cannibalism” is an important as well as proximal approach to discuss such type of flaws in the

society (Blurton, 2016; Dubé-Belzile, 2019; Herrmann, 2019; Berrada, 2020). This theory has revolutionized the English Literature and provided the stories and novels a new way of description and explanation of most important as well as devastating phenomenon of the society (Keating, 2016; Lehr, 2018).

Robert Louis Stevenson is well known and famous writer along with storyteller of his era (1890-94). Although he covered the very short life span and left the world so hurriedly that literature still feels his absence (Hallmark, 2017; Alder, 2020; Hill and Laura, 2020; Norquay, 2020). His novels and short-stories are full of attraction, moral lessons and refreshing doldrums for readers along with researcher to analyze his work (Bassett, 2020; Kearin, 2020; Otomo, 2020). “The Beach at Falesa” along with “The Ebb Tide” is best novels of the Robert Louis Stevenson as well as full of food for book lovers (Hoffenberg, 2016; Mellifont, 2017). The first novel is comprised of 70 pages while the other one is consist of 131 pages (Joll, 2016; Alexander, 2017; Manfredi, 2018). Both novels are the clear depiction for expertise of the writer for explaining the most awful situations of the

present world in a beautiful way (Milne, 2016; Rita, 2017; McAuley, 2019). The author's way of talk and to explain his work is different from many other authors that are well known as travel writers (Stott, 2004; Larsen, 2015).

Robert Louis Stevenson was suffering from the fatal disease of lung hemorrhage and according to the recommendations of the doctor he had travelled towards the islands bestowed with affectionate ambiance (Scott, 2007; Levin, 2008; Pham-Thanh, 2011; Cunningham, 2016). However, his visit to the islands gave him new wave of spirit and courage and consequently, instead of dying within the wait of death due to poor health, he started using his energy to write down the marvelous stories and novels including "The Ebb Tide" and "The Beach at Falesá" (Orr, 1999; Treagus, 2014; Burrow, 2016).

In the chronicle of "The Beach at Falesá" the narrator characterizes the foreigner trader named as "Wiltshire" as the leading role of the story along with the native broker named as "Case" (Robinson, 2019; Osment, 2019). Wiltshire was a man of principles as well as above suspicion character; however, the native trader considers him the foolish one and try to taboo him by arranging an monstrous caricature type marriage ceremony between Wiltshire and Uma (Alliata, 2006; Wall and Sarah, 2017). Later on, when the Wiltshire realized the actual scene that had happened to him, Case instead of becoming ashamed try to show arrogance as well as threaten him that he will completely destroy him if he tried to go against him (Dryden, 2011; Treagus, 2014). Uma was considered as the bad woman and thus, by making her excuse the whole island brings to a standstill for making business dealings with the Wiltshire (Stevenson, 2005; Macleod and David, 2014). Here, the story depicts the horrible face and temptation of human beings for each other (Jackson, 2000; Harris, 2003; Ferrini, 2012). The awful fact about human beings is that they never become satisfy with whatever they have rather try to destroy the other one and feels leisure in this dreadful act (Nakai, 2000; Jolly, 2004; OIesha, 2019).

Similarly, in the other story "The Ebb Tide", author also enlightens the devastating phenomenon of the society that can be explained well by using the theory of "Cannibalism" (Kindler, 2005; Jolly, 2006). The concerned story is comprised of the details of three losers of life; the first one is "Davis" that is considered as the embarrassed and dishonored ship commander in the state of US, the second one is "Huish" who has been

withdraw from the profession of cock due to apt to steal and third one is "Herrick" who is although well educated and decent person yet disowned by the university due to low quality teaching experiences (Tulloch, 2003; Davidson, 2004; MacLaren, 2006). After some time they found a golden opportunity to rearrange their fortune when they came to know that a ship has arrived whose whole staff died because of fatal disease of small pox and now no one is agree to precede the journey (Derry, 1996; Beattie, 1998; Clayton, 2009; Steenkamp, 2019). Due to this reason, by considering the Davis the most devastating employee, the high authority assigns this task to him and he accepts without any delay (Binding, 1974; Holmes, 2001; Savage, 2012). However, all three redundant persons decide to steal the ship and make their life happiest. Thus, this is another story that is clearly supporting the theory of cannibalism in which the three persons are trying their best to cheat the others and commit the unacceptable misdemeanors (Davidson, 2004; Di Frances, 2012; Alexander, 2017).

There is very less literature that is available to highlight the awful situation of the society although it is the utmost need of present era as crimes are increasing day by day. Furthermore, Cannibalism is most marvelous theory to enlighten and analyze the work of various authors who tried to step ahead by reshaping the society with the provision of moral and esthetic stories as well as novels. Therefore, our current research article is highly significant for covering all the research gaps along with opening the new windows of work for new comers. By reading the article the booklover may support and picks up various positive aspects of the stories and can enhance their knowledge with the detailed analysis of the above mentioned novels.

Literature Review

Very less literature is available for explaining the most important phenomenon of society that how people are exploiting each other by adopting various prohibited acts. Most of the literature is available for explaining the love stories and romantic features of the novels and short stories. However, no one has embellished the English Literature with the most demanding and necessary fact related to social behavior of human beings.

Hoffenberg, (2016) is of the view that it is very easy to cheat and deceive the ones who trust to us and same happened in the story of "The Beach at Falesá", John Wiltshire trusts the Case and

considers him his friend. However, Case was well known for being the most selfish and bad spirit at the island. He took advantage of the innocence and pure heart of the Wiltshire and first compels him to marry the worse famous lady Uma and then, order the whole island to boycott with him for every type of dealing either business or social. Later on, when the Wiltshire try to inquire about all this happening Case threat him that he will kill him if he tried to stand in front of him and the Wiltshire becomes silent over all this unbearable behavior and strengthen him with courage and patience.

Mellifont (2017) is of the view that love is the most important attribute of every society to as well as the basic parameter of success of every man. In his article the author explains the example of love between Uma and Wiltshire. He says that although many devil natured persons tried to separate them by deteriorating their social as well as personal life. Case, the villain of the story pressurizes the whole community to discontinue their dealings with Wiltshire and consequently, tried to destroy the family of him. However, unconditional love of Wiltshire for Uma did not let them stop their journey of life. They remained confirm that after passing this short duration of hardships there will come the time of peace and happiness and everything will become fine again. Therefore, they defeated the hate and won the pleasures of life.

Gay (2017) is of the view that friends are the important attribute of social life. However, good company generates the generation of good and successful people. Contrary to this, bad company and evil spirit people destroy not only to them rather the company and friends of them that they have. Similar phenomenon was observed in the story “The Ebb Tide”, three losers of life became friends. However, their evil spirit never let them become successful rather they always tried to find out the short cuts to accomplish the success and progress. Once they were assigned to bring one ship to the destined position but they made a plan to steal the material and brought the ship to the fake destination and found nothing. Therefore, the author says that it is necessary that to become successful and happy in one’s life to bring positive and good actions in their life.

Research Objectives

- The current research aims to critically analyze exploitation of mankind with the dominating powers of

other ones in the light of the two marvelous novels named as “The Beach of Falesa” and “The Ebb Tide” by Robert Louis Stevenson.

- Present study purposes to provide the courageous model for the explaining the theory of Cannibalism and analyze the above mentioned novels in the light of this theory.
- The research intends to evaluate suppression of humanity with the help of two stories “The Beach of Falesa” and “The Ebb Tide” by Robert Louis Stevenson.
- This research is devised to enlighten the various dreadful aspects of the society with the support of the cannibalism theory applied on the above mentioned stories

Research Questions

- How does Robert Louis Stevenson portray the exploitation of mankind with the supremacy powers of some human beings with reference to their novels; Beach of Falesa” and “The Ebb Tide”?
- How does the writer express the suppression of humanity identification in his respective novels being a case study of philosophy of cannibalism and social subjectivity?
- What circumstances develop with the prolonged prevailing situations of cruelty, unjust and dishonor behavior of societies?

Framework

Our research area is related to the qualitative frame work as it comprised of the study of human nature and life attributes. Therefore, following the Strauss and Corbin, (1998) definition for qualitative analysis we used it for explaining our words and phrases that are used in the selected novels. Additionally, theory of Cannibalism is used for enlighten the most devastating features of the societies in the light of the above explained novels. This theory is highly supportive for explaining the dishonest, cunning, deteriorating and cheating behavior of human beings towards their fellow men. This theory explains that as some animals eat the others to fulfill their food requirement, similarly some devil nature human beings destroy the other ones and feel satisfaction in this appalling act. Therefore, using the theory of

Cannibalism our research article is provision of detailed analysis for the selected novels.

Data Collection

Data collection is comprised of two sources named as primary data source along with secondary data source. Our first source is consists of above mentioned marvelous novels of Robert Louis Stevenson:

- The Beach of Falesa
- The Ebb Tide

Similarly, the later mentioned source is encompassing of all the papers and research articles that play a supportive role for explaining our theme of research including the background of “The Beach of Falesa” and “The Ebb Tide” by Robert Louis Stevenson. Furthermore, various libraries work and notes were also included to ease and enlighten our research after reading the publications and novels time and again.

Model Analysis

As our research comprised of two novels that are written in context form, following the descriptive data analysis technique of Hakim, (2004), descriptive analysis was made to enlighten the various characters and actual thinking of writer for devising such type of stories. Additionally, “Cannibalism” is philosophical theory; it contains different aspects such as awareness of socio-economic, political and basic rights of human beings in andocentric society. This theory explains the fact that it is not compulsory that animals may eat the flesh and blood of other animals and then it would be called destruction rather sometimes unethical social and moral behavior of human beings with other mankind also pushes the society towards destruction and deterioration. Dishonestly, cheating, theft, dishonor, devious and hurting the feelings of others are the major attributes that brings the societies at the verge of destruction and deterioration. Above mentioned novels are selected to enlighten such type of behavior keeping in view the theory of cannibalism.

Data Analysis

With the application of “Cannibalism” theory and use of qualitative analysis technique, our research data can be analyzed as follows. In the story of “The Beach of Falesa”, the narrator

explains the nature of human being as well as his observing power towards the surrounding. He explains that how people see the world with love and gratitude, however, this world is also full of bad people who want to exploit the others by fulfilling their worse intentions.

“I saw that island first when it was neither night nor morning. The moon was to the west, setting, but still broad and bright. To the east, and right amidships of the dawn, which was all pink, the daystar sparkled like a diamond”
(Text citation from “The Beach of Falesa”)

The above explained text citation enlightens the fact that human beings admire the nature and love the purity of change. These sentences explicate the innocence of “Wiltshire”, moreover, it is also clear that he is simple, pure and kindhearted person. However, it is rule of nature that innocent creature survives harder as a lot of devil natured persons try to engulf them. They try their best to harm them in any ways. The same thing happens in the above explained story. The innocence of “Wiltshire” was betrayed by the other clever and evil spirit “Case” who was well known in his area. Case deceive the Wiltshire and let him compel to marry the “Uma” who was known for bad deeds and due to this reason the whole island boycott to have public dealings with Wiltshire. Here theory of Cannibalism elucidates that it is not necessary that people eat the flesh and drink the blood of other people rather they can also hurt the pure hearted people with playing with their innocence, feelings and morals.

Similarly, in the other story “The Ebb Tide” the writer explains the changes of life spans of the human being. At one stage he became so pious and the very next moment he crosses all the limits of bad doings. He says that there is no guarantee for the sustainability in the nature and mood of human beings.

“Herrick paused and looked long in the face of the sleeping Huish, drinking disenchantment and distaste of life. He nauseated himself with that vile countenance. And he raced against himself, as a man bites on a sore tooth, in a heady sensuality of scorn. "I have no pride, I have no heart, no manhood," he thought, "or why should I prolong a life more shameful than the gallows? Or why should I have fallen to it? No pride, no capacity, no force. Not even a bandit! and to be starving here with worse than banditti—with this trivial hell-hound!" His rage against his comrade rose and flooded him, and he shook a trembling fist at the sleeper”. (Text citation from “The Ebb Tide”)

The above explained text citation enlightens the application of Cannibalism on the story of "The Ebb Tide". It explains that first three friends that were helpless from life and used to find failure everywhere and then, suddenly find an opportunity to change their life. However, their inner mischievous sprite destroys their whole luck and they plan to deceive the owner by stealing the ship had destroyed each and everything. First all the three friends were sad due to the failure in every aspect of life. The whole story completely describes the human nature and their relations coupled with their actions with the other community. The whole story along with its characters looks real and it give the impression of being based upon the bona fide features. All the other stories are based upon the fictional chronicles rather elucidating the major concerns of the society and human community. Therefore, our selected stories are significantly important for enlightening the cannibalism features of the society. Thus, from the above explained facts and text references it can be concluded that this world is full of good as well as bad people. For an instance, some people sacrifice their whole life to give the peace and creating ease for others. However, contrary to this, there are also some people who remain in search of opportunities to harm and destroy the others. They remain senseless and have no feelings of love and affection for humanity. They remain eating and destroying not the flesh and blood of other community rather their esthetic as well as moral values. However, if they may remain positive in their dealings and combat such type of people with courage and bravery they can accomplish their goals.

Conclusion

Our research concluded that it is not necessary to kill someone by snatching their life and physical attributes. Sometimes, to cheat and deceive the others give the destruction to the sustainability of peaceful and happy community. In our both novels the narrator explains the social behavior of common people. In the first story the Case deceive the other person who trust him a lot and try his best to destroy him completely, however, the love and courage of the second one saves him from every calamity and bless him with success. Similarly, in the other story, three friends were the loser of life, try to cross the limits of worst doings, however, at the end, the good nature and kind behavior of an unknown change them a lot that they become source of love and sacrifice rather devil for other community.

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