

More than Alienation: A Comparative Study of Katharine Mansfield's 'Miss Brill' and Peter Carey's 'Life and Death in the South Side Pavilion'

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Abstract

The present study aims at observing the peculiarities of the concept of alienation and disorientation in Katherine Mansfield's short story 'Miss Brill' and Peter Carey's short story 'Life and Death in the South Side Pavilion' through the Lenz of Maslow's theory of Hierarchy of Needs. This theory focuses on the basic needs of a person including physical, biological, psychological and socio-economic aspects as the absence of these factors cause not only alienation but more than this like physical and sexual impotence. A preliminary overview of the hierarchy of needs theory helps to analyze the characters of Miss Brill and Shepherd 3rd class to link their alienation with the lack of love and belongingness on one hand, while self-esteem issues and challenges of the modern world and its metropolis and industrialization attitude on the other hand. To conclude, Miss Brill and Shepherd 3rd class both are deprived of basic hierarchy needs according to Maslow's theory and this deprivation becomes the cause of their alienation. The researcher suggests that an understanding of existential purpose is crucial in life, and it is when we are denied such knowledge that we are isolated and disorientated.

Keywords: Alienation, Disorientation, Impotence, Self-esteem, Metropolis, Hierarchy

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1. Introduction

This paper presents a comparative study of ‘Miss Brill’¹ and ‘Life and Death in the South Side Pavilion’² written respectively by a female writer, Katherine Mansfield³, who highlighted the situation of women in the age of anxiety and pointed out the causes and effects of the age and by a male writer, who belongs to the later part of the 20th century, Peter Carey⁴; a living legend in literary world, who has described the effects of industrialization and globalization on the life of the common people and the culture of big enterprises on the lives of the male characters respectively after WWI and WWII. I have selected these two authors to represent both genders and they have written in quiet allegorical way about the psychological, physical and sexual issues of men and women. For the comparative study of the selected short stories from Katherine Mansfield’s fiction has taken Miss Brill, the only major character in ‘Miss Brill’ and from Peter Carey’s corner elected the character of The Shepherd 3rd Class from ‘Life and Death in the South Side Pavilion’ and analyzed them by applying Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs theory⁵. The methodology process is to have a close textual reading of the selected short stories and analysis of the protagonists of these stories with the application of Hierarchy of Needs theory and other critics’ arguments and the interpretations also have been focused during textual interpretation with proper inter-textual and intra-textual references.

Every person struggles to meet the required needs of a balanced life and the search for those elements becomes hard at certain moments in life where it seems extremely hard to get the way out. Various factors play crucial role in this struggle for balanced existence in society and absence of these factors and elements make life more disastrous and lead towards the endless strangeness and alienation. According to Maslow’s theory Hierarchy of Needs, the basic five needs of every human being are: 1) biological and physical needs such as food, house, rest, sex etc., 2) safety needs such as security, stability and ultimate freedom from any kind of consistent and inconsistent fear, 3) love and belongingness needs such as affection and love, intimacy, acceptance, trust, friendship and the most crucial one is affiliation with a unit of any kind like society, family or with colleagues in any company, 4) esteem needs such as esteem for self like independence, achievement, hold, dignity and honor while esteem from others is expected like respect, praise, recognition, status and the most important reputation, 5) self actualization needs such as realization of personal potential, personal growth, self-fulfillment and the most desired

in such needs is to become everything one is capable of becoming. (Maslow, 1970)

The selected characters of Miss Brill and Shepherd 3rd Class have been facing the deprivation of these basic needs of life in some way or the other in their lives and their helplessness is quite visible from their names the authors imposed on them. Brill is a name of raw fish in New Zealand which is of no commercial value in the market same like Miss Brill has no value in the society due to certain reasons and Shepherd is also a very disgraced profession considered in modern society and stamped with the stigma of 3rd class as well. In coming passages of the paper, the researcher will define alienation caused by the unavailability of basic human needs according to theory of Hierarchy of Needs and one most crucial need of body sex and its effects on human mind with reference to alienation. According to my perception, the need of sexual desire and company of opposite sex is the basic cause of loneliness and frustration in a life person who has some basic needs of food and house with oneself.

The word alienation, according to Oxford Dictionary, borrows the concept of psychiatry, indifferent, unfriendly, isolation, seclusion and adverse in a normal society where people share and devote to each other. These connotations of the word 'alienation' are used by different authors of the 19th and 20th centuries. According to Puzanova (2003), the concept of being alone and alienated from society is not the new one in literature studies. It is found easily in the writings of almost all ages with various concepts as in 19th century the concept of loneliness and unfriendly behavior goes through the transition phase and changes into different categories associated with it such as seclusion, solitude and isolation. However, in 20th century, the concept of alienation and being alone has become more complex and complicated in terms of its broadness and involvement in modern man's life. Now this concept of alienation and loneliness is being seen as a natural state of man. John Clark (1959) gives a complete definition of the term 'alienation' in following words:

There are various definitions given to alienation like feeling of meaningless, powerlessness, belonginglessness, being manipulated, social and self-isolation.....Alienation is the degree to which man feels powerless to achieve the role he has determined to be rightfully in his specific situations. (p.849)

The modern literature has widespread atmosphere of alienation where modern man has been seen entangled in different issues of alienation. So

to grasp all the issues, ideas and thoughts the man has been facing or faced, is very difficult to address which are related to man and his alienation from himself, his fellow human beings, his society in which he lives and his God. According to Tonnies (1987), modernity is associated with the characteristic that it has shattered the traditional bond of communities and extended kinship concepts. Many other modern social scientists are of the view that alienation is linked with the modern life and its anomic and isolated nature (Seeman, 1975) and Wellman (1979) says that it's a lost community hypothesis as it had been a hot issues of debates in early American sociology talks. However, Luis Wirth (1938) has commented that the literature of 1930s has discussed too much about population density, cultural heterogeneity and specialization of modern city life under minded community and family bonds which became the cause of isolation. All the above mentioned issues have been discussed by the writers of their time and helped the readers to understand those social issues such as Katherine Mansfield; a British writer in the early 20th century years specifically after World War 1 had discussed the themes of isolation and alienation in her writings. The other writer who is representative of the present age, Peter Carey an Australian writer, has discussed the position of man in present era through his versatile characters and themes to fix the issues of isolation and alienation in modern man's life. He has also discussed in his short stories and novels about our existing social and economical structure that has disturbed the life of an individual through corruption and alienation (Schulze, 2005). Karl Max's explanation of alienation supports Peter Carey's notions about man and his social isolation by giving arguments in the following lines:

It is man, then, who is at the foundation of Marx's considerations; and to be more precise: man "alienated from himself." This "alienation" is, according to Marx, one of the pillars of the actual bourgeois society, the center, consequently, from which all his reflections will radiate... (See Braunschweig, A04)

The present paper aimed to focus on the issues of alienation and loneliness refer the clues towards something more than these alienation and loneliness such as desire for male and female partner to meet the psychological and sexual needs of the body with the characters of Miss Brill by Katherine Mansfield in 'Miss Brill' (1920) and the other one is Shepherd 3rd class; an unnamed character by Peter Carey in 'Life and Death in the South Side Pavilion' (1974). In these short stories, there are some common themes like social alienation, loneliness and seclusion on

the part of the both characters: Miss Brill and the Shepherd 3rd class. The researcher is of the view that these characters are not only the victims of alienation but also sexually frustrated and the need for company of the opposite sex made them hollow towards optimum level of positive construction in life and indifferent from the normal routine of the life. So, with the help of social alienation, I will try to make it sure that there is something persisting among them that make them more than alienated in the society.

Peter Carey has depicted the issues of modern age and man in his fiction as his major concern is to fix the socio-political problems especially in short stories which are included in Maslow's theory of hierarchy of needs. In spite of the fact that short stories are commonly concerned with simple allegorical reading (Bennett, 195) and the primary focus is to highlight the social ills prevalent in the society. His early writings proved to be an alarm for the upcoming problems caused by the disastrous effects of capitalism and globalization. In his first volume of short stories collection, he kept well in his mind the climax of second wave of feminism in 1960s and 70s. He assigned the roles to both of genders very carefully and gave much room to female characters to flourish and provided softer corner to both sexes in terms of equality. A fine example of this transformation of female role in his early fiction can be seen through the character of Marie in 'Life and Death in the South Side Pavilion'. She has kept with her all qualities as assigned to male characters such as freedom, independency and most important free will to make decisions.

Peter Carey is very good in excellent arrangement and construction of realistic setting and plot for his short fiction. His short stories can be divided in to three different categories such as imaginative, semi-abused and realistic according to their themes and featuring elements. In this section of the paper, his short story 'Life and Death in the South Side Pavilion' will be discussed for analyze the nature of setting and alienation theme with loneliness and seclusion. This short story deals with realistic setting and the protagonist is imprisoned in internal and external as well as psychological and physical strenuous situation and finds it difficult to escape from it and in consequence has to face the worst state of existence endlessly. A particular and more significant thing which is discussed in the story is the role of big companies and their capitalist behavior with the employees is observable. Shepherd 3rd Class, the protagonist, has also

been affected with the behavior of profit-greedy and rampant consumerism attitude of the company for which he works.

Shepherd 3rd Class and Alienation:

Throughout the story, we observe the trapped condition of the Shepherd 3rd Class in capitalist structure which made him alienated from the rest of the society. According to Schulze (200A), its Peter Carey's major focus to highlight the economic and social system issues of present age which has corruptive and alienating effect on the life of the individuals (p.121). These remarks show that the protagonist's entrapment and alienation are due to the consequences of capitalist attitude of the company and he is forced to remain in inescapable and restrictive situation. According to Schulze (2005), although Carey would welcome more self-responsibility, he also has recognized that the globalized world has restrictive rather than stimulating effect on individuals' development (p.122).

Peter Carey's ways of dealing with imprisonment of an individual and his/her alienation from the other world are based on his dystopian scenarios. According to Hassall (1994), these dystopian scenarios are called 'hellish worlds' because the sufferings and entrapment of the central figure are based on manifold types and ranges such as the unexplained role or duty of stopping the horses falling into the pool. And furthermore, the protagonist is unable to make sex with Marie, his girlfriend, and relating this inability with the death of the horses are evidence of protagonist's incapability of handling the situation through his mind and body.

In 'Life and Death in the South Side Pavilion' the protagonist is simply an employee of a very big company which knows nothing about the critical situation of the workers in far of places away from the urban life. Carey makes the protagonist more critical by employing his artistic techniques that his employment in itself is alienation for him. There is no name of the company as Carey has used the only common noun 'the company' throughout the story and his position is described as 'Shepherd 3rd Class' again without any proper name is also alienation. He is labeled as a shepherd but his task is opposite to his position title. He has been asked to take care of the horses instead of sheep, it's like his authority to tackle sheep is changed with an anonymous company. Alienation at every step is there to welcome the protagonist as after the disclosure of his job title and the task assigned to him, readers also become confused and insecure about

his position in company and task for which he has been recruited. According to Hassall (1994), the protagonist in this story is an unknown capitalist prisoner who is a victim of isolation and alienation of an unknown company that seems to represent his only contact with an external world (p.17).

From Shepherd 3rd Class's alienation it seems that Carey wants to criticize Hegelian philosophy. Hegelian, a French Philosopher Hegel's followers, have the routine in their production houses and factories that with more and more width of the company and its expansion specifically during industrial revolution, the employees lost their connection to the end product and with the leading heads. At such moments, the individuals have to accept the situation by finding no other means expect to escape. In an interview, Peter Carey explained that:

We are alienated from each other, from ourselves, from our environment. We are denied access to information and given misinformation instead. We are raised within an authoritarian system and teach our children to look for leaders....I don't think people are mindless or stupid and no matter how fucked around we are by the values of late capitalism. I still think there is some residual human decency in most of us. (qtd. in Schulze, p.121)

Shepherd 3rd Class looks forward for the response from the company head office throughout the story and during this time his function seems to like an ignorant from his duties, company's policies, nature of responsibilities and at last his alienated position which makes him detached from his every sense of achievement; professional as well sexual.

Shepherd 3rd Class's alienation from his company and position in pavilion makes him a victim of psychosomatic state and he himself assumes that his making love with Marie becomes the cause of death of horses.

'EVERY TIME I FUCK MARIE I KILL A HORSE' (A6)

The narrator's physical and mental state deteriorates when he recognizes that each act of love with Marie causes a further death, because he is neglectful of his duties. He has made his mind that his action of making love with Marie gives the reaction in result of death of a horse in the pool. This self assumed theory of association of love making with death of

horses leads the narrator in more complex and deteriorated mental state with results in a worse situation than the fact of alienation.

His physical and psychological impotence made him sexually impotent and his belief developed so strong in his mind that while lying with his girlfriend he fails to get an erection and becomes no longer able to make sex with her.

‘And now that I’m unable to make love she thinks it is because I have an unnatural attraction to the horses and that I find her unattractive in comparisons. But I’m unable to make love because every time I make love a horse falls into the pool’ (A6).

He decides to restrict from making love as he seems totally trapped in his dilemma of deterioration of mind and body as both of them are severely stilted by the lack of significant job perspectives in an unresponsive company. Here ‘the company’ becomes the more crucial element in making the narrator a powerless and victim of loneliness throughout the story by being representative of late capitalist ideology. The irresponsible attitude of the company not only made him alienated from his job task at the pavilion but also from his natural desire of sex and the strong stimulus for sex: Marie.

In this context of power and powerlessness Carey comments explicitly on gender relations. Marie asks the narrator to leave the company as she needs his attention and he is upset due to the death of horses. He seems much passionate about horses and Marie tries to make him able to come out from that entangled situation. One day when she comes to see him in the pavilion finds him weeping and she inquires;

‘Why are you weeping?’

‘Because of horses’.

‘Even horses must die, sooner or later.’

‘I am weeping because of swimming pool.’

‘The swimming pool is there to help them die.’(A4)

She tries much to make him convinced that he isn’t the reason of the death of horses and tries to boast him but all her efforts remain fruitless in spite of the fact that he admits Marie’s arguments are valid. He is in a state of hamartia about his decisions and actions. Marie tries to prove to be an external influence upon him to make him able to decide and shatter his

false adherence of taboo of death of horses with love making process. But he is revolving around the one thing as he claims; 'I AM HERE TO STOP THE HORSES FALLING INTO THE SWIMMING POOL'. (A4)

Marie is the person who helped him to get job in the pavilion and now she is insisting him to leave that job. He sends his resignation to the company and asked for relieving from the shepherd 3rd class job but wouldn't get any answer from the company. Marie asks him to leave the company without any formal resignation by saying that 'Fuck the Company' (A4). And this tension between them becomes the reason that Marie gives him to choice either choose horses or her. She asks repeatedly that do you love horses and he always replies in negative and confirms his love with her. She again and again helps him to understand the fact that he can't do anything by stopping them falling into the pool. At last Marie gives him an ultimatum;

She arrived today with color brochures and an ultimatum: either I leave the horses or she will leave me. (54)

The company's alienated attitude from its worker: Shepherd 3rd Class, has made him mentally upset and alienated from his job, personal life and his affair with Marie. It made him sexually alienated from the natural process of erection a man can easily get by lying with a seductive and beautiful lady but for the narrator it's all in vain. He finds himself trapped in his useless position at the pavilion like in waiting loop and wouldn't be able to find a way escape from that entrapment of physique and mind.

Here Marie is playing a role of his counterpart as she helped him to get this job and now forcing him to get rid of it, she is quick in decision making and not timid like him. She is independent lady and self-determined and free in making her choices unlike the narrator. She even tries to awake his self by encouraging him and make him recover his attraction towards her by giving him colored brochures with pictures of beautiful ladies on a beach to stimulate him and his sexual impotence. He himself admits the influence of the brochures on him.

I leaf through the brochures she left for me; staring at the beaches [...] I have never seen so many beaches. On the beaches there are beautiful girls,

girls more beautiful than Marie. Perhaps she thinks that the beautiful girls in the brochures will provide the extra incentive. (56)

In fact she wants him to come out from his self-imposed entrapment of mind and body with his false theory of association of his sexual power with the existence of horses. She even urges him to leave the horses and escape with her from that dreadful pavilion but again his lack of decisive courage makes him unable to take any solid step and remains unable to leave the horses, the pavilion and his alienation.

Here his attitude not to leave the company and escape with Marie remains ambiguous and unclear. It seems that he has developed an unnatural attraction towards the horses, to be insane about his concerns towards horses or his irrational and absurd loyalty with the company forced him to remain in the pavilion rather alienation.

But now I'm responsible for the horses. Each death is my responsibility and I have no wish to be responsible for so many deaths. And now that I'm unable to make love she thinks it is because I have an unnatural to the horses and that I find her unattractive in comparisons. But I'm unable to make love because every time I make love a horse falls into the pool. (56)

He admits that he has some sort of unnatural attraction towards the horses which makes him unable to love Marie. For him, the love making is an unsatisfactory thing while to save the lives of the horses is more important for him. He also describes the reason of his dissatisfaction as according to him the horses don't like the sound they produce during love making and become panic and lose their temper. Here 'horses' can be interpreted as male sperms produced during intercourse. And the pool is like female body where the horses; sperms are dropping and being wasted. As the horses are useless after drowning into the pool, the same happens with the narrator's sperms during intercourse with Marie they all are going to be wasted as no production is expected from this natural process in shape of Marie's unwillingness to be pregnant.

When Marie eventually leaves him, the narrator's physical and emotional state improves. As manliness is restored, his urge to escape from his imprisonment becomes stronger, and his carefulness gives way to indifference. An attempt to breakdown the circle of absurdity and in doing so he wishes to drive all the horses into the pool. Marie's absence

makes him more desirous and passionate for sex it seems her absence has restored his sexual impulse.

Another night without Marie. Her absence has cured my limp cock more quickly and effected than either of us have guessed. I tossed and turn in my tangled dreaming of involved and passionate love on the distant beaches of brochures. At this moment I am prepared to fuck until the pool is full of horses. (57)

He has become extremely ambitious to his sexual desire after Marie that he even forgot to think about the death of the horses about which he was much concerned in Marie's presence. The critical point is that the new erected thoughts of sex and power in him after Marie make him completely forgettable about his alienation and loneliness and so-called love for horses and absurd loyalty with the company. Marie's absence and thoughts cast their strong effect on him and by being kept hunted by sexual thoughts of making love with her becomes the cause of motive behind the force to drive all the horses into the pool with full force. Shepherd 3rd Class accepts 'At this moment I am prepared to fuck until the pool is full of horses' (A7). According to Hassall (1994), the narrator is a frenzied attempt to escape by making him redundant (p.17). All his efforts to escape from that pavilion remain fruitless and instead of responding his letters to the company, the company has sent twelve more horses in the pavilion. He remains powerless and alienated because only independent can take steps ahead to make their decisions strong. At the end, Marie also leaves him and he remained where he was, alone, alienated, and sexually frustrated in an alone pavilion.

Miss Brill and her Alienation:

Katherine Mansfield was a fiction writer in the first half of the 20th century and belonged to colonial New Zealand and had spent time in France and other countries as well. This travel and shifting from one place to another enhanced her vision for adopting different places and characters from daily life. She lived a life of distress, culturally and socially chaotic and mentally suffered life which is present everywhere in her short stories and also reflects the atmosphere after WWI filled with attacks of doubt and serpents of industrialization which made everything alienated and strange. Her biography is very much significant in interpreting her female characters in different stories as she herself affected badly by the storm of instability in social order, anxieties of estrangement and loneliness and

alienation from the life around her that provided the sketches for construction of her female characters in short stories.

There are many critics who show their interest in Mansfield's sexuality and its relation to her fiction such as Janet Wilson, Susan Reid and Gerri Kimber are prominent names. They have discussed the writing technique in her short stories, narrators, her treatment of her autobiography and interpretation of self and most importantly her body as they have made an associative study on her relation with Virginia Woolf and her John Middleton Murry. A handful book, edited by Sydney Janet Kaplan about Mansfield's fiction and all the relevant topics discussed by other fellow critics in *Katherine Mansfield and the Origins of Modernist Fiction* provides much important information about life and works of Mansfield and her thematic treasure.

In the short story of 'Miss Brill' the character of Miss Brill is Katherine Mansfield's one of best literary sketches of a woman in age of anxieties and metropolis life. Miss Brill is depicted as a middle aged figure, a spinster, who didn't have the husband or not married yet. She is pictured as an alienated, psychologically complex woman with an attitude of artistic vision, childish will and eavesdropping who has the ability to imagine but in an indifferent way which becomes her dilemma at the end. Miss Brill's alienation is caused due to the absence of Hierarchy of Needs theory components and the most needed components which become the cause of her alienation are desire for friendship, belongingness, love, sex and self esteem. She is not only the victim of alienation but also suffered from psychological disillusionment of her ideas about the dehumanized world. Her life is the victim of alienation and loneliness which led her towards frustration and let's find out the causes of her alienation and more than this alienation; her psychological and physical deprivation.

According to Maslow's five levels of human needs the first one is biological and physical need and those are air, water, home, sleep, food, clothes, health, exercise and the most important is sex. When we observe the character of Miss Brill, she has almost everything with her according to physical and biological needs except sex. It's because she was a spinster and she hadn't any body to fulfill her desire of sex and made herself relax because to have sex is as important as any other natural desire like food and water. It is also a way to get family and children which make the circle around the person to feel him/her attached with relationships and

this thing prevents loneliness, alienation and frustration rather makes the person more careful and engaged. Miss Brill looks at many couples around in the garden and wishes to be social with them and talk to them but she just can imagine and think about such things as she has grown old and now nobody will accept her as his wife/partner. Mansfield portrays Miss Brill's feeling in such way that:

And Miss Brill's eyes filled with tear and she looked smiling at all the other members of the company. Yes, we understand, we understand, she thought, though what they understood she didn't know. (3)

Everybody around her know very well that she is an alone lady and every Sunday comes to the park to kill her leisure by looking and making her observations at others in the park especially the couples are her attraction. By looking at a young couple who were in love and the boy tried to express his love and the girl stopped the boy to doing anything romantic there at that time, is keenly observed by Miss Brill. She also wants to have the love of a husband and a romantic gossip and love making in a park but her dreams shattered when the young couple passed harsh remarks about her. They didn't like the presence of the old lady at a place of romantic meeting. They said that:

Miss Brill prepared to listen. 'no, not now,' said the girl. 'Not here, I can't.' 'But why? Because of that stupid old thing at the end there?' asked the boy. 'Why does she come here at all- who wants her? Why doesn't she keep her silly mug at home?' (4)

Mansfield has discussed in detail the matrimonial affairs in her writings which show women's desire for husbands. In her short story 'Bliss', Mansfield shows the alienation among husband and wife as in this story she is more concerned about the passionate feelings of Bertha for her husband and she is very sad upon losing her husband and felt alienated socially and sexually. According to T.S Eliot, this story is limited to the sudden change occurred in her feelings and her moral and social ramifications are beyond the terms of reference. (Eliot, 1934) Bertha's this situation without her husband is well described by another critic Miss Freeman that her looking at the pear tree again and again especially before dinner party and her imagination about the tree as slender in full bloom and shoes the arrival of the spring season, she also glances at yellow and red tulips which are considered as a symbol of languorous joy of the sense. Miss Freeman further commented that these natural awakenings in

Bertha's character arouse sexual desire in her for her husband and she desperately needed that one (Freeman, 1927). The same case is with Miss Brill as she looks at the garden and life in it and longs for the same by admiring different aspects of the events there and life in it, from the color of the dresses to the music of the band, everything aroused the desire for to be loved by someone.

Her fur is also very symbolic in this connection. In the morning she pulls it out from the box and admires it. She thinks that this beautiful fur would help her in making attraction towards others in the park and will work as social contactor with other people. She thinks it a tool to be helpful for her to be social in society and also she personifies her piece of fur as an object of affection. She takes it as a valuable thing for her and considers it has a definite presence of its own instead of only an inanimate thing. According to Peter Trope, the piece of fur is:

As an alternative for the society, the affection, love, empathy and understanding which are absent from Miss Brill's life. The fur actually parallels her experience; it comes out of a dark little box just as she comes out of a dark little 'cupboard' of a room. (p.661)

This piece of fur is significant in her life as she takes it as living thing with her and she feels comfort with its company as Miss Brill's personification of the fur as a 'little rogue' shows that fur helps to make her comfortable in her loneliness and removes the effects of alienation for some time even in her imagination. But she is humiliated by the young couple for her fur and they mocked at her due to her silly fur.

'It's her fu-ur which is so funny', giggled the girl. 'It's exactly like a fried chere..'

'Ah, be off with you!' said the boy in an angry whisper. Then:

'Tell me, ma petite chere..'

'No, not here,' said the girl. 'Not yet'. (4)

Miss Brill's attention towards the discussion of this young couple shows her keen interest in getting company male partner as she feels it as her biological need like food and air. Mansfield didn't use clear words for this aspect of Miss Brill's desire but the her logging for social circle, interaction with couples, description of the garden and last but not the least her attachment with fur and the way she put it on. Mansfield in her other stories have clearly discussed this aspect of women's need of sexual fulfillment. In her short story 'A Married Man's Story' she writes about

the alienation among husband and wife in a house. They are living in a same house live strangers and they haven't any communication to each other and this communication gap; alienation makes the husband more passionate about his wife and he thinks about her as she is standing in a kitchen:

Her head bent; with one figure she is tracing something... nothing.....on the table. It is cold in the kitchen; the gas jumps; the tap drips; it's a forlorn picture. And nobody is going to come behind her, to take her in his arms, to kiss her soft hair, to lead to the fire and to rub soft her hands warm again. Nobody is going doing out there. And she knows it. And being a woman, deep down, deep down, she really does expect the miracle to happen; she really could embrace that dark, dark deceit, rather than live....like this. (Mansfield, 1964)

Mansfield wants to convey that man and woman knows and understands very well the needs of each other. The social and sexual perspectives of life are more crucial than any other thing. In words of Kessel (1964), those who don't know how to share their feelings and experiences to others, become friends, be socializing and responding to others interests remain isolated, alone and alienated. (p.134-5)

Another cause of her alienation is according to Maslow's theory of Hierarchy of Needs, is love and belonging; a basic factor and unit of society. She is deprived of this factor and very much visible throughout the story that she looks for social connections, admiration, love and affection but in return she only receives rejection and humiliation. The basic reason is her loneliness as she doesn't have family and husband with her, and to make her amused she tries to get the solace from the company of fur; a non-living object. She had the fur to get comfort but people around her made despise her fur and at this rude behavior she becomes very sad. She also amuses herself by becoming an English tutor and reading the newspaper for old people. I think, love and family is very important needs, because with love and family, we can share our feeling or arguments, also we can feel safety and comfortable around them.

Through textual reading one can find a lot words denoting the concept of loneliness and alienation and her need for family and society becomes visible from these words such as *motionless, sad, chill, disappointing, yellow leaves dropping, cold, trembling smile, soundlessly, little darkroom*

and *a faint chill* etc. These words proved to be bombarded in presenting the image of loneliness in the story which leads Miss Brill towards the hell of alienation. The very same atmosphere of loneliness and desolation is present in other short stories of Mansfield such as in 'Life of Ma Parker' she writes;

It was cold in the street. There was a wind like ice. People went flitting by, very fast; then men walked like scissors; the women trod like cats. And nobody knew- nobody cared. Even if she broke down, if at last, after all these years, she were to cry, she'd find herself in the lock-up as like as not. (Mansfield, 1964)

To sum up, the comparison of Shepherd 3rd Class and Miss Brill through the application of Maslow's theory of Hierarchy of Needs show Carey and Mansfield's treatment of the life of the people entangled in solitude, alienation, separation, and affected by the globalization and industrialization especially urbanization of the early and mid 20th century, have made the people more than alienated. This research article also concludes that not only women are being affected by this social milieu but men also facing the results of the same unprivileged inner voices and social multi-shaping forces demolishing them in modern world like hypocrisy, disloyalty, corruption, materialism, and psychological and sexual issues created by this modern world. Through Miss Brill's character, Mansfield abstracts that solitude and alienation don't persist in itself anywhere in physical form in garden or city streets where she can immerse in her musing, imagination or through her creative art but it's a psychological state of mind or condition for her to gain courage to assert her independence despite her awareness of her socio-moral obligations. And for Shepherd 3rd Class, Carey has tried to depict the sense that self-entrapped attitude is much worst in life from any point of view being physical or psychological. Carey suggests that an understanding of existential purpose is crucial in life, and it is when we are denied such knowledge that we are isolated and disorientated. Carey's commentary of the modern world is ultimately nihilistic. He allows us to witness the isolation, absurdities and the lamentations of the 'Shepherd 3rd Class in order to enable us to question if we too lack orientation in our lives.

Notes:

1. "Miss Brill" is a short story by Katherine Mansfield. It was first published in *Athenaeum* on 26 November 1920, and later reprinted in *The Garden Party and Other Stories*.

2. "The Life and Death in The South Side Pavilion" is short story by Peter Carey published in a volume of short stories collected named 'The Fat Man in History' in (1974).
3. Kathleen Mansfield Murry (1888-1923) was a distinguished short story writer from New Zealand. She was born and brought up in colonial era of her country and she used to write under her pen name Katherine Mansfield. She left New Zealand at the age of just 19 and found settlement in the UK where she enjoyed the literary company of renowned writers such as Virginia Woolf and D.H. Lawrence. At a young age of only 34 she died due to Tuberculosis in 1923 in England.
4. Peter Philip Carey (1943-present) is a famous Australian novelist, short story writer and historian. He has won many literary awards for his best writings including Miles Franklin Award three times continuously, Booker Prize twice and many more. He is also famous for screenplay writing and creative writing projects along with an industrious teaching career.
5. Abraham Maslow, a psychologist, presented his theory of *Hierarchy of Needs* in 1943 as a motivational theory in psychological realm. This theory is based on the model of human needs, divided into five categories, those are necessary for existence of balanced life in this modern world. Absence of any one section from these five categories of need: biological and physical, safety, love and belongingness, esteem needs and fifth one is self actualization, can make the life imbalanced and unworthy to live like to be lived and becomes the cause of frustration, anxiety, loneliness and ultimately alienation from the work, the society and finally from ones-self.

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