

ANALYSING THE PORTRAYAL OF CHARACTER UNDER DECONSTRUCTION THEORY IN ONE ARRANGED MURDER BY CHETAN BHAGAT

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ABSTRACT

One Arranged Murder, published in the year 2020, is a sequel to A Girl in Room 105. One Arranged Murder dives into the murder of Prerna, the novel's protagonist. This murder case is being probed by two pals, Keshav and Saurabh. This novel illustrates how an Indian upper- class family lives in a society with its own set of principles that distinguishes them from other families. This study uses deconstruction theory to examine Anjali's character. This study attempts to discredit the original perspective of One Arranged Murder, which shows Anjali as antagonist; however, by debunking the novel or applying deconstruction theory, the other characters are impacted and pushed Anjali to become an antagonist. This study challenges the conventional portrayal of Anjali as a villain by applying deconstruction theory. It reveals how Anjali's character is shaped by interactions with other characters, leading to her complex and nuanced personality. By examining binary opposition (e.g., good/evil), this analysis demonstrates that Anjali's identity is unstable and subjective defying simplistic categorization as an antagonist. "Re-examining Anjali's character: How interactions and context shape her complex identity, subverting traditional notions of villainy."

Key words: Deconstruction theory, Binary opposition, Character Portrayal

1. INTRODUCTION

This article exerts on the character portrayal of the original text is different from its analysis using deconstruction theory. To show that everything has its double perspective like binary opposition in Deconstruction theory by Jacques Derrida. Chetan Bhagat novels are quietly attracted some readers so, this article shows the readers to know the other perspective of understanding the characters in One Arranged Murder, because the portrayal of character differs after applying Deconstruction Theory.

2. OBJECTIVE

The word "deconstruction" literally means to break something down into parts in order to better understand its meaning. In the philosophical context, deconstruction refers to the process of dismantling language to discover what is really being said beneath the surface; usually, this will be different from what is already considered to be known about the text. The deconstructionist examines not only what the text says but also what it doesn't say in order to ultimately conclude that no text has one fixed meaning and that if one can break down language enough, they will discover that it can mean anything to anyone. For example, consider the culinary industry. A recent trend in the food world is deconstructed dishes, or food that has been broken down into its most significant parts and served dismantled. Chefs who serve deconstructed dishes believe that by breaking down a popular dish into parts and serving it in an alternative way, they are reintroducing people to the dish and giving them an opportunity to experience it in a new way. This use of deconstruction is similar to the deconstruction definition as applied to literature.

Deconstructionism argues that logical structures based on binaries, or binary pairs, are the bones of society and language. A binary consists of two concepts that are presented as being at odds with each other. Examples include life/death, mind/body, and masculine/feminine. However, in analyzing these binaries, deconstructionists have found that the line separating these opposing terms actually connects them, making them interdependent. Life means nothing without the contrasting concept of death to compare it to, for example. So, when practicing deconstruction, one is trying to understand a term or concept by looking to what it is not. To understand life, one must study death. The goal of deconstruction is to become aware of the binary pairs that comprise our thinking and relationships and recognize their instability in relation to one another.

A binary opposition (also binary system) is a pair of related terms or concepts that are opposite in meaning. Binary opposition is the system of language and/or thought by which two theoretical opposites are strictly defined and set off

against one another. It is the contrast between two mutually exclusive terms, such as on and off, up and down, left and right. Binary opposition is an important concept of structuralism, which sees such distinctions as fundamental to all language and thought. In structuralism, a binary opposition is seen as a fundamental organizer of human philosophy, culture, and language.

The ninth book and twelfth book in total written by Indian novelist Chetan Bhagat is titled as One Arranged Murder. The book is a follow-up to Bhagat's The Girl in Room 105, published in 2018. Saurabh Maheshwari and Keshav Rajpurohit, who work at Cybersafe, are great friends. They have also established a detective firm called "Z Detectives" in response to the events of The Girl in Room 105. They have a major argument because Saurabh is going to marry the aspiring businesswoman Prerna Malhotra. Tension increases because of Keshav and Saurabh's divergent viewpoints. Saurabh and Prerna Malhotra are engaged and will tie the knot in three months. On Karva Chauth, Prerna fasts for Saurabh. However, she falls to her death while she waits for him to arrive at the terrace. Saurabh and Keshav take up the investigation and track down the murderer.

Currently, Keshav and Saurabh are directly involved in an investigation to identify the murderer. Both are emotionally invested in the case and are still amateurs at the inquiry. Anjali, another important character, who travels with Keshav and Saurabh for their investigation process. She is an American cousin of Prerna Malhotra who assists with the murder investigation. Anjali suffers from a drug addiction and mental illness. She also feels jealous of Prerna, her twin sister, who leads a luxurious life. The family's own set of restrictions for their own sake is the reason Anjali is envious of Prerna. Anjali encountered numerous mental challenges after separating from her own family and moving in with her father's sister in US. Anjali disclosed the truth about her birth with her twin sister Prerna, whom she had never met, when she returned to India.

Finally, she murdered Prerna because of jealousy. The narrative concludes that Anjali was an adversary. She killed her own twin sister. Then she seems like a good character, and she assisted and diverted the two detectives, Keshav and Saurabh. Later, one of the two detectives, Keshav, approached Anjali to investigate the reality that she was concealing from everyone, so he attached himself to her and created a love track with her to demonstrate her negative side.

Analysing Anjali's character throughout the book reveals that she experienced various traumas both before and after her attempt to assassinate Prerna. On the outside, she looks to be a strong, modern woman, but on the inside, she suffers from boredom and early mental trauma. Before she attempted to murder Prerna, she was traumatised by her family's decision to separate her from them, and after she attempted murder, Keshav mistreated her, leading her to believe she was the one who pushed Prerna from the terrace on her Karva Chauth.

Binary opposition in Jacques Derrida's deconstruction theory is important for analysing and gaining new views on this work. In this novel, One Arranged Murder, Anjali is clearly shown as an antagonist, similar to the character of Bertha Mason in Charlotte Bronte's Jane Eyre. However, when deconstruction theory is applied to this novel, it is clear that it is the other characters in the novel who have caused them to become envious. So, while deconstructing Anjali's character, she was mentally impacted by her own family, and she seeks to assassinate Prerna.

So, the character of Anjali in One Arranged Murder was depicted as the antagonist, but using deconstruction theory in the novel plainly indicates that she is not an antagonist. The family members who have made her become a traumatised person that damages her inner serenity and becomes a murdered.

3. CONCLUSION

This article exerts on the novel's portrayal was different, but applying deconstruction theory reveals that the character of Anjali was not an adversary but was made an antagonist by her family members.

4. REFERENCES

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