



Psychological Approach of Jadis' Act of Violence in Novel Entitled Narnia: The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis

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ABSTRACT

This article presents a psychological analysis of Jadis, the White Witch, a character in the novel "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe" by C.S. Lewis. This research uses a qualitative approach, focusing on in-depth analysis methods regarding Jadis' characteristics and traits. By applying psychological theory, especially Freud's "Id" theory, this analysis highlights the motivations, emotions, and feelings that underlie Jadis' journey in the novel. The research findings highlight the complex psychological characteristics of these characters, including reluctance, anxiety, and social interactions with other characters. The goal is to provide a comprehensive picture of Jadis and encourage further research into her character and critical psychological analysis

Keywords: Character Analysis, Jadis, White Witch, Psychological Criticism, Freud

INTRODUCTION

Literature is a human creation that highlights concepts, feelings, and ideas. Moge (2023) explains, "Literature is a composition that tells a story, dramatizes a situation, expresses emotions, analyzes and advocates ideas." Levenston (1992) claims that since the word "litera" (which means letters) is derived from the word "literature," literature is typically understood to refer to written works. The novel is among the most well-known genres in English literature.

A novel is a literary work that results from the author's thoughts, which can be sparked by their imagination, their experiences, or the

experiences of others. According to Hawthorn (2001), a novel is a lengthy prose fiction divided into one or more volumes. It features people and events with varying degrees of complexity that mirror real-life events from the past or present. As a result, readers of this kind of literary work will encounter unique challenges and complexity.

Analyzing written literary works, especially novels, requires us to focus on essential components, including topic, story, character development, setting, and characterization. To better comprehend how specific characters from the novel affect the

plot, the author of this research only concentrates on their characterizations.

The author is drawn to the writings of C.S. Lewis since he is regarded as one of the world's foremost literary scholars and is well-known for his penchant for creating medieval-themed novels like "The Chronicles of Narnia." Because Jadis the White Witch is the primary antagonist in the book and frequently clashes with other characters, the author selected her as the primary research subject for this study.

Since psychology examines how people behave in response to their surroundings, it impacts how characters are portrayed in literature. The author analyzes this novel using a psychological lens. A literary study approach, the psychological approach, concentrates on the psychological elements found in literary texts (Atar Semi, 2013).

A psychological analysis of Jadis's persona can help readers comprehend her motivations, deeds, and effects on other characters in the book. We may learn more about the nature of evil, the exercise of power, and the psychological ramifications of the protagonist's exposure to it by exploring his mind. This analysis aims to shed light on Jadis' psychological aspects in "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe," elucidating the intricate relationships between her goals, feelings, and acts that mold her persona and the narrative as a whole.

METHODS

In this study, the authors used a qualitative methodology, presenting themselves

as engaged participants in the world they examined. Qualitative research aims to make the world observable through a sequence of probing activities and hands-on experiences. These activities encompass a range of techniques like questioning, comments, assembly, photographs, and private notes, all of which combine to create diverse representations of the world. Working within an interpretive and practical framework, qualitative researchers watch events in their natural environments and attempt to understand or draw conclusions from the meaning people attach to these experiences (Denzin & Lincoln, 2005). Books and online articles served as literary sources of data for this study. A number of steps were engaged in the data gathering process: first, the researcher read "Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe" cover to cover; then, they attempted to understand and analyze the narrative. Lastly, they emphasized speech or narrations that embodied Jadis the White Witch's persona. This methodology is based on a traditional qualitative research strategy that prioritizes contextual interpretation and subject-matter immersion.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

A thorough psychological analysis of the crucial and dramatic scene from C.S. Lewis' "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe," which depicts Jadis, the White Witch, getting ready to kill Aslan, the lion, can reveal the characters' underlying motives and feelings. The impending violence against Aslan becomes a focal point in the narrative, revealing

profound insights into the White Witch's character.

The Queen took from somewhere among her wrappings a very small bottle that looked as if it were made of copper. Then, holding out her arm, she let one drop fall from it on the snow beside the sled. Edmund saw the drop for a second in mid-air, shining like a diamond. But the moment it touched the snow, there was a hissing sound and there stood a jeweled cup full of something that steamed. (Narnia, The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe, p.17)

The White Witch's tremendous power is demonstrated in this scene as she turns a drop of liquid into a jeweled cup, playing with people's perceptions. Ehsani (2021) emphasizes the breadth of the Witch's powers by describing this manipulation as a sequential manipulation of a complicated item despite obstacles and chaos. The violent deed against Aslan marks a turning point in the story and invites psychological analysis of the White Witch's persona.

"How dare you come alone?" said the Witch in a terrible voice. "Did I not tell you to bring the others with you?" (Narnia, The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe, p.52)

The Witch's deeds and utterances reveal a range of feelings, including irrational fear, rage, and an unwavering thirst for power. Her first panic upon meeting Aslan is quickly hidden beneath a façade of ferocious laughter and jests, exemplifying a traditional coping method against

uncertainty and terror. According to Frieze (2019), her verbal abuse of Edmund highlights her conceit and desire for total control and demonstrates a lack of self-control.

The Witch's anger and desire for power are also prominent in this scene. Her actions, such as baring her arms, whetting her knife, and delivering a menacing speech, demonstrate her need to exert control and dominance over others. Her desire to kill Aslan and the subsequent plan to crush her enemies reveal her ruthless and power-hungry nature. They all stated in this narration before killing Aslan,

"Take with you the swiftest of your wolves and go at once to the house of the Beavers," said the Witch, "and kill whatever you find there. If they are already gone, make all speed to the Stone Table, but do not be seen. Wait for me there in hiding. I must go many miles to the West before I find a place where I can drive across the river. You may overtake these humans before they reach the Stone Table. You will know what to do if you find them!" (Narnia, The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe, p.60)

In addition, the scene depicts the Witch's obvious displays of rage and a desire for power, as evidenced by her scary actions and words. According to Ellis and Abrams (2009), Freud's definition of the "Id" refers to intrinsic instincts and impulsive urges. Her vicious and power-hungry personality is demonstrated by her continuous pursuit of eliminating Aslan and her plot to destroy her opponents.

"Speak, vermin!" she said again. "Or do you want my dwarf to find you a tongue with his whip? What is the meaning of all this gluttony, this waste, this self indulgence? Where did you get all these things?" (Narnia, The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe, p.61)

To the fox, she said that thing so rude. This indicates her arrogance, selfishness, and anger. As Koller and Darida (2020) stated that judging, yelling, rebuking, and swearing are forms of verbal abuse. Her selfishness is also showed here when she didn't want to be betrayed although she is a very wicked person to other people. The witch's cunning action showed when Aslan and The Witch negotiate each other. This negotiation has hidden intention which leads to Aslan's execution as form of his sacrifice to everyone. The scene is narrated as follows,

They all obeyed. It was a terrible time this - waiting and wondering while the Lion and the Witch talked earnestly together in low voices. Lucy said, "Oh, Edmund!" and began to cry. Peter stood with his back to the others, looking out at the distant sea. The Beavers stood holding each other's paws with their heads bowed. The centaurs stamped uneasily with their hoofs. But everyone became perfectly still in the end, so that you noticed even small sounds like a bumble-bee flying past, or the birds in the forest down below them, or the wind rustling the leaves. And still the talk between Aslan and the White Witch went on. (Narnia, The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe, p.76)

A noble lion, Aslan, is subjected to the witch's victim's violent act. The scene depicts the Witch's actions as she prepares to kill Aslan, despite the children's emotional reaction to the event. The children's reaction to the scene where Aslan is going to be executed, particularly their decision to cover their eyes and not witness the killing, is also significant from a psychological standpoint. It reflects their horror and inability to confront the brutal reality of the Witch's actions. This response is a natural human reaction to extreme violence and can be seen as a form of self-preservation. This imaged in this part,

"And now, who has won? Fool, did you think that by all this you would save the human traitor? Now I will kill you instead of him as our pact was and so the Deep Magic will be appeased. But when you are dead what will prevent me from killing him as well? And who will take him out of my hand then? Understand that you have given me Narnia forever, you have lost your own life and you have not saved his. In that knowledge, despair and die." (Narnia, The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe, p.82)

The witch only looked out self satisfaction, desire to fulfilling her libido, and self pleasure. This kind of act, Freud categorized her act into Id personality. Yang (2023) stated that The id is "The original and most primal psychological entity, embodying the biological underpinnings of personality. It serves as the repository of fundamental instinctual urges, notably the

libidinal—sexual drives that impel the individual toward seeking pleasure.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Conclusions

In "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe," by C.S. Lewis, Jadis, the White Witch, is analyzed to provide deep insights into the psychological nuances of her persona. It is clear from a qualitative analysis that Jadis represents basic instincts and desires, as seen by her unrelenting quest of dominance and control over others. Her actions reveal a complicated interplay of fury, vanity, and terror, especially in the scene where she is about to kill Aslan.

Further literary analysis study projects would profit from a more in-depth examination of the character interactions in "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe." One line of investigation is to go beyond Jadis's persona in the analysis and look at other significant characters in the story.

Through exploring the psychological nuances of characters like Aslan, the Pevensie siblings, and other Narnia residents, scholars can uncover more nuanced levels of narrative complexity and thematic resonance. Furthermore, investigations that compare Jadis with antagonistic characters from other literary works present intriguing possibilities for comprehending how power dynamics and the nature of evil are portrayed in a variety of narrative contexts. By employing multidisciplinary methodologies that

incorporate perspectives from psychology, literature, and cultural studies, academics can shed light on the psychological archetypes and socio-cultural influences that shape the character development of "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe" and other fictional works.

Suggestions

One way to better understand Jadis, the White Witch, from "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe" is to investigate her motivations and past in order to delve deeper into her psychological complexity. Furthermore, research on reader response and multidisciplinary techniques could provide comprehensive insights, and comparative studies with other literary opponents could further comprehension. Understanding Jadis's character and its wider ramifications could be improved through pedagogical applications that center on psychological analysis in educational settings and longitudinal research that monitor changing cultural attitudes over time.

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