

The Protagonist in Coelho's *Adultery*: Tracing Personality Problem and Pleasure Seeking as Hedonistic Sensations

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ABSTRACT

This paper aims at analyzing the imbalance in the system of the protagonist's personality in Coelho's novel, *Adultery*. The research shows that the protagonist, Linda, is bored and she feels a lack of desire to live because of her predefined and locked daily routine which, for her, is dull, drab and has no adventure. The study is qualitative in nature and follows a psychological approach through the close reading of the textual material. Freud's Theory of Psychoanalysis, Pleasure-principle and Hedonism has been used to analyze imbalances in Linda's personality. It turns out that the protagonist is bored and she feels a lack of desire to live because of her mundane routine. To escape, '*she needs to engage herself in something more concrete-a man*'. For that matter, she involves herself in the act of adultery with Jacob, a high school boyfriend turned politician, who uses her just for his sexual appetite. This new experience of having no pre-set notions and the unpredictable behavior of Jacob overjoys her to the extent that Linda experiences emotional imbalance and decides to go back to her peaceful life, realizing that '*the world is perfect*'. By providing an insight into the subjectivity of human emotions and behavior the present research focuses to build the narrative about Linda's futile efforts to attain the desired happiness and pleasure which eventually resulted in her misery and chaos.

KEYWORDS: Hedonistic sensations, Pleasure-seeking, Imbalance, Freud, Psychoanalysis, Adultery

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1. INTRODUCTION

Human beings are diverse in nature which make them stand out and unique from others. This uniqueness and diversity encompass acceptance for the full range of human characteristics within social, historical, cultural and economic boundaries. This multiplicity of human beings attracts the attention of so many researchers. The human psyche serves a great deal to study human behaviors and drives. Freud's Psychoanalysis theory lays a route to understand "human psychology, the relation between consciousness and unconsciousness and the occurrence of maladjustment in personality," (Freud, 1955, p.6). Psychoanalysis, according to Freud, aims "to facilitate us in resolving our psychological problems which are often called disorders or dysfunction" (Tyson, 2015, p.12). The focus here is on the "patterns of behavior which seem destructive, these repetitive patterns reveal the existence of psychological difficulty" (Tyson 2015, p.12). In order to know the origin of psychological problems present in the human mind, it is important to acknowledge

the concept of unconsciousness. The unconsciousness is the "storeroom of those painful events and emotions, those wounds, suspicions, guilty desires, and unresolved conflicts which we do not want to know about because we feel we will be overpowered by them" (Tyson, 2015, p.12). Freud believes that a person stays in a state of chaos, distortion and self-defecation until he finds a proper way to acknowledge the reasons behind his repressed fears, guilts, wounds, and unsorted conflicts (Tyson, 2015).

The term 'hedonism' is used in numerous contexts. Moral philosophy signifies the view that "a good life must be a pleasurable life" (Mahan, 1929, p.408), while in Psychology, it stands for the belief that pleasure-seeking is the major inspiration of human behavior. "Hedonists are people who are positive about pleasure and who pluck the fruits of pleasure when possible," (Veenhoven, 2003, p.437). Freud's pleasure principle and hedonism have much in common. The Pleasure principle is the "driving force of the *Id* that seeks immediate gratification of all needs, wants and urges" (Freud, 1955, p.4). In

other words, the pleasure principle aims to achieve our most fundamental and primal desires, including “thirst, anger, hunger and sex” (Freud, 1955, p.4). When these needs are not advocated and fulfilled, the outcome is in the form of anxiety and tension. This motivating force helps to drive our actions and behavior and also wants instant satisfaction.

The aim of the present study is to analyze Linda, the protagonist's, character traits that demonstrate her hedonistic behavior and the imbalance in the system of her personality. It further analyses the factors that stimulate her to pursue adultery.

2. Literature Review

2.1 The System of Personality

Personality is the “organized, developing system within the individual that represents the collective action of his or her motivational, emotional, cognitive, social-planning, and other psychological subsystems” (Mayer, 2005, p. 296). It is a concept used in daily life that refers “to global implicit judgments made up of all the impressions and feelings created by someone” (Coaley, 2014, p.178). According to Freud, there are basically three major systems of personality, those include id, ego and superego. Freud states that, in a psychologically strong person, these three systems form “a unified and harmonious organization” (Hall, 1954, p.22). The main purpose of these three systems is to fulfill the desires and needs of a person and if any of these systems is maladjusted, it affects the working of a person. The odds in the system might bring dissatisfaction resulting in the reduction of efficiency. The instability in any of the systems causes displeasure and unhappiness and this chiefly happens when the basic needs are not fulfilled.

According to Freud, the id is the part of the brain where the sensual instincts are placed, “it is a primary source of psychic energy and the seat of instincts” (Hall, 1954, p.24). The only function of the id is to provide “instant discharge quantities of excitation” (Hall, 1954, p.22). It could be excitement, hunger or frustration, triggered by internal or external motivations. The function of the id is to fulfill the primary tenet of life which Freud calls as “pleasure principle”. The aim of the pleasure principle is to get rid of any tension excited by any kind of frustration or pain. In short, the objective of the pleasure principle is “to prevent a person from pain and help him to find pleasure” hence, the id wants “instant gratification of needs” (Hall, 1954, p.22).

As mentioned earlier, id acts to terminate tension. However, id itself does not function to achieve that goal by “impulsive motor activity and image formation (wish-fulfillment)”, rather, “neither impulses nor aspirations provide a hungry person

with food or a sexually frustrated person with a partner” (Hall, 1954, p. 27-28). In fact, the reckless behavior may result in escalating the tension by calling into view the retribution from the external world. Hence, a person requires to take the outer world into consideration i.e. reality either by “accommodating himself to it or by asserting mastery over it, obtaining that from the world which he needs” (Hall, 1954, p. 28). So here comes the performance of the ego which serves as the bridge between id and superego. Freud in Hall (1954, p.28) explains that “the ego is the conscious part of our brain which is trained by fluctuating tensions and interactions between id and superego”. The ego is assigned with a task to settle the conflicting demands posed by the id according to the requirements and standards of the external environment i.e. superego. In short, the ego serves as a reconciliation link between the id and superego. It keeps the equilibrium between them so that the person stays relaxed and harmonious. According to Freud, ego is the “director of the personality, controlling and governing the id and the superego and maintaining commerce with the external world in the interest of total personality and its far-flung needs” (Hall, 1954, p.28). Freud asserts that unlike the id which is administered by the “pleasure principle”, ego is accustomed to “reality principle” whose function is to “delay the emission of energy until the actual object that will satisfy the need has been discovered or reproduced” (Hall, 1954, p.28). By the term postponement, it means that the ego has to endure the energy (tension) until an appropriate form of discharge is generated.

According to Freud, the superego is the system of personality that plays its part morally and judicially. The superego is the individual's ethical and moral code. It functions to control someone's behavior by reminding him whether or not his actions are morally and socially acceptable before it connects with the conscious part of the brain and changes it into the action in the external world. Freud (in Hall, 1954, p.31) adds that the “superego grows out of the ego as a learned behaviour. It acts as the child's absorption of his parents' standards regarding what is good and virtuous and what is bad and sinful. This adaptation in a child's behaviour is meant to make him have his own inner morality and authority to do something which is according to his parent's standards”. So, in the words of Freud,

If the id is regarded as the product of evolution and the psychological representative of one's biological endowment and the ego is the result of one's interaction with objective reality and the province of the higher mental processes, then the superego

may be said to be the product of socialization and the vehicle of cultural tradition. (Hall, 1954, p.34).

2.2. The Imbalance in System of Personality

In the system of personality, the imbalance in the id, ego and superego becomes the main cause behind the neurosis and instability in someone's personality. The imbalance is mainly caused when the ego is incapable to manage the id and superego. Thus, Freud explains that the id, which naturally has egocentric characteristics and wants instant satisfaction of all the needs and desires, when not controlled by the ego, produces tension and frustration. If the ego is unable to suspend the id's selfish needs and cannot bring a solid solution into existence, the person will go haywire thus dominated by their id. The purpose of the ego is to find the object of gratification, it does not know anything about the social norms and laws. Now comes the superego which reminds the person about the moral and ethical codes. However, if a person's ego cedes too much to the id and the superego, the person is said to be neurotic and their connection to the external realm will become discordant (Hall, 1954).

So, the theory of Psychoanalysis was introduced by Freud to cure mental illness by bringing the repressed fears and conflicts present in the unconscious mind to the conscious mind. These imbalances are studied under the umbrella of Freud's Psychoanalysis. Psychoanalysis is "a therapeutic form to cure mental illness by investigating the interaction of conscious and unconscious elements in the mind" (Barry, 2020, p.70). This is the classical method of doctoring the patients who have a mental illness, so as to let them talk without restrictions in such a manner "that the suppressed anxieties, fears, conflicts and struggles" (Barry, 2020, p.70) arise into the conscious mind rather than buried in the unconscious mind.

2.3 Pleasure Principle and Hedonism

Hedonism is the pursuit of pleasure, it is characterized by openness to enjoyable and pleasant experiences. Philosophers distinguish between the ethical doctrine i.e. ethical hedonism and descriptive doctrine i.e. psychological hedonism. The Pleasure principle, according to Freud, "is a driving force associated with the id that seeks immediate satisfaction of all urges, needs and wants". The Pleasure principle strives to satisfy our most basic and primal desires, including sex, anger, hunger and thirst. The fulfillment of these needs leads to tension or anxiety. This motivating force helps to drive our actions and behaviour and also wants instant satisfaction (Freud, 1955). Freud's theory excludes

the possibility of ethics based on psychological hedonism however, it does take into account the importance of pleasure and pain in human behaviour. Hedonism is a philosophy that suggests that "pleasure is all good", it says that "pleasure is intrinsically desirable and that only displeasure (pain) is intrinsically undesirable" (Muti'ah, 2010, p.1).

3. Research Methodology

The study falls under the category of qualitative research model under which all the aspects related to problem formulation are studied closely through textual analysis. Paulo Coelho's *Adultery* was published in 2014. The novel is about a woman in her thirties who has everything to be happy about but she is not getting the desired pleasure from her perfect life. In the pursuit of finding happiness and pleasure, she willingly involves herself in the act of adultery. *Adultery* is an adept novel that investigates the moral and psychological questions that make people tick. The Close Reading technique has been employed for the Textual Analysis of Coelho's *Adultery*. The study aims to analyze the protagonist's drive towards her actions and the factors stimulating her impetus. For that purpose data taken from the novel were the instances which reflected the imbalanced system of Linda's personality, and her hedonistic drives to attain uncanny pleasure.

For the present study, the protagonist of Coelho's *Adultery* has been analyzed under the theoretical frameworks that include Freud's Psychoanalysis, Pleasure principle and Hedonism. All these frameworks are applied to study the different aspects of the main character and the incentives that drive her to fulfill her desires. Freud's psychoanalysis theory is focused on the discrepancy in the systems of personality and the pleasure-seeking principle is used to trace the protagonist's hedonistic sensations in the novel. The main objective of using this framework is: (1) to expose the imbalance of the system of personality within Linda which is triggered by her domination of id and pleasure-seeking drives and (2) to analyze the connection between the imbalance in the system of personality and her character traits which reflects her hedonistic-lust and pleasure-seeking behaviour.

4. Analysis and Discussion

4.1 Linda's Personality Problem and the Dominance of Id

Linda's personality problems arise from her flamboyant yet boring and unadventurous life. From the outer appearance Linda, the protagonist of the *Adultery* seems to have all of it, a wonderful career, loving children, an affectionate husband and a sumptuous house in Geneva. But in the face of all these comforts, she feels terribly alone and the routine of boring life makes everything even more

awful. She is so bored that her “so-called new day” makes her close her eyes again but she can not do that. As her unhappiness descends into depression, thoughts of drastic changes begin to excite her more and more. When her ex-boyfriend meets her again, she is inundated with the desires and admonishes which have slouched hidden for years. Seized by the motivations of her enthusiastic affair, she goes down taking a road she never dreamt she would take thus disrupting her comfort zone and forcing herself to confront her demons. At the beginning of the novel, Linda describes herself as a person who is hesitant to take risks. She says “I realize that I never take any risks at all” (Coelho, 2014, p.2). Among the very decisions of committing adultery one of the reasons was that her “desire for adventure never fulfilled” (Coelho, 2014, p. 2). In the pursuit of doing something risky and adventurous she says, “I am dying to experience something different” (Coelho, 2014, p.76).

Interestingly, the domination of the id, the instant drives, made Linda do what she never dreamt of doing in her life. According to Freud, there are three formations in the system of personality i.e. the *id, ego and superego*. In a psychologically strong person, all of them work harmoniously however if any of these systems cannot work supportively, the systems of personality will be distorted. Freud explains the imbalance in the system of personality which facilitates in the dominion of the id, is called id dominated personality. Freud in Hall (1954) says that the id is the part of the brain where voluptuous impulses are placed. For that reason, Linda, the protagonist of Adultery, got excited with the desire for love and pleasure. “I am mad with desire, needing a man, needing to be kissed and needing to feel the pain and pleasure of a body on the top of mine” (Coelho, 2014, p.30). According to Freud, the purpose of the id is to fulfill the primary principle of life which he calls as “pleasure principle” (Hall, 1954). The aim of the Pleasure principle is to find pleasure and avoid pain hence Linda relinquished all her repressed emotions from years and made a choice to find pleasure. Incidentally, in the novel when she got involved in a lustful relationship with Jacob she said, “All my feelings of impotence, fragility, failure and insecurity are replaced by one of immense euphoria” (Coelho, 2014, p. 56), hence, proving Freud’s claim of “pleasure-principle”.

Freud states that unlike the supremacy of the superego which stops the person from doing something unconventional by creating extreme fear and anxiety, the domination of the id leads someone to break the laws and allows a person to do what he wants. Linda experienced the same impulses, she lays her dominant id to seek pleasure without any

remorse. She says “I feel no regret at all. I did something I’d never done before, that in itself has begun to break down with the walls imprisoning me” (Coelho, 2014, p.60). Freud in Hall (1954) says that when the ego, the modulator between id and superego is forfeited, the person is crushingly caught either by the domination of id or superego. Similar things happened to Linda as well, her morality and sense of wrong and right went haywire due to which she couldn’t control herself and wanted the instant gratification of her desires. When she called Jacob to meet she said “I can’t control myself and I need to see you urgently” (Coelho, 2014, p. 97). Driven by her id, she didn’t even know what she is up to and to whom she is fighting against, her demons and mundane life or Jacob’s wife. Linda’s predicament and jealousy are highlighted from the following lines; “She is precisely the kind of woman I would like to destroy pitilessly. She is the complete woman” (Coelho, 2014, p. 102-103).

Linda’s predicament to her intense sexual life with Jacob and her mundane non-adventurous life is very well summarized by a man whom she met and shared her paradox and absurdity; “If married people for whatever reason, decide to look for another partner, this doesn’t necessarily mean that the couple’s relationship is not doing well. Nor do I believe that sex is the primary motive. It has more to do with boredom, with lack of passion for life, with a shortage of challenges. It’s a combination of factors” (Coelho, 2014, p. 196).

4.2. The Imbalance in Linda’s Personality and the Weaker Ego

In the system of personality, the imbalance in the id, ego and superego becomes the main reason behind the instability in someone’s personality. The imbalance is mainly caused when the ego is incapable of controlling the id and superego. If the id and superego of a person are uncontrollable, it defies the working of the ego. Linda, the protagonist of the novel shows certain traits which trace back to her imbalance in the system of her personality. The issue started with the absurd thinking about her humdrum life. She is so preoccupied with the idea of her “so-called new day” (Coelho, 2014, p.1). The questions like, “what’s wrong with routine and boredom?” (Coelho, 2014, p.3) makes her desire to change everything even more strongly. Despite the strong urge of changing and venturing into new dynamics of life, Linda is caught up by the fear of being unaware. “It’s just.... It’s just the secret fear that everything could change from one moment to the next, catching me completely unawares” (Coelho, 2014, p.3). Linda’s mental dilemma made her question everything, even

her relationship with her husband, "I began to suspect that perhaps our lack of jealousy meant a complete lack of love on both sides" (Coelho, 2014, p.3). Linda is not just questioning the dullness of her relationship rather she has mental illness and depression as well. This is how she highlights the daily struggles and lack of passion in her life; "When I got home and entered the enchanted realm of my domestic world, everything would seem marvelous for a few hours, until everyone went to bed. Then, slowly, the nightmare would begin. I think that passion is strictly for the young. Presumably, its absence is normal at my age, but that isn't what terrifies me" (Coelho, 2014, p. 4).

The deep-rooted depression in the personality of Linda shows that she needs counseling and medical help; "These are the times during the month when I feel really good. And then suddenly, for no reason, I get into the shower and burst into tear" (Coelho, 2014, p.11). As much as she needs medical help, she neglects it thus dealing with her condition on her own. She believes that "many illnesses are the result of repressed emotions" (Coelho, 2014, p.13).

Linda's psychological condition gets even more serious when she could not understand the origin of her emerging anxieties; "It feels like my soul is slowly leaving my body and heading off to an unknown place, somewhere safe" (Coelho, 2014, p. 20). When Jacob's wife brought up the subject of her husband meeting someone else, Linda said, "I feel a pang in that dark corner of my soul where depression keeps knocking but I refuse to answer" (Coelho, 2014, p.44). Her conscience knew that there is something wrong and the discomfort she feels is real but the vain struggle of putting up with life made her personality imbalanced and distorted; "I was stressed but at least that was better than feeling completely indifferent about life" (Coelho, 2014, p.47). Interestingly, Linda's depression emerges from her emptiness. To her, "emptiness is precisely the thing I fear the most and the thing which troubles me most" (Coelho, 2014, p.48). Out of frustration, she at one time exclaims, "I don't have the strength to say what I do or don't want to do. I can't stand myself" (Coelho, 2014, p. 49). Later, in order to end this state of despair, Linda finds a man, "I can't keep thinking about Jacob. I am replacing my missing joy with something more concrete-a man" (Coelho, 2014, p. 62). At this point, Linda is consciously trying to fire her delusional thoughts. She said, "I realize that my unconscious is transforming an imaginary problem into a real one" (Coelho, 2014, p. 63) and more, "I knew there was something wrong with me" (Coelho, 2014, p. 69). For Linda her depression is like "a hole in my soul that drains me of all the positive energy,

leaving behind only emptiness. I know the hole well; I have lived with it for months but I don't know how to escape its hold over me" (Coelho, 2014, p. 140).

According to Freud, if the primal desires of a person do not get fulfilled at the right time primarily in childhood, a gap and breach are left in their personality which is revealed later on in life. Linda's sense of estrangement and loneliness did not emerge out of grey rather it was there even in her childhood; "I realized that I was alone and might remain alone for the rest of my life. Even though I was only eight years old. It seemed like it is already too late to change to prove to the other children that I was just like them" (Coelho, 2014, p. 69). The background to this situation happens to be the incident when she wanted the desired attention of her parents and to seek it she thought of eating poisonous mushrooms.

Linda's sense of guilt, maybe, can be seen when while consummating her sex drive with Jacob, she often questions her morality saying, "where are my morals what will happen if I leave here and resume my normal life?" (Coelho, 2014, p. 182). And then she herself finds justifications for this unprecedented and absurd behavior, when she says, "what happened is very simple. I went to bed with a man because I was dying to do it. Nothing more. No intellectual or psychological justification. I wanted to screw. End of story" (Coelho, 2014, p. 191). To her, adultery did not seem to be a crime. It was rather an outlet to let go of repressed emotions which is the basic predicament to the imbalance of personality. Linda's imbalance in her personality can also be found in the fact that she has different facets in different situations. She said, "I have a side that is honest, kind, caring, professional and capable of keeping my cool at difficult moments but I am discovering a more spontaneous, impatient, wild side. I have stopped being the reserved woman as I always was" (Coelho, 2014, p. 204-205).

4.3. Linda's Pleasure-Seeking Drives and Hedonistic Sensations

Freud's Pleasure principle urges instant satisfaction of all the desires whereas Hedonism is the pursuit of pleasure. The novel shares so many incidents where the protagonist Linda is seen to surrender before her sexual instincts for the sake of pleasure and joy. Linda, according to her point of view, is smart, intellectual and wanted, as at one point she claims, "I arouse desire in men and envy in other women" (Coelho, 2014, p. 2). But with everything she has, her longing for pleasure and intense sexual intercourse has no end. Her basic instinct of sex drives her crazy enough that she succumbs herself to adultery; "I am mad with desire, needing a man, needing to be kissed and needing to

feel the pain and pleasure of a body on the top of mine”(Coelho, 2014, p. 30). The dominating part of her id makes her believe the seemingly absurd and baseless idea of love. Although deep down she knows and keeps telling herself, “you are just a fool, he just wants to get you into bed. He doesn’t care about your happiness” (Coelho, 2014, p. 38) but the need for the gratification of wild sex is more than the need for respect and social warmth and it “does not bother me as long as things are clear. I too need someone to sleep with” (Coelho, 2014, p.38).

Traditional morality suppresses human basic instincts and does not allow individuals to surrender before every desire offered by the id. This suppression and repression cause tension, for which individuals find ways to eradicate it. Humans “feel obliged to repress emotions and desires because they do not fit with what we call “maturity” (Coelho, 2014, p. 55). But for Linda, this does not work smoothly. She rides the ship of reality principle for a long time and now she thinks “that’s what I need to do, relax a little and enjoy life more”(Coelho, 2014, p. 62). She thinks that “we are always practicing self-control, trying to keep the monster from coming out of his hiding place” (Coelho, 2014, p. 149).

Incidentally, we can see that instant gratification brings short term contentment and long term turmoil for Linda; “we made love more passionately than we have in a while, the feeling that happiness had been sucked out of my life disappeared completely” (Coelho, 2014, p.81). The satisfaction of the id wants an instant object of its desire, Linda too wants Jacob to be there for her always as she says “I’m losing control. It’s been a week since I saw you but you’re still here” (Coelho, 2014, p. 81). She faces certain stimulations and her endorphin hormone level increases when she sees a picture of Jacob on a billboard; “They evoke a feeling of euphoria and pleasure” (Coelho, 2014, p. 89).

The pleasure principle and hedonistic sensations make a person direct, confident and free to make choices. Linda with this mindset follows the order of her id and reminds herself, “I’m free to love anyone in the world. I can decide who without asking anyone’s permission” (Coelho, 2014, p. 98). She further pronounces, “I am not going to repress my feelings any longer. This challenges my salvation” (Coelho, 2014, p. 99). She further asserts, “Lately my mind has been rough and tempestuous as the sea” (Coelho, 2014, p. 105), so she needed to trench this mighty thrust of her soul. Linda gives a lot of importance to the physical nature of the relationship so she declares, “when we love someone, we are not satisfied with knowing only the person’s soul- we also want to understand the person’s body. Our instinct encourages us” (Coelho, 2014, p. 135) which

perfectly aligns with the basic idea of pleasure-principle. Yearningly she says, “I have been living in search of what I wanted. It feels so lovely to break the rules” (Coelho, 2014, p. 181). It is true that the strong arousal of id makes humans go haywire without realizing the sensitivity of anything; as we see in Linda’s case, “I imagine someone sees us, and this arouses me even more than kissing my breasts. I’m a slut, a whore hired by an executive to screw at a hotel, up for absolutely anything” (Coelho, 2014, p.182).

One pursuit of finding pleasure is to give less importance to surroundings and more significance to the desire of the body. Similarly, Linda wants to go wild without giving attention to anything around; “How can I have pleasure if I have to be paying attention to what I am doing? Touch my body, drive me wild and then I will do the same for you- that would be more neutral” (Coelho, 2014, p. 136).

After the sexual intercourse with Jacob, Linda says, “I am tired of lying to him (her husband), to myself and to my boss. I feel like this will set me free, even if I have to suffer the consequences”(Coelho, 2014, p. 231), again the sense of guilt, maybe. This is the point where realization hits in and shatters the lousy and weak idea of pleasure driven by the id. To this point Linda knew that and tried to convince (herself) that she was only looking for sex and adventure “but today I realized I was madly in love” (Coelho, 2014, p.232). So in a weak moment, id became a weaker instinct in Linda. For her, “the wave of pleasure felt like it would never end”(Coelho, 2014, p.254) and then she exclaims, “I needed more and more and more”(Coelho, 2014, p.255).

5. CONCLUSION

The present study focuses on analyzing the character of Linda starting from tracing the imbalance in the system of personality to probing the discomfort in her life. The close reading of the text explored the differences and the reasons behind the actions of the protagonist. The personality problem found in the character of Linda is because of the conflict of her system of personality that centers on her domination of the id. Linda being a successful lady, owning a beautiful life seems psychologically distressed. Her constant involvement in doing something which she never did in her life made it even more apparent that she is overpowered by something intangible and she is looking for something concrete to end her despair. For that matter, she is overshadowed by her id. Her id insisted she gratifies her instant needs of sex and pleasure. She could not uphold her dignity and her sane mental impression that is why she succumbed to

adultery. Her seemingly perfect and outlandish life brought her the realization of life that she is no happier and her mundane, humdrum and dull life eventually brings her chaos and depression. So, to end that state of agony and despondency, she committed adultery which is an unreasonable and lustful expression of her repressed emotions. The imbalance of her personality centers on her domination of the id. All her instinctual and baseless impulses were driven by her strong urge to release them with the help of the id. She just did what she thought could find her instant gratification. These imbalances discussed above do not only highlight her personality problems but also feature her pleasure-seeking drives and hedonistic sensations. These sexual and erotic instincts stimulated her throughout to commit adultery. As stated by Freud, sexual instincts are the primal desires which need advocacy, so her primary desire was to be loved madly, although her husband loved her a lot still it was not enough for her. Her pleasure-seeking drives impregnated her to avoid any kind of discordance and pain so she just amplified her joy and pleasure by having intense sexual involvement with her ex-boyfriend, Jacob. The analysis of this research pinpoints and locates all those instances where Linda was not only governed by her Id but also controlled by her hedonistic impulses.

Based on the findings above it is concluded that all these forms of imbalance in personality pointed by in the present study shows that Linda was clinically depressed and she had things going on at the back of her mind. She had her reasons, and she justifies them till the end but the psychoanalysis of the protagonist shows that she had difficulty managing her emotional health and so to end the absurd and illogical state of mind she committed adultery.

This research helps us to develop our understanding of human drives and needs and their efforts in following those drives. The study is primarily focused to discuss the protagonist's idea of pleasure and the adopted ways to attain that pleasure. It also provides insight to the readers about the subjectivity of human emotions and behavior. The research focuses on building the narrative about the imbalance in Linda's personality and her efforts to attain that desired happiness and pleasure which resulted in her misery and chaos.

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