

Tribhuvan University

Quest for Independent Existence in Penelope Fitzgerald's *The Blue Flower*

**A Thesis Submitted to the Central Department of English in the Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in English**

By

Lata Subedi

Central Department of English

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

August, 2013

Tribhuvan University

Central Department of English

Letter of Recommendation

Mrs. Lata Subedi has completed her thesis, entitled “Quest for an Independent Existence in Penelope Fitzgerald’s *The Blue Flower*,” under my supervision and guidance. She carried out her research from 2012 March to 2013 September. I hereby recommend her thesis to submit into viva voce.

Mahesh Paudyal

Date_____

Tribhuvan University

Central Department of English

Letter of Approval

This thesis, entitled “Quest for Independent Existence in Penelope Fitzgerald’s *The Blue Flower*,” Submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Mrs. Lata Subedi, has been approved by the undersigned members of the research committee.

Members of Research Committee:

Internal Examiner

External Examiner

Head

Central Department of English

Date _____

Acknowledgements

I am grateful to Mr. Mahesh Paudyal for his kind support, advice, patient welcome and counsel, valuable and instructive suggestions. This thesis would not have come to the present form without his guidance, assistance and correction of its many mistakes. I am indebted to him.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Prof. Dr. Amma Raj Joshi, Head of the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, for the approval of this thesis in its present form. I am also grateful and heartily indebted to respected teachers Saroj Sharma Ghimire, Maheshwor Paudyal, Raju Baral and all the teachers of Central Department of English for providing valuable suggestions in developing the topic of the thesis and encouraging me to complete it.

My parents and family members have given me constant support, endless love , care, and advice during my study. I am really grateful to my husband- Santosh Kumar Ghimire for encouraging me to do this research. I am very grateful to my brother in law Sanjeeb Ghimire for his help in doing this thesis. I am equally grateful with my sister in laws- Mrs. Shoba , Miss. Sushila and Seerjana for their support. I am indebted to them. My friends continuous encouragement and kind help are worthy to mention

August 2013

Lata Subedi

Abstract

This research explores how Penelope Fitzgerald's novel *The Blue Flower* surveys into a character and his surroundings . It explicates how the central character is passing all this and that circumstances to reach into his freely chosen fate. Such freedom of choice is the working line of a true existential hero. An existentialist hero believes on the dynamicity of human circumstances. It believes on dynamic human nature with place, time and context. Such a changing situation of the existential hero " Fritz" is guided by his freedom of choice and inherent language of his self. During the process of going ahead, he has fallen in love with Sophie- despite family and the society's will. He waited Sophie for years to be married with. But Sophie died so they could not marry each other. In this way, the tragic situation emerged. Fritz managed it and took the way for going ahead. He decided to marry another girl- Julie, a twenty two years girl. As Fritz was dynamic in case of his marriage, so he was in case of his professional choice and study. He has studied different subjects in different places. In this way, the novel is a journey of Fritz into the world of his self knowledge.

Contents

Acknowledgements

	Pages
Abstract	
I. Introduction : Historicizing <i>The Blue Flower</i>	1-12
II. Fritz's Quest for Identity in the Prism of Existentialism	13-38
III. Conclusion : Existential Protagonist	39-40

Works Cited

