

Tribhuvan University

Self-Reflexivity and Parodic Intertextuality in Martin Amis's *London Fields*

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

By

Hom Nath Kattel

Central Department of English

Kirtipur, Kathmandu.

October, 2012

**Tribhuvan University**  
**Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences**  
**Central Department of English**

**Letter of Recommendation**

Mr. Hom Nath Kattel has completed his thesis entitled “Self-Reflexivity and Parodic-Intertextuality in Martin Amis’s *London Fields*” under my supervision. He carried out this research from December 2011 to October 2012. I hereby recommended his thesis be submitted for the viva-voce.

---

Mr. Saroj Sharma Ghimire  
(Supervisor)

Date: .....

**Tribhuvan University**  
**Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences**  
**Central Department of English**  
**Letter of Approval**

This thesis entitled “Self-Reflexivity and Parodic Intertextuality in Martin Amis's *London Fields*,” submitted to the Central Department of English, T. U. Kirtipur, by Hom Nath Kattel, has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee:

Members of Research Committee

---

---

Internal Examiner

---

---

External Examiner

---

---

Head

Central Department of English

---

## **Acknowledgements**

This dissertation would not have been possible without the scholarly guidance, invaluable suggestion and constant support of my thesis supervisor Mr. Saroj Sharma Ghimire of Central Department of English. His invaluable feedback and constructive comments are invaluable to give the final shape of this research.

I am inwardly grateful to Dr. Amma Raj Joshi, the head of Central Department of English for his cooperation and motivation. Similarly, I am grateful to Mr Badri Prasad Acharya, who gave me parental guidance to prepare the thesis proposal.

I like to express my gratitude to my respected teachers Dr. Anirudra Thapa, Dr. Birendra Pandey, Mr. Pushpa Raj Acharya, Mr. Mahesh Poudel, Dr. Ram Chandra Poudel, Mr. Hem Lal Pandey, Mr. Bal Bahadur Thapa, Mr. Pam Gurung, Mr. Shanker Subedi and Mr. Raj Kumar Baral. I am indebted to all the faculty members of the Central Department for their valuable suggestion and genuine insight.

I am equally thankful to my friends, Mr. Laxmi Prasad Oja, Kabindra Bhandari, my brother, Mukti Kattel and aunt, Yamuna Pokhrel who constantly encouraged and offered help during the period of my research. With due respect, I would like to express my sincere gratitude towards my other family members and relatives. Without their cooperation, support and suggestion I could not have written this thesis.

Hom Nath Kattel.

October, 2012

## **Abstract**

Martin Amis's *London Fields* is an attempt to represent the contemporary history of looming threat of nuclear war, socio-moral degradation and loss of humanity near the end of the twentieth century. Amis however creates a fictional plot and characters along with the narrator to represent the real crisis of the contemporary world. The characters in the novel suffer from dilemma because of the changing human norms and values along with the changing century and fear of the nuclear holocaust. They live in such situation where the catastrophe is approaching the world. To refer to the horrible atmosphere the writer brings the dreadful events from the past along with the mythical allusions of catastrophe. On the one hand he deals with the history while on the other; he takes the help of self-reflexive tendency of the metafiction. Amis while writing the history from imagination takes the help of self-critical tendency of metafiction to show the contradictions and multiplicity which resembles the Lyotardian notion of "incredulity towards metanarrative".

## Contents

	Page No
Letter of Approval	
Acknowledgements	
Abstract	
I. <i>London Fields</i> as the Postmodern Historiographic Metafiction.	1-16
II. Self-Reflexivity and Parodic-Intertextuality in <i>London Fields</i> .	17-49
Self-Reflexivity in <i>London Fields</i> .	34-40
Parodic-Intertextuality in <i>London Fields</i> .	40-49
III. Incredulity towards meta-narratives.	50-53
Works Cited	54-55