

Tribhuvan University

Repressive Psychosexual Desire in Jeanette Winterson's *Lighthousekeeping*

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

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March 2014

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Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Dipak Kumar Neupane has completed his thesis entitled “Repressive Psychosexual Desire in Jeanette Winterson’s *Lighthousekeeping*” under my supervision. He carried out his research from January 2013 to February 2014. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for *viva-voce*.

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The undersigned members of the Research committee have approved this thesis entitled “Repressive Psychosexual Desire in Jeanette Winterson’s *Lighthousekeeping*”, submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Dipak Kumar Neupane.

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Acknowledgements

The credit for the preparation of this thesis goes to my respected research supervisor Hem Lal Pandey, Lecturer at the Central Department of English (CDE), Tribhuvan University, for assisting me with his scholarly advice during the research.

Moreover, I would like to take this opportunity to thank, Prof. Dr. Amma Raj Joshi, Head of Central Department of English, who was always there to suggest me with his intellectual guidance. Besides, I would like to remember respected teachers Mr. Badri Prasad Acharya, Mr. Khem Raj Khanal, Mr. Pradip Giri and Mr. Shankhar Subedi for their scholarly guidance and cooperation in making this thesis to this format.

I am deeply indebted to my parents Mr. Devi Prasad Neupane and Nainakala Neupane for their great help and constant encouragement. I also take this opportunity to thank to my wife Sabita Neupane (Bhattarai), lovely daughter Drishna Neupane and son Darpan Neupane, without whose support and good wishes, my dream of completion of Master's Degree in English would not have been accomplished.

At last, but not the least, I sincerely thank my brother Paras Neupane, sister Bhawana Neupane and Goma Devi Neupane (Pokhrel) and friends Iswar Pandit, Krishna Prasad Neupane, Manoj Giri, Indra Bahadur G.C. and Deepak Dulal, for their genuine support, ideas and suggestion. Beside this, who are not named above; however, owe my thanks, either way.

Dipak Kumar Neupane

March 2014

Abstract

This research analyzes the repressed sexual desires of the main characters like Pew, Silver, Babel Dark and Molly in the novel *Lighthousekeeping* by Jeanette Winterson. The novelist has presented a commentary on the relation of modern spouse. Moreover, this research shows the dichotomy of culture and nature and its impact on the characters. Due to the dichotomy of culture and nature, their psycho-sexual desire is repressed. Their repressed sexual desires are manifested through different symbols, dreams and storytelling to each other. Specially, Babel Dark is attracted towards Molly to satisfy his sexual desire as he is not satisfied with his wife. Similarly, Pew and Silver satisfy their desire by telling erotic stories. While studying characters it is found that sexual desire plays important role in their life which they negate as well as accept. At the same, there is manifestation of the psychosexual conflict in the behaviors and characters relationship. Babel Dark, being dissatisfied with his wife, negates the sex in his external life but at the same time he accepts it in his internal life with his beloved Molly using different name and identity Mr. Lux. Silver is unmarried adolescent girl who is interested in Pew's stories. On the other hand Pew is an old bachelor who tells erotic stories to Silver. In this way they manifest their repressed sexual desires. Longer negation or suppression of desire is destructive as it ultimately results in pitfall is the finding of this research.

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