

Tribhuvan University

Subversion of Patriarchal Norms in Arthur Halley's *Hotel*

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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Letter of Recommendation

Mr. Birendra Gurung has completed his thesis entitled "Subversion of Patriarchal Norms in Arthur Halley's *Hotel*" under my supervision. He carried out this research from July, 2014 to December, 2014. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for viva-voce.

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Letter of Approval

This thesis entitled "Subversion of Patriarchal Norms in Arthur Halley's *Hotel*" submitted to the Central Department of English, Kirtipur, Kathmandu by Mr. Birendra Gurung has been approved by the undersigned members of the research committee.

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Abstract

This research analyzes Hailey's *Hotel* as the defiance of social norms through the lady characters of the novel, i.e. Christine Francis, Duchess of Croydon and Marsha Prescott. What made them to live a life with constant struggles are the matters of concern in this research. Theories of feminism are taken as the methodological tool particularly the concept of Mary Wollstonecraft, Virginia Woolf, Simon de Beauvoir, Elaine Showalter and Judith Halberstam to foreground the struggle of females and their attempt to release themselves from the clutches of patriarchal discriminatory normativities so as to live a life with independence and without any restrictions within the society and domesticity. It is Christine Francis's female masculine attitude to live the life of her own, not designed by the patriarchy. It is her own choice to live her life in the circumstances she is living. The Duchess of Croydon dominates the male characters and often makes the decision of her own. Similarly, Marsha, despite being nearly raped by four men in the hotel, struggles a lot to protect herself and protest against the patriarchal norms. Thus, due to their valiant nature, they have lived the life of constant struggle. Their reluctant attitude to subvert the male oriented social norms and cultural values are the hallmark of the novel.

Contents

	Pages
Acknowledgements	
Abstract	
I. Introduction: Female Masculinity Versus Patriarchal Norms in <i>Hotel</i>	1-9
II. Audacity of Patriarchy in <i>Hotel</i>	10-42
III. Defiance of Patriarchal Norms	43-44
Works Cited	