

**Tribhuvan University**

**Alienation and Escapism: An Existential Study of Walker Percy's**

*The Moviegoer*

**A thesis submitted to the Central Department of English  
in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of  
Master of Arts in English**

**By**

**Tulasi Ram Paudel**

**University Campus  
Kirtipur, Kathmandu**

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**Tribhuvan University**

**Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences**

**Approval Letter**

This thesis entitled "Alienation and Escapism: An Existential Study of Walker Percy's *The Moviegoer*" submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University by Mr. Tulasi Ram Paudel has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

**Members of the Research Committee**

Internal Examiner

External Examiner

Head

Central Department of English

Date:

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## **Abstract**

This study on Walker Percy's *The Moviegoer* focuses on modern man's alienation in America. In the novel, the protagonist, Binx Bolling suffers from severe self-alienation which results from disintegration of his life in modern American society. He then resorts to the fictitious world of movies. As he watches movies, the impersonal images on the screen seem to offer him vision into the purpose and meaning of his own life. For him, watching movies becomes watching life and watching life becomes living life in the real sense. Thus, Percy shows Bolling alienated from society and lost in fictitious world of movies to expose haunting sense of present decadent capitalistic values and the fragmented self of modern American man.

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