

## **I. The Issue of Determinism in *The Time Traveler's Wife* by Niffenegger**

The present research work aims at analyzing scientific determinism in Audrey Niffenegger's *The Time Traveler's Wife* in which most of the actions and life as a whole of the protagonists are inevitably determined by biological inheritance, sociological background, psychological state, and the current environment. This research focuses on how the attempts of the characters, Henry , Clare and Alba exercise their free will and establish their individual identity are shattered due to heredity and environment.

Determinism is a philosophical doctrine, which holds that every event has its antecedent causes. Certain set of factors or causes are responsible in the occurrence of every event or action. This research relies on scientific determinism.

This research attempts to analyze the struggle for existence, and survival of the fittest among the characters: Henry DeTemple, Clare Abshire and their daughter Alba. It also tries to expose how the characters are involved in the struggle for existence and how they get affected due to weak variation after failing to adjust them to the changing environment.

*The Time Traveler's Wife* is the debut novel by American novelist Audrey Niffenegger. It is a love story about the protagonist Henry Detemple, who is a man with genetic disorder that causes him to the time travel unpredictably and about his wife, Clare Abshire, an artist who has to cope with his frequent absences and dangerous experiences. Henry has a rare genetic disorder, which comes to be known as Chrono –Displacement that causes him to travel involuntarily repeatedly. He begins time traveling at the age of five, jumping backward and forward relative to his own time line. When he lives, where he goes and how long his trips, are all beyond his control.

The destinations of Henry are tied to his subconscious. He most often travels to the places and times related to his own history. He also searches out pharmaceuticals in the future that might be able to help control his time traveling. He also takes the advice of a geneticist, Dr. Kendrick. He cannot take anything into the future or the past. He always arrives naked, and then struggles to find out clothes, shelters, foods, etc. He misses a number of survival skills including pick-pocketing, self-defense, and lock-picketing. He does those things just for survive. The second part of the story begins with Henry and Clare's married life, marked by Henry's frequent absences. Clare now worries about him in his absence. She also starts to feel trapped in their small apartment. She is unable to pursue her work as an artist. Henry tries to get information of his problems with the support of Dr. Kendrick. Henry explains to the doctor that he time travels time and again, which will later become "Chrono-Impairment". His problems would be solved by his great effort. He tells Kendrick that they will work on solving his problems.

Faced with Henry's frequent absences, Clare starts to wish for a baby so she could feel relief by her child in her husband absence. Both Henry and Clare experience six miscarriages because Henry's condition appears to be heredity. The miscarriages put a strain on Henry and Clare's relationship. Clare becomes weaker than in the past. Finally, Clare becomes pregnant again. She has good feeling about her pregnancy and she gives birth to a daughter, Alba. Alba is diagnosed with Chro- Displacement as well. Unlike Henry, she has some control over her destinations when she time travels.

Third part of the story tells about the life of Clare after the passing of Henry. In 1984, Clare's brother accidentally shoots Henry. Before he dies, he returns to the Clare arms. Clare is traumatized by Henry's death. Thus, this research tries to prove that those

like Henry who could not fight, lose the life sooner and those like Henry's brother who are strong to fit in the environment, live a life.

Many critics with various dimensions such as love, loss, death, amputation, sex, time, etc have looked up this novel. Some categorizes the novel as science fiction, other as romance. Charlie Lee potter writes in *The Independent*, the novel is "an elegy to love and loss." The love between Henry and Clare is expressed in a variety of ways including thought and analysis and history of couple sex life. (7)

Berona David comments on Library Journal about *The Time Traveler's Wife* as

An odd and enchanting love story. Most of us meet the persons we love when are adults, when the children we were are long gone. Henry and Clare – though decidedly mixed blessing of Henry's Chrono Displacement Disorder- have it both ways. It is a story of intense devotion filtered through time – of two people who share the best and worse of going up as soul mates in a world that can change in an instant. (5)

Another Critic Kate Zambreno comments the novel on *The Times* as “The book may even serve as a feminist analysis of marriage as a partnership in which only the male is conceded the privileged of absence.”

Sew Arnold describes the novel from the psychological point of view. As he says: Niffenger never lets her carefully –designed world get out of control.

There are certain "rules" to Henry's travel ... for instance, he tries not to tell anyone what will happen to them in the future that he'll return to an altered world; he never travels far outside the time boundaries of his life (in others words, no dinosaurs or medieval knights make a appearance in

this book); and he revisits events in his life more than once, even if it means watching his mother die a horrible death over and over. He never knows exactly when he'll be taking a trip. (7)

Thus, Arnold comments the novel based on American dreams and psychological point of view. When Henry's mother died in car accident, he started to travel aimlessly.

In this regard, it becomes clear that the text has been analyzed from the various dimensions. This research contends to prove the issues related to the Darwinism. To analyze the novel from the perspective of Darwinism, it is important to note the motif of the novel. Novel's motifs directly or indirectly provide the clue to claim that the novel is not far from the Darwinian vision. In the first chapter of my research, I have put forth the issues from the deterministic perspective of the world. Niffenegger reveals the vision where she presents the character struggling for the existence.

The second chapter is discussion about the issues of struggle from the perspective of Darwinism. It focuses on the individual struggle for food, territory and sex. Sometimes, chance and coincidence play determining roles. The one who succeeds survives and who fails extinct. The fittest has to face the constant challenges from the environment. If he becomes capable to cope with that, changing himself slightly, then he has good chance to survive. Anyone who tries to impose his will upon an antagonistic or indifferent world, then his exertion creates Promethean conflict leading to his destruction.

The third chapter of the research is the textual analysis of the novel from the perspective of Darwinism. Every individual wants to be the fittest, but that depends upon the adaptation, which is the hallmark of Darwinism. Even the slightest weakness can bring crisis in his existence.

The fourth chapter is conclusion of my research work where I have summarized how the novel is suitable viewed from the Darwin's point of view. Environment guides a rational and modest individual to violence and hostility, which are always undesirable. Anytime man can break this bond when he cannot get solace in this mortal order. Like a beast in jungle, he wants to exercise all his power. In course of fighting, many may lose life. Those weak and maladapted variations have to die to provide the room for the fittest. Upon observing these short of tendencies of the writers and commentaries given by many critics, I have decided to conduct a research on the novel focusing the life story of Henry with the perspective of scientific determinism .i.e. Darwinism.

## II. Issue of Struggle and Existence: Darwinian Perspective

Charles Darwin propounded the theory of natural selection and evolution, which simultaneously became the foundation of modern evolutionary studies and challenged the aged longed belief regarding the origin of human beings. On the one hand, this was a matter of profound shock for Victorian society, to suggest that animals and human beings shared common ancestry. On the other hand, this non-religious biology appealed to the rising class of professional scientist. As a result, by the time of his death evolutionary imagery had spread through all of science, literature and politics. Darwin's sustained study of natural world provided him with the facts that the planet earth and all the species in it come through evolution based on natural selection. His book *The Origins of Species* (1859) revolutionized the man's conception with regarding to nature and define the creation story based on Testaments that universe was created by God having certain "purpose" and "Design." Darwin's discovery evolving nature of species challenges the biblical account of a static creation in which man had been deliberately placed at sacred culmination and center.

Every field of intellectual thinking was affected by the newly developed hypothesis which prophesized the effect of psychological temperament, instincts and environment besides determining the intellectual arena of human beings. Awareness is the fact that society and nature are based on struggle rather than harmony. Before Darwin, Malthus observes that individuals born in each generation die ultimately because of the lack of food sources and calamity. Darwin elaborates that there must be a struggle and that natural laws are responsible for creating new species to fit into new environment.

Darwinism is a scientific doctrine about the origin of species. Newly observed facts like natural and sexual selection, heredity, variation, descent, struggle, adaptation and environmental determinism gives true profile of humanity. It explains the realities and significance, causes and consequences of man's violent nature and his instinctual behaviors along with heredity and environmental contributions.

Nature always maintains the balance in the ecosystem by eliminating the unprofitable variations and preserving the fittest. There is struggle for existence and among individuals for the various species. The rivals may be the individuals of the same species or some predators or the fatal environment whatever. Darwin remarks, "thus natural selection will act constantly to improve and to maintain the adjustment of animals and plants to their surrounding and their way of life." (245)

It is environment and natural setting that give constant challenges to the existence. One has to modify himself in accordance with the need of the changing environment. The development towards a new state of existence, which is acceptable and profitable to the demands, is called an adaptation. It is possible only after variation. Such variations are individual because of their heredity and environment. Because of variations, all individuals have different nature and feelings as well the way of behavior. Darwin defines his idea of natural selection:

Individuals having any advantage however, slight over other would have the best chance of surviving and of procreating their kind, any variation in the least degree injurious would be rigidly destroyed. This preservation of favorable individual differences and variations, and the destruction of

those which are injurious, I have called the natural selection, or the survival of the fittest. (54)

Darwinism challenges religious foundations and social institutions turn out to be the arbitrary expressions of human necessity. Human no longer is a fallen angel, formed in a divine format but a jealous beast whose nature and behavior are motivated internal and external forces beyond his control. In nature and society, there is a continuous struggle for existence. Some internal and instinctual drives like anger, violence, sex, and desire for material possession make him subject to the social, economical, and environmental changes. Tolerance and kindness are human virtues but the ruthless suppression of the rivals also a particular duty in the dictionary of biology and evolution. Bloody battles and warfare for existence have filled the pages of evolutionary history. Man is still possessed of the original predatory instinct, which demands brutal actions, but civilized society and moral obligations and social contact have modified the instinct at rational level.

Survival is the supreme motive in animal life, which is a matter of violence force. Various topics like sex, disease, anger, jealousy, obscenity are found in the realm in biological competition. In nature some individuals are produced than can possible survive and there is powerful and acting form of selection. Changing conditions invite variation among species. Whether the individual variation is profitable or not, is of the greatest importance. Natural calamity, self-destructiveness and human weaknesses cause destruction of many. All organic being involve in competition to grow up and increase in numbers. Darwin writes “all organic being are striving to size place in the economy of



nature, if any one species doesn't become modified and improve in a corresponding degree with its competitors, it will be exterminated." (66)

Extinction and natural selection go simultaneously. Creation is a process not an end. In addition, this process is accidental because no prediction can be made about the adjustment. When this revolutionary mechanism shifts to the consciousness level, that blind struggle changes into the conflicts of consciousness, resulting into such notions as morality, religion and culture. The revolution in biology spurred by Darwinism is premised on new concepts of man and nature, which has remolded the profile of humanity and the caste of society. The definite act of creation was replaced by indeterminately long natural process. If man has essence of beast, how can he possess the immortal soul, destined for reward or punishment? Man's relations to nature got no meaning. He is not a fallen man but an ape. Such innovation brought a new dimension to the literature as well as philosophy. Morse Peckham defines:

Darwinism is a scientific theory about the origin of biological species from preexistent species, the mechanism of that process being an extraordinarily complex ecology which can be observed only in fairly small and artificially isolated instances. It reveals a world not of accident precisely but rather one in which "accident" becomes a meaningless problem. (304)

The evolutionary ideas brought a pessimistic outlook that man's volitions are determined by preexisting circumstances. Biological or materialistic determinism maintain that our voluntary acts find its sufficient causes in the psychological conditions of the organism. John Herman Randall Jr. comments on the influence of nature:

It forces moral choice on men, inspires them to creative works of art man's searching intelligence, his problem of moral choice and obligations, his ideal enterprises of art, science and religion are all inescapable parts of nature, they are ways in which man has learned to encounter and operate with his world (318).

Evolution by natural selection has led gradually to the existence of human beings with minds. We have struggled millions of years to be human, to be special kind of animal. The animal who thinks Darwin himself remarks: "the moral nature of man has reached it's present standard, partly through the advancement of his reasoning power and consequently of a just public opinion." (560)

### **Natural Selection**

Darwin discovered the laws of evolution, according to which the universe is full of struggle and elimination. New species come into existence by a process, which is described as accidental. Who could vary among its individual under the changing environment are selected for survival. They are the fittest. Environment plays the greater role in the extinction of the species. This is to maintain balance. Nature decides who should die and who should live. T.H. Huxley elaborates, "the struggle for existence tends to eliminate those less fit to adapt themselves to circumstances of their existence. The strongest, the most self assertive, tends to tread down the weaker." (327)

Individuals struggle for food, territory and sex. According to the physical strength, the issue is fierce. Sometimes chance and coincidence play determining role. The one succeeds survive and the failure means the extinction. The fittest has to face the

constant challenges from the environment. If become capable to cope with that, changing himself slightly, then he has good chance. Darwin writes:

A grain in the balance may determine which individual shall live and which die- which variety or species shall increase or finally becomes extinct. As individuals of the same species come in all respects into the closest competition with each other, the struggle will generally be most severe between them the slightest advantage in certain individuals, at any age or during any season over those with which they come into competition, or better adaptation in however slight a degree to the surroundings physical conditions, will long run turn balance. (115)

Every animal is capable of self-defense and fights fiercely when it has no means to escape. The fighters gain an obvious advantage of its behavior. Sometimes the passive and the patient one can gain a lot when the fierce fighters are destroyed by each other. If the two stronger and the vigorous rivals are involved to possess the territory or the desired female, the output is good. Unless the social organization demands close associations, the individuals spread far away as their habitat

Variations occur between individuals of the same species and under differing environmental conditions. Great number of mortality in nature is accidental and non-selective. One alone survives who have something extra advantage over other. Such variation or modification is produced by the alterations in the environment or difference in heredity constitution or both. Sir Charles Lyell writes "... the surrounding conditions in the organic and inorganic world slowly alter in the course of geological periods, new

“races which are more in harmony with the altered state of things must be formed in a state of nature”(242).

Evolutionary morality says that there should be open competition for all men and the most able should not be prevented by laws or customs from succeeding best and rearing the largest number of off-springs. One has to drive away to kill the rival and has to be selected by the female for sexual selection. Darwin writes that the sexual struggle is of two kinds:

One , it is between individuals of the same sex, generally the males in order to drive away or kill their rivals, the female remaining passive whilst in the other the struggle is ... to excite or charm those of the opposite sex, generally the females which no longer remain passive, but select the more agreeable partners. (204)

The mechanism of evolution is blind, automatic, and unconscious. The close crowding of many individuals in a small area brings violent reaction, which may be released, in aggressive behavior. As the demonstration of that is strictly prohibited in moral and ethical boundary, that remain aggressive behavior. As the demonstration of that is strictly prohibited in moral and ethical boundary, that remains suppressed. Peter Kropotkin remarks: “it is the unconscious recognition of the force that is borrowed by each man from the practice of mutual aid and of the sense of justice, or equity, which bring the individual to consider the right of every other individual as equal to his own.” (456) In spite of the immense warfare and extermination, there is also mutual support and defense. Sociability is as much a law of nature as mutual struggle. After man’s

emergence into life's stage faith, courage, truth, ethics were introduced. Darwin writes, "Social animals are impelled partly by a wish to aid the numbers of their community in a general manner" (201)

### **Environment and Adaptation**

Natural selection operates to fit the individuals to their environments. Every individual wants to be the fittest, but that depends upon the on the adaptation which is the hallmark of Darwinism. Even the slightest weakness can bring crises in his existence. Sometimes they willingly sacrifice themselves by performing selfless acts to benefit others. Such altruism is favored. Kropkin says in this regard: "those animals which acquire habits of mutual aid are undoubtedly the fittest. They have more chance to survive and they attain, in their respective classes, the highest development of intelligence and bodily organization." (411)

It is after all biological adaptation to environmental conditions, so that the species can survive through sufficient source food and place in nature. There are continuous disputes. Nature always wants to get free of the weak and poor to make room for the better. Both mental and physical characteristics are examined and the radical defects lead to extermination or extinction. One loss his life because of foolishness and idleness in the same class as the victim of weak malformed structure. All are equally put on trail. If they are sufficiently complete to live, they live otherwise they should die.

We can inquire the effect of environment of our mental, physical, half-conscious, half-instinctive, intellectual preference which determine our behavior and thought.

Environment creates problem as well as easiness for survival. One has to modify himself

according to the demand to adapt him to the changing and even the harsh condition of life. Regarding the effect of human psyche, Konrad Lorenz writes : “ hunger, anxiety, the necessity to make difficult decisions, overwork, and hopelessness and the like all have the effect of sapping moral energy, and in the long run, making it break down.” (437)

Nature is indifferent force acting on the living of human being. Heredity characteristics also affect human behavior. People have different ways of thinking and behaving because of the genetic differences preserved by racial, cultural, discrimination and different conditions. Margaret Mead remarks “ I have considered the specific cultural conditions under which a given innovations is made possible as well as the way in which period he state of knowledge and types of existing interaction among people provides a context in which clusters of individuals act.”(424)

If an individual is a victim of heredity and environment, and a creature of brute compulsion, he is not a free and responsible agent for his actions. So all are compelled to seek joy of life in its violent and cruel struggles. Man is driven by the psychological intensity and unconscious demand too. Sir Julian Huxley says about the biological determinism, “a character is always the joint product of a particular genetic composition and a particular set of environmental circumstances.” (248)

Culture and religion determine man’s choice and behavioral patterns. The psychological circumstance within different cultural periphery has obvious impact upon man’s physical behavior. Margaret Mead comments : “ a cluster of interacting individual who within the special condition provided by the period and culture make choices which set a direction – a channel-in which events tends to follow until other points of divergence are reached.”(424)

## **Territoriality and Aggression**

The brute within each individual is composed of strong and often warring emotions, passion such as lust, greed, or the desire for dominance or pleasure, and the fight for survival in an amoral, indifferent universe. Human species carry a huge mass of unconscious in his mind. He is always prompt to territoriality and aggression. That remains inherent unless ventilated in the warfare. Such cannibalism makes him a subject to evolutionary mechanism that shows man as a belligerent in the genes. Richard E. Leacky and Lewin write about the human nature:

the proponent of aggression try to tie us down, to narrow well defined path of behavior, human are aggressive, they propose because there is a universal territorial instinct in biology, territories are established and maintained by displays of aggression.(440)

Therefore, aggression is sometimes crucial part for the survival. It is released in the conditions threatening and in the critical hour when the food sources are limited and the competitors are many. Modern vandalism can be one example of that.

## **Human Temperament and Mishap**

Rightly, developed individuals are the supreme product of evolution. In this world, he is the means by which the species emerge to a hopeful phase. It is the part of price we have to pay for being a man. One the one hand, tolerance and kindness are virtues, but on the other hand, ruthless suppression of the opponents is biological necessity. Stephan Jay Gould writes, “Violence, sexism, and general nastiness are biological since they represent one subject of a possible range of behaviors. But peacefulness, equality, and kindness are just as biological.”(464)

Darwin's universe is not founded on design or god, but on accidents and natural selection, which is a self-regulating mechanism. The world is in a process of change, but without any prior intelligence. Man is seen to be a part of nature. Bertrand Russell has elaborated that scientifically:

Man is a product of causes which had no provision of the end they were achieving; that his origin, his growth, his hopes and fears, his loves and his beliefs are but the outcome of accidental collections of atoms, that no fire, no heroism, no intensity of thought and feeling can preserve an individual life beyond the grave all are destined to extinction in the vast death of solar system. (539)

Human life appears to be a mysterious and melancholy thing merely a brief struggle of the helpless against the irrational and dominative external forces. Suffering and dissatisfactions are also necessary components to move forth towards the optimistic phase. Man is controlled by environment and heredity whose life is but a worthless repetition in the never ending process. Russell further remarks:

The whole temple of man's achievement must inevitably be buried beneath the debris of a universe in ruins only within the scaffolding of this truth, only on the firm foundation of unyielding despair, can the soul's habitations henceforth be safely built. (539)

Everything in the universe is in the process and there is no miraculous interference. Evolution is adventitious and only through the deaths of immense numbers of maladapted organisms we are here today. Accident and errors of past prefigure the present. Until now we have been living with several unpleasant biological truths like



death, disease, natural catastrophe. Man is heir as well as martyr. All human being have to give sacrifice as a passive victim. Sir Julian Huxley writes: “nor will clear ethical vision prevents us from suffering what we feel as injustice at the hands of the cosmos- congenital deformity, unmerited suffering, physical disaster, the earthly death of loved ones. Such cosmic injustice represents the persistence of chance and its amorality into human life.” (334)

Biological determinism seeks out those points in life where great conflicts occurs and rejoice in the battle of the elemental forces like love, hatred, revolt, sociability human are like a brush in the hand of an artist who is a mix of societal manipulation and chances. Human being is the mercy of these forces and is simple the instrument through which they expressed. Helplessly, he attempts to exercise free will, but unwillingly falls to the merciless hands. Free will remains a illusion. Human are no fearer to change their behavior than falling stones are free to change their direction. And neither human nor falling stones are responsible for their behavior or movements.

Reason, imaginations and creativity are man’s highest achievement as well as the source of all evil which is thus ineradicable. Modern man has a huge mass of unconscious, confusion, duality and superficiality. He is never source of himself. So, there is no path of salvation or nirvana. Rather such trend alienates individual from other. Albert Camus thinks of nirvana, which is an image of nature, based on human’s conception of individual’s essential powerlessness has the effect of cutting the individuals who pursue such a goal from all other men. Man can impose morality and ethics upon the cosmic process where he is a protagonist. Social progress means checking of cosmic progress at every steep.

### **Free-will as Illusion**

Rewards and punishment for moral behavior make a sense only if the actions are caused independently. Our every decision is connected to outside or historical causes or influences. Our ignorance about behavior keeps us preparing for and fighting wars, suffering and hunger. We human are often determined to do stupid mean and immoral things because these acts are lawful in our circumstances and from our psychological demands. We act on our own volition. Our will is not totally free; we cannot totally will ourselves to do just anything. What we will that is not accidental. The neurons in our brain leading to thoughts and actions are lawful, our thoughts, intentions, hopes and will all have causes but we are ignorant of that. About human nature Richard Tarnus comments:

Man was not an absolute, and his cherished values had no foundations outside to himself. Human character, his mind and will come below, not above. The structures not only of religion but of society, of culture, of reason itself now seemed to be relatively arbitrary expression of the struggle for biological success. (327)

Rousseau looks upon the social organization as a necessary evil which contributes to the development of standards. Human being is naturally good but societies criticize him. Nietzsche also criticizes the current standards which are against nature because they favor the weak, the miserable in the form of charity, pity etc. they are obstacles in the way of true progress. There is a freedom nowhere, but absolute necessity is everywhere. All human actions as well physical events are necessary results of accidents. Emile Zola, the French naturalist started the trend of experimental novel, which is based on such concepts:

The experimental novel is a consequence of the scientific evolution of the century; it continues and completes physiology, which itself leans for support on chemistry and medicine; it substitutes for the study of the abstract and the metaphysical man for the study of natural man, governed by physical and chemical laws and modified by the influence of his surrounding; it is one word the literature of scientific age. (649)

Overall, evolution is the gradual development of the characteristics of individuals by means of natural selection. All individuals act in a different way to claim their existence. The selection depends on the qualities of the species who attempt to adjust with the severe condition of their life. Only the favorable qualities enhance their life and the harmful traits bring calamity not only to himself always but to others of his community. In community, there are winners and losers. Such a long continued natural selection filters the required members and separates the weak and helpless. However, in nature, too much appears to be accidental than selective. The powerful and ever active have the right to live and have sex with the opposite sex. But the physical strength and over sensitivity alone can not be the fruitful measure always in rational society. The positive human features like patience and wit are also equally determining factors.

If violence, aggression and territoriality are the inborn traits of homosapiens, society cannot overpower them totally which may outburst at any movement when an individual is defeated or discouraged by the so called social morality and ethics. Powerful males always fight for the possession of female, applying all their sober and aggressive manners. In domesticated society, female also select the sexual partner.

Every territorial dispute ends with the minimum injury of either side. Such law is deeply embedded in Nature. Life is after all a free fight.

Environment, heredity influence, and the instinct always contrast with human will. An inexplicable force drives him. He is compelled to do otherwise. Man's socio-economic factors largely shape his outlook towards others. Social habits make an individual altruist, which led him to aid and defense his fellows. Human's intelligence and moral choices are also inescapable parts, which have conditioned the development and self-realization of the individuals. All individuals are forced to suffer painful conflicts where there is no escape. If nature is totally indifferent towards human misery, there is no harmony between man and nature.

### **III. Struggle for Existence in *The Time Traveler's Wife***

Audrey Niffenegger's *The Time Traveler's Wife* presents characters, who are like puppets in the grip of heredity and environment. Heredity and environment are the forces that determine their thought, behavior and their lives as whole. The characters are shown to be living throughout their lives at various crises and are clogged in a terrible impasse where the questions of ethical choices, personal judgments and free will become irrelevant.

The novel analyzes from the perspective Darwinism. Darwinian theoretical terms such as survival of the fittest, struggle for existence, adaptation, circumstances favorable to man's power of selections, individual differences, and bears on natural selection, etc. apply to the analysis of the novel. As Darwin discovered the fact that the present form of human beings is descended from some kinds of primates, the characters used in the novel also resemble in many ways to the Darwinian fact and therefore, they look like animals. The animalistic instincts are evident in most of the characters as they show vicious and brutal behavior. Moreover, they are driven by sexual instinct in somewhat unusual and animalistic way. The chief law of life internalized by the characters is the law of "Survival of the Fittest" and "Struggle for Existence."

The central characters Henry De Temble, Clare Abshire and their daughter Alba, who are like a doll in the hands of heredity, circumstances and the surrounding environment. Heredity and environment determine their thought and behavior. The impact of heredity and environment is so absolute and effectual that Henry's every effort, endeavors to shape his life gradually, and finally doesn't cooperate with him. He seems to be facing life at a crisis and engulfed in a terrible deadlock of circumstances where the

question of choice and autonomy becomes extraneous in his life. The attempt to exercise free will to overcome the indispensable influence of these determining forces proves unsuccessful.

Henry DeTemple is the central character of the novel who is rational and quick person. He is handling the life by facing different problems. His every activity is purely logical, due to which he is able to establish himself as a struggling character. In the novel, he seems to be facing many economical, environmental problems for survival. Not only Henry, Clare also involves in many activities for survival. Her attempts to make a baby alive become worthless. Finally, Clare's brother shoots Henry and he dies in the arm of Clare. It shows in the struggle for existence the only strongest and fittest survives and weaker eliminates.

According to Roseau, “man is a product of causes, which had no provision of the end they are achieving. ...” (539). Internal or external things affect the behavior of the characters. Heredity is an internal thing, which affects the human behaviors, which Darwin calls “Genetic Values (7)”. In the novel, Henry is a patient of Chrono-Disorder, which transforms him as a posteriori as genetic things, which appears in his daughter Alba too. Due to the genetic disease, he loses control over himself. Where he lives, where he goes, or when he comes back all are out of his control. He visits the different historical, cultural and natural places but he cannot get any sense or knowledge of them. His travel is for travel’s sake not for gaining something else.

I have absolutely no conscious control over when or where I go, how long I stay or when I come back. So time travels tours of the Riviera are very unluckily. Having said that my subconscious seems to exert tremendous

control because I spent a lot of time in my own past, visiting events that are interesting or important, and evidently I will be spending enormous amount of time visiting you, which I am looking immensely. (166)

In the novel *The Time Travel Wife*, the character Henry is the victim of genetic disease, which transforms him as a syndrome. He is unconscious character to control his disease. He visits various doctors for treatment. Dr. Kendrick is a molecular doctor who detects his disease in 2006. As the doctor mentions, Chrono-Disorder is a disease, which transfers through gene.

He's your doctors; he's a big expert on Chrono- Impairment.

Explain?

I don't know very much. Dr. David Kendrick is molecular geneticist who discovered- will discovered- why people are Chrono- impaired. It's a geneticist things; he figured out in 2006." She sighs. I guess it's just way too early. You told me once that there are a lot more chrono- impaired people about ten years from now.

I've never heard of anyone else who has this – impairment.

I guess even if you went out right now and found Dr. Kendrick he wouldn't be able to help you. And we would never have met, if he could?

(14)

The above lines show how the hereditary disease affects Henry and his behavior. Doctor Kendrick tries to find out cause about the disease. To take advice from him, Henry meets him repeatedly. Due to the genetic things, it is complicated to figure out the Henry's disease. Not only Henry, but also his daughter Alba is victimized from the disease.

Henry's genetic characteristic transferred to Alba. She has no control over time and situations. Her wish to celebrate carefree life seems impossible in the face of genetic determination. According to Darwin, "heredity disease and some others facts make me believe that the rule has a wider extension" (6). Human efforts, practices, and traditions appear useless before hereditary forces. The heredity and its effects seems stronger than the character's will.

Alba knows the contemporary rules and regulations imbedded in the society but she is the victims of genetic things. She utters the different words, but does not know what she is saying. Even Alba's activities are out of her control. She asks Henry about the illness,

Daddy?

What's a CDP?

Chrono- Displace Persons.(389)

In fact, the governing laws of nature over the character are mysterious in the novel. Neither Henry nor Clare can predict about the effect of environment and surrounding. According to Darwin,

The laws governing inheritance quite unknown; no one can say why the same particularity in different individuals of the same species, and in individuals of different species, is sometimes inherited and sometimes not so; why child often reverts in certain character to its grandfather or grandmother or others much more remote ancestor. (5)

In the novel, unlike Henry, Alba can sometimes control herself. However, sometimes, her activities look like as uncontrolled as that of Henry. This fact infers that the same genetic



condition and problem can have different effects upon different people. The whole programming lies in the nature and its implantation is different on the character. The same disease affects Henry and Alba differently. In Henry's case, some ancestral qualities are evident in him. For example, his facial expression is similar to his father. Henry's father faces the different troubles in his life. His heredity characteristic totally transfers to Henry. There is partly impact of gens over Alba. On the other hand, Henry faces all the problems, which his father faces. Henry's father is a sick person who has problems of agitation, bogus, restlessness, and loss of sexual functions we see in the following lines:

Well,...dystoina, akathisai, pseudo-parkinsonism. That is involuntary muscles contractions, restlessness, rocking, pacing, insomnia, immobility, lack of facial expression. And then there's tardive dyskinesia, chronic uncontrollable facial muscles, and agranulocytosis, the destruction of the body's ability to make white blood cells. And then there is a loss of sexual function. (248)

Survival is the supreme motif in Darwinism. Both Henry and Clare have awareness about the society and nature based on struggle rather than harmony. Natural laws are responsible for creating new generation to fit into new environment. They do struggle for surviving, adapting to the new environment and Alba struggles for adapting to the changing environment. They are in the struggle in the sense that to save the life they meet the doctor. They gain maturity through the inherent struggle to find out the disease. Their effort turns out to be fruitful when they are finally able to discover their problem. First, Henry does the struggle against the disease.

In struggle for existence, human beings think not only about life but also successful living by facing many problems. According to Darwin, “Existence in a large and metaphorical sense, including one being to another, and including (which is more important) not only the life of the individual but success in living progeny” (41). In the novel, Henry and Clare not only think about their lives, they also involve themselves to earn a successful living. They try to have baby but face so many problems. Henry says:

I’m just like a person.

Well, I’m just like a person, too. It’s funny that Clare is bringing this up; back in 1998, Dr. Kendrick and I are engaged in philosophical trench warfare over this very issue. Kendrick is convinced that I am a harbinger of new species of human, as different from everyday folks as Cro-Magnon man was from his Neanderthal neighbors. I contend that I’m just a piece of messed of code, and our inability to have a kids proves that I’m not going to be the missing link. (68)

Creation is a process, not an end. The creation process is accidental because there is not final judgment about the creation. In the above given lines, even Henry and Clare get nervous about their marital life and unsuccessful attempts to have a kid. Henry thinks he is dislocated. But the reality is far better than this. The surrounding is not favorable to them. When he knows the reality, his ignorance changes into the conflict of consciousness. Henry seems helpful and goes to help Clare. He knows that the life is struggle and unpredictable as well. His confusion is seen in the lines, “... it was still your real life, and I was desperate for anything that helped me believe you were real and not some psychosis of mine. That’s also why I was always touching you.” (231)

In the novel *The Time Traveler's Wife*, most of the characters are struggling in different ways for survival. For example, the central character Henry puts his efforts in different activities. He involves even in immoral activities like pick pocketing. Similarly, Clare works as a librarian at Newbery station. On Thursday, June 7, 1973, Henry visits the art institute of Chicago where he shares his survival strategies to Clare. One strategy he shares to her is, how to be a good pickpocket,

I feel moderately bad about these whole things. On the one hand, I am providing myself with urgently required survival skills. Other lesson in this series including Shoplifting, Beating people Up, Picking locks, Climbing Trees, Driving, Housebreaking, Dumpster Diving, and how to use Oddball Things like Venetian Blinds and Garbage Can Lids Weapons. On the other hands, I am corrupting my poor innocent little self. I sigh. Somebody's got to do it. (49)

It shows human beings involve in different activities for survival. He knows pick pocketing, beating people, housebreaking etc. are illegal activities in the society and they are against the rules and regulations. Nevertheless, he does them. Because at any cost he has to survive. As he goes on coming across crisis, he goes on repeating them repeatedly. By and by, he is adapted to them and starts enjoying. Not only Henry but his friends also involve in such task. They involve in such work smoothly as a team. Henry is happy with his job. He asks questions himself, “Why can’t I always time traveler?” (49) It shows he is enjoying with his present job as a pickpocket or housebreaker. He says:

It's not so hard,

I say. Pay attention. Look for someone who is distracted. Figure out where the wallet is. Most man use either their back pocket or the inside pocket of their suit jacket. With women, you want the purse behind the back. If you're on the road street, you can just grab the whole purse but then you have to be sure, you can out turn anybody who might desire chase you. It's much quieter if you can take it without them noticing. (49)

Henry becomes professional criminal and involves in many such activities. He shares such skills to his beloved Clare. It shows to preserve the life Henry works by threatening number of enemies. As Darwin says, “in many cases, a large stock of individuals of the same species, relatively to the number of its enemies, is absolutely necessary for its preservations” (46). Here, the police arrest and put him in the prison. In September 28, 1982, he seems in the back of police car. The police put him in the prison by blaming him of breaking the house. However, the interesting thing is, he is arrested more than seven times. When the police know him through his fingerprint and photo, they despair themselves. Based on the definition of Darwin, it seems the police and Henry are the same species in different manners. According to their profession, they are enemies to each other. One is destroyer and the other is constructor. But they are related to each other. It is necessary to be both good and evil in order to preserve life. Police save the life of Henry that is why Henry is arrested more than seven times. And he is still alive and teaches some survival lesson to Clare.

I show other techniques: how to take a wallet from the inside breast pocket of the suit, how to shield your hand from view while it's inside a

women's purse, six different ways to distract someone while you take their wallet, how to take a wallet out of a backpack, and how to get someone to inadvertently show you where their money is. He's more relaxed now, he is even strain to enjoy this. (52)

Thus, not only Henry but Clare also knows some survival skills from Henry. She knows the survival skills and tricky way to find out money. In addition, she develops criminal mentality. Thus, both Henry and Clare have awareness about the structure of the society and they also know that it functions based on the struggle. In addition, every struggle is connected to the surrounding. They do struggle for the sake of their own life not for the others. Clare works not only as housewife but also as a staff of library. Not only that, sometimes, she engages with Henry as a mugger. Her struggle is only for the sake of her own life, not for the others.

As Darwin says, A spices of same genus have usually, through by no means invariably, some similarity in habits and conclusion, and always in structure, the struggle will generally be more severe between spices of the same gens when they come into competition with each other, than between spices of distant genera(50).

Clare's struggle is for getting Henry and to have a baby becomes fruitful. She struggles to find out her enemies when she sees the women dress and others things related to the women in Henry's room. Her enemies are human beings, not animals and other things. Therefore, she fights with the same spices. On the other hand, her father tries abusing her but she fights successfully. Thus, Clare fights with her enemies and proves the successful character.

The mechanism of evolution is blind, unconscious and automatic. It is natural law, that the strongest always threatens the weaker. According to T.H. Huxley, “the most self-assertive treads down the weaker” (327). The strongest wants to kill the weaker and tries to establish his identity. At the beginning of the novel, Henry gives challenge to Clare’s father, Jason. He tries to show his seniority by threatening him. Henry asks Jason,

Who ... are you?

I’m here to teach you manners, since you have none. I drop my mocking tone, and walk close to him, and say softly, “How could you that to her? She’s so young. She doesn’t know anything and you have completely fucked up everything...

She’s a ...cock ...tease.

She has no idea. It’s like torturing a kitten because it bit you.

Jason doesn’t answer. His breathe comes in long, shivering whinnies. Just as I am becoming concerned. (98)

Here Jason seems inferior in the face of Henry. Henry abuses him harshly. He cannot express his words even Henry mocks at him. Henry seems strongest in front of Jason. New generation come and establish their identity by facing many challenges.

Not only natural selection, but also sexual selection also plays the equal role to determine the way of life. To generate new spices, two opposite sex must unite. In Darwin words, in the case of animals and plants with separate sexes it is of course obvious that two individuals must always unite for each birth (64). In the novel *The Time Traveler’s Wife* Henry and Clare involves in sexual intercourse to make baby. Even Henry suffers from the horrible headache he take a part in sexual intercourse. Clare says:

We fuck carefully, silently. When I finally come it's so intense that I get a horrible headache, and for a minute I'm afraid I'm going to disappear, but I don't. Instead, I lie in Clare's arm, cross-eyed with pain. Cares snore, quiet animal snores that feel like bulldozers running through my head. I want my own bed, in my own apartment. Home sweet home. (215)

As M.H Abram, a person's inherits compulsive instincts – especially hunger, the drive to accumulate passion and sexuality. (261) in the novel Clare and Henry, both guide by such unconscious drives. In the given lines, Henry seems the patient of horrible headache, who faces constant challenges. He is lying on Clare arms. On the other hands, he is guided by sexual drives. To increase his sexual drives past memories where he lives in joyful environment plays the pivotal role. He remembers the nights at the field museum where his parents did the sex in front of him. He says: “Dad read to me for a while, and then, seeing that I still couldn't sleep, he and mom turn out the light, propped open my bed room door, and went in to the living room. Father comes back and say oh baby. Still wake up?” (25)

These colorful nights comes time to time in his life. He always remembers that night, which helps him to increase sexual desire. In the above given lines, it is proves that people cannot control their sexual drive. Even Henry suffers from the disease, he involves in sexual intercourse.

According to Darwin, sexual struggle is of two kinds: one struggle is of between individual of the same sex. In the struggle of the same sex, the male wants to kills the rivals. At this time female remains passive. However, female cannot stay long time without sex. She wants to select agreeable partners. In the novel too, Henry wants to kill

Jason who tries to rape Clare. Clare also agrees to kill her father. Henry carries handgun to kill him. I stick the gun in my overcoat pocket (96). Here, he forgets everything except to kill her rivals. Clare father is rivals of Henry who tries to abuse Clare. So Henry wants to kill him. "I am going to kill this guy. I am going to cripple him. Where do I find this guy? (95)" Clare also seems to support him. When Henry goes to kill Jason Clare also wants to attend. Clare says, "I want to be there."(96)

Nevertheless, it does not stay long time. On the one hand, she is emotional. When she sees the condition of her father who is a patient of asthma, she loves him instead of killing. She wants take care him by using medicine. She request Henry to use medicine. She holds up the inhaler, looks at me. "Darling, do you know how to use these things?"(98)

Her patience stays no longer. She suffers from the sexual drives. She wants to do sex anymore. Being emotional, she says

"You can't accept me to help you out there. It may be my only hope. :day after day, weak after weak, I will languish, starving for a kiss, weathering away for want of a blow job, and after a while you will took up from your bookand realize that I'm actually going to die at your feet if you don't fuck me immediately. (230)

It shows instinctual drive control human wills. Clare is control by such invisible forces, which is out of her control. Sexual drives Clare is guided by the sexual drives. She wants to involve in sexual intercourse in any cost. Even there is struggle between Henry and her father where Henry seems stronger Jason. She cannot stay long time passive because of the emotional characteristic, which is embedded in her unconscious mind. But



Henry seems to kill his sexual drives not by sex but by killing his rivals. On the other hands, Clare is ready to seek the alternative if Henry does not ready to fuck her. She is ready to die in his feet of Henry if he does not fuck her. I'm going to die at your feet if you don't fuck me.(232) Here, Henry seems rational where as Clare seems irrational and emotional which determine her thoughts. Here, Henry proves that powerful males always fight for the possession of female, applying his entire sober and aggressive manner. He is forced to suffer painful conflicts but there is no way to escape. Finally, he involves in sexual intercourse, which can be seen in the dialogue spoken by Clare. "Henry do the people have a sex as much as we do?"(229)

### **Environment and Adaptation:**

Niffengger presents the character who are struggling for their existence. For existence or survive, they are fighting with the surrounding environment. As T.H Huxley says the struggle for existence tends to eliminate those less fit, adopt themselves to circumstance to their existence. In the course of history, the one who succeeds survive and who fails extinct. The fittest has to face the challenges from the environment as well as the society. In the novel *The Time Traveler's wife*, Henry and his wife Clare has to face six miscarriages in their life. Finally, she gives birth to Alba.

Seeing Clare with a baby in her arms, the reality of our miscarriages grabs me and for a moment I feel nauseous. I hope I am not about to time travel. The feeling retreats and I am left with the actuality of what we have been doing; we have been losing children. Where are they, this lost children, wandering, hovering around confused. (346)

Thus the children who cannot adopt the environment, they die. Henry's couple attempt to make a baby alive become worthless. They do worthless repetitions but the result is zero. Outwardly or inwardly, they become the victim of environment. It shows the dominant role of environment is important. The environment where they live is opposed to them. That is why they do try to make a baby six times.

Everyone wants to be the fittest but it depends on the adaptations, which is the hallmark of Darwinism also. To be miscarriages means no to adopt the environment. Not only one time, they face multiple miscarriages in their life. If the surrounding environment was adoptable, they had not been sufferings. Such things we see in the novel too:

you guys still trying to have kid?

I am startled by this until I realize that Clare probable tells Charisse everything, and Charisse probably tells Gomez nothing

Yeah

"Is Clare still upset about that miscarriage?"

miscarriages. Plural. We've had three.

to lose one child, mr. DeTemble, may be regarded as a misfortune; to lose three looks like carelessness.(347)

The effect of environment in Henry's mental, physical, conscious level seems to strong which determine Henry's thought, behavior and ultimately life as a whole. In the given lines due to the unadoptable environment, they face the miscarriage problem. Newborn child cannot adopt the changing environment. The environment inside the womb and the environment of surrounding are different for them. It shows unadoptable environment create the problems to the humankind and their way of life.

According to Julian Huxley a character is a product of particular genetic compositions. Genetic things affect the personal identity, behaviors etc. in the novel too heredity or genes transform to Henry's family. Henry mother dies and his child dies. It denotes genetic things works as a cause to die the children. Not only environment but also the surrounding circumstances also affect the characters behave in the novel. Henry questions himself about the causes to die the infants.

"What is the problem that is causing you and Clare to be san infants? (348)"

The character is conscious about their pains and suffering. Henry and Clare are disappointing about their problems. Their mind is dwelling whether they are victimizing by environment or something else. Clare says:

Henry looks very alarmed.

The mother died.

Kendrick nods. The mother died and the baby died, we couldn't figure it out. So, we started watching them around the clock, and then we saw what was going on. The embryos were travelling out of their dam's womb, and then in again, and the mother bled to death internally or they would just abort the fetus at the ten – days marks. It was very frustrating. (360)

Both the character realizes life is not free. Knowingly or unknowingly their life is join with the past. Henry life is also no different from that. His mind is not stable because of the mother death. On the other hands, Clare and her friends suspends about Clare miscarriage. They do not know about the cause of the death. They blame to Henry is the cause because Henry's mother already dies, his babies also die. It seems the genetic things transform as heredity. Otherwise, their six attempts to make a baby alive become

meaningless. They repeat the worthless repetitions. Clare womb does not work properly because of the multiple repetitions of miscarriage. There is not suitable environment inside the womb to the embryos. Due to the unadoptable environment they died. Clare say, our life is tangled tangled together (149). It seems she cannot experiences the free life. Her life is joint product of environment and circumstances.

Genetic science holds the view, our genes determine who we are at the level: physical' behavioral and emotional. Genetic things transformed as caused to die the children. It might have integrated these characteristic from the parents. From the very beginning, Henry likes to travel as their parents did. His body structure and physical fitness is similar to his father. Other character like, Maary Christina has transformed some heredity qualities, which can prove by the following lines:

I think I know what she wished for; I think she wished not to get any taller. that's what I would wish if I were her, anyway. Marry Christina is the tallest person in our class. She's 5' 9". her mom was little shorter than her, but her dad is really, really tall. Helen asked mary Christina once and she said he's 6' 7". She's the only girl in her family, and her brothers are all older and shave and they're really, really tall too.

### **Human Temperament and Mishap:**

Individual is the supreme product of evolution. Characters feel pride for being a man in the novel too. Tolerance and kindness are virtues for human beings. It helps to find out the identities and behaviors of the characters. In the words of Stephen Jay Cloud, peacefulness equality and kindness are biological which determines man's innate nature (446).on the one hands tolerance and kindness are human virtues, which show the

peaceful nature. On the other hand, human beings carry the huge mass of unconscious in his mind, their determined their way of thinking and behavior. In the novel *Time Travel Wife*, Clare father is guided by such unconscious drives. Character involves some immoral activities due to his unconscious drives but it is biological things. Clare father's mind is not stable. He does not see the morality, society, and culture. He tries to rape his own daughter.

Clare is fallen silent again.

Clare. Did he rape you?

No. he said I wasn't ... good enough. He said – no, he did not rape me. He just – hurt me... she can't say it. I wait. Clare unbuttons her coat, and removes it. She pills her shirt off, and I see that her back is covered with bruises. They are dark and purple against her white skin. Clare turns and there is a cigarette burn on her right breast, blistered and ugly. (95)

On the other hand, Henry is high tempered man. When he knows reality of Clara, he comes in angry mood and tries to kill the person. He does not think more about the reality. He just makes a goal to kill her father. He says: "I am going to kill this person. I am going to cripple him. Do you want to do anonymously, or do you want him to know it's from you." (96)

Sentiments and morality also plays equal role to control the powers. In the novel, Clare is guided by such drives. First, she allows Henry to kill his father by using bullets. When Clare sees the condition of her father who is suffering from the asthma. She asks: "Are you asthmatic?" (97) She forgets the past and comes in reality. She loves her father and involves caring him. Clare arrives and she asks to Henry about the use of Inhaler. She

says; "Darling; do you know how to use to this thing? (98) Clare proves that peaceful nature, tolerable mind and kindness heart can win the evils. Her peaceful mind encourages reaching the destination. She cares Henry patiently every times. Henry does not know about Clare even he visit frequently Clare home. Henry says "Obviously she knows me; I don't know her (5)." Her behavior and peaceful mind helps her to reach the destination. She loves Henry and sees the dream to marry with him. She says; "dreams are different than real life but important too (44)." She faces obstacles in the family. Her family does not like Henry and their relations. She cannot love Henry openly. The family environment is opposed to her that is why she hides Henry in front of her father in the Mary Christmas and in her birthday. Anyway, she is cool minded person who attempts every works so patiently. When she sees women make up gars in Henry's room, she does not get angry. She makes fun about it. Finally, she gets marry to Henry, and be a mother of Alba. It shows that tolerance and peacefulness is biological things, which guide Clare in the practical way of life that helps her to catch the destination.

On the contrary, Henry and Jason are such character who are guided by the hugs mass of unconscious and violent nature. Their unconscious desire and violent nature guide their ultimate way of life. Henry wants to prove superior man by killing Jason. He goes to kill him but due to the polite request of Clare, he just threats and come back. On the others hand, Jason also makes the plan to kill Henry. He makes the plan with his son. Finally, Jason's son shoots him and Henry dies. It shows Henry rebellious nature kills himself. Which we see in the following lines;

He is heavy in my arms, so heavy, his pale skin torn apart, red  
everywhere, ripped flesh farming a secret world of blood. I cradle Henry.

There's blood at the corner of the mouth. Firecrackers explode somewhere nearby.

Gomez says, "I think we'd better call the police. (516)

The destructive nature of human being kills himself if the competitor is stronger. Here it seems Henry's devastating nature kills him where he seems inferior in the face of Jason. Jason proves superior by killing Henry, and which all are the result of rebellious nature and unconscious mind.

### **Free will as an Illusion:**

The story of the novel moves whether there is free will or deterministic forces guide the character. In some cases, Clare feels torn between embracing and rejecting the determinism of her life. On the one hand, she is enjoying the security of knowing she will be with Henry. On the other, she rebels against Henry's predestination of the future when it comes to her dream of *having a baby*. Henry is one of the first people diagnosed with disease. Clare and Henry attempt to live in normal life, pursuing familiar goals, job, good friends, and children of their own. Something invisible forces challenge all of these, they can neither control nor prevent. Their activities, behavior, actions, and everyday decisions are not free. Inwardly or outwardly, it relates to the circumstance. According to Richard Tunnel, human character, his mind, and will come below, not above. In the novel *The Time Travellers wife* Henry DeTemple and his wife Clare life is not free even they want to celebrate the free life. Their every day activity joins to the past. They themselves realize their obstacles and hindrances, which have close affinity with the surrounding environment. Some deterministic forces guide them. Henry says:

Clare's feet are cold in my hands; they are very pink and very clean.

Okay, I say,

Let's see. The choices we're working with here are block universe, where past present and future all coexist simultaneously and everything has already happened; chaos, where anything can happen and nothing can be predicted because we can't know all the variables.(76)

It shows Henry and Clare live in the chunk world. Their present live is connected with the past and future as well. Their present and future life is the result of past. Nothing is free. Present, past and future are co-exist simultaneously. Human actions and behaviors link to past activities. The above lines indicate such things, where Henrys free will is disturb by deterministic forces. He is distorted everywhere. His identity is linked to the past activities, which proves by uttering this words, “ everything is already happened.” (76)

No one can predict his or her future. Human’s life is out of his or her own control. In the novel neither Henry nor Clare, knows their future. Henry does not do every activity what he desire nor does he always desire to do what he do. He is not absolute but the result of past actions and activities.

Rousseau looks upon the social organization as unavoidable. According to him, human being is naturally good but society criticizes him. In the novel, Henry does not have any religious faith. He seems free to think and act every decision. He widely thinks about religious notions and its implementation on the society. For him, to remember the dead people is meaningless. He says:

I wish for a movement that Time would lift me out of the day, and into some more being one. But then I feel guilty for wanting to avoid the



sadness; dead people need us to remember them, even if it eats us, even if all we can do is say I'm sorry until it is as meaningless as air. I don't want to burden this warm festive restaurant with grief that I would have to recall the next time I'm here. (11)

He believes that to worship the dead people are meaningless. At the beginning of the life when he does not know about religious values and its norms and implementation, he takes everything freely. He does discriminate anything like food, behavior, colors; religion etc. he says "I assure her that I am a good boy. Who eats everything whatever puts in front of him. (175) The way of thinking does not stay long time. When he visits the Church and knows he is from Catholic community, then he changes his mentality and starts to say; I don't eat pork (171). Social organization makes him ill-mannered. When he knows his community is Catholic, he goes to the Church every day. He starts to discriminate each other based on color, religion etc. he starts to say 'Black ladies'. It is society and social organization, who teach ill-mannered and discriminate ideas to Henry.

### **Interaction among the Character's**

The characters use in the novel, are from the different community. Henry's family belong Catholic. They seem aristocratic in the community. "My family is posh. They're very wired about it, too."(12) Henry mother is from the upper class. Even Henry father is poor; he marries to the reach person. "So he married the boss's daughter." (12) On the other hand, Henry's father and mother are musicians. They play violin. It shows the family is the combination of upper and middle class and engage on the same job even they represent the different class and community. There is class system on the Clare family too. Clare cannot love Henry openly. Her father threats him frequently about their

love. Her father dominates Clare. There is cook in the Clare home, who provides everything to her family. “Nell and Etta” “Nell is our cook.”(10) Dr. Kendrick is the representative of modern science and technology, who proves Henry and Alba’s disease based on Causes and effects. “Side effects” “these drugs block dopamine receptors.”(248)

There is interaction and communications based on profession among the characters. Police represents the role of ruler, where as Henry seems as a destructor of the rules on the community. It means the society is the combination of constructor and destructor and who guide the society. These two opposite force is necessary in every community. The people of the present world are like Henry and Clare who believe on both science and religion. Like Henry, they go hospital and Church at the same times. they have a dwindle mind to follow the proper way of life.

### **An Oasis of Hope**

Environment, heredity influence, and the instinct always contrast with human will. Inacceptable forces drive human beings. Socio-economic factors largely shape his outlook towards others. All individuals are force to suffer painful conflicts where there is no way to escape. The instinctual forces are the self-destructive demons, which determine the way of life. Every man wants to possess the hug property to be reputed in the society but he does not know how long will he stay on the earth? In the novel the Time Traveler’s Wife, Henry life is uncertain when he dies because of the complicated genetic disease. The genetic disease determines how long he survives. However, he does not concern about the life and his concerns goes to earn money. He wants to live better life than the relatives and neighbors. He says, “We are attempting to buy a new house. Better than Charie. Shopping for house is amazing. (291) Clare also guided by greed,

passionate, and jealousy. She skims the path to collect property. Not being satisfied with the present living, she says, “our life together in too- small apartment.”(272) she forces Henry every time to settle life properly. Which we see in the following lines, “when you live with women, you learn something every day. (285)

Victorian age is marked as a period of great transition in many aspects of life. By the end of the Victorian period, literature, religion, and social values were analyzed by different viewpoint. Darwin books *The Origin of Species* comes in new way by challenging the conventional way of thinking about god. Darwin proposed the theory that man actually evolved from a looser species rather than having been created by higher power. Doubt, uncertainty, alienation, and scientific innovations of the Victorian age brought social and spiritual pessimism. There is impact of such pessimistic feeling on the literature too. Based on time, the novel *The Time Traveler’s wife* have been written in 2004. Niffenegger’s follows the trend of Victorian writers and there is the impact of Darwinian theoretical notions in her writing.

After publishing *The Origin of species*, people observe critically everything. They judge everything on the bases on scientific observations. Human being starts to worship knowledge and mind rather than religious values and norms. Niffenegger worship such values by writing the novel in twenty first century. We get the logic, cause and its effects, and its results on her writing. We get her scientific knowledge by the voice of the Henry in the following lines, “knowledge is power and all that also I’ve always been hungry curious to find out” (16). It shows twenty- first century people believe on knowledge and respect the scientific investigation. Science believes on observation and its results. This believe of observation can be seen in the lines through the Henry’s voice, “my vast power

of observations have led me to the conclusion. Human suffering can measure based on its cause and effect which carries the scientific notions. Niffenegger presents such beliefs on the following lines through Clare's voice,

We started by clothing your genes and then used enzymes to snip out the damaged portions of DNA. Then we took those pieces and snuck them into mouse embryos at the four-cell-division stage. That was easy part.

That's our Darwinian advantages. (359)

The above facts show Niffenegger is true naturalist who draws the dark and dismal picture of human being who are living in nature. But in some cases, unlike others fictional writers, she tries to work out an ideas, which can give solace to the people who are living in despair movement, that is "Love and Brotherhood". No matters, how the human beings are inflected and injured by nature, they always share the pains and suffering each other's. In the choice less and meaninglessness world, Niffenegger's tried to find out some choice and meaning through love and brother hood.

In the novel, *The Time Travel Wife*, there is good relationship and co-operative manners among the characters. Even the character are guided by some infeasible forces They help each other in the difficult situations. When Henry feels seek and admitted in the doctor clinic, Gomez, Clare old boy boyfriend helps him. Henry attends the Birthday party of Christine, who is enemies of Clare, and he helps to cook in the party. At the end of the novel, when Henry dies, Gomez and his girlfriend, Christine helps Clare and establishes their relationship.

#### IV. Environment and Adaptation

The researcher has applied Darwinism to prove “Determinism” in Audrey Niffenegger’s *The Time Traveler’s Wife*. Darwinism affirms that the nature is the whole of reality; therefore, it can be understood only through scientific investigation. Naturalism having close affinity with Darwinism, is the foundation upon the novelist, Niffenegger creates the word, which can be scientifically analyzed and interpreted. The characters are shown to be motivated primarily by biological, economical, and social forces, in which these forces determine their behavior, activities and life as whole. In facts, Niffeneggers portrays characters who are victimized by the heredity and environment. The raw and unpleasant experience reduces characters to “degrading” behavior in their struggle to survive which often results into acts of violence and passions leading to desperate movement and violent death. Characters free will becomes meaningless in the face of heredity and environment. The antagonistic and unpleasant living atmosphere degrades the protagonist Henry to a state of mental confusion intensified by the explosion of his violent aggression against his own family.

This research finds that human being is the product of various kinds of networking in the society. Similarly, a person with a high intellect and cooperative nature falls down from position of a human creature to the uncomfortable and blood predator. Such a tendency towards degeneration is actually common to all, but only the difference is intensity. For example, the protagonist, Henry attempts to escape the impact of his instinctual impulse, heredity and other environmental forces which lead him to the state of insanity and ultimately to the violent act.

Niffenegger shows how human beings with different race and background within a society interact with each other and the respective socio-environment conditions, which demands orders. Sometimes, the novelist goes to describe the state of society before the social contrast and sometimes she shows how the social phenomena blind an individual from exercising his/her inner judgment. When we make a demarcation about Niffenegger work, we must say that she is a true naturalist who perfectly understood the human nature and society. Not only Niffenegger, we also share the same mental anguish and strong rebellious natural and social realities, which led us to the violence and aggressive encounter in the society such counter attacks and perpetual warfare. Such counter attacks and perpetual warfare have filled our past colonial and this is the inseparable achievement of time. Rational society takes examination, keeping the vast unconscious in its mind.

The character in the novel cannot escape the influence of greedy, jealousy, anger, sexual desire and instinct to challenge the rival who raises obstacles in their happiness. Existence demands actions but the challenges are already there in the form of social insecurity, psychological intensity, and the environment is full of struggle and suffering. In such networking, the character Henry and Clare have been moved by internal and external forces. There is the survival principle in the novel. Evolutionary society also does not like the success of all because there is no space, food sources, and air to breathe in the nature for all the characters. Therefore, in the process of funneling down, Henry is swept away.

Man wants to be good but sometimes his aim is smashed. This is the predicament of all human beings. Nature gives ideas in the characters mind and forces them to act within

tough environment challenges, which are also the nature's achievements. Here, Henry is blind folded .Everything is created by nature. There is no choice of individuals. The free will of the characters is always questioned. Those characters in the novels are merely puppets that have no power to think independently. That is created by circumstances. Therefore, Niffeneggers characters in the text are not in control of their own action. When Henry knows Chrono- Displament is a genetic disease that transforms him as posterity. He cannot give solution to the problem. As a result, Dr Kendrick has been called for the help, who reaches to the core of the case and shaves the generation of Henry family.

Circumstances led a ration and humble being to aggression and terrorism, which are always unwanted. Anytime man can bread this bond when he cannot get solace in this mortal ordeal. For example, Henry wants to exercise all his power to adjust in the society. Those characters who are weak and maladapted variations have to die to provide the room for the fittest. Physical as we as mental strength to check own actions and behaviors are necessary. However not all can be matched to the required format for survival. In the novel, Clare's brother kills to Henry and he dies in the arm of Clare. Clare's world is rootless, which resembles to the world with full of greed, jealousy brutal action and complexion. The suicidal act of Clare suggests that in the world adaptation and existence goes together. Those Characters like Clare and Alba who can cope up with the circumstance can easily survive and those who are unable like Henry extinct forever. It proves to Darwinian observation that a bloody struggle for existence goes on in the nature and that fittest one is survived. Thus, the Darwinian principle of the survival of the fittest and struggle for existence is justified in *The Time Traveler's Wife*.

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