

**Tribhuvan University**

Reawakening of the Self in Saul Bellow's *Henderson the Rain King*

A Thesis Submitted to the Faculty of  
Humanities and Social Sciences in Partial Fulfillment  
of the Requirement for the Degree of Master of Arts in English

By

**Bimal Raj Dawadi**

Department of English

Prithvi Narayan Campus

April 2009

Tribhuvan University  
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences  
English Department

**Letter of Recommendation**

This is to certify that Mr. Bimal Raj Dawadi has prepared this thesis entitled **Reawakening of the Self** in Saul Bellow's *Henderson the Rain King* under my guidance and supervision. I, therefore, forward to consider it for final evaluation, approval and acceptance.

---

Mr. Ashok Shahi  
Teaching Assistant  
Department of English  
Prithvi Narayan Campus  
Pokhara

**Tribhuvan University**  
**Faculty of Humanities and Social Science**  
**Prithvi Narayan Campus**

**Letter of Approval**

This thesis entitled **Reawakening of the Self in Saul Bellow's *Henderson the Rain King***  
Submitted to the Department of English, Prithvi Narayan Campus, Tribhuvan University,  
by **Mr. Bimal Raj Dawadi**

has been approved by the undersigned members of the Thesis Committee.

Members of the Research Committee.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Internal Examiner

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

External Examiner

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Head

Department of English

\_\_\_\_\_

Date:

## **Acknowledgements**

I would like to express my deep sincere gratitude to my supervisor Mr. Ashok Shahi, Teaching Assistant of Prithvi Narayan Campus, Department of English, who has been the constant source of inspiration in the completion of this research. It was his scholarly guidance and instruction that made this project a reality.

Similarly, I would like to express my deep sense of indebtedness to the Head of the Department of English Prof. Dr. Man Bahadur K.C., for allowing me to carry out this research work. I am also profoundly grateful to my respected teachers Prof. K.P. Aryal, Mr. Pabitra Baral, Mr. Sabindra Bhandari, Mr. Homnath Paudel, Mr. Shyam Poudel, Mr. Rajendra Tiwari, Mr. Bishwo Raj Adhikari, Mr. G.B. Thapa, Mr. Prakash Adhikari, Mr. Nagendra Bhandari and Mr. Rajendra Chapagayee in one or other ways.

I am equally grateful to my friends Kamal Regmi, Basanta Poudyal, Sumreu Tripathee, Prithvi Raj Poudel and Hemraj Sharma for their co-ordination and help in many ways.

Last but not the least, my deep veneration goes to my parents, brothers and sisters for providing me with the strength to successfully step on this stage.

Special thanks and love to my youngest brother Ramesh Raj Dawadi for computer typing.

April, 2009

Bimal Raj Dawadi

Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara

## Contents

	<b>Page No.</b>
Acknowledgements	
<b>I. Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
Saul Bellow and His Literary Career	1
Review of Literature	7
<b>II. Existentialism</b>	<b>11</b>
Background	11
Meaning	12
History of Existentialism	17
Prominent Existentialists	22
Kierkegaard: Existing Before God	22
Nietzsche: The Death of God	23
Heidegger: Being	24
Satre: Existence Precedes Essence	25
Camus: Revolt Against Absurdity	27
<b>III. Resurrection of the Self</b>	<b>30</b>
The Initiation	31
The Growth	34
The Recovery	43
<b>IV. Transformation Within</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Works Cited</b>	