

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Failure of Sublimation in Walker Percy's *Love in the Ruins*

**A thesis submitted to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences,
Tribhuvan University, in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the
degree of Master of Arts in English**

by

Madhab Niraula

Central Department of English

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

December 2008

Tribhuvan University

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

The thesis entitled **Failure of Sublimation in Walker Percy's *Love in the Ruins*** by Mr. Madhab Niraula has been submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University. It 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: _____

Acknowledgement

I probably cannot express in words my gratitude to my honorable teacher and supervisor Mr. Rajendra Kumar Panthee for his resourceful support and encouragement during the tedious process of providing concrete shape to this research paper. I will forever remain indebted to his scholarly guidance, morale-boosting encouragement and valuable suggestions, which from the very outset of my university education inspired me towards the intellectual pursuit. Similarly, I am profoundly grateful to Dr. Krishna Chandra Sharma, the Head of the English Department, and the research committee for granting me the opportunity to carry out this research work.

Likewise, I owe the debts of gratitude to Mr. Raj Kumar Baral, Mr. Saroj Ghimire, Mr. Shiva Rijal, and Mr. Pushpa Acharya for their co-operation while drafting the proposal. I would like to acknowledge my intellectual debt to Mrs. Kala Gyawali and Mr. Mohan Raj Gauli, my teachers at Balmiki Campus who have been the source of inspiration from my early days in the university.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my parents, brother Chudamani, sisters Chandra Kala and Indu for their warm love and support. Indebted equally I am to my dear friend Bhakti Upadhyaya for her resourceful help and to my brother Damodar Khatiwada who, despite his hectic schedule, helped me in typing and editing this long dissertation.

Thanks are due to Mr. Laxmi Prapanna Niraula, Mr. Prakash Chandra Adhikari, Mr. Tara Ghimire and Ms. Sita Pokhrel for their co-operation. Finally, I am also thankful to my friends Umesh, Ramesh, Suresh, Sandesh, Santosh, Rajendra, Madhu, Yadav, Sama, Rama, Siva Ram, Indra, Mohan and Balkrishna for their contribution and cooperation.

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

Madhab Niraula

December, 2008

Abstract

Applying Freudian insight of sublimation as a theoretical tool to analyze the career of the main character in the novel, the present research work entitled “Failure of Sublimation in Walker Percy’s *Love in the Ruins*” attempts to evince that the protagonist of the novel Thomas More, despite having the plenitude of psychic energy traceable in him mainly through the presence of overbearing libidinal urges, is unable to establish himself as a ‘genius’ because he fails, in his amateur and light-hearted efforts and pretended willingness, to sublimate the aforesaid libidinal desires into the socially beneficial and scientifically innovative goal of inventing and employing an instrument he calls lapsometer, a kind of stethoscope with which he aimed but with no avail to cure the escalating psychological traumas of the American citizen

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