

Tribhuvan University

Interpellation of an Individual in Sewell's *Black Beauty*

A Thesis Submitted to the Central Department of English,
Tribhuvan University, in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for the Degree of Master of Arts in English

By

Harimaya Adhikari

Central Department of English

Kirtipur, Kathmandu

April, 2014

Letter of Recommendation

Harimaya Adhikari has completed her thesis entitled “Interpellation of an Individual in Sewell’s *Black Beauty*” under my supervision. She carried out her research from 21st February 2013 to 3rd April 2014 A. D. I hereby recommend her thesis be submitted for viva voce.

Maheswor Paudel

Supervisor

April 2014

Letter of Approval

This is to certify that the dissertation entitled “Interpellation of an Individual in Sewell’s *Black Beauty*” submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University 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: _____

Acknowledgements

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to my respected supervisor Mr. Maheswor Paudel, Central Department of English, for his invaluable supervision, constructive comments and suggestions which helped me carry on this research. This research would not have appeared in its present form without his kind and scholarly guidance.

In the same way, I would like to extend my profound gratitude to Prof. Dr. Amma Raj Joshi, Head of the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, for granting me an opportunity to carry out this research. Similarly, I am thankful to Mr. Badri Prasad Acharya, Dr. Baikuntha Poudel and Mr. Saroj Sharma Ghimire for their continuous suggestions and encouragements.

Lastly, I always owe to my dear parents Purna Bhadra Adhikari, Prema Adhikari and Krishna Adhikari for their educational inspirations. I also like to thank my dear sisters and brothers, my dear munnu and all my friends for their kind supports and inspirations.

April, 2014

Harimaya Adhikari

Abstract

This thesis explores the subordination of the working class in Anna Sewell's *Black Beauty*. Sewell vividly concretizes the ongoing dialectics of the society ruled by the capitalist ideology and while doing so she presents the then English society or the nineteenth century Victorian society. The protagonist of the novel, horse named Black Beauty, brought up from infancy to habits of docility and obedience, represents the ideal Victorian servant. The horse's story can be taken as an allegory for human life. *Black Beauty* resembles human life where the life and thoughts of the hard working horse is the story of almost every workers in the society ruled by the capitalist ideology. Thus, taking the horse's story as an allegory for human life and through the minute study of the primary text, with reference to Gramsci and Althusser's notions of hegemony and ideology, the researcher concludes that Anna Sewell's *Black Beauty* depicts the prevalent domination and hegemonization of capitalism over working class.

Contents

Approval letter

Acknowledgements

Abstract

- | | | |
|------|--|-------|
| I. | Introduction to Sewell's <i>Black Beauty</i> and the Issue of Representation | 1-7 |
| II. | Interpellation of an Individual in Sewell's <i>Black Beauty</i> | 8-34 |
| III. | Predicament of Working Class in <i>Black Beauty</i> | 35-37 |

Works cited