

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Power Dynamics in Margaret Atwood's *Bodily Harm*

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

By

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Tribhuvan University**Faculty of Humanities and Social Science****Approval Letter**

This thesis entitled "**Power Dynamics in Margaret Atwood's *Bodily Harm***" submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Krishna Panth has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee.

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TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY**Central Department of English****Letter of Recommendation**

Krishna Panth has completed this thesis entitled "Power Dynamics in Margaret Atwood's *Bodily Harm*" under my supervision. He carried out his research work from November 2008 to July 2009. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

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Supervisor

Date: July 2009

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Abstract

Margaret Atwood's *Bodily Harm* brings into light the dramatization of various discursive practices that mould the subjectivity of the protagonist Rennie. The novel scrutinizes the position of Rennie, a life style journalist and how she reacts to the situation. She gets ensnared in the complex web of power relations that reflect the functioning of divergent forces. Though she attempts to escape and resist, she is thrown into a nightmarish world in the Caribbean island of St. Antoine being imprisoned in a Subalternnean cell with Lora. She is victimized due to the dominant discourses like patriarchy, life style journalism and third world politics. At the end of the novel, she changes her outlook to life and hence survives but she remains an individual who is still a part of the network of different discursive practices.

Contents

	Page
I. General Introduction	Error! Bookmark not defined.
II. Power, Discourse and the Formation of Subjectivity	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Foucauldian Notion of Power	Error! Bookmark not defined.
The Role of Power in Discursive Practices	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Discourse, Ideology and Subject Position	Error! Bookmark not defined.
III. Power Dynamics in <i>Bodily Harm</i>	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Rennie Enmeshed in the Web of Power Dynamics	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Discursive/Ideological Practices and Rennie's Condition	Error! Bookmark not defined.
The Formation of Rennie's Subjectivity	Error! Bookmark not defined.
IV. Conclusion	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Works Cited	Error! Bookmark not defined.