

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

The Study of Uncanny in Flannery O'Connor's *Wise Blood*

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

By

Begnath Gaire

University Campus,

Kirtipur,

March, 2007

Tribhuvan University

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

This thesis entitled "The Study of Uncanny in Flannery O'Connor's *Wise Blood*" submitted to the Central Department of English, Tribhuvan University, by Mr. Begnath Gaire, 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 gratitude to my supervisor Mr. Puspa Raj Acharya, Lecturer at the Central Department of English for his scholarly guidance and corrections that he made on the work. It would not have come into its present form without his kind help.

I feel very happy to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Krishna Chandra Sharma the Head of the Central Department of English, Kirtipur, Prof. Chandra Prakash Sharma and other members of the Research Committee for granting me an opportunity to carry out this research work. Similarly, I am highly indebted to Abhi Subedi, K B Gurung and Badri Sir for their invaluable suggestions. Mr. Jitendra Nepali deserves my especial thanks for his kind help in preparing this work.

I would like to express my deep sense of gratitude to my parents, Gangadhar Gaire and Nandakali Gaire who made a lot of sacrifices for my higher studies. Similarly, I extend my thanks to my dear wife, Radhika, daughter, Birajta, brother, Indramani, and sister, Goma for their support and help. I am also thankful to Holy Vision Public School family and my friends, Suborna, Himal Sharma, Krishna, Naresh K.C., Chakra, Hardcore and Pavan.

Lastly, I extend my thanks to my friends and Mr. Manik Dangol, Proprietor of M. M. Communication, Kirtipur for fine typing and printing.

March, 2007

Begnath Gaire

Abstract

This study on Flannery O'Connor's *Wise Blood* (1952) attempts to examine uncanny elements in the novel because the characters seem grotesque as they are involved in unreasonable violence, murder, sexual perversion and self-immolation in a non-realist and supernatural way. The violence and murder of the novel transpire virtually without subjects. Moreover, use of the character double, fear of evil eye, and random repetitions of events are the characters of uncanny in the novel.

Contents

Acknowledgement

Abstract

I.	Introduction	1-8
II.	Theoretical Modality	9-31
	The Uncanny: Freudian Perspective	
III.	Textual Analysis	32-52
	Conventional Interpretation of Uncanny	
	Modern Interpretation of Uncanny	
IV.	Conclusion	53-54
	Works Cited	