

# A Pragmatic Approach to TanzeelaK.Hassan's Short Story “The Variant”

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## Abstract

The present study is designed to interpret the Pragmatic analysis of the short story "The Variant" by Tanzeela K. Hassan. Textual study plays a vital role in getting a better understanding of the text's intended meanings set out by the producer analysing what he exactly wants to say. All these points are discussed here pragmatically in detail. The present study depicts a number of textual standards and criteria that make the process of pragmatic text analysis impressive. The specific rules related to pragmatic analysis help us to understand the textual meanings as well as the intention of the writer. In actual usage pragmatic analysis concerns itself with the language that is used by the author to provoke understanding in the minds of the reader. The current study explains pragmatic aspects such as assumptions, presuppositions and inferences depicted by the reader as a result of the language used in any kind of literary text. Pragmatic analysis helps a new reader to attain a better understanding of the literary discourse or any kind of text, though he has not sufficient knowledge about the real context of the author. According to this article, the study of this approach helps the new reader who is fully unaware of the distinctive features of the text after learning this method, now will easily understand the text.

**Keywords:** Discourse, producers, presuppositions, inferences and assumptions

## Introduction

Tanzeela k. Hassan is a Pakistani novelist and short story writer. Her short story "The variant" is an interesting story of a brave girl. Aymun is a strong character. She is a woman who faces a journey into the unknown that would daunt many men. Tanzeela conveyed the message of empowerment of women via an interesting fiction piece. The present study is the analysis of this short story in different dimensions. Keeping the discourse factors in view, the present study aims at the stylistic study of Aymun's character at the pragmatic level and the whole story as well. With the help of Conversational pragmatic theories, this study is going to discuss how the function of utterance is inferred. The main objective of the study is to explore various possibilities of Examining the intended or "invisible meaning" of a literary text.

## A brief introduction of the story The Variant

The VARIANT is a different coming-of-age short story that highlights the importance of female empowerment and the love of family. TanzeelaK.Hassan's short story conveys a very good message especially related to Teenage Girls.

Ayman, the protagonist character of the story is only a 16 years old girl and the only daughter of her family. Uzi and Zub are her two brothers, they went into a dangerous area to search for food but didn't come back. Aymun was afraid to wait for them for too long. She told her mother that she is the only one left to save her brothers, so she is called on by the situation to be strong and independent now and ready to make her own stand to find her brother's. The story next proceeds by telling her adventurous journey and how she reached and explored the magical land called Metazorrlic Dimensional World, where the time setting is different from Earth just like a decade is compared to a day on Earth. Everything became more clear when she realized that her brothers are not what she was expecting anymore. This short story tells about a child's dreams and wishes as she wants to do something different to prove herself in the world. A girl who wants to become just like her brothers. After reading this story, we strongly agreed and realized that there are many Aymans in the world that always want to prove their selves equal to the opposite sex by doing something extraordinary. Ayman has a strong temperament; she is not willing to listen to the advice of her mother, because she is sickly and tired, to simply remain disappointed in her waiting for Uzi and Zub.

Like all other females, this girl is longing to fight with bravery against all odds in a man-dominated world by titling themselves feminists. However, the real reason behind Ayman's frustration is not only because of her brothers' manliness and strength. It was because she felt a sense of authority and control. She has leadership abilities though she is a girl. She was courageous but now felt weak because her femininity is not going to help her in developing her powers. She was brave enough in all matters and didn't feel any fear from their consequences. So, she was ready to go on the path of the unknown just to see and her brothers alive again and save them if need be. She was careless, not so mature to know about wisdom yet, like many other young teens, Ayman started her journey to the far land without following the advice of her mother. The love of her family motivated her journey; it compels her to continue her journey into the metazoric Dimensional World. She wants to know about her brothers' safety. She desires to achieve her goal independently and wishes to complete their family soon by her mysterious journey. Surely, she is a unique child, with the nature of spontaneity. She is willing to do everything without paying attention to the usual female limits. Ayman is a strong courageous girl but didn't know about her worth and powers and how she can be able to utilize her hidden abilities because she was blindly believed the fact that only her brothers are responsible to bring food and create security for their family. She wanted to do something for her family. She considered herself useless because as a sister she isn't expected to perform her role for the betterment of her family. Her family doesn't demand anything from her except a caring and kindhearted sister. She is determined and unstoppable because her love for her brothers urged her to make stronger and powerful goals without pointing a difference being neither a man nor a female. Her darkish journey was full of suspense and horror. Her encounters with different metaphysical characters like Zuzana, Wozorians, Bazorans, Master Quzora and wild monsters, etc. was full of miseries and pains. In the end, she fought an emotional battle with her brothers just to save their lives and attained their trust again because wild creatures made them senseless. The ending scenes of the story in which Ayman finally achieved her goal successfully were quite amazing and arouse the interest of the readers.

This story negotiates the stereotype concept related to women portraying them as weak and fragile in a male-dominated society. This short story is a wonderful read for teenage girls who love to explore their unfolding powers.

### **Aim of the paper**

This paper has three major aims;

- 1: To analyse the text and convey the well-defined meaning of the text through the pragmatic analytic approach.
- 2: To demonstrate that with the help of pragmatic principles such as inferences, presuppositions and assumptions it could be easier to interpret any kind of literary text.
- 3: To make a comparison between inferences during reading the story and the inferences that we made after reading the literary text.

### **Methodology**

The current study used descriptive research as a framework and with the help of inductive-deductive reasoning has aimed to achieve a sense of generalization. In this study the researcher has worked on different aspects for example background knowledge and presuppositions and the importance of inferences before and after analyzing the literary text pragmatically. It is a text based study in which all the incidents and situations have already taken place. Some other factors like situation, context and psychological elements have also been narrated. The researcher has tried to illustrate the analysis with a sense of profoundness and objectivity, having assumed that the final results can be transcribed by other researchers.

### **Pragmatics background**

In the 1970s, linguistics has developed a subfield with the name of pragmatics, it studies comprehensive and productive issues in communicative acts that people usually have faced in a concrete speech situation during a conversation. Verbal communicative acts and every utterance has their own meanings and pragmatics distinguishes between two intents. There are two types of intents, one is informative and the other is communicative. Informative intent is focused on sentence meaning and communicative intent is concerned with speaker meaning (Leech, 1983; Sperber and Wilson, 1986). Pragmatic competence is a great Ability to understand and produce a communicative act. Speaker's cultural knowledge, social status and distance are included in competence (Liv, 1999). Linguistic theory Pragmatics is considered a center for theoretical linguistics and is also deeply connected with other fields such as philosophy, sociology and literature, etc. according to Frazier and Potts (2006). Whenever theoretical linguistics meets with pragmatics, it informs about one's general understanding of communication.

**Definitions of Pragmatics**

The study about finding out actual meanings of utterances in different situations is called pragmatics according to Leech (1983). Pragmatic studies about some important factors that influence the choice of language during social interaction and their impact on others as defines Crystal (as cited in Moore, 2002:2). For Keith (as cited in Moore 2002) Pragmatics differentiates between Lexical, Syntactical and Phonological meanings. He says that just meanings are implied and the rules we must be followed are usually unspoken and unwritten. Campsall (as cited in Moore, 2002) defines that pragmatics explores a sense of meaning in a specific text even in multiple situations for example when a text is vague, incomplete and having a different meaning.

Briefly pragmatic studies;

\* Truth conditions: "Pragmatics has as its topic those aspects of the meaning which cannot be accounted for by straightforward reference to the truth conditions of the sentence uttered." (Gazdar, 1979a:2 as cited in Frazier and Potts, 2006:4)

\* Literal encoding: "..... semantics covers 'Literal meaning'. Pragmatics has to do with language use and with 'going beyond the literal meaning.'" (Kadmon, 2001:3 as cited in Frazier and Potts, 2006:4)

\* Context: Pragmatics studies the use of language in context and the context-dependence of various aspects of linguistics interpretation." (Lycan, 1995:588 as cited in Frazier and Potts, 2006:4)

**Concept of Pragmatics**

Pragmatics considers a subfield of linguistics that studies the different ways a context contributes to different meanings. Pragmatics studies explain the fact as it is true in the speaker's and listener's structural and linguistics knowledge and is very important for the transmission of meanings but also involves any pre-existing knowledge and in the context of the utterance, so the other factors and the enthusiastic nature of the speakers are inferred. In this regard, pragmatics study illustrates the ability of language users applied to overcome apparent vagueness, and mostly meaning depends on manner, time and place, etc. in any utterance. Pragmatic competence is a unique ability that helps the speaker to understand another speaker's intended meaning.

In 1870, a philosophical tradition started in the U.S. as Pragmatics. It appeared as a reaction against the outline of structuralist linguistics by Ferdinand de Saussure. In different cases, it enlarged the idea of a language that has an analyzable structure, and the composed parts of a language can define its relationship to others. The concept to understand the meaning of a language through existing signs in the abstract space of a language was rejected by him.

Pragmatics focuses on the study of language and its relation to meaning, also highlights the importance of context and its contribution to meaning. It discusses the linguistic behavior of the language users as to how they interact and communicate with each other and their interpretation of linguistic behavior. Initial establishment in the form of a motivational force and other developments in modern pragmatics has worked together for the purpose to find out a systematic explanation about the observable differences between literary and linguistic meaning and also the textual meaning of some particular utterances. In pragmatics, the individuals working have the aim to elaborate and explain things for a variety of reasons by following philosophical, linguistic, and sociological interests. But pragmaticists have shared some different goals and describe some different ways to understand word's literary meanings and how speakers use them differently, and the identification of some rules or norms of language use that might occur in typically different communicative situations. J.L. Austin and H.P. Grice separately define or introduced some signal terminology of pragmatics in the middle of the 20th century.

**Presupposition**

Presupposition discusses one of the branches of linguistics that is known as pragmatics, It explains about world's implicative assumptions, background knowledge or certain beliefs relating to an utterance whose truth is fully accepted in discourse. For example:

*Henry went away from America.*

*Presupposition:* Henry once lived in America.

*Have you seen the cat?*

*Presupposition:* A cat exists.

In presupposition, the speaker and addressee both mutually accepted or assumed an utterance and consider it correct or satisfactory in the context. It will usually be supposed to be a specified assumption whether the utterance is linked with a specific lexical item or grammatical feature, how and in what form of an assertion, denial, or question it can be used in the utterance.

The negation of an utterance or an expression does not change its presuppositions; 'I want to attend the marriage ceremony,' and 'I don't want to attend the marriage ceremony,' both presuppose that the subject has attended a marriage ceremony, one or more times. 'My cat drinks milk' or 'my cat does not drink milk,' presupposes that the subject has a cat.

### **Inference**

A literary device that is used to illustrate or interpret a literary text is called inference, in which logical deductions are made on premises or already existed assumptions considered to be true. According to another definition, the nature of inference is rational, not logical, which finally means that one eventually finds out the different or many new interpretations, illustrations and perspectives by observing various facts that are presented in a particular pattern. During the use of inference, symbols and anomalies are very important. A process to find logical conclusions for more premises and assumed them to be true is called inference. They work as a reference and inference side by side in pragmatics. Inferences help us in opening new ways of inquiry, not just used for coming to conclusions. Another definition of inference describes non-logical but rational means that help in observing different patterns of facts and indirectly points out different new meanings and contextual understandings. Inferences are further divided into two categories: inductive and deductive inferences. Inductive inference means that premises are used to convey strong evidence for a pattern. The fact of the conclusion is probable in an inductive argument that is based upon the evidence while in a deductive argument the conclusion is probable.

### **Assumption**

Assumption expects us to accept something as truth or going to happen without any proof or verification. We believe something to be true without talking to someone directly and considered it an absolute reality even though we have no proof. For example, people try to make assumptions that are based on their appearance. Assumptions deeply enclosed within the structure of particular sentences are called presuppositions, and also called microassumptions.

Leech and Short (2001) checklist for stylistic analysis, Figures of speech, etc.

### **Pragmatic Analysis**

#### **Assumptions, presuppositions and inferences**

When the speaker assumes something in a particular situation and case during an utterance, it is called presuppositions.

*For the creator all of His creations are equal—to Him, you're just a variant.*

The title of the story "The Variant" is considered the very first item to be inferred from the story, Through literal meaning, it can be inferred that the story reflects some distinctive, individual, dissimilar things about something which led to a further assumption that a strong female character must be involved, She has experienced a painful mysterious journey to reach magical and perilous land and suffers several horrible experiences during her mission to rescue the life of her own brothers. The text conveys different themes in a single story for example the distinctive qualities of a man and a woman, stereotypical concepts related to women, women's empowerment, which is superior according to the creator, self-enlightenment, courage to stay positive against evil forces and many others.

*It was not just any day, but her sixteenth birthday.*

An assumption that after reaching teen years every young child feels a sense of strength and enthusiasm.

*The waterfall draped over the cliff.*

There was a stream near her house. Presupposition.

*Instead of waiting for her brothers to bring the food.*

Infers her brothers still didn't come back after waiting for a long time.

*Ayman stood there regretting the conversation she had with her mother moments before.*

Presupposes Ayman the protagonist character of the story fought with her mother in a way that she regrets and this is why she was standing alone rerunning the discussion in her head.

*Dear, it's not about weakness; it's about your place in this world. It's what you are here for."*

Inferences here that the role of a woman in a male dominant society is just to remain limited only to doing domestic chores; women are not expected to do anything adventurous.

*They could be in Trouble.*

And presupposes that because her brothers didn't come back for many days, then it's obvious to assume their safety is at risk and their situation problematic.

*They are your sons Mama, we need to do something.*

The assumption, a mother will do everything for the safety of her children even to ready to sacrifice her own life for them.

*But the plants down there were infected. An outbreak of a viral disease that befell years ago had left them inedible.*

Presupposes viral diseases that can badly infect humans as well as other species. The trees under the valley now have become useless that's why her brothers went in search of food for their family.

*She turned around and started closing the gate.* (The presupposition is that the gate was opened once before.)

"Are you really a queen? I don't see a crown or anything." (We assumed that it is necessary for a king and queen to wear a crown.)

*"I can do this, I'm sixteen"*

Infers here as every teen is ambitious to do extraordinary adventurous things.

*Both of her brothers would go up the cliff for an entire day and return with bags full of grains and fruits.*

The general assumption here is that in a normal routine of life when a person goes in quest of food and fruits, they return with bags full of grains for their family.

*Good heavens, it can't be a horse.*

Assumption here that a horse in the real world is very different from the horse that was given in the story because it didn't run so fast just like flying birds in the sky in the story.

*Not a creature she had seen in her life.*

The assumption that only supernatural creatures can do the types of things that are not possible for creatures that live in the real world.

*Only to realize that no one was holding her.*

And the assumption that it's quite a natural feeling whenever a person realizes he is in danger then he must cry out for help or sometimes in terror.

*Within seconds, they landed on a misty landscape suspended on clouds.*

Presuppose here is that it is possible only because they belong to a magical world that is very different from the real world.

*"Oh, you are a woman? How could you ride so fast?"*

Assuming here a stereotypical concept related to women that they are not able to do hard things like men.

*"Ah, they came up to look for food two days ago.*

Infers here that they never return.

*Ayman walked past the fireplace and standing by the Bookshelf.*

Presupposes there was a bookshelf in the room.

*"I'm sure you did. But, when you stepped.*

Assumption, Zuzana, the second most important character of the story, has firmly believed in the hidden powers of Ayman.

*She rushed back to her place, sat down.* Presupposes she was standing before.

*"They have become wild in the past ten years."* presuppose they existed ten years before.

*"These creatures I'm talking about are not like the wolves you saw in your world."*

These creatures are different in qualities from the wolves that exist in the common world because they came from a magical world.

*She walked back and forth, all over the place.* Assumption she was in an extremely tense situation.

*"The one I wish for".* These words had been spoken by Ayman to Zuzana when she had given her two choices for living a life. We assumed that she was in a state of great confusion in making a final decision.

*"Choose your words wisely or they may become your fate."*

To visualize a swift and sharp inference, the speaker must be a wise and experienced person who warns Ayman, the second person, about selecting or making good choices, otherwise, she will be responsible for unexpected consequences.

*"My fate? I thought it had something to do with my brothers",* these words uttered by Ayman, who is the protagonist of this short story, infers she found herself in a deeply confusing situation and felt unable to understand the mysterious conversation with Zuzana related to the life of her brothers.

*Your brothers are now Wozorans.* Presupposes once they spent life like normal human beings.

*You're the only one who can help them become human again and go home. Or you can be a Wozoran like your brothers."*

These remarks were made by Zuzana, the second most important character of the story. Here she gave two choices to Ayman, either she will be ready to utilize her hidden powers to make their brothers normal people again or to surrender her life in the hands of wild creatures like her brothers.

*"Okay, then you need to follow Me."* assume here as it is essential for Ayman to follow Zuzana, if she wants to return her brothers alive back to her home.

*Zuzana rose from her chair.* presuppose Zuzana had first sat on the chair a few moments before.

*"I thought you said you came here to save your brothers."* Presuppose, the second person must have earlier told the first speaker the real purpose of her arrival in the magical world.

*"Keep one thing in mind; it's all about you and your decisions. Whatever you decide is best for you will happen."*

Infers here, that the speaker had warned or advised the listener about making decision in a forceful manner, the further assumption is, the positivity and negativity of the second person may become the cause of her/his good and adverse circumstances.

*Ayman felt a sharp pain in her head, her vision blurred.* Infers here Ayman was under the control of some magical spell.

*The familiar scent of water mixing with the soil made her close her eyes.*

Presupposes, the character already has experienced the same soil and water mixing smell and assumes that the female character enchanted again that's why she had closed her eyes to feel a natural beauty again.

*She jumped up with excitement and tried to breathe out fire.* Ayman the protagonist character was in extreme pleasure because she was enjoying now some metaphysical characteristics. inference

*"Ah, how stupid I am for believing a total stranger. Maybe she played me for a fool,"* infers here that the speaker and the listener met for the very first time with each another, further assumption is that like all other human beings the character was also confused about believing a complete stranger.

*"We are Bazorans, the servants of Master Quzora. We request you to come with us.* Ayman there met with some metaphysical characters. They were very different from humans. We assume they wanted to take Ayman with them following the order of their lord Master Quzora.

*"Why do I always trust so quickly?"* presupposes here that the character had made a trust very quickly.

*Hair grew over her hands.* She felt her face with her palm. "Oh, I'm turning into a monster.

According to a sharp inference, we assumed that Ayman, the courageous lady now suffered again in trouble by having similarities with monsters.

*She pressed the red gem over her neck.* Presupposes, she had worn a red gem around her neck.

*She closed her eyes.* Presupposes, her eyes were open before.

*Welcome to your new home.* "She looked around and saw the most hideous creature of all.

Infers here as the mentioned character has reached some mysterious place where she has found some hideous and disgusting creature, and assumed that they were welcoming her in her new house by circling around her.

*Their features were familiar to her. She gasped, realizing who they were and what they were doing.*

According to inference, Ayman, the leading lady of this story, finally met some creature, whose features were familiar to her but they were doing some suspicious and awful activities when the story proceeds, then we know they were her brothers, but by this time, they became Wozorans.

"They won't listen to you. In fact, they won't listen to anyone. They are wild now." Presupposes once they were able to listen to the talk of every person and assumes they had lost their audible quality because they had become wild now.

"You were human, but now, you are a Wozoran. All Wozorans are my property.

This is a conversation between Ayman and Master Quzora, another very important metaphysical character of the story. We infer here, that Ayman gradually has started to turn into a Wozoran just like her brothers and also assumed that Master Quzora was trying to pressure or force her to obey him because he was the lord of all Wozorans.

*He turned around to leave the hall.*

Presuppose here, currently, he was standing in the hall.

*Two of the bazora came in with a dish full of raw meat and slid it through her cage.*

Infers here that the hideous creatures had started to treat Ayman as a wild animal. That's why; they had given her raw food and caught her in a cage.

"Wozorans eat raw meat." we assumed here, Wozorans were a different type of creature, have some similarities with humans and some with wolves but they ate raw meat just like monsters and animals.

*She had two sets of eyes. Though she couldn't see anything from the Wozorian eyes.* Infers here, Ayman was gradually turned from a human to a Wozoran, had two sets of eyes, but still, she hadn't forgotten her values of being a human and hadn't adopted the evilness of the Wozorans.

*I cannot bear to see them this way. I want my life back. I want my brothers back.* In the light of a quick Inference, Ayman keenly observed her brother's mysterious activities and confirmed, they were turned completely into wild creatures. So she didn't want to see them anymore in such a miserable condition.

"There's only one way you can go back to your previous life. Let your brothers recognize you."

A very important conversation between Ayman and Zuzana in which Zuzana finally told her how to save her brother's lives by making them able to recognize their own sister. Otherwise, they all three suffered there forever.

*"This is a Metazorric Dimensional World; a world parallel to yours. Metazorric Dimensional world was a magical land where lived monsters, Bazorans and Wozorans. It was very different from a real world. In this world physical beings are affected by their inner thoughts.*

Zuzana's remark is very important when she explained physical beings, their troubles, and sufferings. The writer allegorically explains the reason for their miserable condition as their thoughts and beliefs become the cause of their current situation.

*"No, when your brothers first came here they had a sister, and the love embraced them; it was the required balance of their personality."*

Pragmatically, the writer here wants to describe the importance or role of a woman as a sister, mother, and wife and in all conditions and how they were struggling to secure the life of their males by sacrificing their own lives.

*"And why in the world do you think girls are weak?"*

Very important lines that were spoken by Ayman to Zuzana that were related to stereotypical concepts related to women supposing they are weak and not able to perform heavy or tough physical work in a male dominant society

*No two beings in this world are the same; we should understand the need to provide shoes that fit each runner equally well.* "With the example of providing shoes, we easily assumed the need to being different from others in some ways because everything in this world is different with their own significant qualities.

*Your quality of being soft gives men the strength they need it's your most powerful tool.*

When Ayman arguing with Zuzana about the importance of women's empowerment then in these arguments given by Zuzana, we infer here through such lines spoken by Zuzana, the writer has tried to clarify the difference between being a woman or a man in the real world. Assuming here as just gender is not important or superior, they both have their significant qualities and duties just like the softness of women are a very powerful tool as the physical hardness in men. They both are important in their own ways without any competition.

*Believe in yourself. The transformation will not happen unless you believe."*

This comment is very important from an allegorical point of view. Apparently, we infer here, they are talking about the rules and regulations of the transformation in a magical world, but when the story proceeds, we get to know that the writer is talking about spirituality and sharing the concepts of good and bad, right and wrong, evil and virtue and how these inner feelings create a human transformation.

*For all those who believe in themselves, the creator has appointed due proportion."* we infer here, the writer was trying to give the concept of spirituality by making a comparison between the magical world and real world...and the lords of the hideous creatures and the God of human beings and trying to clarify the concepts of hell and heaven.

*Cutting two thin strips of the metal using her sharp nails...* assuming here, the character already knew how to use sharp things for cutting bars or metal strips.

*"I think, I should try to find a way out first, and then I'll come back and get them."*

According to inference, Though Ayman had reached very near to her brothers by opening the lock of their cages but still she didn't want to take any risk without finding any solution, because she knew that her brothers didn't recognize her because they had become wild now.

*While taking calculated steps towards the big wooden door.* Presupposes, there was a big wooden door that she must cross.

*Ayman grabbed the small creature with her single hand, ran back to her cage, threw the Bazoran inside and turned the lock up.*

According to quick inference, we assumed that Now Ayman had become so strong and courageous, ready to take a risk by fighting with Bazorans only to save the life of her brothers.

*Stood a little Bazoran, smaller than the ones she had seen before.* Presuppose here, she already had met with Bazorans but to some extent different from this one.

*The forest had also changed, and she hadn't noticed.*

Infers here, Ayman had focused so much on achieving her target and had fully ignored the gradual changes that were occurring in her surroundings.

*"To find one in the centre of my domain is just—delicious."*

Assuming here, he was the master of that magical land where Ayman was trapped.

*That's why you ran away from your precious people isn't it?"* Presupposes she lived with her family; now, she was far away from her precious parents.

*Master Quzora stood up. His legs were shaking with anger, and his heart was beating loud and hard.* Presupposes here that he had been seated before and stood up only because of extreme anger, but he was not expecting anything strong from Ayman.

*Despite his anger, he needed her to live one more day. He wanted her to fight against her own brothers.* Inferential point of view, we assumed here that Master Quzora, the lord of the hideous creatures, wanted to keep Ayman alive only for one day though he was full of anger at her, only because he wanted to see the historical fight between Ayman and her brothers after they became wild.

*I spend all day trying to hide from those monsters, only to feed you.* These beautiful remarks were made by Ayman's papa to her whenever he had come into the dream of Ayman when she was in trouble. It reflects the love and affection of parents towards their children showing them will sacrifice everything just to feed and save their children from all kinds of dangers.

*"I will show you how powerful I am. Now I know the true meaning of being powerful,"*

Inferential point of view, we assume here the common concept related to women that they are weak or fragile and Ayman always felt a sense of inferiority complex due to this reason. After talking to her father in a dream, she had absorbed a lot of energy by their encouraging words because being a girl or boy is not important-- just to know your worth and utilize their powers strongly when it's necessary to use them.

*At last, the first beam of light pierced inside from the narrow windows.* Presuppose here, there was darkness before. Pragmatically here indicating both types of brightness, inside the body and soul as well as the outer world.

*The only thing which was keeping her alive was to find a way to let them remember her.*

The last hope of Ayman's survival was only to recognize her brothers as she was their actual sister, just because of this reason the magical spell was ended, and they could be able to go to their home alive.

*Bazorans filling all the seats for a fight.* Presuppose, all the seats of the stadium were empty a few moments before. Now all the Bazoran were gathered anxiously to see the fight between the human siblings after they went wild.

*She never protested because she knew she had to meet her brothers to make them believe in her.*

Again the inferential point of view, here we assume though the heartbeat of Ayman was running so fast in fear, anger and terror, but still, she didn't reflect any emotion and preferring to remain calm, only because she must meet with her brothers, to recognize them and go back to their home.

*"Over the hills and far away,*

*He swore that he'd return one day.*

*Back to The mountains and the seas,*

*But in her arms, he just can't be*

*over the hills and far away."*

These beautiful expressional lines are used by the author four times in the story through the character of Ayman. The sweet melodious song that usually their mother addicted to singing in their childhood's lonely nights in the memory of her husband whenever he went faraway in the quest to find some food for their family. These lines have been used pragmatically; it reflects the love and importance of a family in someone's life. Also, these lines indicate some hidden positive emotions like hope, prosperity, and the end of every pain or dark era, staying constant and courageous in every tough situation because there must be a beam of light after the deepest darkest nights.

*"Ayman couldn't feel her own body"* assuming here that after a huge struggle and troubles, Ayman felt dead tiredness and became senseless, became unable to feel the essence of her own body.

*She was suffering a moment ago.* Presuppose, Now, she was feeling some better after coming out of the coma. But her mind was not ready to accept the reality.

*But the place, it was not her room.* Presuppose, she was living in another room before getting stuck in the coma, that's why she was not able to recognize the place properly.

*Then she realized that she was all human too.* Infer here as, In Metazorrnic Dimensional World they all had become a wild hideous creature just like the Bazorans and Wozorans. But in the real world Ayman realized that they have become human again.

*She closed her eyes again, still lost in thoughts.* Presuppose, her eyes were open a few moments before. But she closed her eyes again and tried to digest the uncertain reality of life.

*Ayman had asked the same question several times.* Assuming here, she was in a deeply depressing situation. That's why; she asked the same question many times. She was still mentally in shock.

*“You’re our princess. We would never let you do the hardest work. You’ll always be our little angel, for we will always love and protect you,” Uzi added*

These emotional lines refer to the character of Uzi; he was the elder brother of Ayman in the given story. Showing the great love or affection of a brother towards his little sister. The writer comes from a Muslim society that's why; she has tried to portray the real image of a man in a Muslim society as they are playing the role of a savior, protector, and a loving person who didn't want to do any harm to his family especially towards the female members. Uzi here explained to Ayman that he considers her their sweet little sister just like a cute princess and an angel. How could they expect them from her to do hard or tough things?

*The centre for the human’s education and training is the soul, not his body, and not his body and soul together. That which becomes educated is his spirit, and spirit is neither masculine nor feminine.”*

The ending lines of the story sum up the whole concept that the writer wants to say about gender discrimination in typical society, superiority didn't depend on being a woman or man, but the education and lighting of the soul. If you have a beautiful body but not a pure soul then you definitely lose your worth because a pure soul doesn't know the gender difference, it exists equally as a pure spirit in both genders' body neither considering itself the superficial title of masculine or feminine.

### **Conclusion**

This paper clearly elaborates the importance of pragmatic functions, which the author utilized in the story in full detail such as inferences, presuppositions, and assumptions. And we get to know how much these functions are important in convening and understanding the actual meaning of the author. This study has tried to describe the importance of pragmatic analysis of the given literary text. This approach surely gives the power to the readers to catch the actual meaning of the text that the author tries to convey.

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