

**Tumult of Emotions in D.H.Lawrence ‘S *The Trespasser*****D.GOLDA<sup>1</sup> , DR.J.GIFTLIN IYADURAI<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Research Scholar, Register No:20123114012044, Department of English and Research Centre, Nesamony Memorial Christian College,Marthandam.Affiliated to ManonmaniamSundarnar University, Thirunelveli -627012,Tamil Nadu ,India.

<sup>2</sup>Assistant Professor, Nesamony Memorial Christian College, Marthandam, Affiliated to ManonmaniamSundarnar University, Thirunelveli-627012,Tamil Nadu , India

**ABSTRACT:**

D.H.Lawrence as a novelist was more concerned with the thought process of his characters.His novels explore the deeper arena of human experience and expose the challenges that are present in the relationship of man and woman. He believes firmly that man and woman are distinct in nature and considers the concept of maleness and femaleness in totality.This paper “Traumatising Emotions in D.H.Lawrence’s*The Trespasser*” tries to analyse the pathetic inner conflicts of Siegmund,who married at a young age only to realize later that his marriage is a drastic failure with dreadful limitations.His marital frustration makes him get involved with a disastrous affair and meet his destiny.

**Keywords:** Marriage,Trauma,Frustration,Affair,Betrayal

Man-woman relationship occupies the central place in the novels of D.H.Lawrence.The relationship he presents is as a form of conflict and a long battle. Attraction and repulsion is often seen to lie in proximity.As a writer Lawrence uses his novels as a perfect medium to explore the various psychological trauma and complexities present in the marital relationship.Trauma is indeed an emotional response of an individual towards an unpleasant or threatening situation that happens in his life. The *Trespasser* probes into the doomed affair between SiegmundMacnair and Helena Verden.The truth of the novel *The Trespasser* “has as much in its general tone of unhappiness and discontent as in the particular analysis of its central relationship”(Niven28). His marriage with Beatrice turns to be a failure and drives him towards an immoral affair. Lawrence is fascinated with individuals who dare to live life by and their own terms.But he does instill in our mind that trespassing into the life of other people is not an easy one and cannot be undertaken lightly.Siegmund being a married man with children found love and warmth in Helena . He gets involved in an intense love affair during a romantic trip with her in the Isle of Wight with her and that proved detrimental to get back to reality. Lawrence “ is making his first attempt to communicate through poetic prose the powerful, baffling, elusive emotions of sexual experience”(Draper34).He fails miserably to get away from the adulterous affair due to his lack of will power. He can neither abandon Beatrice and his children nor Helena.It is this mental weakness that pushes him to commit suicide.

Lawrence is comfortable taking his inspiration from his own experience or from the sources he is acquainted with. The Trespasser is also based on the real story of his friend Helen Corke. Helena of the novel is modeled upon Helen Corke. In his personal life his wife Frieda Weekly though a married woman and mother of three children eloped with him. Siegmund, father of four children shuns away from his responsibilities and does not learn to expand his interest towards his children despite his conflicts with his wife Beatrice. He fails to live an honest life with his wife and children. Siegmund "hated his wife for drawing on him the grave cold looks of condemnation from his children" (*The Trespasser* 25). Lawrence who delves deeper into the soul of his character engaged in a relationship makes us know the trauma Siegmund suffers as a result of not learning to understand that reality is stronger than fantasy.

Lawrence despite giving an interesting account of their passionate affair in the Isle of Wight has never failed to highlight the facts of his tragic consequences that is in store for Siegmund after his trespassing. His principle characters crave for love and freedom and try their best to get away from bondage. Siegmund is discontent with his marital life but lags to find the purpose of his life and the possibility of living it. Lawrence was never in praise of conventional and materialistic life but in the case of Siegmund he puts his soul bare and presents his increasing self-pity. Since he does not know to escape from his guilt and betrayal, he self punishes himself. The fact that he has cheated his wife and children makes him feel ashamed and devoid of courage to move on with his life.

Lawrence employs his complete literary power to reveal the hidden truth of his characters. The effects of how an affair can destroy a legal relationship is brought out remarkable through Siegmund and Helena. He concentrates on the life of Siegmund and his struggles to cope up with his monotonous boring life and unfriendly wife. Being a musician he finds solace in the initial stages only in music but later falls for the love of Helena and loses his self identity.

...suppressing his soul, in a kind of mechanical despair doing his duty and enduring the rest. Then his soul had been softly enticed from its bondage. Now he was going to break a few days, purely for his own joy. This, to a man of his integrity, meant a breaking of bonds, a severing a blood-ties, a sort of new birth (*The Trespasser* 17)

He does not see happiness of the life in the long and gets settled with the temporary love hoping it will leave his soul free. But things differ the love affair makes him a victim of his own destiny, he gets disillusioned, depressed when he realises that his happiness is short lived. His destiny is his to accept life as it is and strive harder to get fulfillment in the moments of happiness around him. Though he is musically talented. He meets his tragic end because of his inability to grow up further in life and search within himself the required energy to solve his complications. He realizes only at the later stage that even the deepest love earned through an illicit relationship will not stay forever and the trauma that he suffers on account of this realization of the truth prevent s him to be part of the mundane life again.

The Trespasser is a story based on love without a pleasant resolution. The love affair of this novel does not have longevity as it is a doomed affair breaking the norms of legal marital life. The affair has its intensity but has to remain detached as it cannot give happiness of a lifetime. Siegmund was in hurry to get married at the age of seventeen when he did not know what exactly is marriage and what is its impact on the life of a person. As he becomes matured with age he understands what exactly life is and finds his wife a stranger to his soul. Matrimonial troubles begin to shoot up in their life and they both move away from love and live in their own world. His children were attached to his wife rather than him as the older children were aware of his bond with Helena. They could not digest the plight of their mother and are not ready to recognize the presence of him in the house. This aggravates the inner conflicts of Siegmund and he becomes hopeless.

Lawrence loves to present his characters as they are. He doesn't hide their limitations, He is also not in favour of individuals who are weak at heart and mind. He does not attempt to protect Siegmund in The Trespasser. He makes him face his pathetic destiny as he neither mentally prepares himself to maintain his affair with Helena nor trying to train his mind to learn the art of living his life.

Lawrence expresses the relationship between Helena and Siegmund as a mystic communion of souls. Helena tries to transform things away from the reality. He arrives at the fact despite his poetic description of their affair that the intention to trespass may urge the person to stray away from the righteous path and face disaster. Siegmund as a violinist was very attached with his musical instrument and loved playing it. The appreciation that he receives from the audience doesn't seem to be sufficient to live a cordial life at home as the situation in his house is in terrible contrast from his professional life. His marriage with Beatrice appears to be chaotic and he is basically emotionally detached from his family. He regrets for getting married in a hasty manner as it engulfed him in a whirlpool of unhappiness and denied him peace and fruitful growth.

Lawrence highlights that the marriage of Siegmund and Beatrice was in diverse roads. It intensified his mental trauma along with the guilt of his affair. The intensity of friction and repulsion could not be avoided. It is his craving for inner peace and freedom that lured him to cherish the relationship with Helena. The emotions in a person can lead to his growth or decay. If the emotions in a person is more haunting than being a relaxed one, it makes him suffer acute depression and seek a life of solitude. Loneliness and distance from your own dear ones intensifies the pain and one becomes a victim of inner mind and soul. The protagonist in The Trespasser instead of finding a solution to live his life succumbs to the mysteries of life. As Lawrence has a got a first hand knowledge of marital conflicts observed in his parents, he could easily penetrate into the hurdles that hinder the smooth and healthy man-woman relationship. The Trespasser has brought out the conflicts and tensions that are intertwined in every relationship. The opposite characters come together and then go disunited. The erotic get away

from reality with one of his pupil kills Siegmundas he could not avert the agony he experienced on account of it., Siegmund believes death to be :

“wonderfully comforting, full of rest, and reassurance , and renewal. Heexperienced no mystical ecstasies. He was sure of awonderful kindness in death, a kindness which really reached right through life...”(The Trespasser 306)

Lawrence is interested to open up a new frank approach to the nuances of life. The trauma of siegmund is largely due to his complete dependence on Helena. Being a musician he thinks that she is essential to turn his life from battle to music. He decides to set free his chained soul through his disastrous affair with her as he seems to be completely frustrated with his boring life. He yearns to free himself from enslavement. But as he is filled with mixed emotions he is incapable of taking decisions and lack wisdom. He loves to be placed under the spell of Helen who prefers a fantasy world to reality. His aspirations to live his own way does not prove correct and he fails miserably with his wrong choices and suffers not being true to his family as his wife and children having known his illegal affair remain angry and perturbed.

Lawrence analyses of Siegmund psyche towards the end is clear and deadly. As Siegmund lacks the toughness of mind, his passion for living a free life ends in disaster. His relationship with Helen is more destructive than creative, Due to his disappointments in not getting his expectations fulfilled he tries to find a gentle release through Helena. In conclusion The trespasser son many levels. He does not abide by his matrimonial contract and gives his own happiness the priority. It is sinful circumstance that he got involved determines his fate. He becomes a trespasser in his own mind, body and soul. He feels a sort of emptiness within himself.

...would like to transcend time, relishing what the present moment gives in a totally physical, sensual, immediate and whole-hearted , therefore integral, response to what life offers now. Helena wants to turn it into something else, so as not to surrender for the action of *The Trespasser* is dominated by an ever-ticking clock..(Niven33)

The traumatizing emotions experienced due to short immoral romantic trip with a girl not his wife has a pathetic effect on the musician. If Sigmund has learnt to dive deeper into the realms of life and accept and adhere to what is in store for him in the reality, his life would not have ended abruptly in suicide.

### **Works Cited**

1. Lawrence.D.H: *The Trespasser*, Heinemann, London, 1965.
2. Draper, R.P: *D.H.Lawrence*, Macmillan, London, 1976.
3. Niven, Alastair: *D.H.Lawrence: The Novels*, Cambridge University Press, London, 1978.