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# "Transformative Epiphany In Eveline: A Psychological Exploration"

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## **ABSTRACT**

This research is the analysis of the interrelation of Psychology and human identity. This interaction is projected in the literary texts as well for the artist constructs the deep roots of his/her character within the psychological roots. Psychology is the scrutiny of these interconnections of one's behavior and complex agenda structuring them. The present research focuses on the Psychoanalysis of the character of Eveline from James Joyce collection Dubliners analyzing the psychological causes that effects Eveline's behavior in the light of Lacanian theory. This research' points out the repression, the resulting needs and desires and the struggle to achieve her desires that makes her passive like a helpless animal, through the qualitative and descriptive analysis of Eveline's behavior with other characters which perpetuate her position in the hegemonic male dominant society. Findings reveal that Eveline is the victim of repression due to which needs and desires are created in her unconscious.

## INTRODUCTION

Literature is the branch of art that is, a verbal art dealing with human life, their activities and experience using words as its medium. Literature is a study that can be obtained from the nature not only from a school but also from informal education. It can be gotten from our heart and our creative mind; it can be gotten anywhere. When a man reads the story with his feeling, he will know about what the author means and he will learn the elements of the story that he has read. By studying literature, it can make someone know the other way of life that the author means in the story. Someone can express his feeling by writing story, poem, or script for act. Literature can make the person express what he feels freely. As a branch of art, it can be divided into fiction and non-fiction. Fiction is a kind of composition written by a writer based on imagination but despite being rooted within reality, it is deeply associated with humans. Any literary piece is very much influenced by the sociological, political as well as economic factors of life.

This is because the psyche or the mind of the writer as well as the reader is affected by these factors and this psyche then is in control of all the behaviors and actions a character in the text takes. This involvement of psyche is evident from the role of wishes, desires, emotions and repression of the character being the dominant instigators of the plot movement. This is the reason that Lacan's marks every piece of literature having some psychological undertones with the complex characteristics and discourses of characters. This research tries to find out these psychological undertones behind actions of the story Eveline through the analysis of the character of Eveline Hill who plays the major roles in

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bringing the crumple <sup>2</sup>in the story, and is an embodiment of all the psychological registers presented by Lacan i.e.; Imagination, symbolic and reality.

The short story "Eveline" by James Joyce is a compelling narrative that delves into the inner world of the eponymous character, Eveline. Set in early 20th century Dublin, the story follows Eveline's internal struggle as she contemplates leaving her oppressive and stagnant life behind for the promise of a new beginning with her lover, Frank eponymous protagonist's plan to depart her hometown turns into a shattered illusion. Eveline Hill, the tragic heroine, must choose between staying in her oppressive domesticity with her violent father or leaving with Frank, a sailor. The goal of this study is to show that Eveline is a victim of a psychological trauma that has been suppressed, to the point where she instinctively tries to avoid any feelings, ideas, or activities that even slightly remind her of her painful past. The psychoanalytic theory of trauma and anxiety has been the main lens through which the story has been explored. The analysis of Joyce's story using a psychoanalytic framework improves our knowledge of how human behaviour is shaped by unconscious mental processes that operate in the deepest recesses of the brain and provides a fresh perspective on the protagonist's actions.

This research article applies Lacanian three register theory to investigate the idea of epiphany as a catalyst in Eveline's character development. The famous psychologist Jacques Lacan developed the Lacanian theory, which offers a framework for comprehending the nuances of human psychology, especially the interaction between the conscious and unconscious mind. Lacanian three register theory encompasses three interconnected domains of human experience: the real, the imaginary, and the symbolic. The real represents the raw, unfiltered experiences and desires that exist beyond language and societal constructs. The imaginary refers to the realm of images, fantasies, and idealized representations of the self and others. The symbolic pertains to the domain of language, culture, and social norms that mediate our understanding of the world.

Through the application of Lacanian three register theory to the character analysis of Evel ine, this study seeks to offer a more profound comprehension of the psychological dynamics operating within her consciousness.

This theoretical framework provides a thorough method for analysing Eveline's feelings, memories, dreams, and ideas in order to reveal the many facets of her personality.

## 1.2 Statement of the problem

Many researchers have previously conducted research on James Joyce but surprisingly not much on Eveline. Few researchers worked on postcolonial, immigration, comparative study, symbolism, character analysis of Frank, gender identity, form and ambiguity and few other aspects of the story Eveline but nothing particularly on psychoanalysis or psychoanalytic study of Eveline Hill. The theory of Lacan's can be applied only to find out the psychotic illness the character of Eveline Hill is suffering from. But the text does not provide the ample information about the reasons of Eveline's sufferings or her behavior. Because of this lack, this research attempts to point out her behaviors root within her repression. The oppression she has faced as a woman belonging to middle class, and the pressure to fulfill her role as a loyal daughter. The researcher has tried to analyze the short story Eveline with the help of psychoanalytical theory to find out how well it can be analyzed for more understanding of the text.

## **Research Questions**

Based on the problem limitation, the study attempts to answer the following questions:

- 1. What stands as Epiphany for the Eveline?
- 2. What is her manner of endeavor towards epiphany?

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Crumple "refers emotional reaction"

3. How to decode Evelines behavior with respect to the sociotraumatic situations?

# **Research Objectives**

The main aim and objectives of the present study is:

- 1. To identify and analyze the epiphanies experienced by Eveline and their role in her psychological transformation.
- 2. To explore Eveline's behavioral responses and coping mechanisms in the face of sociotraumatic influences.
- 3. To examine the impact of repressive socio-cultural factors on Eveline's decision-making process and emotional impact

## LITERATURE REVIEW

This review includes a summary of already produced works related to this topic. It includes the discussion on psychoanalytic theory, works of critics who contributed in adding more information in this theory.

Ivaanonvi, D. (2021) discussed that the motif of paralysis <sup>3</sup>pervades the entire collection of Joyce's Dubliners, but it is most haunting in the final scene of Eveline when the eponymous protagonist's plan to depart her hometown turns into a shattered illusion. The tragic heroine, Eveline Hill, faces an onerous dilemma: she can either stay with her abusive father in suffocating domesticity, or she can elope with a sailor named Frank. Thus, the purpose of this study is to demonstrate that Eveline is the victim of a repressed psychological trauma such that she reflexively attempts to flee from any sensations, thoughts, and activities that are even minimally reminiscent of her initial traumatic experience. The story has been examined primarily through the psychoanalytic theory of trauma and anxiety. The investigation of Joyce's tale through a psychoanalytic framework offers a new way of assessing the protagonist's actions and enhances the understanding of how unconscious mental processes operating in the deep layers of the brain guide human behavior.

Kapoula, G. (2021) in her research she focuses on James Joyce's 1904 short story Eveline. The story revolves around Eveline, a young Irish woman who assumes the role of her mother after she passed away. According to Georgia Kapoula, Eveline's life is harder than it may seem as she has to live with her abusive and alcoholic father who has totalitarian control over her life. Stockholm Syndrome has been officially recognized as a mental health disease and not sufficient research has been conducted on the topic, this research explores Stockholm Syndrome's theoretical framework in order to provide a deeper understanding of the ways it can be caused, how it can be identified, and its symptoms.

Eveline is a very short story that does not directly give a lot of information about the protagonist, but through the psychological tension expressed via her inner conflicts and imagination, this review will provide a wide scope for the readers to read the character from psychoanalytic point of view. This might also be helpful to analyze other characters from literature on the basis of psychoanalysis.

## RESEARCH METHODLOGY

## **Research Design**

This study is qualitative and analytical in nature. Researcher deals mainly with the analysis of psyche and verbal and nonverbal communication and actions of Eveline. Through this research, the researcher analyzes the circumstances that are responsible for Eveline's behavior.

## **Theoretical Framework**

Psychoanalysis has been used as research tool and this theory has offered the principles which help to evaluate the character of Eveline with respect to her attitude to life.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Paralysis, "an inability to move or perform voluntary actions"

Jacques Marie Émile Lacan (April 13, 1901 to September 9, 1981) was a major figure of the twentieth century. Sometimes referred to as "the French Freud", he is an important figure in the history of psychoanalysis. who has been called "the most controversial psychoanalyst since Frued". His teachings and writings explore the significance of Freud's discovery of the unconscious both within the theory and practice of analysis itself as well as in connection with a wide range of other disciplines. Jacques Lacan has established a significant practice of psychoanalysis on the basis of unconscious and language.

His theory is also called three register theory which consists of the Imaginary, the Symbolic, and the Real forms the skeletal framework for the various concepts and phases of most of Lacan's intellectual itinerary. His characterizations of each of the three registers, as well as of their relations with each other, undergo multiple revisions and shifts over the many years of his labors. Lacan emphasized the mutual dependence of the registers on one another and this concept is one of the crucial concepts in Lacanian theory.

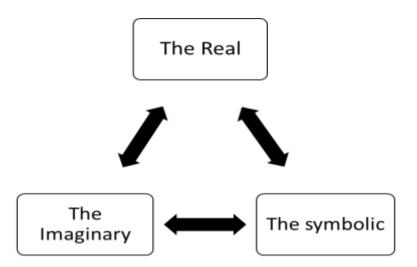


fig 1: Lacan Three Register Theory

## **Concept of Epiphany**

The capacity to undergo transformative change remains an enduringly mysterious aspect of the human condition. At crucial moments in the course of our lives, we are called to give up some of the core values, modes of thought, self-conceptions, and guiding ideals that had hitherto given shape to our life narratives. We may be thrust into new kinds of relationships with our loved ones after going off to college or come to find friendship with news kinds of people. We may be suddenly confronted with the new life that parenthood brings with it or pursue a career that profoundly changes what we think is worth striving for. We may be moved by a film, a piece of art, a symphony <sup>4</sup>or play that challenges us to break out of the habitual routines that have previously strangled out our agency. Or, the inspiration may go the other way: we have a moment of insight in which we learn to affirm the seemingly mundane<sup>5</sup> routines that govern our days and see the inherent value within them. Whatever the content may be, we call these experiences transformative, and we often look back on them with gratitude for the role they have had in making us who we are.

Transformative growth is not always set into motion by such sudden experiences – it can occur much more subtly and gradually – but when it is, the experience has a special place in our hearts and lives. To highlight the constructive aspects of transformative experience, we look to the concept of epiphany. By epiphany we are referring to a special kind of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Symphony "large scale musical composition"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Mundane "ordinary, unremarkable"

transformational catalyst that calls us to become a better version of ourselves. While often unsettling and disruptive, epiphanic experiences additionally involve establishing contact with one or more substantive ethical goods or values that had previously remained out of our field of vision. This contact begets aspiration, that is, it awakens our imagination to chart new pathways for moral and intellectual growth. This aspirational dimension is what allows epiphanies to be a starting point for the transformative process. In engendering aspiration, epiphanies constitute a first step toward moral and intellectual progress, a clear vision of what is to be done, as well as uncovering new motivational sources to pursue this vision. This does not mean that epiphanies necessarily bring about completed transformations, whether immediately or further down the road. Rather, epiphanies require additional supports, such as encouraging educational relationships, friendships among peers, and individual perseverance in order to lead to transformation.

Epiphanies are motivators of change. Writers use them to demonstrate character growth and development. Epiphanies usually allow characters to see previously obscured flaws or connections, and these revelations in turn affect a character's opinions, perceptions, and choices. Epiphanies also represent narrative turning points. Writers use them to redirect the <u>plot</u>, either by challenging a protagonist's worldview or enabling sudden understanding that inspires a new course of action. Such shifts often heighten the tension, keeping readers engrossed and engaged. James Joyce's is also famous for using epiphanies which gives new turns to is stories, Dubliners is a collection of 15 short stories in which he challenges the traditional pyramids by abruptly introducing the conflict at the beginning of his stories and refusing to include a resolution at the end of each one. Instead of providing his readers with a realization or, as most critics would say, an epiphany, he leaves them with a cliffhanger which alter the entire course of his stories.

## DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

## **Historical Context**

When this narrative was written, women's rights were severely degraded and they were the target of oppression. Eveline provided opportunity to Joyce to raise the gender perspective prevalent in the contemporary Irish society. He deals with the marginalized position of woman as perpetuated by the then religious and conservative doctrines. Joyce's reflection of gender reality of the Ireland exposes the oppression and domination of patriarchal norms and values existing in the society. Dubliners offer different realities about the subjectivity of women. Dubliners is, basically Joyce's exploration of women's roles and positions in the society. Joyce's portraits of women in Dubliners are usually balanced between sympathy and satire. So that the readers can tacitly acknowledge the undercurrents of anger, frustration, helplessness, and aggression that pervade Irish life.

Henke's analysis vividly illustrates the fact that Dubliners is not only Joyce's manifestation of the paralyzed living of the male characters but is also his exploration of women's life conditions during that time. He concludes that, James Joyce highlights the existence of male-oriented Dublin society where women are highly restricted by the concept of the Catholic Ireland because of which women get confined from the mainstream activity of the society. Eveline is a physical manifestation of how women's freedom and wills are strained by the patriarchal restriction. Eveline is compelled to live a dead-like life because of the external suppression as pressurized by the male-dominated restrictive assumptions. Her psyche is conditioned by the conservative values such as being submissive, self-sacrificing and nurturing.

The storylines do a great job of showing how risky and difficult Eveline was living. The way her father treated her is a metaphor for how women were domesticated and subjected to hegemonic dominance in Ireland.

## **Psychoanalytical Analysis of Eveline Hill**

Lacan's psychoanalysis consolidates the identification of the repressing structures which influence the behavior and characteristics of certain discourses. The focal point this theory deals with the existence of thoughts dreams memories and feeling which are owned by human minds and by which human mind is drastically affected. In this theory various thoughts, urges, memories, unresolved conflicts and feelings are reserved in the conscious mind and most of those are considered as unacceptable or unpleasant, such as anxiety, conflict, fear or pain. As we critically examine the character of Eveline Hill, we find out that there are numerous unpleasant memories and conflicting pain and fears in the mind of protagonist. The readers get to know about the parts that lie in the conscious part of Eveline which somehow also gives the notion that there is more than that is hidden in the unconscious parts of hers. This is the part that influences her the way she thinks, acts and behaves. It also explains why she remains so fragile and passive throughout the story.

# Passive Like a Helpless Animal

As we proceed to the story, the readers experience that Eveline's mind expresses different feelings throughout the story. As a matter of fact, most of the action (story) takes part in her mind and she remains passive, like a helpless animal most of the time. Her feelings express different things including anxiety, fear, hostility as well as desire. From a psychoanalytic point of view, those were directly influenced by her past experience which is not pleasant at all.

She sat at the window watching the evening invade the avenue. Her head was leaned against the window curtains and in her nostrils was the odour of dusty cretonne. She was tired.

Eveline is seen very passive at the beginning of the story where she was leaning against the window curtains watching the evening invade the avenue while her nostrils couldn't help devouring the dusty cretonne inactively. The readers immediately infer that she is psychologically exhausted and indifferently anxious. Her anxiousness revolves around her past mostly which in a way hinders her to take an appropriate decision for her future. "The experience of Eveline is passive, a fact instantiated in the circular logic of the story. She is seen sitting down, in the opening lines, leaning against a window, and dwelling on the part of her childhood, a memory process itself which is maimed, featuring images of violence and physical disability."

As the story progresses, the readers get to know about the reasons behind her anxiousness which is her indecision whether to continue living her miserable life or to embark on a whole new adventure to flee with her lover, Frank. She is constantly anxious about her life and the decisions to make. One time she is anxious about the treatment of her father towards her, another time she is wondering if Frank would drown her with him. She is anxious whether she really should support her father despite he treats her bad, or she really should be with Frank who might give her a new home and might (or might not) give her love. This makes her feel psychologically paralyzed and unable to act properly.

## Fear

Another prominent force that drives Eveline's life is fear. This fear started captivating her after she had lost her mother in her childhood. "Even now, though she was over nineteen, she sometimes felt herself in danger of her father's violence. She knew it was that that had given her the palpitations<sup>6</sup>. When they were growing up, he had never gone for her like he used to go for Harry and Ernest, because she was a girl but latterly, he had begun to threaten her and say what he would do to her only for her dead mother's sake. And now, she had nobody to protect her." In spite of being a grown up of over nineteen years of age, she could not overcome this fear of being harassed and humiliated by her father. She is destitute by her father whom she is obviously afraid of. This is most likely the result of some

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Palpitations "irregular or rapid heartbeats"

psychological trauma she received in her childhood and she seems to have already suffered from the act of violence from the part of her father in her childhood of which its consequences are still hinder her emotions when she has grown up. Even though she earns money for family and contributes her entire earning to her father, she is still dependent and inactive because of her excessive fear. "Her relationship with her father, despite her best efforts in attenuating his levels of violence, is based on fear." She has become such accustomed to this fear that this miserable life of hers doesn't seem completely undesirable to her sometimes that proves how passive she has become.

## **Imagination**

Psychoanalysis also talks about the repressed desire of the self. "The struggle between the unconscious instincts and desires on the one hand and the force of repression exercised by the ego on the other results in the displacement and distortion of unconscious contents as they strive for expression."

## For example:

when she thinks about how she met Frank, she remembers Frank was very kind, manly and open-hearted.

Here, the word 'manly' might bear a special connotation for the repressed desire of having a gentle male figure in her life.

In another Eveline she recalls,

He was standing at the gate, his peaked cap pushed back on his head and his hair tumbled forward over a face of bronze.

Again, the description here is very physical and elevated too. The readers also get to know that

She felt elated as she sat in an unaccustomed part of the theatre with him... felt pleasantly confused.

This 'unaccustomed part of the theatre' and 'pleasantly confused' might mean a lot of things including her repressed desire for Frank. "Her desire is achieved in being the object of Frank's desire: he is active while she is passive...

If we carefully consider the history of Eveline's life, we can see that this is unquestionably true in her case. This study emphasizes that her mind expresses various feelings that may have been caused by the trauma of personal history. She was unable to move on from her painful personal history. All of her decisions and actions seem to be based on it, making her docile and powerless and tamed like an animal.

# **Social Ordeal**

Eveline's interpersonal relation with her surroundings is problematic as well. From her childhood she has been treated differently by her father only because she is a girl. He father "...had never gone for her like he used to go for Harry and Ernest, because she was a girl...Her brothers were always treated superior to her. Even now, despite giving her full wages to her father, she isn't given respect at all. On the other hand, Harry, her brother, contributes to the family as he pleases, and there is no pressure from her father's side.

From the sociocultural perspective, Eveline has to struggle too. She has to work both inside and outside of the house. "Of course, she had to work hard, both in the house and business. What would they say of her in the Stores when they found out that she had run away with a fellow? Say, she was a fool, perhaps; and her place would be filled up by advertisements. Miss Gavan would be glad. She had always had an edge on her, especially whenever there were people listening. This clearly indicates that Eveline has a tough time

at her work too. People surrounding her are not supportive of a single girl working and managing everything all alone, rather they try to make things more difficult for her. And this causes her to become more passive.

Interestingly, Eveline's relationship with Frank is not entirely smooth too. "She always felt pleasantly confused" with him. There was more fascination and less love towards Frank. If she had truly loved Frank, she would not have thought twice to go with him in Buenos Ayres, she would not have doubted to be loved by him. That is why she felt "All the seas of the world tumbled about her heart. He was drawing her into them: he would drown her." The exact nature of Frank remains unknown and confusing to the reader though. "Whether Frank is a dishonest seducer or an honest lover cannot be determined..."

## Frame of Mind

Eveline's instinct of the body seems distorted in various occasions.

# For example,

"In the beginning of the story, she was supposed to leave home to meet Frank but she couldn't pull herself together. Rather she just kept sitting by the window and wondering about countless things in her mind. "She wanted to leave with Frank and live happily ever after in marriage, but she was unable to do so because of her obligations and the constraints of society. Moreover, she was so overcome by her past negative experiences that she become indecisive Even though she knew she was getting late but she felt passive and helpless to get up and go. Until the end of the story, she remained there and her body denied to move. Here, she seems to be paralyzed psychologically.

## **Struggle to Attain Desires**

According to Lacan the 'real' is a state in which an individual is free from all desires and demands as he or she is hardly affected by the worldly attractions. He or she admits the reality that surrounds. The real phase deals with common consciousness that exist.

Finally, in frenzy she suddenly got up and went to see Frank with whom she was supposed to flee to another country. Frank was holding her hand but her body and mind were acting differently. She could not concentrate what he was telling her; rather her mind was wondering somewhere else.

She felt her cheek pale and cold and out of a maze of distress, she prayed to God to direct her, to show her what her duty was.

This physical distortion went further when, Her distress awoke a nausea in her body and she kept moving her lips in silent fervent prayer.

A bell clanged upon her heart. She felt him seize her hand." This bell indicates epiphanic realization, Eveline's prayer is a sign of weakness, of frustration, of failure." Her instincts of the body remained distorted even until end when Frank was calling her to get on board along with him but favorably.

She gripped with both hands at the iron railing.

Her hands kept holding the iron in a state of hysteria and she gave a cry of anguish. Frank was calling her repeatedly to follow but her body seemed to be paralyzed. "The voices of her mother and of Frank reach her as persistent, incomprehensible and epiphanic sounds." "She set her white face to him, her eyes gave him no sign of love or farewell or recognition.

In Psychoanalysis, body is regarded as the form of the soul. Throughout the story, Eveline's body instincts resemble the state of her soul in multiple occasions.

She ultimately decided to live a domestic life with her family, to fulfil a promise made to her by her mother, to not shirk her responsibilities, and to avoid being selfish. Here, epiphanic realization worked.

## **Fear of Social Condemnation**

Oppression of women by the degenerating infection of patriarchal discourse can be sense from the domesticated life of Eveline. However, her psychical state didn't remain the same. She was tired of living under fear and violence. Her meeting with Frank, her lover, gave a new wave of consciousness in her mind "She was about to explore another life with Frank. When Frank offers her a marriage and start a new life, she feels split into eloping with him or sticks to the near ones in the family with her past memories. She undergoes handful of confusions when the idea of choosing a new life with Frank strikes her mind. She fears the she would be condemned by the society if they get to learn about her elopement and she thinks over and over;

What would they say of her in the stores when they found out that she had run away with a fellow? Say she was a fool, perhaps; and her life will be filled up by advertisement.

This fear of social condemnation reflects how here psyche has been chained by the restrictive Catholic Church that prohibits women's freedom to choose of partner. Yet, Eveline overcomes all these external fears imposed upon her and realize a moment of epiphany when she is torn between two choices: whether to live a new life of freedom with Frank or be a domesticated creature of commonplace.

# First Epiphanic Realization

Her feeling of first epiphany emerges when she recalls the painful life of her mother who lived a life of slavery sacrificing in service to the family but never enjoyed the breath of freedom. The fear of repeating same life sparked a new flame of awareness in her mind which marks the first feeling of epiphany: "An experience of epiphany, the fear of replicating her mother's past "that life of commonplace sacrifices closing in final craziness" alters her" (Hazal 2022). This is one part of her growth interims of her psychological transformation as it is felt in the narration

She must escape! She stood up in sudden impulse of terror. Escape!

She was she determined to escape the walls of family and break out in the world of her personal freedom than she began to be consumed by another mental fear. No matter how hard she struggled to leave behind the legacy of the patriarchal domination of society. She is equally pulled back because of her psyche which is shaped by the religious belief of the Catholic Church. Even though Frank promised a new life, freedom with settlement in another land, Eveline is burned with the fear of insecure future with Frank in an unknown land. Her will for freedom gets paralyzed by her loyal dedication towards her mother's words. Eveline promised her dying mother to keep the family under care. The fear of unpredictable life with Frank in an unknown land and her promise given to her dead mother hits her duty.

She felt her cheek pale and cold and, out of a maze of, she prayed to God to direct her, to show her what was her duty

which forces her back to the world of domination, violence and domestication.

The flow of experience from childhood to present unpleasant realities in's Eveline mind is how Joyce skills to generate the feeling of epiphany in her life. He allows her to be exploded by the memories of her childhood, mother as well as present behaviors of her violent father so that she can be mature enough to be closely observing the crisis she has been living through. Her state of being enlightened didn't take place at once. Her journey from innocence, unknown, domesticated thinking to knowledge about her right to freedom

and happiness goes through the mode of transformation. This type of epiphany presents the progressive development of consciousness among the characters.

# **Second Epiphanic Realization**

Her feeling of second epiphany be revealed at her being loyal to her promise to mother for sacrificing life for family dehumanized her own subjectivity. This epiphany was more regressive because it conforms to the dehumanizing discourse of patriarchy. Eveline's wills and desires have been paralyzed by patriarchal view of her to serve for family: Eveline is trapped by society, past and present, in a promise to a dying, irrational mother and the unreasonable opposition of her father.

"Though she wants "to live" and decides to "escape. On the dock she is paralyzed by fear. She is caught in a death trap, doomed by paralysis of will be born of timidity and a mistaken sense of obligation." (Florence 2022)

These lines strongly hold up the truth that Eveline is victimized by the dominance of patriarchal dehumanizing values of the Irish society. Her wills and desires, have been paralyzed by the bitter reality of the Catholic Church. And it restricts one's free will in the name of religious doctrines. Joyce creates a moment of epiphany in Eveline through the realization of her role in the patriarchal world and intends to awaken the female Dubliners about their self-sacrificing as the basic reason for their own victimization. This way, Joycean aesthetic style of constructing epiphanic feeling among his protagonists involves the psychological transformation. It is more spiritual for it brings a tremendous change in their inner thoughts, perception and the feelings. His protagonists feel totally transformed once they reach the full realization of the ultimate truth. Joyce creates a cycle of ups and downs in the mind of his characters with the flow of experiences.

From the epiphanic feelings as experienced by the protagonists in the given story, it is clear that Joycean epiphany is the spiritual transformation or psychological shift from one state to another but this becomes possible from the external factors that exert an emotional force for their growth and development. In fact, Joycean construction of epiphany engages the plot and style in such way that move forward progressively. All the events are inter-connected and finally lead to the emergence of awakening insight in the characters.

# **Findings**

- Epiphany stands as a change of mind and heart for Eveline, as at the peak point of the story she decided to elope with her boyfriend Frank for the fulfillment if her desires and dreams of a happy married life with full of love .But in a frenzy an epiphanic bell changed upon her heart. Her emotions seek higher :all the seas of the world trembled about her heart. On the outside, it can seem that nothing at all is happening but a deeper study give clear reflection of epiphany. What counts for researcher is psychological experience which shows that while it looks as if nothing is going on , Eveline is probably experiencing the most intense emotions of her entire life time.
  - Through Out the story, Eveline seems to be torn between her duty to care for her abusive father, and her desire to escape for a new life
- Her manner of endeavor towards epiphany is characterized by hesitation, fear and doubt. She is afraid to leave the familiarity of her present life and uncertain about what future holds, as the story progresses Eveline begins to realize that she cannot continue living in her current state of stagnation and unhappiness, in the end she makes the decision to leave with Frank and start a new life, but epiphanic realization brings a fundamental change in her perspective, though her manner of endeavor was positive but one gets the impression that Eveline will never have another chance like this .Eveline's decision prevented her from changing her life

- by the air of paralysis Cultural and political that hangs over Ireland like an ominous foreboding cloud.
- Eveline's behaviour can be decoded as a response to the sociotraumatic situations in her life, her behaviour can be seen as manifestation of the trauma and abuse she experienced in her home. Her father was physically and emotionally abusive, and her mother died a painful death, these events have deeply impacted her psyche. Her behaviour reflects a sense of anxiety, fear and longing for stability.

Ultimately Evelines behaviour can be interpreted as a complex response to the sociotraumatic situations in her life. Her actions are deeply influenced by the events and circumstances she has faced, and her behaviour reflects her attempt to navigate the complex and often contradictory forces that shape her experiences.

## **CONCLUSION**

The above discussion shows that Lacan theory of psychoanalysis is applicable on the character of Eveline. It discusses the cyclic relationship between desires and reality, which can be called imaginary and real order, and it also covers the symbolic which depicts the childhood experiences. At first the researcher analyzes that Eveline is a victim of repression because of the circumstances that she faced in her life and secondly, she analyzes her manner of endeavor towards those difficulties with the lens of epiphany as a catalyst.

By exploring these avenues of research, scholars can expand upon the existing knowledge and gain further insights into Evelines characters, epiphany and the societal factors that shape her decision-making process. This research paper can open up new possibilities for studying the complexities of human psychology and the impacts of societal norms on individual I

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