

**AN ANALYSIS OF HOME BURIAL (1914) BY FROST IN PSYCHOANALYTIC PERSPECTIVE**

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**Abstract:** *The main purpose of this research paper is to analyze the main cause of mental disorder of Amy in Frost's poem "Home Burial". Amy lost her conscious level on the death of his child and this cause of his mental disorder also becomes the cause of death of his marriage. Frost had experienced to lose his three children and he writes this poem into the reaction of loss of his children's. This study means to investigate the role and contribution of patriarchy and patriarchal values towards the misery, suffering, loneliness and unhappiness of women or other psychological, social and economic problems experienced by them. This research refers to the unconscious level of mind of women Amy and founds the bleak outlook of women's life in Frost's poem "The Home Burial".*

**KEYWORDS:** Frost, Home Burial, Mental disorder, Nora, Psychoanalysis, Unconscious.

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Frost was an American poet and he was born on March 1874 in San Francisco, California. He is extremely viewed for his realistic portrayals of rural life and his knowledge of American idiomatic communication. His work normally employed experiences from rural life in New England in the early twentieth century, using them to inspect composite social and ethical themes. Frost's poems contract with man in relation with the world. Man stands alone and weak as compared towards the massiveness of the universe.

Almost all of Frost's poems portray the theme of mortal restriction. This world looks messy and dreadful because man's incomplete abilities cannot grasp its sense. Walls, physical and real, mental and invisible, distinct man from Nature. His personal life was full of grief and loss. Frost had experienced the loss of his personal children and could understand the depression related with the similar in Home Burial poem. Therefore, the answer of the man might be factual: "Can't a man speak of his own child he's lost?" This paper aims at the common problems faced and experienced by woman when she had lost her newly born baby and also experienced death of the marriage.

The title "Home Burial" specifies the death of the son and indicates the death of the relationship between the mother and father. This title also advocates both a home graveyard and a home buried in one-sided sorrow. The lady worries after a dreadful wisdom of self-alienation, as well

as alienation from her environments. And, more than the corporeal solitude, man hurts from the aloneness inside.

This poem explains some rare moments of emotional discussion in a worried relationship among a rural husband and wife who had lost his new born baby. After the death of his child the woman is upset after holding sight of the child's grave over the window and more thus when her husband doesn't nearly know the reason of her sorrow. She efforts to leave the house; he persists her to stop, just for once, and then she share her sorrow with him to provide him a chance. According to his wife he doesn't recognize what it is he does that upsets her or why she should sorrow externally so long. She hates him totally for his self-control, what she realizes as his hard-heartedness. She exhausts some of her anger and hindrance, and he takes it, but the coldness between them was still there. She opens the door to leave, as he calls after her.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

Frost is an American modern poet. Various critics have remarked on his work with different perspectives. Critics normally point out that Frost intricate his problem and enhanced his style by setting old-style meters in contradiction of the natural rhythms of speech. Representing his language mostly from the dialect, he escaped fake poetic diction by employing the accent of a soft-spoken New Englander.

The wife in the poem is very depressed for the death of her child. Essentially it is not the error of the wife to misjudge her husband; it is the nature of a lady. On the other hand, a man has two authorities; one is emotion and another is action. At first the husband efforts to control his wife with his emotion but when he fails he put on force or action.

If we want to uncover the role of people and society overdue the neurotic disorders and abnormalities of the present individual, it is appreciated to study Frost, as he writes not only to aestheticize but also to stir the minds of his readers. The Home Burial (1916) is a true representation of women's mental disorder which has been caused by the death of his child and she remains constantly in his unconscious level. Nora struggled his husband understand his emotions and also express his feelings about his child but she failed, she thought that his husband is emotionless and he have not any type of sorrow for his child. "If a funeral awaits Nora, surely it is the funeral of his individuality" (Milking, 1992: 69).

"M. L. Rosenthal" Frost's rustic quality, his "poetic and faithful recovery of the rural and 'natural, is the principal of his status.

"Marion Montgomery" has described, "His attitude toward nature is one of armed and good-natured truce and joint deference interspersed with overpasses of the boundaries" between individual man and natural forces.

## THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The psychoanalytic paradigm of thought, a key framework, is used as the conceptual framework for the execution of this research. The research is qualitative and descriptive in

nature. Frost poem the Home Burial (1914) has been taken and critically analyzed under the lens of psychoanalytic theory. There are many versions of psychoanalysis. Psychoanalysis is the philosophy of personality organization and the subtleties of nature growth that monitors psychoanalysis, a scientific method for discussing psychopathology. First coined by Sigmund Freud in the late 19th century.

For this study Freud's model of repressed unconscious of psychoanalysis is followed that resultantly promotes fixated nervousness in human beings. Freud was the first psychoanalyst and a real innovator in the acknowledgment of the position of unconscious mental activity. His theories on the inside workings of the human mind, which looked so innovatory at the turn of the century, are now broadly acknowledged by most schools of psychological thought.

Freud's theory of the unconscious, then, is extremely deterministic a fact which, given the nature of nineteenth century science, should not be surprising. Freud was arguably the first thinker to apply deterministic philosophies analytically to the province of the cerebral, and to grasp that the wide variety of human behavior is understandable only in terms of the (usually hidden) mental procedures or states which determine it.

Freud states that the instincts are the ultimate cause of all behavior. The two basic instincts are Eros (love) and the destructive or death instinct. The purpose of Eros is to establish and preserve unity through relationships. On the other hand, the purpose of the death instinct is to undo connections and unity via destruction (Freud, 1949, p. 18). The two instincts can either operate against each other through repulsion or combine with each other through attraction (Freud, 1949, p. 19).

### **Analysis**

Robert Frost's poem The Home burial (1914) presents a tragic picture of the quality of life offered to women Amy and his husband after the death of their child in this poem. Frost gives the description of Lady Nora in the poem as:

"Home Burial" this is one of the Frost's most clearly depressed poems. There are at least two tragedies here: the death of his new born baby, which antecedes the poem, and the death of marriage, which the poem predicts. "Home Burial" is about sorrow and inconsolable, but most of all it appears to be about the collapse and boundaries of communication.

In this poem the scene of the poem has the mother at the top of the staircase nearby to the window, and the father at the bottom of the staircase near the door. However there is an opening window and walking out door, both of them knowledge a sense of claustrophobia in their married promise.

"I must get out of here. I must get air. "

The husband, being a farmer, admits the biological sequence of life and death with acceptance and moves on. The wife Nora, on the other hand, cannot come in the position to accept the truth of reality. Amy constantly remains in his unconscious level. Nora discovers shelter in her personal feelings as compared to the impartiality of the husband who is ready to express his emotions about the death of his new born baby. His impartial image of the death of his loved ones is explained in the following lines:

” The little graveyard where my people are!/So small the window frames the whole of it. “

At the present, the things of the past are condensed into a mere window to the past.

According to his husband’s point of view the death of his child is a universal truth but his wife is not able to accept the reality because of his mental disorder in this situation his husband is more realistic but his wife is not her husband wants that she came back in real life and move on.

The main cause of Amy mental disorder is lack of communication between husband and wife. Amy misinterprets his husband more than his husband recognizes her feelings. This is manifest in the initial lines of the poem. His husband saw her wife from the bottom of the stairs/before her wife Amy saw him. However he desires to adverse with her wife Amy, but she is unwilling to open the window to her heart. Her tireless performance of watching out of the window is illustrative of escapist to memories of the past and because of this she goes in his unconscious level of the mind Amy’s husband continually queries her on her anxieties; Amy is unwilling to expose up. Finally he determines the cause of Amy mental disorder the death of his child make her upsets and she goes in to his unconscious level of mind.

He states that yet he had failed to warn the mound because he was familiarized to its existence in the surrounding area. He defines the similar in positions of figures: “Not so much larger than a bedroom, is it? There are three pebbles of account and one of marble.” Just as he is about to refer to the topic of the lost child verbally, the woman stops him from doing so. The woman Amy in “Home Burial” by Robert Frost has been related to another in Frost’s A Masque of Mercy who has “had some loss but she can’t admit from God.”

The reasons for the woman to be drawn into mental disorder case are not restricted to the present-day. She ports in her mind the appearance of the man hollow out the grave of his child with his personal indicators. While his husband thought to express his love in a real way, she took to live it psychologically and perceptively. The actual deed of hollow out the grave comes across as cruel and heartless to her, and is depicted like the working of an engine.

“You can’t because you don’t know how to speak.

If you had any feelings, you that dug

With your own hand—how could you?—his little grave;

I saw you from that very window there,

Making the gravel leap in air,

Leap up, like that, like that, and land so lightly

And roll back down the mound beside the hole.

I thought, Who is that man? I didn’t know you.

And I crept down the stairs and up the stairs

To look again, and still your spade kept lifting.

Then you came in. I heard your rumbling voice”

Amy cause of unconscious level of mind (mental disorder) also becomes the cause of death of his marriage already she had lost his child. The Home burial poem in last scene when she leave his house and shut the door because both of them not in position to cover up their identities The woman in "Home Burial" like Amy wants to escape from a suffocating air she feels that she is mother of the child and only she has grief for his child and his husband is totally emotionless. The door is their hole to liberty. When her husband says:

”Listen to me. I won’t come down the stairs,”

It predicts more than it signifies. Her husband guarantees her that he will not relapse to his previous posture. However he tries to be in line with matriarchy, the masculine anxiety in him finally does declare himself as he states:

“Where do you mean to go? First tell me that.

I’ll follow and bring you back by force. I will”

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