Coelho's Stories for Parents, Children and Grandchildren Volume1: Structuralize Analysis by Appling Barthes' Hermeneutic Code

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Abstract

The short stories contribute messages that are hidden in these short stories and the reader has to decode these messages by applying the hermeneutic code. It helps in understanding and interpreting the short stories. The researcher aims to apply the structuralize analysis of Coelho's short stories for Parents, Children and Grandchildren Volume 1 by applying the hermeneutic code. Non-empirical research has been applied and the close reading technique has been applied to understand the short stories. A semiotic approach has been applied. The stories have been broken down into chunks of smaller elements called Lexia. The function of hermeneutic code is the in-depth study of the short stories and the interpretation and understanding of these short stories. Hermeneutic code provides a deep understanding and exploration of the message hidden in these short stories. It introduces riddles, puzzles, suspense, and enigmas and then leads the reader to the solution of these terms and problems.

Keywords: Structuralism, short story, Flash fiction, hermeneutics, hermeneutic code.

Introduction

It has been cited by Jones (1968) that Literature plays a vital tool in communication. It works for communication. It shares ideas, emotions, experiences, and observations. These experiences, ideas, emotions, and feelings have been classified into two groups. The first group shares information about the world only such as history, facts, about the lives of genuine people. The second group shares with the reader his perspective to the reader. Its purpose is to arouse the feeling and thoughts.

Short story

Various words and dialogues create multiple meanings in the short stories and these short stories are full of different messages and thoughts. It has been mentioned by [1] that "prose fiction, flash fiction, is a short piece of literature that can be read in one time or sitting and self-contained incidents that make the single mood, effect and cause-focused in this genre." [2] In literature, the short story plays the most important role, it is a learning material for the reader[3]. "A short story is time-capturing; the narrator of the text starts the story wholeheartedly due to a strong desire for rereading from beginning to end." [4] All the components of short stories are compressed and contained in flash fiction. The writers weave the flash fiction or short story with brevity in an artistic way. It is a part of prose, which is required to cut down into the core issues without description and exaggerations that typically, could be read in one sitting.

Flash Fiction

The flash fiction term was first noted down by James Thomas, in 1992. This type of short story includes words up to 750 words. It has been further revealed that "The flash fiction genre consists of near word counts from the range of 50 to 1500 words". Further, it has been by Bachelor that what are the topics on which flash fiction. Many interesting topics are included or mentioned in the short stories such as motivational stories based on the themes of life, honesty, class systems, life, success, failures, humanity-based

themes, social status, gender equality, relationships, sex, dystopia, racism, disputes, equality, human heartedness, virtue, suicide, technology, love, the essence of forgiveness, mysticism, world problems, nature-based stories, race, class conflicts, wisdom based stories, fables, morality-based, Favorite topics, in flash fiction, include gender, social class, relationships, suicide, death, isolation, racism, etc. [5]Some stories include unsettling content and ideas that provoke the reader's thoughts and philosophical messages, which attract the reader's attention throughout the end of the story.[6] Flash fiction stories are related to many different modes and genres that are based on traditional mainstream short stories, stories anti-fables, fables, including ghost stories, stories based on romance, ghost stories, fiction, prose poetry, suspense, love stories, post-modernism, futurism, myth and mystery-based stories, magical truth and unrealism-based stories, ghost, and fairy tales stories, humanity base stories, horror stories, Dadaism, fables and parables, stories based on science fiction, horror, parables, etc.[7]. So, one can say that flash fiction plays the most important role in the field of literature.

Review of the Related Literature

Structuralism and Structuralize Analysis

The term structuralism is a method of inquiry that indicates a scientific method of knowing, learning, understanding, and interpreting the whole range of incidents, texts, economic models and their production, volleyball matches, semiotics is a field of study and analysis in which a systemic way it has been regarded in an ordinary sense as signs, symbols are used in poems, football match, birds chirping, traffic signals, wrestling match, a system of social relationships, drawing and painting and symbols and these are considered the complete system of signs. A structuralize analysis method tries to separate them according to the given set of laws rules and regulations in which they underlie the sign and symbols for meaning-making. (Eagleton, 2011). It is a systematic process to understand and interpret the text. It has been cited, in general, that "Structuralism attempts to apply the linguistic

theory to the activities and objects lither than language itself. Further, to clarify the concepts mentioned in the text, a brief example of an actual structuralize analysis can serve and illustrate it in understanding the text [8]. Structuralism analysis tries to understand and interpret human actions very systematically by applying and exploring the basic elements of these actions such as beliefs, laws, concepts, icons, and rules, of their combination. The structuralize approach deals with structures that are the smallest and these structures would be isolated in variations to the larger structures. It has been cited, that meaningful units and elements would be inquired and further, the necessary information that emerges from these segments of the sentences forms a concentration themselves or on the wholes of these elements which they form meaning (Smithson, 1975)Through the structuralize analysis, the deep structures of the stories are revealed. The semiotic study depends upon structuralism; it is also called the theory of signs. For example, while driving the driver reacts differently against the lights. Red light means stop. And the green means move ahead. Human activities are explained scientifically in the structuralize analysis by discovering the basic elements of those activities, such as actions, lexicons and concepts with the rules and the combining laws [9]. These signs of signals have their actions and reactions within the system of signs and structures that have meaning. The semiotic study could be considered a system of meaning-making. All these signs that give meaning are arbitrary. This sign system is called the complex system of signs. According to [10] the application of the sign system is very complex to understand as traffic lights give less meaning and sense as compared to the literary text but their patterns and their meanings make the basis of gaining sense. "Roland Barthes has given five communicative codes of any text; through these codes researcher underlies every vital aspect of the literary or non-literary text in the light of five codes."[11].

Roland Barthes' Five Codes

It has been cited in S/Z published in 1830 which is about Sarasin by Balzac novella by [12] that structuralize analysis is a unique way of understanding and interpreting the literary text. It is the story of an innocent character Sarasin who is a young artist. He falls in love very madly with another character named La Zambinella who is a very charming and attractive opera singer. The opera singer was courted by hero Sarasin with love and affection. Then, he comes to know that she is not a woman but she is a castrated man. In the 19th century, many men used to perform and play female roles on stage. Sarasin gets angry when he comes to know the reality and he tries to kill/ her swearing that again doesn't trust anyone and never falls in love in your life with anybody. Step by step the novella was analyzed by Roland Barthes' theoretical approach from beginning to end in the field of literature and called structuralist analysis. He has developed the main tools for analysis which he called the codes and lexia. A Lexia is the smallest meaningful unit of the text. It may be the collection of a few words to several sentences. Barthes has broken down the Sarasin text into 561the smallest chunks or units. The codes are classified into the smaller chunks or segments and these are further divided into different meaningful entities. The five codes were formulated by Barthes. It has been described that the text would be narrated in a series of codes that would be understood and interpreted by the reader. It has been suggested by Barthes text should be divided into the five codes that give sense and meaning to a text Hermeneutic / Enigma code, Proairetic / Action code, Semantic code, Symbolic code, and Referential/ Cultural code (GÜZEL, 2023).

Code

The basic function of code is to decode the hidden and inherent meaning in a literary text or language (GÜZEL, 2023). Codes are signs and symbols that have meaning, these codes could be linguistic words, gestures, rituals, and phrases. Code is used for analysis of text, especially in literary theory. Codes are phrases, chunks, units, elements, or smaller linguistic elements that are

contextually analyzed. the codes are applied to interpret them the codes enable the story to be told [13] "signs and codes" [14] code and message [15]. Code is the element that helps the receiver to understand the message [16]. Codes are the collection of messages, symbols, and signs and the codes are incorporated by the author. The code plays the role of a channel that helps the reader to decode or understand the message behind it.

Lexia

Lexia is used to refer to a chunk or segment of a text. Stories would be broken down into short units individually which have meaning and sense. Short stories are analyzed by using the lexia to understand and interpret the text thoroughly to explore a deeper understanding of the text or story.

Hermeneutics

The word *hermeneutic* is basically a Greek word. Its origin is taken from the word *Hermes,* the mythological Greek deity whose actual role was mediator between gods and became the messenger of gods. [17]. Hermes was the messenger of humans from the gods. [18]. Hermeneutics is related to meaning-making or interpreting the different forms of communication and messages mentioned in the short stories. Its main purpose is to decode the hidden message and meaning within the documents, drams, stories, text, etc. Its messages are not merely information; they require interpretation as well. Therefore, the science of "explaining and understanding" is also called hermeneutics [19]. The function or the purpose of hermeneutics is to make the meaning of a text intelligible; to enquire into the tacit and make it explicit. Contemporary scholars of hermeneutics define it to be the science of interpretation. Broadly speaking, hermeneutics can be deemed to be expressive, explicative, explanatory, communicative, and translated in nature (Rasool, 2013).

Hermeneutic Code introduced by Roland Barthes

Hermeneutic code is different from hermeneutics. Hermeneutic code is a little bit different from hermeneutics, it is called the enigmatic code

according to Roland Barthes. The elements in the text which are unexplained, puzzling elements, enigmatic elements or incomplete elements that make the reader very curious to understand and interpret the text are considered the hermeneutic codes. It has been cited by [20] that hermeneutic code solves the mystery and tries to answer the questions, unveiling the truth and reality that was hidden in the selected text and meaning and the message would be unfolded. Its purpose is to know the truth that is hidden in the form of puzzles and questions that probably appear in the text [21]. According to Barthes, enigmas, riddles, questions, or suspense are introduced in the text, to be solved by the reader [22]. "The structures of the enigmatic code are to apply and implement certain puzzling questions, and enigmas in the plot by properly implanting delaying the answers or giving false leads -- thus giving us a story" [23]. An unexplained, puzzling, mysterious and incomplete message would refer to a narrative and make the reader curious for meaning-making or understanding. The researcher helps in decoding the revealing the puzzles, enigmas and mysterious elements that create inquisitiveness in the reader's mind. It has been cited by [24] that these mysterious elements would solved and answered at the end of the story while some of them will remain a riddle and suspense for the reader. Barthes called these terms Snare, deliberate evasions of the truth. Equivocations, mixtures of truth and snare, partial answers, suspended answers and jamming[25]. Selden, Widdowson & Brooker (2005) also regard this as a "code of enigma" because of uncovering those components that confuse the reader by making them look strange and enigmatic[26]. Various techniques are included in this enigmatic code, such as deliberate evasions and suspended answers etc. [27]. It has been mentioned by [28] that these mysterious and puzzling elements that are mentioned in the text would be unveiled by raising different questions. Further, solutions to these enigmas or riddles will be given in the last (Abbas et al., 2021). Does the researcher try to answer the questions that are raised in these elements by raising different questions, such as What is happening? What is the enigma in

the story or text? By whom the murder has been committed? How does the hero achieve the purpose? At the end of the text, some enigmatic and mysterious elements will be answered by the writer to the reader while some of them will remain an enigma and unanswered. The meaning and understanding would be on the reader's proposal by using mental faculty for getting the meaning from the text (GÜZEL, 2023). Many elements such as riddles, and puzzles would be formulated and the suspense and enigmas would be suggested and distinguished. Finally, those elements that are held unanswered or unsolved would be solved and answered through hermeneutic code (Barthes, 1975). In hermeneutic code, the very first stage is to form themes and enigmas. Then, try to disclose the answers and solutions, the results of these partial answers, and the solution to these ambiguities in the short stories. By highlighting the enigmas include themes that form puzzles, enigmas, and ambiguities. The second stage is to delay in providing the solution to the questions, ambiguities, and enigmas that are raised in the first stage. It is the most vital and necessary stage of the hermeneutic code. By delaying in the answers to the question and puzzles create inquisitiveness in the reader's mind. The author presents another type of delay in the story or text that he presents the snare in the stories that mislead the reader.

It has been cited, that in a story or literary text mystery and enigma lead the reader from inquisitiveness to the solution and answer to these mysteries and enigmas. Further, solutions and answers will be provided after a certain delay. In the narrative text, the delays or the unquestionable segments, lie, the misleading answer are called the Snare in the text (Barthes, 1974). The set of delays and disclosure in the text for the reader is called a snare. It has been further disclosed by Barthes that after the disclosure of the truth, the snare remains there in the text. In the novella written by Balazak, Sarrasine does not pay attention even after knowing the true sex. Sometimes, the author shares partial answers to the reader. In the text, puzzles, ambiguities, riddles, or questions lead the reader towards the solution after delaying in solving these

enigmas. Different types of delays are mentioned in the text and stories. Jamming is the type of delay in the story. In jamming there is no any kind of clue or hints for solving the enigmas and puzzles. Ambiguity is also a type of delay in the text. In this type of delay, the reader cannot understand or solve the puzzle and ambiguity. At the end of the test or story, the reader becomes aware of these all delays and puzzles such as snares, jamming, ambiguities, and enigmas. The stories are made intriguing by presenting questions, delays, and puzzles by the author. In hermeneutic code, curiosity, delays, and questions create inquisitiveness in the reader's mind and it makes it more mysterious for the reader. [29]. In this enigmatic code, the researcher examines and decodes the hidden message those are raised through enigmas, riddles, and puzzling elements in the text. With reference to the hermeneutic code, it has been deciphered from the text whether the author has asked any questions or mentioned any doubts in his story, experience and incidents. [30]. It has been cited by [31] that in this hermeneutic code, many questions and doubts are raised by the narrator creating mystery, suspense, and inquisitiveness before solving and revealing these it takes along the course. The hermeneutic code is called the puzzling code in which enigmas and puzzles are raised. [32].

In the narrative text, the hidden message contained behind the selected elements or the chunks of the sentences and various themes or enigmas are given. Stating questions can formulate puzzles and ambiguities. This hermeneutic code questions the proposal of the enigmas, many codes and clauses are combined and these all delays in answers can take the reader to the ultimate predicate of disclosure [33]. In detail, it has been described that Barthes suggests that the hermeneutic sentence of the narrative is comprised of small elements such as the schematization of the enigma and its disclosure. Further, once the truth is revealed, "the vast hermeneutic sentence is closed and the narrative is complete (McCreless, 1991).

Research Methodology

Aim and the Objective of the Critical Study

The aim of this critical analysis is to apply structuralize analysis of Coelho's Stories for Parents, Children and Grandchildren Volume I by applying hermeneutic code and the objective of this structuralize analysis is to understand mystery, puzzles, and enigmas with the help of hermeneutic code.

Research Question

To what extent does hermeneutic code help in understanding the mystery, puzzles, enigmas, and suspense?

Source of Data

Primary data has been selected from the collection of short stories titled *Stories for Parents, Children, and Grandchildren Volume I* written by Paulo Coelho in 2008. Each story has been analyzed in the light of Barthes' hermeneutic code. It contributes to exploring the theme and the meaning of these stories.

Data Collection

The researcher has used the close reading technique for understanding these short stories. These short stories have been broken down into the lexis and it has been highlighted in the light of the hermeneutic code that the puzzles, riddles, and enigmas have been solved from these short stories.

Procedure Data Analysis Procedure

The selected stories have been classified into the codes called lexis in the light of hermeneutic code and puzzles, enigmas and riddles and the answers behind these short stories are mentioned. The findings of these selected stories are portrayed in the light of the hermeneutic code those are defined by the semiotician approach for achieving the conclusion.

Result and Discussion Code Analysis by applying hermeneutic code

"Meeting the King" [34]

In this short story, many enigmas are there, questions are raised by the characters. The title, itself is enigmatic. Who is meeting with the king? Who is the Saadi of Shiraz? What kind of meeting it is? Who is the king? To what

country does the king belong? What happens when one meets with the king? What happened then? What did King say/ ask? What was the reply of the wise man? The question has been raised by the king on his wanderings through cities of his kingdom, did he think about him and his works?The king of Persia met with the wise man Saadi of Shiraz. The king enquired him about his kingdom and while visiting his kingdom, whether, he noticed his work and remembered him on his work. The reply was that every moment Saadi remained busy in remembrance of God. The enigma has been solved that Saadi of Shiraz was a wise man who belonged to the city of Shiraz. Visiting the kingdom of Persia, Saadi did not pay any attention to the king and to the work that he had done in his kingdom.

"The art of listening" [35]The title is very interesting and it draws the attention of the reader. Many questions are raised by the reader when one reads the title and the story. Is there any kind of art for listening? What is the art of listening? Who is the Saadi of Shiraz? What is so important about him? How one can attain the art of listening?

Saadi of Shiraz was a wise man. He saw a man who was going somewhere with his mule. The mule did not budge. The man began calling the names to the mule. Then, Saadi advised that man to remain calm and not panic. The mule will not understand your language. You have to deal with him like an animal. The wise man advised his disciples that always keep in mind not to get into an argument with somebody who does not know your language. A mule symbolizes the foolish person who does not believe in you. The stupid person will never understand your idea and he will not learn your language and will not act according to you. Learn the fool's language if you have to teach according to his level. "Saadi of Shiraz and Prayer" [36]The questions could be raised by the reader while going through the story. The story is also very puzzling. Reader raises questions such as What is the correlation between Saadi and prayer? What kind of the pray it is? Saadi of Shiraz used to listen to the Koran together with his relatives. While reading a passage of

the Koran his relatives were asleep and they were not listening to the Koran. He scomplained to his father about not listening to the Koran and that not one of these dozy people is not listening to the words of the prophet. Then, his father replied to him that look at his own path with faith and let others take care of themselves. "Nasrudin always makes the wrong choice" [37]

Here, in this story, the title is very interesting, the question could be raised by the researcher, why does Nasrudin always make the wrong choice about whether he is a stupid or fool? What is the true reason behind making the wrong choice? Nasrudin is one who begs for alms. Nasrudin always makes the wrong choice People used to consider him a fool by playing the trick. People used to show them two coins. One is worth ten times more than the other. Nasrudin always chooses the smaller coin or less valuable coin. A generous man asked him that when they offered him two coins, he should choose the larger one. He replied the man when he chose the larger coin, people would stop offering money. Because people always considered him a fool/ stupid. He has earned a lot of money by using this trick. The reader comes to know that Nasrudin is not an idiot or stupid but he is a clever person. If you are clever, there is nothing wrong with looking like a fool or stupid.

"The Perfect Woman" [38]

The question arises suspense with the title about the perfect woman. Who is the perfect woman? Are we going to learn about the perfect woman? Is there any kind of perfect woman? Is there, in the story, any sort of characteristic of the perfect woman? So, the title attracts the reader's attention with an interesting topic. Question is raised by the character in the story. Nasrudin was asked the question whether he had not married yet. He replied to him that he had wandered different cities for his marriage. In one city, he found a lovely and spiritual woman but she did not know the world, in another city, he found a woman who was spiritual and knew the world but she was not beautiful. Then, he went to another city where he found beautiful, spiritual

and well-aware of the world. The question has been raised by the same person why he had not married her then. Then, he replied that she was in search of a perfect man. The puzzle and enigma have been solved at the end of the story that it is vain to pursue the perfect woman or man.

"The fish who saved my life" [39]

The title is very interesting and it creates inquisitiveness in the reader's mind. It draws the reader's attention towards the story of what kind of fish it is that has saved the life. Could it be possible that fish can save lives? Who is the person whom the fish saved? Nasrudin saw Yogi in the caves. He asked him what he was searching for in the caves. He replied that he had learnt a lot about the animals that could transform man's life. Nasrudin said to Yogi that once he was saved by the fish. If the Yogi teaches to the Nasrudin then he would also reveal that secret to him. Yogi taught everything about the animals to Nasrudin. Yogi demanded to tell him how the fish saved his life. Nasrudin gave him a very interesting reply that once he was almost dying of hunger when he caught the fish and ate that fish.

"The duck and the cat" [40]

The title is very attractive and it makes the reader puzzled, what kind of story it is? What is so important about the duck and cat? What is special about the duck and cat story? The question is also raised in the story by the narrator himself. This story is a fable a type of short story. The story has been started with the raising of the question from the Sofi master Sham Tabrezi. He decided for himself that he would adopt Sufism where he would learn through free meditation. Sufi master Shams Tabrezi told a fable to him that someone placed a duckling in the care of a cat. He followed her as an adoptive mother. When the duckling and the cat came near a lake. The duckling at once jumped into the lake. Whereas the cat warned the duckling from the shore to come out from the lake otherwise it would be drowned. But Duckling replied that he has discovered what he is good at and he knows that he is part and parcel of the lake and would stay in the lake forever and

you don't know what the lake is. By going through the stories, the enigmas, puzzles, riddles and questions that are raised in the stories are answered at the end of the stories and the riddles have been solved. By learning and knowing about the answers to the mysteries in the stories, the reader becomes aware and comes to know that in *Meeting the King* story, the message is about the sofi thought. Further, it has been disclosed in the story that Always remember God. In *The Art of Listening*, the reader understands the message that don't panic and always remain calm and not argue with someone who does not understand your point of view. The message of the story is in *Saadi of Shiraz and prayer* that looking at your own path with your faith and belief and letting other people do their own work means minding your own business. *Nasrudin always makes the wrong choice*, in this story, the message is if one is clever, there is nothing wrong in looking stupid. Such is the message of the story of *The Perfect Woman*, it has been disclosed the message that it is vain to search for a perfect woman or man, accept them with their weaknesses and flaws. In the story, *The Fish Who Saved My Life*, the message is, one can transform oneself by using wisdom and wit. In the story, *The Duck and the Cat*, do whatever you want to do in your life there are no limits for human beings. One has to understand and know oneself.

Conclusion and results

In conclusion, the researcher has analyzed the short stories thoroughly in the light of the hermeneutic code to understand the elements, and structures of the stories through the hermeneutic code. These stories possess many questions, enigmas, puzzles, curiosity and suspense. indicating the message and meaning. The messages are hidden in the codes that are incorporated into the short stories. By applying the semiotic approach using hermeneutic code. Through this code, one can understand the message from the text by using Roland Barthes' code. The researcher came to know that writer builds the suspense, tension and puzzles for the reader. This code attracts the attention of the reader till the end of the story.

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