

## The Premonitory Dream: A Freudian Reading of Colleen Hoover's Verity.

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### Abstract

Dreams are described as a series of actions that are inaccessible in the active condition of human existence. It has numerous dimensions. It gets its content from reality, as Freud believed. But, as Verity's brief life shown, premonitory dreams can be implanted in the deepest recesses of people's hearts and have profound consequences. Colleen Hoover's Verity is a thriller mystery. Verity encounters with an accident and gets paralysed while working on her literary series, The Noble Virtues. When it comes to her literary profession, Lowen has been tasked with completing the assignment. The writer then comes upon Verity's autobiography while looking for references for her incomplete work. The plot then takes the listener on an even darker journey. Verity's involvement in the deaths of her own children is revealed. By illustrating Freudian interpretative theory on dreams, this study focuses on a range of Verity's endangered ill wills and attempts to determine how far the dreams might cause this mother to disregard her own children, forcing them to die. To summarise, it investigates how individuals' repressed thoughts are portrayed through dreams, as well as how childhood and upbringing influence how people see their surroundings.

**Key Words:** Voice Search, User Perception, Utilisation Efficiency, Multimedia Library.

### INTRODUCTION

Sigmund Freud, an Austrian psychologist, was the first to create psychoanalytic procedures, and his ideas have affected a wide range of disciplines. He distinguishes between the terms conscious, unconscious, and pre-conscious. The unconscious, which is central to Freudian thought, is a basic process that seeks instant satisfaction. Psychoanalysis is defined as "a type of therapy that tries to cure mental problems through exploring the interaction of conscious and unconscious aspects in the mind" by the *Concise Oxford Dictionary*. Psychoanalytic criticism employs some of the principles and procedures of psychoanalysis in the understanding of literature and applies them to literary works. "Our dreams at night are nothing more than imaginations like this, as we can see via dream interpretation" (*20th Century Literary Criticism* 39).

In the Freudian Model, dream analysis is essential because Freud believes dreams as the major avenue for repressed desires. The study of how real events are turned into dream imagery is known as dream analysis. Dreams, like literature, show or expose things. The goal of a work of art, like the goal of a dream, is the secret fulfilment of a forbidden childish longing.

Verity has an odd fascination with her husband Jeremy; following the birth of her twin children, Chastin and Harper, she feels jealous and distant. She even attempts to terminate them multiple times. Her resentment develops to the point where she threatens to starve her children. She puts on this mask to look good in front of Jeremy and others. To the outside world, she appears to be a brilliant writer, but on the inside, she is a monster who is terrible to her underprivileged children. She gets a premonition that her daughter would be murdered by the other daughter. Chastin eventually dies as a result of an allergy. Verity blames Harper for the dream and intends to murder her and cover it up as an accident. "I took time. I didn't want to go too far and risk touching her, bumping into her. What if there is still life in her and she clung to my shirt?" (258).

In one of his writings, The Dream Interpretation Freud wrote about dream that, "dream is a work and the dream as desire fulfilment". The study of how real events are turned into dream imagery is known as dream analysis. Transference is the redirecting of emotions towards the psychotherapist, who serves as a surrogate for another figure. Projection:

characteristics of one's personality that are attributed to another in order to distance oneself from such aspects. Displacement is a type of symbolic substitution in which one person or event is represented by another person, event, or thing that is related with it in some manner. Condensation, the process of combining numerous events or persons into one vision, is a key concept in dream analysis. The general notion of transference and projection underpins dream analysis. The protagonist's dream analysis in *Verity* can be through "condensation," in which her repressed emotions return in a hidden way.

A series of Dreams which maybe called typical are those who's content is that a beloved relative, a parent, brother, or sister, child or the like has died. We must at once distinguish the two classes of Dreams. Those in which the dreamer remains unmoved, and those in which he or she feels profoundly grieved by the death of the beloved person even expecting this grief by shedding tears in his or her sleep. The later is what happens to Verity. She dreams the death of her daughter Chastin wherein she sees her other twin sitting on top of Chastin and covering her head with a pillow. She exclaims that, "I was walking by there bedroom. I peeked inside and couldn't understand what I was seeing. Harper was on top of Chastin, covering her head with a pillow" (194).

In dreams, if the death of a beloved relative is imagined, one can felt a pain for so long, it may affect worse. This signify as their content tells us, the wish that the person in question might die; the wishes represented in dreams are not always current wishes. They maybe bygone, discarded, buried, and repressed wishes. Similarly, Verity at some point in her life secretly wished her children to die she even tries to abort them using a wire hanger. She has a severe aversion towards them through this dream. She herself prints it in her manuscript, "I was in the bathroom, attempting to abort his daughters with a wire hanger" (110). It is clear that her repressed thoughts sneak into her dreams and manifests in itself.

In her premonitory dream when she pulls away the pillow from Chastin's face she find's her face bare and smooth like a bald head. The reason she has this wild dream is due to her guilt of causing a scar while trying to abort the twin's that shame drive's her mad until it shows up in the form of a dream. A recollection from the dreamer's earliest childhood can also be the root of this wish also. Verity's parents were very strict and cared less about her as a means she lacks familial bound and affection from them. This might be another cause for her poor maternal instincts. "They're strange," she said, "Victor and Marjorie, insanely religious to their core" (195).

Oftentimes these trauma are infused into the brain of the person through their experiences from early childhood. May be Verity's Mother was not as considerate as other mothers are. This realisation comes to show that her poor maternal instinct is inherited from her. She says, "I empathize with Verity, wondering if her lack of maternal instinct was inherited" (195).

A few things to note on the significance of dreams in general are that, they show us the occurrence of a very unusual state of things, they show us that the dream thoughts created by the repressed wish completely escapes the censorship and is transferred to the dream without alteration. This means even though Verity does not constantly think about killing her children. But in her innermost mind without a prior warning and enters into her dream state.

These dreams are encouraged by the following two factors: First, we believe that this is the last longing we could credit ourselves with harbouring; "We believe that such a wish would never appear to us even in a dream," dream-censorship is so responsible for this abomination. Second, in this particular circumstance, the repressed and unanticipated longing is frequently met halfway by a residue from the day's experience in the form of some worry for the life of the beloved person. Verity's dream puts her even more in love with her daughter Chastin. She realises how fond she has grown of her, due in part to the premonition and in part to guilt.

Dreams might differ depending on the person and their living circumstances. "Dreams may be noted, which can be viewed as wish fulfilments" (Freud 98) for children. It might gratify the desires of people who have encountered youngsters. It can create wings and powerful hands to reach out and gratify their whims. People are nowadays not ready to take effort even they do not want to think. Artificial intelligent occupies the world massively. They want to set their life so cozy and comfortable, so their thinking ability made their aesthetic sense drained. In *Klara and The Sun*, Kazuo Ishiguro expresses the condition of the present world aptly,

I don't need to think. Josie and I grew up together and we're part of each other. And we've got our plan. So of course our love's genuine and forever. And it won't make any difference to us who's been lifted and who hasn't. That's your answer, Klara, and there won't be any other. (84)

Thinking is the natural ability of human being, they may be called as human only because of their thinking capability and the reasoning sense. But the present generation abandoned this special humaneness, so that they become paralyse and lose their human nature, it results in great chaos. The near or dear one of those paralysed generation may experience the bad consequences of that. Dreams might be the boon for human race. It gives some connections to the reality and prevent one from unexpected turns of his or her life and it may also prophesied some

vital thoughts, they would never been able to imagine. Ishiguro rightly says, “It’s just the way things are, and the worst of it is, you can’t even begin to imagine what it would be like if it were different” (*Never Let Me Go* 70).

In Verity’s case, the eerie and traumatizing situations leads Verity to the emotionally deranged position. Hoover’s observation of the character’s inner thought process may attract readers widely but the suspension behind every single frames of the characters point out the devastating status of Verity at the climax. She does not really want to face the reality, she admits that, “I needed for the imaginary version of my world to be darker than my real world. Otherwise, I would have wanted to leave them both” (103)

Dreams can have special eyes for people who yearn to view God’s glory and the mystery of heaven, particularly the elderly. But the “dream is not that you see in sleep; a dream is something that does not let you sleep, “as Abdul Kalam Stated. Verity’s dream is similarly one-of-a kind, it keeps her awake rather than revealing her dark inner nature, which has been an oasis within her for so long. and abandons her to her fateful end.

Death is inevitable, and it serves only to remind the earth of its own mortality. Yet Verity never considers the possibility of losing her children in her eventual destination. “We should take what we can get, even if we do a little wrong; we should never let an opportunity: life is so short, and death is inevitable” (Freud 154). Everyone should, in some manner, enter the cycle of transience. Here, Hoover acknowledges that Verity’s priorities were misplaced, so that she has missed out on the joys of life and the beauty of its aesthetics. She forgets to count the blessing of her present life, instead hovers over the unattainable joys that she has always longing for. As Freud in *The Interpretation of Dreams* confirms, “The beauty of human form and face vanish forever in the course of our lives, but their evanescence only lends them a fresh charm” (305-306).

Understanding someone else’s thoughts and emotions may allow individuals to realise what is what from the perspectives of others and to see things from their point of view. It may be termed as ‘empathy,’ this type of empathy is important for effective communication and building strong relationships with others. In doing so the human beings are aware about the realities around them and started heal by themselves. According to Daniel Goleman, “Empathy means you can understand the feelings of another person, but you don’t necessarily feel their feelings” (*Emotional Intelligence* 88). The need of empathy entails identifying and envisioning the status of others experiencing in a specific scenario. This sense of empathy helps people to react to the emotional needs of others in an appropriate way.

For such empathy, it is necessary to love unconditionally. *The Holy Bible* says, “Love never gives up; and its faith, hope and patience never fail. Love is eternal... Meanwhile these three remain: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.” (*Good News Bible* Catholic Edition, 1Corinthians: 13:4-13). Let us express the sense of love and care and try to understand one another in this beautiful world and make our surrounds delightful with the touch of love, care, compassion, and humanity rather than a negative, antagonistic attitude. Our dream will blossom if we spread the fragrance of kindness.

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