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Horror and Fear in Ghost Stories: A Comparison between Henry James's "The Turn of the Screw" and Edgar Allan Poe's "The Fall of the House Usher"

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Abstract

The Present paper discusses Horror and fear in Henry James' "The Turn of the Screw" and Poe's "The fall of the House Usher", which are ghost stories. It compares and contrasts the two stories in accordance with American school. The aim of the compararison is to find out the implications and the underlying identities of both similarities and differences so that even the differences can be given their proper place in a deeper and more comprehensive understanding of the artist.

The study applies the theory of suspense to analyze the theme of the unknown in the two stories of mystery and suspense. The objective of the study is to find the similarities and differences in the universal theme. The similarities include the supernatural and horror, mystery, suspense and surprise. The differences are in the tragedy and pathetic and sexual relationship.

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الرعب والخوف في قصص الأشباح: دراسة مقارنة
لقصة هني جيمس "دورة اللولب" وقصة إدغار ألين بو "سقوط بيت أوشر"

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<p>الخلاصة: يناقش هذا البحث الرعب والخوف في قصة هنري جيمس "دورة اللولب" وقصة إدغار ألين بو "سقوط بيت أوشر" وهما قصتا أشباح. ويقارن البحث بين القصتين وفقاً للمدرسة الأمريكية. الهدف من المقارنة هو معرفة أوجه التشابه والاختلاف لكي يمكن إعطاء الاختلافات مكانها المناسب في فهم أعمق وأكثر شمولية للجانب الفني.</p> <p>تطبق الدراسة نظرية التشويق لتحليل فكرة المجهول في القصتين. الهدف من الدراسة هو إيجاد أوجه التشابه والاختلاف في الموضوع عالمياً. تشمل أوجه التشابه ما هو خارق للطبيعة والرعب والغموض والتشويق والمفاجأة. أما أوجه الاختلاف فتشمل المأساة والشفقة والعلاقة الجنسية.</p>	<p>الكلمات الدالة:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- الأشياء الخارقة-الرعب- الغموض- التشويق- المباغثة- المأساة <p>معلومات البحث تاريخ البحث:</p> <p>الاستلام: ٢٠٢١_٨_١٢</p> <p>القبول: ٢٠٢١_٩_١</p> <p>التوفر على النت</p>
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1. Introduction

The Comparative Literature firstly developed in France. It was divided in two schools French and American. While American School, focuses on the comparison of two different literary works and compares the literary works with certain fields of science and arts. Comparative Literature can be said to be a recent, and it is considered as an important academic activity of the discipline present era . Every study uses comparative steps because with this comparative steps it is easier to understand the problem. (Damon, 2005:14)

The American School of Comparative Literature, which was formed in the second half of the 20th century, considered aesthetics and attempt to critique and analysis. This school regards literature as a universal phenomenon which is related to other branches of human knowledge and fine arts. Rene Wellek, the pioneer of the American Comparative School, has reciprocated comparative works in comparative literature and does not accept any boundaries in the field of comparative literature. (Ibid, 229).

The study of literary phenomena is between two or more different literatures or the study of the relation between a literary phenomenon and various sciences. Claudio Guillén (1971) suggests that the comparatist's chief business should be the unearthing of correspondent and similar processes of literary development and that could be accredited to historical and social laws of worldwide legitimacy, and to the rudimentary belief of unity and symmetry noticeable in the growth of humanity at large. (Bleiler,1981:73)

Henry James and Poe are great writers of ghost stories. Poe had personal experiences of horrible incidents. He had read ghostly stories which were full of the supernatural elements. However, both of these writers wrote the supernatural tales for entertainment. Their ghostly stories are different from the conventional ghost stories. Their ghosts are real persons or unreal persons. Above all their ghostly stories are psychological in nature. Whatever, the nature of their ghostly stories may be, it is true that they are full of supernatural element, suspense and surprise. They are full of mystery, horror and terror. James's *The Turn of the Screw* possesses all the above-mentioned traits of a ghostly story. *The Fall of the House of Usher* is one of the most pathetic and tragic stories in American literature. In fact, Poe's stories are marked with a note of pathos, horror, mysteries and tragedy. (Ibid:74)

Horror is a genre of speculative fiction which is intended to frighten, scare, or disgust. Literary historian J.A. Cuddon defined the horror story as "a piece of fiction in prose of variable length... which shocks, or even frightens the reader, or perhaps induces a feeling of repulsion or loathing. It creates an eerie and frightening atmosphere. Horror is often divided into either the psychological horror and supernatural horror. (Carroll,1990:28) Fear is an emotion induced by perceived danger or threat, which causes physiological changes and ultimately behavioral changes, such as mounting an aggressive response or fleeing the threat. So, the critics explain the horror is a form of fear. The difference is only in the intensity of the emotion and response it produces in a person. (Ohman,2000:93)

Poe writes in the style of the 18th century English Gothic romances. "*The Fall of the House of Usher*" is one of the most pathetic stories written by Poe. Here, pathos centers around the characters of Mr. Roderick Usher and his sister, Lady Madeline. We feel pity for both of them as they are in a very bad condition. In fact, the note of pathos and tragedy hangs over the entire story. (Bloomed,1998:95)

The researcher uses the theory of Suspense profounded by Psychologists Andrew Ortony, Gerald L. Clore, and Allen Collins develop the standard account theory of suspense which holds that suspense includes three main elements: fear, hope and the cognitive state of uncertainty. The Psychologists define fear as the feeling of displeasure while expecting an undesirable event. On the other hand, hope is the feeling of pleasure in the expectation of a desirable event. According to the theory, the feeling of suspense arises when audience or readers are in fear of a bad outcome or when they are hopeful of a good outcome. In both cases, suspense happens when a situation that is expected to occur is unknown.(Smuts,2008)

The researcher compares the two stories, he focuses on how two items or texts are similar, different, or similar in some ways and different in others. Here, this method is often easier for a reader to follow because similarities and differences are more obvious when placed next to each other. For this reason, writers generally use this method.

Henry James (1843-1916) was the son of a social theorist Henry James and the younger brother of pragmatist philosopher and psychologist William James. Born in New York, he lived most of the last forty years of his life in England. It is no surprise, then, that much of his fiction deals with the relationships between the Old World and the New. Typically, James pictures the New World as democratic, innocent and exuberant and the Old World

as aristocratic, wise and corrupt. These themes dominate such novels as *Daisy Miller*, *The Portrait of a Lady*, and *The American*. (Silver,1960:73)

2. The use of the Supernatural in the two stories.

Both Poe and James are prominent writers of ghostly stories. They make ample use of the supernatural in their ghostly stories. Both share many aspects of the supernatural. The fact can be discussed as follows.

Poe and James as the Writers of the Supernatural: In spite of living in different decades, Poe and Henry James have resorted to the treatment of the supernatural in almost similar ways. In their times, the aesthetic movement was accompanied by a delight in the exotic and the supernatural. The romanticism of the 19th century in American literature created in Poe an interest in the supernatural. Similarly, the publication of many volumes of ghost stories created in Henry James an interest in the supernatural. The “ghostly stories” of both Poe and James were written to Compensate for the heart-break of frustration. (Leon Edel,1970:84)

Poe and James gave a new turn to the ghostly stories which used to have limited number of situations and possibilities. Poe went deeply into the inner working of human nature. He explored the human Psyche instead of describing the external horrifying forms of the ghosts. James transformed the worn-out ghost story and enriched it by his psychological observation. (Ibid:64)

Since Henry James’s short stories are not of the conventional type, he achieved his desired effect by exaggerating some natural law or obsession till it passed beyond the limits of reason. Similarly, Poe’s ghosts are not quite conventional but they move and talk. Unlike James’s ghosts, they indulge in an action.

Most of the ghostly stories of James could be interpreted in a similar way. For instance, the ghosts of Peter Quint and Miss Jesell in “*The Turn of the Screw*” could be nothing but the creation of the governess’s jealousy which is magnified by James. According to Edna Kenton and Edmund Wilson, the ghosts in the tale are hallucinations in the mind of the hysterical governess who is “an evil woman”. Similarly, Edel believes the story to be an exaggerated account of “what she thinks, she feels and she believes. Other stories of James too have similar patterns. (Beider,1989:94)

In James’s ghostly tales, no ghosts walk. If they do, it is in the open air and daylight. For instance, Quint and Jessel are seen in daytime. In the age of science, the conventional ghosts are of no use to the intelligent reader. The ghosts of Poe and James appear to be real because we feel them. They are Psychological in nature.

James used the supernatural more effectively since he took similar qualities in a character or situation and made them meaningful. The movement of supernatural figures in the unseen world is closely related to this world. His ghost stories thus become universal and symbolic. For instance, Peter Quint and Jessel are symbols of evil. Edel does not call them ghosts but goblins, elves, imps and demons as loosely constructed as those of the old trials for witchcraft. For them nothing was extra-ordinary when it happened to someone or the other. (Ibid:75)

According to Poe, the unity of effect or impression is a power of the greatest importance. James also emphasized the necessity of singleness of effect. Poe believed that for the effectiveness of the supernatural, the atmosphere of continuous shocks is necessary. The supernatural must also be believed. James also believed in such effects. He wanted to sear the whole world with his ghostly tales. Once he told Edmund Gosse, “I had to correct the proofs of my ghost story last night, And when I had finished them, I was so frightened that I was afraid to go upstairs” . (Wolfe,1976:58).

James and Poe believed that for the supernatural to be effective, continuous rising shocks were necessary.

Poe considered his tales of the supernatural to be pieces of ingenuity to catch even the intelligent readers and so did James. James called the story a piece of ingenuity pure and simple, of cold artistic calculation. Both the authors are masters in creating atmosphere. Their characters are both unreal and real. Thus, Poe and James share many common aspects of the supernatural. (Ibid,39)

3. *The Turn of the Screw* as a horror story.

The Turn of the Screw is a fine example of the ghostly tale, which was a favorite genre of Henry James. The source of the story itself is a ghost story narrated by Edward Benson, Archbishop of Canterbury. It dealt with some haunted children in an English country house. *The Turn of the Screw* perhaps remains the best and most celebrated of James's ghostly fictions. It was published in the volume called *The Two Magics*. Henry James wrote of this story to H.G. Wells as essentially a potboiler and a jeu d' esprit. (Esch,1999:94)

However, *The Turn of the Screw* is a modern and psychological supernatural story. In fact, Henry James's brother was a psychiatrist and he himself had some experience of fear and evil. The biographer of James has mentioned these facts. The American critic, Mr. Edmund Wilson in his essay *The Ambiguity of Henry James* argued that there are no ghosts in this story. He further said that the horrifying apparitions seen by the governess are hallucinations in her tormented and sexually repressed mind. It is she, not the spirits of Quint and Jessel, who is the real source of the children's state. Flora makes this point clear when she says:

"Take me away, take me away-oh, take me away from 'her'!" Here, Flora blames the governess and not Jessel's spirit So, the governess asks with wonder: "From 'me'?" (Evans,1960:73) .

Another critic, Mr. Edel, has pointed out that the story can be taken as a fascinating story of a psychiatric case or as a projection of Henry James's own haunted state produced by some circumstances of his life. Whichever interpretation one chooses, the story's enchantment remains. (Ibid,84)

The story has ambiguity which its very strength. James himself said that the ambiguity was essential for effect. The evil that beset the children and the governess is not clear. The relationship between Quint and Jessel too is ambiguous. It is not clear whether it is sexual or corrupt possession. The reason of the deaths of Quint and Jessel too are kept ambiguous. According to James the evil must not be reduced to the narrowness of the definable. The reader should be made to think of the evil for himself. This theory of James has worked brilliantly in the tale. If the particulars had been told literally, the story would have lost much of the vibrant suspense it has now. It would have deprived the tale of its greatest merit namely the sense of horror. (Samuels,1972:328)

4. Supernatural elements in *The Turn of the Screw*

A. Horror and Mystery: the appearance of spirits: Most of the horror and mystery in the story has been caused by the appearance of the spirits of Quint and Jessel. They form the major part of the supernatural. The fact can be given as follows.

First, the beginning itself is horrible and mysterious. The persons who have gathered around the fire discuss ghost stories. Griffin speaks about a ghost. Then Douglas speaks about his story in a very mysterious way. It is written by a woman who is dead. She has sent it to him. He creates suspense by speaking vaguely. He makes vague statements. Thus, the prologue-like beginning of the story is mystery. (James,1981:26)

"The majority of cases reported to the Society, the ghost does not appear at any known fixed time of day or year. It is usually seen distinctly 'in all kinds of light; from broad daylight to the faint light of dawn.' It is described in detail, and appears 'in such clothes as are now, or have recently been, worn by living person.'...Sudden death, 'often

either murder or suicide, appears to be connected with the cause of the apparition' in many cases. If several persons are together when the ghost appears, 'it will sometimes be seen by all and sometimes not, and failure to see it is not always merely the result of not calling attention to it.'" (James, 1985:405).

The above quotation indicates, scenes of ghost appearance at difference times. The first glimpse is of the spirit of Quint. The governess sees him on the top of the tower. So, he mysteriously leaves looking at her all the time. The second confrontation of the governess with the spirit of Quint occurs on one Sunday. When she goes in the house to take her gloves, she notices him staring hard at her. It is horrible that she learns that he has come not for her but for the children. When she rushes out, the man is not found. The governess describes him to Mrs. Grose as a horror. The description of the spirit frightens Mrs. Grose. She suddenly learns that it is none but the apparition of Peter Quint, the valet of their master. It is full of suspense that Mrs. Grose does not know what happened to Peter Quint. She only says that he left and then died. However, she increases the fear of the governess by telling her that Quint was a bad young man. He had spoiled many persons there. Then he was found dead on a road. There was a wound in his head. (Wilson,1934:389)

The apparition of Miss Jessel is seen by the governess for the first time on the bank of the lake named the Sea of Azof. The scene and narration are really very horrible. Flora is busy in playing on the bank of the lake. Suddenly, the governess sees a horrible but beautiful woman in a mourning' dress on the other bank of the lake. The governess is so frightened that she throws herself into the arms of Mrs. Grose. She tells her that it is the spirit of Miss Jessel. It is more horrible that the governess says that Flora is aware of the presence of Jessel but she would not admit it. The governess describes the spirit as the horror of horror. She looked at Flora horribly. She looked at her with more than dislike. It was Fury of intention. The woman was horrible and infamous. (Parkinson,1991:48)

Mrs.Grose agrees that both Jessel and Quint were infamous. She calls Quint a hound. Both had a strange relationship in spite of their ranks. It is mysterious that Miles used to be with Quint and Flore with Jessel. They knew about their relationship.

The description of the third glimpse of the spirit of Quint too is very horrible and mysterious. One night, the governess is reading Fielding's novel *Amelia*. Suddenly, she notices the apparition of Quint in the door. She follows it with a candle. It is seen on the stair. It then reaches the landing. It stares at the governess. (Ibid:58)

The second glimpse of the horrible woman also is very fearful. The governess sees her seated on the one of the lower steps of the staircase. She has held her head into her hands. She might be mourning. The governess cannot see her face which may be very horrible. The governess then sleeps keeping the light burning. But at one o'clock during the night, she awakes and finds the light put off. She suspects Flora to put off the light. But to her wonder, Flora is not found in her bed. She finds her behind the blind of the window. She is seen face to face with the horrible woman. The governess notices another figure on the lawn. He was looking at the tower. He was none but Miles. The governess brings him to his bedroom. He possesses her in his bed. He speaks like a man. He tells her that he had gone down after making arrangement with Flora, his sister. Such is the strange behavior of the children. The governess concludes that the children are wanted by the spirit of Quint and Jessel. They want them for the love of evil they have put in them. They wish to destroy the children. Both Mrs. Grose and the governess decide to prevent the destruction of the children with the help of their uncle. (Peter,1989:39)

The third appearance of the spirit of the evil woman, Jessel occurs in the house. Miles behaves strangely with the governess near the church. So, she does not enter the church but comes home. In the house she sees the woman on the table. She is full of sorrow. She looks at the governess very mysteriously and leaves. The governess remains horrified. She

tells Mrs. Grose about this encounter. She asks her to write letter to the uncle of the children. (James,1994:94)

The final appearance of Quint's spirit also is very mysterious and horrible. The governess is trying to take out from Miles the reason for his expulsion from his school. At the very moment, she sees the hideous face of the spirit. She feels frightened. Miles asks the governess:

"Is she here?" Miss Jessel, Miss Jesseli" The governess only replies that it is not Jessel but only "horror". To this Miles says: "It is he?" The governess asks: "Whom do you mean by he?" Miles says: "Peter Quint- you devil" (Smith,2011:95)

With these words, Miles drops and his heart stops. Thus, this occasion is extremely horrible.

B. Suspense and Surprise: The whole story is full of suspense and surprise. We wonder at many scenes with the governess and Mrs. Grose. The scenes of the appearance of the ghosts of Quint and Jessel are very surprising. They maintain suspense throughout the story. The reader often feels eager to know what happens further. The beginning and the ending of the story too are full of surprise. Almost all the characters created suspense. It is highly surprising that only the governess can see the spirits. Even Mrs. Grose finally agrees with her. The ambiguity about the characters of Quint and Jessel creates suspense. Miles's expulsion also creates much suspense and surprise. The ending of the story too is surprising. James does not clearly write that Miles is dead. We are not just told that his little heart, dispossessed, had stopped. (James,1994:64)

All scenes that occurred with the appearance of ghosts were unknown because there are no ghosts in the story. The spirit of Quint and Jessel are just dark shadows. They are the hallucinations that occur in the mind of the sexually haunted governess. They are the imaginary figures created by the jealousy of the governess. Only she can see the spirits. None of the others can even feel their existence or appearance. The spirits are only hallucinations but they create fear in our minds and we do not know what will happens in future good or bad outcome because the mysterious story this ambiguity affects the feeling of tension and anxiety for readers and these feelings create the suspense element. (Goddard,1960:48)

Comparison between the two Stories

5. Similarities: There is a diversity of similarities in both the stories in relation to the theme of the two stories. These similarities are shown by various aspects in the stories such as the use the supernatural and other themes such as horror, mystery, Suspense, and Surprise.

6-The Fall of the House of Usher as a horror story:

Edgar Allan Poe is a great American short-story writer. He can be called one of the pioneers of the art of the modern short story. He is certainly the most important figure in the history of the American short story. The Fall of the House of Usher is a simple title. The story is full of horror and mystery The whole story is pervaded by the atmosphere of horror, mystery and suspense. The story has all the features of a horror story: These are as follows. (Bunter,1980:76)

A. The Atmosphere of Horror: The whole story is filled with the atmosphere of horror and terror. We are overcome by a feeling of mystery because there are many things which we do not understand. We are overcome by fear and horror because many dreadful things happen in the course of the story. The climax of mystery and horror occurs when the whole house shatters to fragments and is covered by the deep lake. The atmosphere of gloom also adds to the atmosphere of horror and mystery. This atmosphere of gloom, horror and

mystery reminds us of the Gothic romances of the 18th century. It gives the story Gothic element. (Ibid:78)

B. The Appearance of the house: The very opening of the story established the atmosphere of desolation and disintegration. The ‘oppressive’ autumn day and the ‘decaying’ ancient family mansion are both symbolic of the terrible doom of the hero, Mr. Roderic Usher. Then the tempestuous elements of nature produce fear and gloom. The traveller who is the narrator of the story is shown travelling all alone on horseback through an extremely desolate tract of the country. Then the very glimpse of the house of Mr. Usher overwhelms the soul of the traveller with a sense of gloom. The walls of the house are black. It has vacant eye-like windows. The narrator experiences depression which he cannot explain. It just resembles the after-dream of a man who has taken a dose of opium. The mystery is intensified when the narrator says (Poe,1840:45)

“There was a sinking, a sickening of the heart which no goading of the imagination could torture into aught of the sublime”, and also “It was a mystery all insoluble”. (Conner,1969:37)

C. Mysterious characters and Surrounding of the House: Like the house its owner too is mysterious. He adds a great deal to the horror and mystery in the story. He has been suffering from a mysterious disease. A strange kind of mental disorder oppresses him. His disease cannot be easily cured. He has a twin sister who is equally mysterious. Thus, the characters and the setting are mysterious. The surrounding of the house too is mysterious. The decayed trees, the grey walls and the silent lake create strangeness and mystery. This mystery is deepened by the glimpse of a fissure extending from the roof of the house and getting lost into the deep lake. Then the narrator experiences horror when he is taken through several passages and over several staircases to the large chamber of Mr. Usher. (Matthiessen,1941:83)

D. Mysterious condition of the brother and the sister: The condition of Usher and his sister is mysterious. When the narrator enters Usher’s chamber, he feels as if he is breathing an atmosphere of sorrow. The appearance of Usher arouses in the narrator a feeling half of pity and half of awe. His skin is pale and his hair seem to be floating about his face. He is suffering from a morbid acuteness of the senses. He can eat only the most insipid food. He can wear only garments of typical texture. He cannot bear the smell of any flower. Most sounds create in him the feeling of horror. He tells the narrator that he has been fighting against a grim phantom which can be named as Fear. He is in the grip of some superstition that his house is accursed to perish. Lady Madeline too is equally mysterious. She appears and disappears silently when she sees the narrator with her brother. She too has been suffering from the disease which has baffled the doctor. (Poe,1840:84)

E. The Supposed death of Madeline: The next horrible incident in the story is the depositing of the coffin of Madeline into a vault. Usher tells the narrator that Madeline is dead. He wants to deposit her dead body in a remote portion of the house for a few days. He fears that someone may steal her dead body in order to sell it to a medical school. The two men therefore put the coffin into a vault. They feel awed when they look at the face of the woman. Soon the narrator cannot sleep and experiences strange sensations of fear. After a week, Usher comes to the narrator’s room. He is agitated in order to soothe him the narrator starts reading the story of Ethelred. Certain superstitious incidents take place here. Certain sounds are described in the story of Ethelred. But the same sounds are heard by the narrator outside. Finally, the shriek which is described too is heard. The narrator is so frightened that he leaps to his feet. At this time Usher tells the narrator that Madeline was not dead but only unconscious when he had put her into the coffin. This was the reason why he had not put her coffin into a grave. The sound heard were made by Madeline when

she was trying to come out of the coffin. All these facts add much to terror and mystery. (Wilson,1926:63)

F. Climax of Horror and mystery: The climax of horror and mystery reaches when Madeline and Roderick Usher die simultaneously. The door opens because of the force of the storm and Madeline is seen standing in the door. The signs of her struggle for coming out of the coffin are seen on her body. Her white robe is covered with stains of blood. She then suddenly falls on her brother with a moaning cry. Both tumble to the floor and die. This dreadful event drives the narrator away from the mansion. He flees to save himself from the danger of death. He finds his path illumined with the light of the moon. Soon he sees that the mighty walls of the house of Mr. Usher start collapsing. The lake then covers the house. Thus, these final incidents form the climax of horror in the story. (Quinn,1957:49)

G. Suspense and Surprise in the story: suspense for which Poe has been greatly admired finds nice expression in the story. Right from the beginning to the end of the story we remain under the spell of suspense. The minds of the readers are constantly haunted by the question “what will happen further”? We cannot guess the subsequent happenings in the story. The incidents like the ‘death’ of Madeline, her coming back, the reading of Mad Trist and the disintegration of the house maintain our suspense till the end of the story. The reader is in a state of anticipation of the events with anxiety and waiting for mysterious things non-known, what will happen next. This mysterious stuff creates suspense for readers. Similarly, we are surprised at every step in the story. (Poe,1975:83)

Thus, *The Fall of the House* is full of horror, terror, fear, mystery and suspense. It remains praiseworthy story of horror and mystery.

7. The difference: There are several differences manifested in the stories *The Fall of the House of Usher* and *The Turn of the Screw*. the differences can be clear images in various situations such as tragedy and pathetic and Sexually relationship. These are the points of difference in both stories.

A. Tragedy and pathos: Both stories have different tragedy and pathetic that serve many purposes. In, *The Fall of the House* of Usher the story is tragic and pathetic. The hero and his sister are in bad condition. They suffer from diseases which are almost incurable. They are the last survivors of the Usher family. They suffer physically and mentally. Finally, they die very tragically. Even the big mansion collapses and is destroyed. This pathetic and tragic story of the Usher adds much to the horror of the story. In, *The Turn of the screw* the story is not tragic but Pathetic. The narrator is a sympathetic figure in spite of being mentally distorted, the governess remains a sympathetic figure. Throughout the whole story she remains under the pressure of spirits. She is tortured by the frequent appearance of the spirits, though they are merely her hallucinations. She has to bear the fear and horror caused by them. She cannot sleep properly. She is haunted by them all the time. She is also worried about the condition of the children-Flora and Miles. She suffers from mental and physical torture. She is all alone. She is unmarried and sexually distorted. She cannot get the peace of mind. Not only this but She seems to be insane. Finally, she suffers the catastrophe. All these facts make her a sympathetic figure. We feel sympathy for her. (Bloom,2009:74)

B. Sexual Relationship: Both stories have different relationship. In *The Turn of the Screw* There is sexual relationship between Miles and Governess. Both seem to be like mother and son. But Miles sometimes behaves strangely. He treats the governess who is of his mother’s age as his beloved. He possesses her in his bed. In fact, she is sexually starving. She praises his manly beauty. Both embrace each other. Both kiss each other as well. In *The Fall of the House* of Usher there is not sexual relationship between characters. The characters are mysterious. Mr. Roderick has been suffering from a mysterious disease. A

strange kind of mental disorder oppresses him. His disease cannot be easily cured. He has a twin sister who is equally mysterious. (Wilson,1934:389)

8.Conclusion:

This study uses American school of comparative literature to examine the similarities and the differences of *The Turn of the Screw* and *The Fall of the House of Usher*. The similarities in the two stories are in relationship to the theme of the two stories. We find the supernatural element in two stories. It is not absolutely in line with the conventional ghostly stories written by the realists. Both stories are full of the elements of horror, mystery, suspense, and surprise.

The difference can be clear images in various situations such as tragedy and pathetic and sexually relationship. In, *The Fall of the House of Usher* we have a tragedy and pathetic in the story characters like Roderick Usher who is physically sick and is also mentally afflicted by some kind of fear. He has a twin sister who suffers from a disease. Madeline dies of disease, while Usher dies of terror. In, *The Turn of the screw* there is a pathetic and sexually relationship in the characters like The Governess remains under the pressure of spirits and suffers from mental and physical torture. The researcher feel sympathy for her. There is a strange sexual relationship between Quint and Miss Jessel. She is a governess-a mother-like-figure and he is just a young boy. Both seem to be like mother and son. The nature the theme is Mother-son love relationship. The fact has increased the interest of the story as a ghostly tale. It adds to the suspense and surprise in the story as well.

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