

CHAPTER - IV

CONCLUSION

A particular pattern of the novel, in which the development of the central character from childhood to maturity is followed, is called Bildungsroman. Being a combination German Bildung and French Roman, the term suggests a form of the novel which can be called a novel of growth or educational novel. In a Bildungsroman, the protagonist goes through struggles of growing up. When he reaches maturity the novel ends. The Bildungsroman has many variants like the Entusicklungsroman, the Erziehungsroman, the Kunstlerroman, which trace the young man's growth, education and the formation of an artist.

The English Bildungsroman is mainly a Kunstlerroman as we see in A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man, Sons and Lovers, David Copperfield. They are the tales of orientation of an artist. Making of a gentleman is one of the recurring themes in the English Bildungsroman. He is worried by many problems, has to undergo many tests and finally he achieves maturity. In the moment of epiphany, he recognizes his goal. Matured by the experienced, alienated from the family, society, nation, he leaves it for a bright future.

✓ D.H. Lawrence, in Sons and Lovers, depicts the tale of youth Paul Morel who is an artist, a painter. His family, the environment try to possess him. The economical condition

is also bad. He loves three women but is at loss in love. The woman he loves most, his mother dies, and then he recognizes himself, his needs. He looks forward to the city for a bright future and starts for it. In this Bildungsroman, we witness the efforts of Paul Morel, a sensitive youth, to attain maturity. The novel, as is the case with many a Bildungsroman, has much autobiographical element. The language is simple and fluid, characteristic in nature and culture. Here we see the conflicts of generations, ordeal in love, the impact of the society and the family, self-education which are the salient features of a Bildungsroman.

Joyce's A Portrait of the Artist As a Young Man, is an excellent example of the Bildungsroman. Here the early life of Stephen Dedalus is traced right from the infant stage upto his gaining of maturity. Here again we find a harsh father, economic problems which turn the son to alienate, eventually, away from the family, the city and the nation. In this journey, he has many experiences, of home, school, Church, politics which make him to turn away from all of them forever. Now he is a mature man. He knows his needs and he knows that the atmosphere in which his lives is not suitable for him and he leaves it. He goes away to find out a new future.

Thus both these novels can be regarded as major examples of the Bildungsroman.

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