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## TODOROV AND STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS OF A NARRATIVE

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**ABSTRACT:** *While Sassure looked at language as a structure , Todorov considered literature as structure. Todorov focus on the structural analysis of a narrative . Into the study and analysis of literature there are two broad attitudes which are theoretical and descriptive attitude respectively. When dealing with the structural analysis we have theoretical and non-descriptive approach. Thus , isn't merely descriptive of a concrete work that is in focus.*

**KEYWORDS:** Structural, Theoretical, Non- descriptive, Rhetoric, Equilibrium etc.

**INTRODUCTION:** The term ' structure' do not refer to mean building or construction . It is referred to set of interrelation between invisible principles and the visible forms of those principles with in a system. Todorov 's goal is to identify and analysis the deep structure of a literary work. He began by constructing two approaches : the theoretical approach and descriptive approach. Todorov believes that structural analysis is a first step to future science of literature. Todorov says that the abstract structure of a plot moves from equilibrium to a dis-equilibrium and again to a new equilibrium. He analyzed four stories from Boccaccio's 'Decameron' using the model of sentence as comprising a subject-predicate and adjective.

**MANNER OF APPROACH:** In terms of manner of approach i.e. internal and external , structural analysis leans on the former approach. A theoretical and external approach i.e. internal and external approach will not with the interest in the knowledge of the work in itself but rather on the understanding of its abstract structure of the work. Thus a Marxist or Psychoanalytical view point focus on the social psychic structure. An internal approach however will not deviate from the goal of understanding the work in itself. The result will be a paraphrase that will hit deeper to its meaning than the original text . So one can say that external approach like 'parole' that focus on the surface , while the internal approach is like 'langue' which looks within a text.

**TODOROV'S PROPOSAL OF A NEW WAY OF LOOKING AT CRITICISM IN CONTRAST:** In Henry James' view when critics talk of description, dialogue or incident and the like one has to admit that there are no distinct form of the same as they merge into one another. " A novel is a living, all one and continuous like any other organism in proportion as it lives will it be found , I think that in each of the parts , there is something of each of other parts....." —Henry James . Todorov counters this view by refuting these arguments . When looking at structural analysis even though the focus is on description or action and such there is still no reason to find them is a so called pure state. One must remember that they are both abstract concept which can not be analyzed in a empirical state. Just as language is a theoretical concept or even temperature falls under the same description too needs not to assist in its pure state to be considered relevant. As far a work a living thing has a body that contains part and even though they may be lumped up as whole doesn't mean one can't at an abstract level categories the same.

**PLOT: AN ABSTRACT CONCEPT:** In order to explain how the interpretation of literature can take place with scientific principles, Todorov takes the plot to be the principle abstract structure . He analyzed the narrative organization of four different stories from famous Italian writer Boccaccio's' Decameron' on the basis of the commonality of plot as an abstract literary structure. He uses a schematic formulation to express the common elements of the four plots. And they are based on the model of the sentence as consisting of subject, predicate and objective. As per Todorov's formulation 'X' and 'Y' in the stories are proper nouns that serve as the subject . Verb like 'Violate' , ' Punish' and ' Avoid' works as predicates. They denote an action that modifies earlier situation . The analysis of the other stories would show the third part of the narrative speech. He points out the three other categories that can help to reveal the commonalities of the selected narrative. These

are---

1. Studies of a narrative syntax
2. Studies of theme
3. Studies Rhetoric.

By the end of the essay Todorov present the result of his analysis by introducing the term 'Equilibrium' ( the term derive from the Genetic psychology) which mean balance, calm and stable situation and to disequilibrium and concludes with new- equilibrium.

**CONCLUSION:** The story Starts with an equilibrium and which is broken by the violation of established law. The disturbed equilibrium can be restored by punishment but it is avoided. This avoidance creates a new equilibrium in the story. Structural analysis of literature deals with its literariness – what distinguishes it from all other types of literary production – but then literature is only a mediator , a language through which poetics can manifest itself.

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