

Shattered Dreams: Disillusioned Optimism and Consequences of Late Intrusion in Brian Friel's Molly Sweeney

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Abstract

The actual focus of this study is Molly Sweeney, who has been blind since birth and was subjected to her husband's capricious decision, which was an unwelcome interference in her own life. It also illustrates the danger of intrusion in other people's private affairs and imposing recommendations that would only exacerbate the situation and result in consequences that would constitute a violation of individuals' rights. Undoubtedly, promoting an unrealistic optimism that makes some individuals believe it is the best solution to their issues, only to be discovered later that it is unfair to those with less life experience. Due to this unsuccessful surgical procedure, a physician should either be disallowed from performing such an irresponsible conduct or be required to demonstrate the risk's success rate. In this sense, medical culture is essential for both intelligent and non-intellectual people to prevent the mistakes of doctors or to protect themselves from the terrible outcomes of their inaccurate choices. Thus, clarifying the moral issues surrounding late incursion, exposing the fallacy of blind hope, and highlighting the possible dangers of unregulated medical procedures. All of these explanations can excitedly encourage the reader to examine the rest of the study in order to understand the risk of creating in the minds of ordinary people a sense of unfulfilling optimism.

Keywords : Brian Friel; Molly Sweeney; Shattered dreams; Late medical intervention; Disillusioned optimism.

INTRODUCTION

BRIAN FRIEL: A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Brian Friel (1929-2015), widely acclaimed as the father of contemporary Irish drama, skillfully incorporates his personal experiences and expertise into his works (De Vinney, 1999, p. 111). In his plays, he delves into the complexities of Irish identity, history, and language, emphasizing the significance of preserving and revitalizing Irish Gaelic while maintaining a strong sense of Irish cultural heritage. He advocates for updating the language (Azeez, 2023) and nurturing an emotional loyalty to the past that safeguards Irish cultural heritage. Friel, much like many Irish people, gained an understanding of being influenced by competing narratives and discourses. His personal sense of self, akin to his nation's, was marked by conflicting narratives; he harbored reservations and uncertainty when it came to his heritage (McGrath,1999), saying:

I first began to wonder what it was to be an Irish Catholic; in short this was when for the first time in my life I began to survey and analyze the mixed holding I had inherited — the personal, traditional and acquired knowledge that cocooned me, an Irish Catholic teacher with a nationalist background, living in a schizophrenic community, son of a teacher, grandson of peasants who could neither read nor write. (McGrath,1999, p.16)

He was briefly associated with the Nationalist Party, yet his loyalties remained uncertain. Thus, he is unlike some Irish dramatists who associate themselves with a particular political party to secure their rights nonviolently. But, he shares their belief that persuasive words are more powerful than physical force and weapons. It appears that his play *Molly Sweeney* (henceforth *MS*) addresses intricate societal and familial issues similar to those faced by other Irish people who have experienced personal adversity (McGarth,1999). Thus, it is the playwright's responsibility to become the honest critic of the bad things that could interfere with a person's ability to lead a serene existence.

Khalaf, R. J., and Sabah, A, Diyaiy(2019) argue that Friel's works encompass a wide range of themes, such as the workings of memory, the complex dynamics present in family relationships, the exploration of identity, and a deep exploration of the inner lives of his characters. Many critics have praised Friel's literary accomplishments due to the creative way in which he has presented his plays. Getting the approval of both audience and critics is undoubtedly the highest certification of literary distinctiveness for the successful playwright. Sternlicht (1998) has argued that one of these praises for Friel is that “he is at the height of his powers, and a production of a new Friel play is international news. For millions, Friel speaks for Ireland from the stage” (P.116). Antony Roche (2011, p. 207) has emphasized that “finally, with the playwright Brian Friel, the work of the life is the life of the work.” Since the works he creates deal with tangible social and familial issues, one may detect life in them. Undoubtedly, addressing such complex societal and familial matters validates the playwright's serious methods.

MS exemplifies Friel's profound exploration of the essence of human existence. The play delves into themes that deeply resonate with the experiences and challenges encountered by individuals in society. As a result, the audience is able to empathetically connect with the characters and their struggles. A notable characteristic of Friel's writing is his skillful and evocative use of language, which effectively portrays the complex nature of human emotions and connections. This is remarkably evident in *MS*, where Friel employs masterful language in the monologues of Molly, Frank, and Rice,

delving deep into their individual experiences and exploring themes of shattered dreams and disillusioned optimism. Through poetic and meditative language, Friel divulges the vulnerability of human aspirations and the unforeseen consequences that occur when dreams clash with reality. He also examines the complex interplay between personal desires and societal expectations. Even though this play deals in some way with personal experience, it could be interpreted as a realistic answer to issues that are common in various societies including personal agency versus social outlook.

SYNOPSIS : A LADY IN JOURNEY OF INTRUSION

In this drama, Molly, a lady who has been blind since birth, undertakes surgery to try to get her sight back. The story is told from the viewpoints of Molly, her husband, Frank, and Dr. Paddy Rice. These three monologues are interwoven to create an effective drama that emphasizes the link between vision and comprehension. Molly has been happy, capable, and independent for 40 years despite being blind from early infancy. Molly's self-taught and unemployed husband encourages his blind wife to have surgery to restore her vision. Above all, the doctor's intervention, yielding acceptance of Frank's arbitrary intrusion. After his career was destroyed by drunkenness, Rice, a once-famous ophthalmologist, uses Molly as a medical test to rebuild his reputation. Molly was given more hope than she desired by her husband and doctor, but the results are miserable. In the context of this study, to be disillusioned is to feel betrayed and dissatisfied after learning the truth about someone or something you liked or valued. The unstudied interference that makes Molly's sorrow worse has left her extremely disillusioned.

MOLLY SWEENEY (1994)

FROM REAL MEDICAL CASE TO DRAMATIC REPRESENTATION: THE INFLUENCE OF OLIVER SACKS' ARTICLE ON MOLLY SWEENEY

Molly's case in the play is inspired by a real medical case described by Oliver Sacks(2021) in his article "To See and Not See" in *The New Yorker*. The article tells the story of a man named Virgil who had a cataract surgery in an attempt to restore his eyesight, which was thought to be lost forever. The surgery was successful in giving him some vision, however it poses a serious challenge for him; after the operation his eyes could perceive images, but lacked the capability to understand and interpret them effectively. His new visual perception of the world was not in accordance with his previous tactile one that he used to be familiar with, making it difficult for him to understand what he was seeing. Over time, Virgil's vision deteriorated again due to some health issues possibly caused by the psychological burden imposed on him due to his new experience with the world and his brain's struggle to adapt to the new visual language, leading to a shutdown of his visual perception. His experiences mirrored those of other blind individuals throughout history who gained sight after a lifetime of blindness. Some of them adapted well to the new visual realm they stepped into, while many others, though initially experienced joy, soon faced emotional crises and challenges, making them fall into the pit of depression "To See and Not See". Common problems experienced by those individuals are difficulties in perceiving things properly, as well as struggles with "distance, shadows, and a sense of place "To See and Not See". Actually, it has to do with a person's ability to accept the outcome of his cautious risk in the face of uncertainty.

Sacks describes "the collapse of the perceptual self "To See and Not See", in these cases, clarifying that each person has her/his individualized perceptual system that shapes the way s/he experiences the world, whether through touch or sight. When individuals have to transition from a tactile system to a sighted one, their "perceptual

self” may collapse, leading to psychic blindness, where they are unaware of their own ability to see, hence not benefiting from their visual perception of the world. Sacks theorizes that the intense overload on the brain in learning to see can result in this psychic blindness. Learning to see is not as simple as acquiring a new skill. Unlike newborns experiencing the world with a complementary sensory system involving eyesight, “newly sighted adults have to completely recorder their brain's processing functions, which have been built without the ability to see "To See and Not See". They essentially have to unlearn their previous way of perceiving and build a new way of seeing because they lack the plasticity of a newborn brain. For Virgil and Molly, the journey from not seeing to seeing is an immensely transformative mission, imposing a profound emotional task on them. It requires a complete re-construction of their perceptual self through adapting to new ways of locating their being within their newly perceived visual world. In conclusion, the experiences of Virgil and Molly highlight the complex nature of vision restoration and the challenges individuals face in adapting to a newly gained sight after a lifetime of blindness “To See and Not See”. Hence, although the restoration of eyesight is an encouraging endeavor, it may also have frightening repercussions that raise threat on the individual’s present and future.

SHATTERED DREAMS, DISILLUSIONED, OPTIMISM ,AND AWARENESS OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF LATE INTRUSION

MS is a poignant play that centers on the life of Molly, a lady who lost her sight at the age of ten months. Although the play portrays a hard-to-treat female’s disability, the interaction of the characters fosters hope and optimism. No matter what challenging conditions anybody may encounter, optimism is ready to shine a light on the gloomy emotion that gives rise to despair and melancholy. However, if inspiring hope and optimism are not grounded on solid foundations that can bring about a significant improvement for the person in question, they will lead to shattered dreams and disillusionment. Throughout the play, we are immersed in the monologues of Molly, her husband Frank, and the ambitious ophthalmologist Rice. Driven by his own aspirations, Frank persuades Molly to undergo a daring surgery that holds the promise of restoring her sight. The surgery, conducted by Rice, does not fulfill their dreams, instead it shatters them. Karen M. Moloney (2000, p. 287) has asserted that “the play’s plot unfolds through alternating monologues rendered from the points of view of three different characters,” These points of views are intertwined into a complex pattern of hope and disillusionment.

Friel explores blindness from the perspective of a woman blind since infancy who must deal with the potential of partial eyesight, which would alter and complicate her existence (Sternlicht,1998) through restricting the effective sensory system she has developed during her blindness. Molly has made an exclusive environment for herself despite her impairment, which would motivate her to have a normal existence. The play describes the shadowy places that the blind are familiar with due to the intimacy of touch, scent, and physical immersion, typified mainly by swimming. Molly Sweeney's blindness offers a different way of interacting with the environment; it is a gateway to a world of rich sensory experiences where Molly has a unique spatial awareness. In these shadowy places, her other senses actively help her engage with the environment; hearing, touching, and smelling are her vital means to understand the world. Through them, she gathers information about people and objects around her, hence constructing a complete picture of her surroundings, one whose hues spring from the richness of her imagination and her curiosity to embrace the world.

The sound of the stream in her father's garden acts as a guiding symphony that helps her establish a sense of direction and figure out her location there. Moreover, she is overjoyed when hearing the encouraging voice of her father, confirming her cleverness and success in recognizing things through her heightened senses. Molly's blindness heightens her sense of smell, enabling her to distinguish things through their scents. This sensory richness adds depth and complexity to her experience, providing her with a unique perspective on the world. Furthermore, the play introduces the concept of physical immersion, particularly exemplified by Molly's love for swimming. In the water, she experiences a profound connection with her surroundings, relying on her body's movements and developing flexible engagement with the fluidity of water. Hence, swimming becomes a highly refreshing experience to her, enabling her to transcend the limitations of visual perception:

I can't tell you the joy of swimming gave me. I used to think that the other people in the pool with me, the sighted people, that in some way their pleasure was actually diminished because they could see, because seeing in some way qualified the sensation; and that if they only knew how full, how total my pleasure was, I used to tell myself that they must, they really must envy me. (p.15)

Hence, Molly portrays blindness not only as a state of darkness but also a world of richness and depth, offering a unique perspective that challenges conventional notions of sensory perception and stressing the uniqueness of the disabled in dealing with the world.

In her childhood, Molly has experienced joyful moments in the company of her loving father in the garden; he delighted in teaching her how to identify flowers by feeling and smelling them as well as how to use her hearing to develop a sense of place. However, Molly's parents failed to effectively address her visual impairment. Her mother was often hospitalized due to nerve issues and her father, though engaged with encouraging her to explore the world and nurturing her curiosity, he neglected to take practical steps in exploring potential cures and denied her access to a school for the blind. Moreover, her parents are not in good terms with each other. Consequently, when Molly's husband and her doctor attempted to restore her sight, they encountered significant challenges due to Molly's lack of psychological readiness, which resulted from her family's neglectful approach. Once, she emphasizes that "I didn't tell Mr. Rice that story when he first asked me about my childhood. Out of loyalty to father, maybe. Maybe out of loyalty to mother, too" (p.58). She starts to view her mother much more sympathetically as the father plays the role of the villain, unwilling to grant her the advantages of a Blind School either due to financial considerations or to punish her mother as the latter claims. Molly recalls her mother's speech to her father: "She should be at a blind school! You know she should! But you know the real reason you won't send her? Not because you haven't the money. Because you want to punish me"(p.58). Hence, this kind of neglect could be the result of her parents' dysfunctional relationship.

In her adulthood, she is characterized as a content and capable resident of her blind world, a person who genuinely enjoys her work as a massage therapist, as well as cycling, swimming, dancing, hanging out with friends and neighbors, and her two-year marriage to Frank (Moloney,2000). Hence, Molly's life is abundant and fulfilling, devoid of any sense of deprivation. When Frank, who is currently unemployed, decides to make a change in Molly's life through attempting to restore her vision, he takes the crucial step of contacting Dr. Rice who was once a highly esteemed doctor. Currently, Rice experiences a decline in his professional standing. Moreover, he is a heavy drinker. However, he offers to make an effort to enhance Molly's vision. Henceforward, the

play's entire mood revolves around a difficult endeavor with no guarantee of success. It is a fundamental issue that could endanger Molly's life now and in the future.

Throughout the play, Molly continues to diligently strive to overcome the obstacles in her new partially sighted surroundings. She has been victimized by the indifferent men despite her inner turmoil. Such victimization also highlights the challenges Irish women face in a nation that is still firmly patriarchal. Molly truly accepts her current state of blindness, but because of Frank's interference, she is slowly given hope that she may regain her vision. Molly is the complete opposite of Frank's restlessness throughout the plot because she lacks a sense of tension between who she is and what she wants. And in contrast to Frank and Rice, she seems to be in a condition of grace, her independence and integrity allowing her to remain true to herself. Regardless of having an unfulfilled yearning to regain her vision, she submits to advice from others who attempt to please her. Moreover " she allows herself to be seen through others' eyes" (Roche, 2006, p. 95). Molly seemed to be just as fascinated, probably because she had trusted the world and its men prior to the surgery.

The audience is gradually made to feel suspenseful from the outset as they anticipate the medical procedure's outcome and effects. Since the patient's mind is controlled by the uncertainty of the future, his thinking is undoubtedly torn between optimistic and gloomy feelings. The basic idea behind optimism is that, even if one does not expect complete completion or advancement, there are some valid reasons to believe that such a favorable end will occur. People who were born blind, however, did not experience dreams in which they were able to see with their eyes. Molly leads a unique life and develops accustomed to her place in her family and community; as a result, it is difficult to convince her that she will be an ordinary person with complete vision.

Karen De Vinney(1999, p. 115) has stated that "while we can dismiss some of Frank Sweeney's and Mr. Rice's assessments as amusing, their real blindness to what is valuable in Molly's life does eventually kill her. Driven by their selfish motives, they convince her to undergo two operations that restore her sight." Dr. Rice is initially skeptical about the possibility of restoring Molly's sight, giving no guarantees for improvement. However, he gives some hope by explaining that while there have been no recorded cases of recovery in inborn blindness, Molly's situation is different as she is functionally rather than clinically blind. He mentions cases of individuals who gained their sight after being blind since birth, but emphasizes their extreme rarity, with only twenty recorded cases in a thousand years. Molly trusts Mr. Rice's expertise and accepts the discouraging statistics, while Frank, her husband, remains hopeful and filled with excitement about the prospect of Molly seeing again. Molly's mind and heart are seeded with optimism by all of these proposed hopeful gestures.

Despite his initial skepticism, Dr. Rice is intrigued by the extensive folder of material that Frank brings, which contains documents, reports, photographs, and other information related to Molly's case. He sees it beneficial and helpful for considering her situation. Moreover, it stimulates his curiosity. He also expresses his immediate liking for Molly, noting her calmness, independence, and lack of self-pity regarding her blindness. He admires her contentment with her life despite her disability. However, Dr. Rice also observes Frank's determined optimism and enthusiasm for finding a medical solution to Molly's blindness. This optimism fuels Dr. Rice's own fascination with the potential opportunity to restore Molly's sight and make a significant impact on his career. He is tempted by the possibility of being the one to help her see, viewing it as a chance of a lifetime that could not only transform his career but also restore his reputation. Dr. Rice's character presents a complex combination of genuine interest in

Molly's well-being, professional curiosity, and personal ambition. While he finds Molly likable and respects her independence, there is an underlying motivation for him to pursue her case beyond the selfless desire to help her. His attraction to the potential glory of a successful medical intervention raises ethical questions about his intentions and the potential consequences for Molly.

The failure of the surgery leaves the audience in the dark regarding Molly's future. Rice's description of Molly as a lost soul trapped between the realms of the blind and the sighted and currently imprisoned to a mental hospital is more terrifying and possibly more truthful. Rice's expression of disappointment following her surgery is, "I'm sorry, Molly Sweeney. I'm so sorry." (p.69). Evidently, Molly is devastated to find that she won't be able to have her sight restored through surgery. Consequently, she has lost ties to what used to be and the tangible world she once loved as a result of her immobilization. Molly "ironically, has been seriously reduced rather than expanded by the attempted acquisition of sight" (Abbotson, , 2003, p. 282). The fact that Molly survived the healthy future that Frank and Rice imagined and crystallized is quite shocking.

Concerning Frank's role in Molly's life, it can be viewed in light of her perception of their marriage as being not founded on pure love but rather on a desire for understanding the blind's hidden world (Abbotson, 2003, p.32). As she reflects on her relationship with Frank, she says: "I knew that night that he would ask me to marry him. Because he liked me --- I knew he did. And because of my blindness". She affirms that her marriage is not based on love but rather on respect for her distinct personality and the way she manages her life in spite of her disabilities. However, it could be a restricting form of love, for sometimes "love develops into a desire for obsession and control that has a suffocating effect on the beloved ones" (Jawad, p. 1). Molly is trapped within the confines of Frank's controlling plans for her, which once led to an outburst of anger: "And then with sudden anger I thought: why am I going for this operation? None of this is my choosing. Then why is this happening to me? I am being used. Of course I trust Frank. Of course I trust Mr. Rice. But how can they know what they are taking away from me? How do they know what they are offering me? They don't. They can't. And have I anything to gain? Anything? Anything?" (p. 23)

From the beginning of the play, Frank is captivated by the idea of Molly gaining the ability to see. His initial interest stems from a genuine desire to witness her experience the world visually. Though he fosters dreams concerning this issue, he seems to be endowed with perplexity when listening to Rice's explanation of medical issues in relation to Molly's case. He becomes aware of the complexities of Molly's journey towards the realm of light. Rice provides him with insights into the concept of engrams and their connection to Molly's potential sight restoration: Rice makes it clear that even if Molly's sight is partially restored, she needs then to learn to interpret what she sees because it is not an easy task to develop independence from the tactile engrams, the memory patterns, she gets used to. They are deeply rooted in her brain. This stimulates Frank to establish a web of association between Molly's situation and that of Iranian goats he brought to Ireland with the hope of reaping financial benefits from their high milk productivity. However, he ends losing money due to their inability to adjust to the Irish time: "they lived in a kind of perpetual jet-lag" (9). Referring to this comparison in act one of the play foreshadows Molly's frustration in act two, arousing awareness of the precarious foundations on which she stands, implying instability and insecurity. While Frank's initial fascination with Molly and her resilient nature demonstrates his commitment to her well-being, he fails to maintain a long-term dedication to her case.

His dedication is swept by the emergence of conflicting desires, his aspirations for adventures and career advancement. He is torn between staying with her and accepting a job opportunity in Ethiopia. At the beginning when invited to set up and manage a food convoy there, he contemplates: "Was I interested? Of course I was interested. The first job I'd been offered in months. But not now. How could I go now for God's sake? Molly was on the verge of a new life" (pp.18-19). Eventually, after the operation, he leaves her to face its consequences alone and chooses to send her detailed letters about his experiences there, attempting to fill the gap resulting from his physical absence from her life: "Ethiopia is a paradise. The people are heroes. The climate is hell. The relief workers are completely dedicated. Never in his life has he felt so committed, so passionate, so fulfilled"(67). Though Molly does not complain of that, it becomes clear that she really needs him to be close during the crucial time of her hospitalization. He decides to prioritize his own fulfillment over Molly's immediate needs. His conflicting desires and divided attention create a chasm between them. As a result, Molly is neglected and isolated. So as Molly bears the weight of the consequences from the operation, Frank relishes the freedom to explore Ethiopia. However, his monologues reveal that despite being physically liberated, he remains bound by his unfulfilled aspirations for Molly and an overpowering sense of bewilderment. He has abandoned her in a territory charged with the echoes of her unfulfilled dreams, showing no bravery to even have serious talks with her about the unsuccessful outcomes of the operation. The intricate depiction of Frank's character in this context raises ethical considerations regarding supporting loved ones during life-altering journeys. It highlights the importance of ethical responsibility, empathy, and communication when making decisions that affect the lives of loved ones. His quest for comfort and adventure in Ethiopia, while Molly is dealing with the unfavorable outcomes of his own schemes and the operation, demonstrates his disregard for Molly's fate. It emphasizes the significance of carefully balancing one's personal aspirations with the well-being of his/her partner. Ethical approaches to dear ones involve considering the potential impact of one's choices and decisions on them. Hence, Frank's situation serves as a reminder of the interconnectedness of relationships and the consequences of one's actions on others. It highlights the importance of maintaining a strong commitment to loved ones and being considerate to their needs, especially during critical time that involves transformative experiences. It stresses the significance of considering such situations with sensitivity and compassion.

The unfortunate end of the play had a significant impact on Molly, who had been offered optimism by her husband and the ophthalmologist that she would recover. Rice's actions demonstrate that human intervention is not always acceptable unless it is supported by solid scientific facts that give the patient a genuine hope. Frank's optimism appears to have failed, as he removed his wife from her own realm in the hopes of bringing about a more positive transition. For Molly, the effect is terrible since it leaves her with a lifelong sense of hopelessness and possibly a moral scar. Unfortunately, Molly's thoughts have been controlled by her fear of failure until she realizes that it is the result she should have expected. Even though it seems like Frank does not need to upset his wife by giving her some of his care and attention, the method he has chosen just makes her pain worse after agreeing to the risky procedure. Molly's wound from this failure is more severe than usual and will take longer to heal.

CONCLUSION

Molly, who is accustomed to her blind environment, finds calm and peace there and develops a strong sensory system based on touch, smell, and hearing. She is also self-reliant, thanks to her developed tactile skills that have led to her success in massage therapy. Years have passed without any intervention to restore her sight, and this world has become her secure haven. However, external plans that did not spring from her own desires or needs have disrupted the steady progress she had made in her life. Her husband, Frank, proposes a solution that gives Molly hope to restore her vision, creating an internal conflict within her. She feels a mixture of anticipation and unease about the changes that would accompany her departure from the familiar, colorful world filled with childhood memories, where she roamed the garden hand in hand with her father. Her senses were strongly connected with the environment, including the delicate scent and touch of flowers, which have played a significant role in Molly's way of perceiving and understanding the world. Therefore, she remains apprehensive about leaving her secure world and wondered whether she truly desires to fully immerse herself in the new world or if she would be content with exploring it and safely returning to her own world, carrying with her the experience and perception of the new world, which would enrich her knowledge and generous imagination.

Molly's intelligence and rich imagination have contributed to strengthening her dream of exploring the new world, as well as her desire not to disappoint Frank and Rice, who have built their dreams based on Molly's potential for sight. Their dreams, fueled by optimism and hope for a miracle that would fulfill their ambitions, have culminated. Molly, with her extraordinary spirit that has enabled her to confidently progress in her life despite her blindness, becomes the object of their fascination: Frank's admiration for her makes her an intriguing phenomenon to him, leading him to desire to be part of her journey and suggesting the surgery as a means of progress. Rice, on the other hand, sees an opportunity to restore his reputation and fulfill his ethical responsibility towards Molly as a patient. He initially sees himself as a savior figure, believing that restoring her vision would be a triumph for both of them. However, as the surgery takes place and Molly's world changes dramatically, Rice begins to feel a sense of remorse, realizing that he had not fully considered the intense effects of the difference between seeing and understanding what one sees. Molly is burdened with the task of decoding visual signals and concepts that were unfamiliar to her, posing immense challenges and frustrations.

However, Molly's journey towards the realm of light does not reach its final destination and she remains suspended between two worlds, unsure if what she sees is reality or mere imagination. Although she occasionally acts as if she could see, she is completely unaware of actually perceiving anything. Her journey ends with no job, leading her to the same psychiatric hospital where her mother had once been hospitalized during Molly's childhood. This creates a parallel realm within Molly's current world, one that resides in the memories of her past, where the echoes of the past intrude into her present reality. Molly begins to hear the sound of a sobbing woman, the same sound she had heard in her childhood when visiting her mother. However, the nurse confirms to her that no such woman currently exists. This further blurs the boundaries of Molly's existence, causing her to live on the edge of reality and dream. Thus, she experiences a sense of disillusioned optimism as her perceptions and hopes collide with the harsh realities of her situation.

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أحلام محطمة: تفاضي التفاؤل وعواقب التدخل المتأخر في مولي سويني للمسرحي براين فرييل

اسراء جلال جواد الجوهرى

كلية الآداب /جامعة بغداد

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كلية الآداب/ جامعة الأنبار

الملخص:

ان التركيز الفعلي لهذه الدراسة مسلط على شخصية (مولي سويني)، التي كانت كيفية منذ ولادتها وقد تعرضت لقرار زوجها المتقلب، والذي كان بمثابة تدخل غير مرحب به في حياتها الخاصة. كما توضح ايضا حجم الخطورة لهذا التدخل في شؤون الآخرين الشخصية التي بدورها تؤدي الى فرض توصيات لا ينتج عنها إلا إلى تفاقم المشكلة وهذا يترتب عليه من العواقب التي تشكل انتهاكا لحقوق الأفراد. لا شك ان الترويج لحالة من التفاؤل الغير الواقعي تجعل بعض الأفراد يعتقدون أن هذا هو الحل الأمثل لمشاكلهم، ليكتشفوا لاحقاً أنه تدخل جائر بحقهم كونهم لم تكن لديهم خبرة في المسائل الطبية. وبسبب هذا الإجراء الجراحي الفاشل، يجب إما منع الطبيب من القيام بمثل هذا السلوك غير المسؤول أو مطالبته بإثبات معدل نجاح هذه المخاطرة قبل الشروع بأجراء العملية. وبهذا المعنى، فإن الثقافة الطبية ضرورية لكل من الأشخاص المثقفين والناس العاديين على حد سواء لتجنب الوقوع كضحايا لأخطاء الأطباء أو على الأقل حماية أنفسهم من النتائج الرهيبة لهذه الخيارات العشوائية. وأكدت الدراسة على توضيح القضايا الأخلاقية الناتجة عن هذا التدخل المتأخر، وكشف مغالطة الأمل المزعوم، وتسليط الضوء على المخاطر المحتملة للإجراءات الطبية التي ينقصها الكثير من الدقة. كل هذه التفسيرات يمكن أن تشجع القارئ على متابعة الدراسة بتلهف لاستيعاب خطورة خلق الشعور بالتفاؤل غير المكتمل في أذهان الناس العاديين.

الكلمات المفتاحية: براين فرييل, مولي سويني, أحلام محطمة, تدخل طبي متأخر, تفاضي تفاؤل