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***Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka: A Journey of Identity**

A paper submitted to the Department of English /College of Education for Human Sciences / University of Babylon in partial fulfillment of the Requirements for B. A. Degrees in English language and literature.

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بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

﴿ وَأَنْ لَّيْسَ لِلْإِنْسَانِ إِلَّا مَا سَعَى ﴿۳۸﴾ وَأَنْ سَعْيُهُ سَوْفَ يَرَى ﴿۳۹﴾

﴿ ثُمَّ يُجْزَاهُ الْجَزَاءَ الْأَوْفَى ﴿۴۰﴾

صدق الله العلي العظيم

سوره [النجم:38-41]

Dedication

All praise to Allah

To the woman with compassionate and kind heart my dear mother.

To the man whose name I bear with pride, my beloved father.

To the wonderful supervisor, Dr. Aseel kadhim Alrikabi. She was an inspiration for doing my research.

I dedicate my dissertation work to my family and many friends, who have supported me throughout the process. A special feeling of gratitude to my loving parents, whose words of encouragement and push for tenacity ring in my ears, I will always appreciate all they have done. Both of you have been my best cheerleaders.

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My university journey has come to an end after exhaustion and hardship. And here I am, completing my graduation research with vigor and energy.

I am grateful to everyone who has contributed to my career.

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Franz Kafka

Brief Biography of Franz Kafka :

Franz Kafka was (born July 3, 1883, Prague, died June 3, 1924 Austria) the first of six children in a family of middle-class Jews. He preferred to speak and write German, as his family did, though most population of Prague spoke Czech, a significant division both culturally and politically. He studied law and got a job at a deposit company at age 24, though he resented having to work to pay the bills. Kafka's letters and journals reveal that he was tortured by a sense of his own inadequacy, sexually and socially, though to others he came off as quiet and intelligent.

He had several passionate love affairs but never married. (*LitCharts*, n.d.)

During his lifetime, Kafka is estimated to have burned at least 90% of everything he wrote, though he consented to publish *The Metamorphosis* at age 32. At 34, he was diagnosed with tuberculosis, which would lead to his death seven years later. (Master of Studies & Bachelor of Arts, n.d.)

When he died, he left a note for his friend, Max Brod, to destroy his remaining works. Fortunately, Brod neglected this request, and published (*The Trial, The Castle, and Amerika*). (*Franz Kafka: Biography, Short Stories & Novels, Philosophy*, n.d.)

Two notable European short story writers in the early part of the 20th c. were the **Slovene Ivan Cankar** and the **Czech Franz Kafka**. Kafka's weird and enigmatic vision makes his stories unlike anything else in the genre. He remains especially famous for *Metamorphosis* (1915) and *In the Penal Colony* (1919).

Kafkaesque Characteristic of the style, tone and attitudes of the writings of Franz Kafka (1883-1924), and especially the kind of nightmarish atmosphere which he was capable of creating through the pervasive menace of sinister, impersonal forces the feeling of loss of identity, the evocation of guilt and fear.

Cuddon, John Anthony. A dictionary of literary terms and literary theory. London: John Wiley & Sons, 2012. (p.81), (p. 654), (p.382)

The play on words and the obvious similarities in the names indicate the subjective character of the story. The order of vowels in Samsa is the same as in Kafka. More importantly, samsja means "being alone" in Czech. That despite the fact that he is apparently adapted for all the functions of an insect, he reacts like a human being. Gregor in no way identified himself with an insect. It is therefore important to recognize that Gregor's transformation takes place in his "**troubled dreams**", which is something quite distinct from stating that he is very far from the end result of the continued influence of those dreams. The interpretation classifies Gregor's transformation as an attempt to escape his deep war between his true self and the untenable state of affairs in the company. (*The Metamorphosis" (Die Verwandlung)"*, n.d.)

As for his father, the personality of the personality of Kafka's father overshadowed his work as well as his presence. (Described as a bad-tempered domestic tyrant) He directed his anger and was disrespectful toward his escape into literature In Kafka's most important try at autobiography, Brief an den Vater (written 1919; Letter to Father), a letter that never reached the addressee, Kafka attributed his failure to

live, to cut loose from fatherly ties and establish himself in marriage and fatherhood, to the unlawful father figure, that implants in him a sense of his own impotence. He was not, however, particularly close to his mother, subservient to her overwhelming ill-tempered husband and his exacting business .(The Editors of Encyclopedia Britannica, 2018)

His escape into literature, to the prohibitive father figure, instilled in him a sense of his own impotence. He felt his will had been broken by his father .The conflict with the father is reflected directly in Kafka's story "Das Urteil" (1913; The Judgment) . Yet the roots of Kafka's anxiety and despair go deeper than his relationship with his father and family, with whom he chose to live in close and cramped proximity for the major part of his adult life. (*A Short Biography of Franz Kafka*, 2019)

Furthermore , despite Kafka's relatively small body of work, he has become one of the titans of world literature, and the adjective form of his name, "Kafkaesque," has come to signify the frustrations of modern existence .He is famous for his novels *The Trial*, in which a man is charged with a crime that is never named, and *The Metamorphosis*, in which the protagonist wakes to find himself transformed into an insect. (*A Short Biography of Franz Kafka*, 2019); (Center, n.d.)

Few of Kafka's works were published during his lifetime: the story collections *Contemplation and A Country Doctor*, and individual stories (such as "The Metamorphosis") were published in literary magazines but received little public attention. In his will, Kafka instructed his execu and friend Max Brod to destroy his unfinished

works, including his novels *The Trial*, *The Castle*, and *Amerika*, but Brod ignored these instructions, and had the bulk of his work published. (*A Short Biography of Franz Kafka*, 2019) .

Expressionism is one of the literary movements frequently mentioned in reference to Kafka, likely due to the fact its style in literature coincided with Kafka's mature writing, among 1912 and his death in 1924. Of course, Kafka does have certain characteristics in common with expressionists, such as his criticism of the blindly scientific-technological world-view, for instance. he repeatedly confessed that the works of the expressionists made him sad (*Kafka and Existentialism*, n.d.)

***Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka: A Journey of Identity**

The *Metamorphosis*' was published In 1915 when Franz Kafka was only thirty-four years old. It is now considered to be his masterpiece and one of the most important examples of existentialist literature (*The Metamorphosis*, n.d.)

One of Kafka's best-known works, *Metamorphosis* tells the story of a salesman Gregor Samsa, who wakes one morning to find himself inexplicably transformed into a huge insect and subsequently struggles to adjust to this new condition. (*The Metamorphosis*, n.d.)

What is The *Metamorphosis* about?

The *Metamorphosis* story focuses on Gregor Samsa, a traveling salesman and dutiful son who single-handedly supports his parents and sister. One morning, following one of his infrequent overnight visits to his parents' home, Gregor is shocked to find that his body has been changed into an insect. In addition, the pitch of his voice has been altered to such an extent that human can no longer understand his words. Gregor's family is horrified to discover the change in Gregor. Soon their impact gives way to disgust, but Gregor is mindful of their feelings and hides in the room when his sister brings his daily meals, now unable to continue working to support them, discovers that his parents' claims of being too ill to work are false. Once Gregor becomes a problem rather than a provider, his family rejects him completely. His sister initially provides for his care and feeding, but she becomes indifferent to him, and he dies shortly after hearing his family's plans to abandon him. (*The Metamorphosis*, n.d.)

Metamorphosis is a philosophical and artistic movement that was at its peak in the late 1900s. It was based on the idea that human beings are responsible for creating the meaning of their life. There is no meaning in the world except for that which we create. (*The Metamorphosis*, n.d.)

Unquestionably Gregor Samsa is meant to portray the more dehumanizing aspects of the contemporary struggle against the suppression of human ideals. The mechanism of oppression in Gregor's case is the bureaucracy in which he is forced to work a meaningless life

that contributes nothing to his dreams or aspirations, but instead merely makes of him a human insect. (*Alienation in the Modern World: "the Metamorphosis" by Franz Kafka - 1649 Words | Research Paper Example*, n.d.)

The alienation from his work also threatens Gregor's family life, and the implicit assumption is that all of modern life is constructed to alienate people not only from their work but even from each other. Gregor's family is dysfunctional yet he manages to find it necessary to work hard without complaint in order to help them survive. Despite this, it is important to remember that inside Gregor is not the contented worker he appears to be. He holds a deep and abiding hatred for his boss. (*Alienation in the Modern World: "the Metamorphosis" by Franz Kafka - 1649 Words | Research Paper Example*, n.d.)

Despite waking up one morning to find himself transformed into a giant insect and despite the realization that he is no longer human, Gregor continues with the thoughtfulness he once had, Gregor pondering at length about his job and his family, He becomes anxious about the passage of time and preoccupied with his new physical sensations and strange aches and pains. (*The Metamorphosis*, n.d.)

Like anyone else who wakes up late in the morning, he still worries about being late for work, but is soon faced with the mundane fear that the authorities will send a doctor to examine him. The point of these petty concerns is to show that while Gregor is now just a bug in physical form, ever since, he was just a bug in mental form. Being a bug is considered

another inconvenience, since Gregor is completely alienated from the life around him. He also has such a keen sense of doing the right thing that it outweighs other considerations. (*The Metamorphosis*, n.d.)

Gregor's personality change after his *metamorphosis*, Although at first Gregor is psychologically unaltered by his transformation, his personality changes over the course of the story in accordance with his new physical urges and desires. These changes primarily come about as he adapts to his new body and learns what it finds comfortable. For instance, he begins to prefer cramped, dark spaces, such as the space under his sofa, and he feels more comfortable resting on the walls and ceiling of his room than he does lying in bed. He also begins to feel disturbed by noise, such as the noise Grete makes when she enters his room to clean it, and eventually he comes to prefer being left entirely alone, even considering any human contact upsetting. Many of Gregor's desires from his human life remain essentially unchanged, however Even after he ceases to want to see his family members, he still wishes he could provide for them financially. (*The Metamorphosis: Mini Essays*, n.d.)

Despite his complete physical transformation into an insect at the beginning of the story, Gregor changes very little as a character over the course of *The Metamorphosis*(*SparkNotes: The Metamorphosis: Gregor Samsa*, 2019)

family relations affected by Gregor's transformation .

From the beginning, we see that Gregor's transformation has a negative impact on his family dynamics. His parents look at him with disgust, even though he is their son. His father has to work again to

support his family financially, and her mother wants Gregor to be her son, but her fear and loathing of Gregor's change is great. Too much. Grete is initially disgusted with Gregor, but since she was once in a close relationship, she tries to take care of Gregor by feeding him and cleaning his room. However,

Griet gradually despises Gregor because of the burden his presence imposes on all members of his family. She tells her parents that Gregor must be kicked out or they will all be destroyed. Her father agrees and hopes that Gregor can understand her and be on his own. Unbeknownst to them, Gregor found out and died in his bedroom. (*Family Dynamics in the Metamorphosis – Great Works II: Literature and the Modern World*, n.d.)

- **My point of view**

Before turning into an insect, Gregor had been the main breadwinner in the family. Clearly, his transformation makes it impossible for him to continue working, so the three members of his family all have to find jobs, and the family takes in boarders for extra income.

In *The Metamorphosis*, Kafka explores various themes. One of the main themes explored in the story is **Alienation** Gregor suffers alienation as a consequence of transformation Even after his transformation into a large insect, Gregor eagerly awaits human contact and yearns for one member of the household to come into his room or even just speak to him through the door. He begins to take measures that isolate him even further. So that his sister won't be disgusted by or frightened of him, He

hides beneath the sofa whenever she enters the room. (*The Metamorphosis: Summary, Themes & Analysis / StudySmarter*, n.d.)

But, *Metamorphosis* turns him into an insect and this event well-known shows real attitude to him. As a result, his family, so loving and caring, in no time becomes indifferent to a bug, which can not earn coins to help them and which end up surely used by them. Such attitude transforms Gregor into surprisingly indifferent to their opinion. (*The Theme of Transformation or Change in the Metamorphosis*, n.d.)

The changes in Gregor reflect his inner emotions and fears. Kafka believes that these feelings are available to every individual who must survive within society (Smith, 1997). Thus Kafka explored within the novel the existentialist subject matter of alienation. . (*The Theme of Transformation or Change in the Metamorphosis*, n.d.)

Kafka additionally indicates the end result of alienation that's due to the transformation. Considering himself a burden for his family, Samsa feels alienated and chooses to prevent this kind of depressing existence. Thus Kafka indicated that humans free their identification within the chase for money, popularity, and desire to correspond to the expectancies of others. For such awareness, Gregor commits suicide and does a ultimate choose to his family.. (*The Theme of Transformation or Change in the Metamorphosis*, n.d.)

The Metamorphosis can also be seen as a reaction against bourgeois society and its demands (The alienation between society and the individual creates a blind-spot where the individual can be dehumanized and ignored as a disposable resource. Gregor's family reaction to his

metamorphosis indicates society's inhumanity and acceptance of the barbarity of total war) (*The Theme of Transformation or Change in the Metamorphosis*, n.d.)

- **My point of view**

Once Gregor is transformed into an insect and his family realizes they have lost their only provider, he changes Gregor in their eyes into a hateful entity that only serves to alienate him (His family treats him like a worthless insect).

Gregor has another alienation from his physical reality after the transformation. His family views him as a terrifying, unpleasant monster, as seen by their fear of his existence and their decision to get rid of him. Prior to his metamorphosis Gregor was physically alienated from any semblance of a social life due to his job and financial obligation to his family afterward the transformation and he was deemed a burden to his family he was psychologically isolated from them as well.

Kafka brings about the **absurd** element in *The Metamorphosis* by transforming his protagonist, Gregor Samsa, into a despicable insect. He offers no explanation for Samsa's affliction and the protagonist himself does not search for one. Instead he focuses on Samsa's efforts to cope with it. The conflict between the human need to find value or meaning in life and the inability to find any refers to the word “**absurdism**” (*The Theme of Transformation or Change in the Metamorphosis*, n.d.)

Existentialism in Kafka's The Metamorphosis

Existentialism is defined as “a family of philosophies devoted to an interpretation of human existence in the world that stresses concreteness and character” It rejects traditional attempts to ground knowledge in the external world and claims that the self emerges from experience. Declares that humans make themselves what they are through their own choices (Farahmandian and Haonong). (*Existential Philosophy in the Metamorphosis by Franz Kafka - Free Essay Example*, n.d.)

Kafka employs a component of existentialist philosophy, ‘existential angst,’ in *The Metamorphosis* to facilitate Gregor’s development. Existential angst is described as “the inner struggle skilled through each aware man or woman because of the truth that the sector isn't always a rational area and lifestyles may be maintained simplest through consistent struggle” (Wilfred) .The concept of existential tension entails locating a manner to live to tell the tale and set up significant relationships with people and different creatures. For example, the narrator expresses that the door to Gregor’s room is locked and his personal family isn't always capable of cross into his room to check on him, which symbolizes actually how isolated Gregor is from his very own own family. Due to Gregor's speech being garbled and distorted, he's substantially remoted from everyone, now no longer simply his family .(*Existential Philosophy in the Metamorphosis by Franz Kafka - Free Essay Example*, n.d.)

The manager who came to check on Gregor Is repulsed by his speech and appearanc" During Gregor’s speech he did not stand still for a minute but... backed toward the door, yet very gradually"(The Metamorphosis

By Franz Kafka, page 11). Gregor's inability to communicate with his family and others after his transformation is definitely an existential struggle. (*Existential Philosophy in the Metamorphosis by Franz Kafka - Free Essay Example*, n.d.)

Kafka's *The Metamorphosis* shows the importance of economic and social status, and the novel has many similarities to existentialism. In *The Metamorphosis*, Kafka crystallizes existentialist concepts such as free will, choice and individual responsibility, and explores the transformation of Gregor Samsa and the development of his family. Alienation is a central theme, as Gregor Samsa alienates himself from his body and turns into a beetle. Eventually he becomes estranged from his family.

Transformed in his bed into a gigantic insect" and "...his numerous legs, which were pitifully thin compared to the rest of his bulk, waved helplessly before his eyes" (*The Metamorphosis Franz Kafka*, page 27) this incident is describing his own condition (Willa and Edwin Muir). In *The Metamorphosis* there's additionally social and financial alienation. In the beginning, before Samsa becomes a bug, he changed into the most effective man or woman who earned for his own circle of relatives and to repay the debt. And different participants have become benefit. Gregor Samsa's alienation from his self is the center alienation on this story. Now there are two aspects that show him alienated from himself. One is the physical transformation, which Samsa herself endures symbolically. He also has antennae along with his taste mutations. He walks around on the blanket and enjoys it. After a while, he becomes unable to communicate with humans. Under some circumstances, he also loses his sight. He lost his mind. Another aspect is his confidence. His father separated him from

his family and tried to kill him. His mother wept with hope and his sister called him an animal. (*Existentialism in Kafkas the Metamorphosis | PDF | Existentialism | the Metamorphosis*, n.d. ‘*The Metamorphosis & Existentialism - 757 Words | Studymode*, n.d.)

Part of him is very different to others. His alienation from himself made him to think that he is still Samsa but he is also not Samsa that we can see it in the following quotation "But another apple following immediately landed right on his back and sank in: Gregor wanted to drag himself forward, as if this startling, incredible pain could be left behind him"(*Existentialism in Kafkas the Metamorphosis | PDF | Existentialism | the Metamorphosis*, n.d. ‘*The Metamorphosis & Existentialism - 757 Words | Studymode*, n.d.)

Kafka also uses the existential idea that human destiny is sometimes beyond human control. In his stories, chance and destiny determine people's lives. Gregor could not control his transformation, nor could he control the "new" legs that "fluttered helplessly before his eyes ". (*Existentialism in Franz Kafka's the Metamorphosis and The... | Bartleby*, 2020)

Alienation is some other crucial subject of existential philosophy determined in *The Metamorphosis*. Existentialist Jean-Paul Sartre defines the idea of alienation. The seed of alienation is hidden in the experience of shame itself . The alienation that Sartre describes also includes shame, which is a form of consciousness in the individual. In short, shame and alienation go hand in hand. Shame leads to alienation or alienation of a person from himself or others or vice versa. When Gregor unexpectedly turns into insects. He feels shame because he is no longer able to work

with his family. His unique characteristics instill in him shame and alienation. (*Existential Philosophy in the Metamorphosis by Franz Kafka - Free Essay Example*, n.d.)

Kafka's protagonists are lonely because they are caught midway between a notion of good and evil, whose scope they cannot determine and whose contradiction they can not resolve. (*Kafka and Existentialism*, n.d.)

Kafka's philosophical basis, is certainly considered one among human experiences about the world. Kafka's protagonists confront a secularized deity whose only visible aspects are mysterious and anonymous. Guerin Wilfred defines that "Existential angst describes the internal conflict experienced by every conscious individual due to the fact that the world is not a rational place and existence can be maintained only by constant struggle" The implications of this concept vary from looking to speak and to set up significant relationships with different creatures, etc. (*Kafka and Existentialism*, n.d.) (*Existential Failure in Franz Kafka's the Metamorphosis. - Free Online Library*, n.d.)

Transformation occurs to the whole lot and everyone in the novel. After bodily change, transformation passes to a better degree and adjustments intellectual systems of Gregor. In the begin of story Gregor Samsa, the protagonist, appears as a more youthful and active man who dedicated his life to his parents and sister. He stated to himself, "Besides, I have to provide for my parents and my sister." (Kafka, 84, by Franz Kafka, p.38). (*The Theme of Transformation or Change in the Metamorphosis*, n.d.)

As reflected in the title, transformation — both physical and psychological — is at the core of *The Metamorphosis*. In terms of physical transformations, Gregor transforms from a man into a vermin, (A traveling salesman who hates his job but is forced to keep it in order to support his family and pay off his father's debts. Gregor suddenly finds himself transformed into a giant insect. Never coming to terms with his metamorphosis, he struggles with intense feelings of guilt as if his inability to support his family were his own fault. Though freed from his job, Gregor is now a burden to his family and is kept locked in his room. Isolated and neglected, Gregor is a metaphor for the human being oppressed by capitalism and alienated from work, family, and himself), Grete transforms from a girl into a woman (She is the only one in the family with whom Gregor was intimate. At first, she takes it upon herself to clean his room and feed him. With time, however, she loses interest in this and leaves him alone. Grete, who first cared so much for Gregor, is also the first to assert that the family must get rid of him. Gregor had planned to use all his money to send Grete to the Conservatory to study violin, and her playing awakens his humanity.) and Mr. Samsa transforms from a disheveled old man into a well-put-together member of the workforce (Gregor's father, having lived a "laborious though unsuccessful life" and collapsed his business, has become exceptionally lazy, doing nothing while his son earns all the money. When misfortune strikes, Mr. Samsa puts on a uniform and goes to work. He is suspicious of the transformed Gregor from the beginning, and always assumes the worst if his son emerges from his room. He first wounds Gregor while trying to shove him into his room and then cripples him by throwing

apple into his back.) (*The Metamorphosis: Summary, Themes & Analysis / StudySmarter*, n.d.)

Simultaneously, each member of the Samsa family undergoes transformations in their identity. Gregor goes from being the primary breadwinner of the family to the shameful secret, figuratively and literally kept in darkness from the family as he is isolated from familial relationships, affairs, and the core of the family home. Meanwhile, the rest of the Samsas all begin to rely upon themselves once they are left without the support of Gregor's income. (*The Metamorphosis: Summary, Themes & Analysis / StudySmarter*, n.d.)

Furthermore, Kafka represents the problems of energy and subordination in *The Metamorphosis* pondered in each personal family physical or emotional transformations. Gregor's transformation reasons his lack of patriarch reputation to the daddy which may be visible as a lack of masculinity. Gregor's dehumanization is the motive of his abjection, and outcomes in "his family gradually turning his room into a dumping grounds for all sorts of refuse" (Santner 195) . Gregor's alternate is superficial, due to the fact that he resists adapting to his new bodily identification as a "vermin" which suggests a vain and parasitic nature that clashes together along with his personality. Gregor's "disappearance" forces his mother, father, and sister out of their personal parasitic existence, into a transformation miles deeper at the end. They've transformed themselves: They've got a younger energy back when they first set to work. The concluding sentence of *The Metamorphosis* bears "a confirmation of their new dreams and good intentions." (*The Theme of Transformation or Change in the Metamorphosis*, n.d.)

THE METAMORPHOSIS SUMMARY :

part I

Gregor Samsa is having disturbing dreams, and when he wakes up to realize that he has turned into a big insect, he thinks it could be a nightmare and wants to move back into his bed. He is shocked by the fact that it is no longer a horrible dream that can be forgotten, and existence has become normal. He is in a helpless position. He thinks of the misery in his life, now that he can no longer make friends. His task is difficult and he cannot stop it despite his need for it. If he left his mission, it would cause problems for his whole family. He slept too much, and if he was late, he would scold him. It's late, and his is at the door telling him to get up. He tries to answer her, but his voice changed. He violently shakes his body and throws his frame off the bed. The manager enters his door and the manager tells his mother and father that his paintings are not always satisfactory, and he may also have stolen money and may hide it there. Her mother constantly tells him to calm down. On the other side of the door, he could hear the manager discussing the strange extension in his voice. The door lock opens with a high voltage and the door opens. He walks out of the room and is manager that he can use those little legs to move. When she catches a glimpse of the managers eye, he doesn't turn around and leaves his house in terror. His father gets angry and tries to get him to go back into the room using the managers wand. His father is cruel and does not care about the tragedy that befell him. His father locks the door in his back to make sure he never gets out again. (*The Metamorphosis Summary and Analysis / LitPriest, n.d.*)

Part II

In the evening, as Gregor wakes up, he sees someone storing meals for him inside the room. His enthusiasm for food compels him to taste it. But he can't stand it, it tastes bad. He tries to focus if everyone is talking, but all he can hear is complete silence. He remembers the time when he became the only one to feed the family. But all this was no longer the case, and he, a hated animal, was not allowed out of his room. Everything changed, his room seemed unnatural to him. The next day, his sister opened the door, revealing the untouched food. When she leaves, he eats spoiled meals, moves quickly and hides under the couch so his sister won't be disturbed. His sister noticed the changes, and now, while cleaning the room, she puts the chair near the window. She leaves the window open for him so that fizzy air can enter his room. However, his gaze frightens them. His sister uses his room to smooth her out, but she doesn't have the courage to see her. In the early weeks, his father and mother don't go near him, but then his mother insists that he see him. His sister and father try to convince her that it's no longer a great concept now. He's emotional when listening to his mother's voice, it reminds him of his archaic self and the extension he now thinks of as a bug. He desires for his mother and sister that he needs to allow the furnishings the way they are, but he cannot because it might frighten them. At this sad sight of her son, she is greatly amazed and faints. His father was aware that Lady Samsa had fainted; He misunderstands that Gregor tried to assault her and chases him into the room.

(The Metamorphosis Summary and Analysis / LitPriest, n.d.)

Part III

The way they (his relatives) think about him has changed. They think it's just an insect. His entire circle of relatives is now working for their livelihood. His father works in a bank, his mother works as a seamstress in a clothing store, and his sister works as a saleswoman. He has realized that the circle of monetary status of his relatives is diminishing. They can't get enough money due to the fact that Gregor is there. Gregor, when he realizes that all this has misplaced his peace of mind. All he can think about is stopping this nightmare, which has ruined his circle of relatives, and getting rid of the boring habit they are facing. One day, his mother mopped his room while she was cleaning, much to his irritation. I ran while arriving here to get acquainted. She yelled at her mother, telling her it was her duty and no one needed to cross there. This scream made her father angry, and he came here to beat her, but her mother took him away, telling him to calm down. One day, Greet is playing the violin and is invited by the border to play it inside the living room. Her parents are sitting in a corner looking at her. He comes out of his room in a filthy country and starts looking for her. While she is performing, he longs to head over there and tell her how he had considered sending her to a singing school. He tells her all this, and he or she cries. Slightly at the same time as later, he hears one of the boundary's cries indicating the huge worm moving toward Greet. Grit stops gambling on the violin and rushes to gather their beds for the night. They don't need to live there anymore and they won't pay for the time they spend there. Greet is furious at this reversal of events caused by him and asks her circle of relatives to hold him off as he is not her brother. She says that if he were

her brother, he would not have made their lifestyle miserable. He is in great pain through this and decides to end their suffering. The next morning, he notices that he is dead. His discarded frame is found with the help of the maid while she makes her room easy. The maid unloads the tire and tells his private circle of relatives, but they show no amateurism in it. They discover they have a lot more money left than they thought. Greet appears to be a beautiful woman, and her father and mother decide to marry her off. (*The Metamorphosis Summary and Analysis / LitPriest*, n.d.)

Although one probably counts on this kind of terrible fate in contemplating most emotional turmoil in man – and Gregor remains an internal one until his death – he remains exceptionally calm. In fact, it plays with the concept of falling asleep and forgetting "all that shit". This "bullshit" refers to his transformation, which he no longer needs to accept simply now since he sees it as more effective as something that meddles together in his daily routine. It seems to be the other way around: the more he desires to be forgotten, the more terrible his abilities become; Eventually he must close his eyes "to keep from seeing his tortured legs". (*The Metamorphosis" (Die Verwandlung)"*, n.d.)

It has been said that the tale now draws its name no longer from Gregor's transformation, and this is an ancient truth at first. Indeed, in comparison with Gregor's decline and eventual death, the fortunes of Grete and those of her circle of relatives gradually improve. Indeed, it is through her eventual poor reaction to Gregor's plight that Grete discovers a diploma of self-confidence. (*The Metamorphosis" (Die Verwandlung)"*, n.d.)

Within the three-element construction of the story, Kafka also introduces the **idea of time**. Gregor awakens from his "troubled dreams", fully aware of it all through the elemental – i.e. for one hour, starting in 1/2 of a dimension six. Often used in Kafka's works, the contrast between time fixed to a clock and time as such is subtly aided by the hero's symbolic use of its oddity. This is why Gregor's sense of time begins to disappear in the two-dimensional component. Gregor spends his time crawling up and down and circling his room. The inscrutable symptoms of time are pondered in phrases like "soon," "later," and "often," blurring the boundaries between exactly which devices can be measured. The only exception to Gregor's celibate lifestyles assumes ever more unfavorable features of the self , which he is fully aware of. (*The Metamorphosis" (Die Verwandlung)"*, n.d.)

In terms of the formal aspects of the story, it is divided into **3 parts** , each of which deals with the unusual case of Gregor's attempt to interrupt his imprisonment. **The first** presents alongside his expert conflict, **the second** usually presents alongside his response to a growing number of anxious alienations within his family, and the **performances finale** with Gregor's loss of life or, positively expressed, his liberation. In a sense, the three components correspond to the dramatic sample of exposition, conflict, and denouement. (*The Metamorphosis" (Die Verwandlung)"*, n.d.)

When Gregor Samsa turns straight into a bug, he feels responsible for abandoning his old activity and helping his own circle of relatives. He constantly feels guilty for creating difficult lifestyles by simply talking

about economic problems at home, and overhears their hardships. He feels useless to them and this experience of guilt costs him his existence. Finally, as he realizes how society treats him and his circle of relatives, he loses his desire and resigns himself to death (*Themes in the Metamorphosis with Analysis*, 2019)

The belief of Samsa as "**irreplaceable**" contrasts with Kafka's beliefs. Gregor have to disavow his manner of life, thus allowing himself to enter a circular path. For Kafka, freedom is omnipresent, and the personality determines its freedom through the choices it makes. In the end, Gregor's father gives him a "kick in action." The use of the words, "real free kick" within the context of the tale is an ironic style that highlights the desperation of Samsa's situation. (Mansell, 2017)

Kafka's complex personal biography, beliefs, and real-life dilemmas. It highlights the existential dogma that the individual faces in the face of absurdity. Kafka criticizes the impersonal and material society around us, which softens individuality, restricts freedom, and breeds harmony. Gregor's diminutive human room defines the extent of his freedom, and food represents family relationships and hunger the thirst for social connections. Kafka uses a mixture of extended metaphors to help him conceptualize. **Color imagery** has been adopted to symbolize the depth of Gregor Samsa's state of awareness, to show the struggles and joys with such a transformation. (Mansell, 2017)

Work that combines the world of the supernatural with a political coup is Isabel Allende's *The House of the Spirits*. (Houston, 2019)

"The Metamorphosis" focuses on Gregor Samsa, a traveling salesperson who appears to have done nothing wrong. Yet one morning he awakens in his bed to find himself no longer human but an insect. It is

hard to foresee a worse destiny and to take heed to it. Had Samsa any real volition, he would of course have chosen to remain human. It seems, then, that Samsa-and, by extension, all of us inhabits a universe bereft of free choices. Freedom must be an illusion or must be so circumscribed as to lack value.

(Houston, 2019)

Stages of Grief in the Novella :

The model of five-stage grief was initially introduced by Elisabeth Kubler-Ross who tried to explain how people usually cope with tragedy in their life. It is necessary to underline the fact that Kafka successfully demonstrated the same theme in *The Metamorphosis*.

- 1. Denial.**
- 2. Anger.**
- 3. Bargaining.**
- 4. Acceptance.**
- 5. Depression.**

Kafka demonstrates Gregor's life in the family where everyone expresses denial and shock during every moment of their interaction.

(*"The Metamorphosis" by Franz Kafka | Free Essay Example*, n.d.)

Denial : The stage of denial is expressed through the way Gregor tried to work being transformed into the bug. The character felt his weakness and disability to work with the same efforts he did it before. He recognized that he was not fully appreciated; yet he still chose to remain in denial about his father's ability to work and the extent to which he himself is happy with the arrangement. **Anger and Bargaining :** The feeling of anger on the part of Gregor becomes an integral part of his life

he is angry with his family members who completely neglect his presence and express no respect or love to him. Gregor feels miserable being unable to live a life of an ordinary person. The analysis of Gregor's inner world gives an opportunity to state that he has always been ignored by his family and the feeling of envy to the whole world and society surrounding him stimulates Gregor to anger and inner contradictions.

Acceptance: The author shows that Gregor never feels respect or love on the part of his family. Very often, people begin appreciating each other when it is late enough; nevertheless Gregor's support has never been valued. It should be noted that the protagonist is completely rejected by everyone in his life; people treat him as a sick relative who should or even must provide them with financial aid. **Depression:** Constant depression of Gregor living in the form of gigantic insect was followed by his disabilities to communicate with other people and perceive the world as a usual person. Living an insect's life Gregor feels constant inconveniences connected with the ways of movement and his size. He cannot eat normal food and sleep in the way he did earlier; Gregor's disability to spend time and play the music with his dear sister brings him more sorrow and depression. (*"The Metamorphosis" by Franz Kafka | Free Essay Example, n.d.*)

When comparing Franz Kafka and his personal life to *The Metamorphosis* it is obvious in more ways than one that he was writing a twisted story of his life. The emotional and physical abuse Gregor goes through are similar to what Kafka went through in real life. They were both abused and neglected by their fathers when they were disappointed with them. Kafka uses Gregor transforming into a bug as a way of

exaggerating himself, trying to express his feelings and point of view. When writing, Kafka felt as if he was trapped in his room which he referred to as "the noise headquarters of the apartment". Gregor was an exaggeration of this because he could not leave the house to escape the noises and abuse. (*The Kafka Project | Special Issue: The Metamorphosis | (SP:) Franz Kafka's Personal Life Reflected in the Metamorphosis*, 2019 .

Conclusion:

A copious amount of people go through changes throughout every period of their lives. Some of those changes may be considered positive changes, while others are for the worst. In the novella, *The Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka, all of the characters go through difficult changes in their life. They may not exactly happen in real life since the main character Gregor Samsa wakes up one day and finds he has been turned into a bug. However, the story still helps symbolize that with an unloving family or friends it alienates the people and causes them to feel depressed. **Kafka writes this novella to express the theme which is that once isolated it can harm those that are going through the isolation.** The only time he would meet his family would be with Gretel when she was cleaning his room, it was a passive attention. She'd only scream at him, on behalf of this it was stated that "Gregor had almost entirely stopped eating." (Kafka 35). Therefore end up causing harm to themselves. Whereas he can be avoided if his family will treat him with respect and accept him. Instead of storing their excess furniture elsewhere, Samsa's family needed to put it in Gregor's room. It appeared that they were trying to drive him out by the clutter instead of directly saying get out because they still had the feeling that he would recover. Although Gregor had no choice but to adjust to his new room. From the book's beginning to its end, Gregor's transformation is symbolic of how distant and less human Gregor has become from human society. At the beginning of the book, he was a person concerned for the welfare of others (his number one concern is his family, this is a feature, not a fault of his character) however, he became a bit retarded by believing he

was a bug, and began to accept his surroundings and act like a bug. This led to his dismissal. And it made him not want to interact with his family, and this in turn caused his final demise. Thus, Kafka succeeds in revealing life in a society covered by ignorance and misunderstanding. Gregor's description allows him to see and feel the inner world of these people who suffer from serious illnesses and live in a state of emotional instability leading to death.

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