



Victoria University Of Bangladesh

Name: Lamia Akter

Program: BA In English

Student ID: 1822510031

Course Title: European Literature in Translation

Course Code: ENG421

MID

Essay to the family issues portrayed in the novella Metamorphosis by Franz Kafka

Franz Kafka was raised in Prague by a well off Jewish family. Due to his Jewish upbringing he was neither Czech nor German and spoke German. He was the oldest child and the only son having been born in 1883. Under constant pressure to take over the family business he lived his life in the shadow of his father who was the dominant figure. Because he wanted Franz to become a businessman like him Kafka's father thought that Franz was a failure and didn't like his writing. Herrman beat his son as a result of his obsessive desire for Franz to become a businessman. On June 3, 1924, tuberculosis of the larynx caused Franz Kafka's death.

The Metamorphosis begins with an absurd or utterly irrational occurrence which immediately suggests that the story takes place in a random, chaotic universe. Because it is so far beyond the boundaries of a typical event it is not only far fetched to occur but it is also genuinely unthinkable Gregor's transformation takes on an extraordinary significance when he wakes up to discover that he has transformed into a monster bug. The fact that the story never explains Gregor transformation is also noteworthy. For instance it never implies that Gregor change is the result of a specific circumstance such as being rejected for misconduct. Curiously all evidence suggests that Gregor has been a fair kin and kid taking a despised errand to help his family and planning to pay for his sister to go to the studio to focus on music. Gregor does not appear to be worthy of his fate. Instead, the narrative and the Samsa family treat the incident as if it were a random illness. Together these a ton of parts provide the story with a tad of idiocy and highlight a universe where there is a sad control framework for value or solicitation. The various characters responses only serve to exacerbate this sense of absurdity because they appear to be nearly as absurd as Gregor change itself. The characters are peculiarly calm and uninterested and most of them don't appear to be especially stunned by the circumstance. The outstanding special case is the Samsas most memorable housekeeper who requested termination. In fact Gregor overreacts only when he realizes he has changed not when he realizes he has caused problems at work, and he doesn't try to figure out what happened or how to fix it. He puts a ton of weight on ordinary issues like what causes him to feel better. Different characters in the story will typically view the transformation as something unusual

and nauseating but not particularly frightening or unthinkable rather than trying to escape from Gregor or fix him. For example Gregor family doesn't ask for help or direction, and it seems like they're more embarrassed and shaky than surprised. When their next housekeeper finds Gregor she doesn't appear to be surprised either. Most of the visitors of the family are vexed when they see Gregor on the grounds that he is dirty and upsets the ideal request of the house. In addition to contributing to the narrative's absurdity these out of the ordinary responses suggest that the characters anticipate or at the very least are not surprised by the absurdity of their surroundings.

The Distinction Between Cerebrum and Body

Although Gregor's change completely changes his shallow show it doesn't change his brain which creates a conflict or lack of consistency between his mind and body. Despite the fact that his body is not designed to be upright he tries to stand up when he first gets out of bed after waking up. Despite his inability to do so he also considers going to work. When Grete gives him milk at the beginning of Part 2 he is surprised to discover that he doesn't like it even though milk was his favorite drink when he was a human. Generally he keeps on taking on a similar mindset as a human however from the start his body is as of now not human so it's difficult for him to accommodate these different sides of himself. As he adjusts to his new body Gregor brain begins to change to meet his actual needs. In any case he's reliably unsuitable to bring his brain and body into congruity completely. In addition to having different food cravings than when he was a human Gregor is beginning to prefer dark, cramped spaces like the one under his sofa and enjoys crawling on the ceiling and walls. In light of these particulars the story suggests that our actual lives shape and direct our psychological lives rather than the other way around. Regardless Gregor humanity never thoroughly vanishes and in this manner he experiences battle. This contention arrives at its apex when Grete and the mother move the furniture out of Gregor room. From the start Gregor is supportive of the thought since it will cause him to feel more calm in his room. He can go wherever he wants because he won't need any furniture. However he comes to the realization that the things he owns are a representation of his human past and provide him with emotional comfort. He is suddenly confronted with a choice. He can be at ease in his body or in his mind but not both. As such his body and psyche are currently in conflict. Gregor unacceptable to surrender his humanity picks precious solace driving him to hold to the image of the lady in furs rapidly.

The Limits of Sympathy

After Gregor's Change Grete and the mother in particular struggle with

sympathy and resentment for Gregor now that he has changed probably because they think that some of his humanity is still there despite how he looks. Since she trusts that Gregor will one day return to his human structure the mother quarrels with Grete over moving the furniture out of Gregor room. Grete initially assumes the role of Gregor's caregiver due to the mother's sympathy. She even goes so far as to try to figure out what foods Gregor likes after his change. Even Gregor's father, who was least fond of him and attacked him twice has never suggested that he be killed or kicked out of the house. He, on the other hand, lets the family take care of Gregor which shows that he cares about him. However the stress of Gregor's presence eventually causes even the most compassionate members of the family to realize that their empathy is limited. One of these stressors is Gregor's presence. Because of the way he looks grete can't stand being in the room with him, and his mother faints when she sees him while she and grete are moving his furniture. In addition, the family always remembers that Gregor was in the house which makes them feel constantly uneasy and forces them to mostly talk in whispers. In addition, the fact that Gregor is unable to express his emotions and thoughts to them disconnects them from his human side leading them to increasingly consider him to be a genuine insect. The family reaches a point where Gregor's presence is too much for them to bear as a result of the cumulative effect of these factors working against their sympathy. Importantly Grete, who has the most sympathy for Gregor is the character who decides they must get rid of him. It may be the most beneficial outcome of his transformation because of the mental distance it creates between Gregor and the people around him. Gregor refers to his transformation as his detainment and it truly and sincerely separates him from his family and society as a whole. He has almost no contact with anyone else since his transformation and spends almost all of his time alone in his room. Grete only sees Gregor for a brief period of time in the room during which time he always hides under the couch and avoids speaking to her. He is also speechless making it impossible for him to communicate with others. Last but not least Gregor is literally indistinguishable from humans because of his transformation. He has effectively lost all contact with Grete and his mother the people he cares about. In any case this feeling of distance really originated before his change as the account advances. For instance, as soon as Gregor comes to the realization that he has changed into a bug he begins to think back on his previous existence as a traveling salesman and the superficial and fleeting relationships that he has established as

result of his constant travel. Gregor then discusses how his profound pride in having the option to help his family vanished once they began to anticipate it and how he felt so distant from them. The account incorporates no notice of his personal connections or dear companions except for his loved ones. In point of fact the distance Gregor has created as a result of his transformation can be interpreted as an expansion of his own estrangement.