Yayın Geliş Tarihi (Submitted): Mart/March-2022 | Yayın Kabul Tarihi (Accepted): Eylül/September-2023



Suddenness in Hard Work Ethic: "A Fable", Robert Fox's Short Short Story*

Çok Çalışma Etiğinde Anilik: Robert Fox'un "A Fable" Adlı Kısa Kısa Hikâyesi

Doç. Dr. Zennure KÖSEMAN¹

Abstract

This article highlights that individuals make sudden decisions in their rushing world that has hard work ethic in itself. Fables have moral lessons as in Robert Fox's "A Fable" short story. This article concerns the tendency of hard work ethic to earn money by conforming to the rat-race of living. It analyzes a short short story in which the American Dream is hidden in this rushing world. The reality of the pursuit of American Dream of success is quite different. It does not bring success for everyone all the time. "A Fable" is quite extraordinary: Having the setting of the subway, it depicts the hastiness of working life in which individuals become like a machine to work hard. As they intend to earn their living by working hard, they ultimately aspire to become a wealthy individual. Although this short short story is quite short it has a semantic depth in which there are implicit meanings in the written text. Flowing life on the subway has optimistic outlook. Similar to the other individuals in Manhattan, these individuals pursue the wish of actualizing the myth of the American Dream to have success and become wealthy through their hard work. However, they ultimately notice that they actualize most of the things opposite to the American Dream of success in their lives.

Keywords: Rushing working life, short short story, American dream, sudden determination, hard work ethic

Paper Type: Research

Öz

Bu makale, Robert Fox'un "A Fable" (1986) adlı kısa kısa hikâyesinde olduğu gibi, koşuşturma yaşamı içerisinde yaşayan bireylerin hayatlarında hızlı çalışma düzeninde aniden verilen kararlarının var olduğunu belirtmektedir. Fablların (Hikâyelerin), Robert Fox'un kısa öyküsü "A Fable"da olduğu gibi aktarmak istedikleri ahlaki dersleri vardır. Bu makale, bir kısa kısa öyküyü analiz ederek yaşamın koşuşturma düzenine ayak uydurarak para kazanmayı çalışmanın temeli olarak ele alma eğilimiyle ilgilidir. Bu makale Amerikan Rüyası'nın günlük koşuşturma içinde gizlendiği bir kısa kısa öyküyü incelemektedir. Amerikan Rüyası'nın başarı arayışının gerçekliği oldukça farklıdır: "A Fable" oldukça alışılmadık bir kısa kısa hikâyedir: Hikâyenin geçtiği yer olan yeraltı treni, bireylerin iş hayatlarında çok calısma yoluyla bir makine haline dönüslerini anlatır. İnsanlar hayatta geçimlerini çok çalısma yolu ile kazanmayı amaçladıklarından, en sonunda varlıklı bireyler olmayı arzularlar. Bu kısa kısa öykü yeterince kısa olsa da anlam yönünden bir derinliğe sahiptir. İçerisinde ifade edilenden çok ifade edilmeyen şeyleri barındırır. Hızlı akıp giden zaman içerisinde, yeraltı treninde bulunan insanlar iyimser bir bakış açısına sahiptir. Tüm insanlar gibi bu insanlar da çalışma yolu ile başarılı ve zengin olmak için Amerikan Rüyası efsanesini hayatlarında gerçekleştirme arzusu peşine düşmektedirler. Fakat en sonunda hayatları içerisinde gerçekleşmesini umut ettikleri çoğu şeyin Amerikan Rüyası'nın tam tersi yönünde gerçekleştiğinin farkına varırlar.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Yoğun iş hayatı, kısa kısa hikâye, Amerikan rüyası, ani karar verme, çok çalışma etiği

Attf için (to cite): Köseman, Z. (2023). Suddenness in hard work ethic: "A Fable", Robert Fox's short short story. Afyon Kocatepe Üniversitesi Sosyal Bilimler Dergisi, 25(3), 827-836.

^{*}This article is an extended version of a paper presented at the 14th International IDEA Conference: Studies in English held at Karadeniz Technical University in 2021.

¹İnönü Üniversitesi, Fen-Edebiyat Fakültesi, zennure.koseman@inonu.edu.tr

Makale Türü: Araştırma

Introduction

We accept and welcome, therefore, as conditions to which we must accommodate ourselves, great inequaity of environment, the concentration of business, industrial and commercial, in the hands of a few, and the law of competition between these, as being not only beneficial, but essential for the future progress of the race.

Andrew Carnegie, "The Gospel of Wealth"

This article highlights the "single-effect" existence (Özer 2018, p. 15) of hard work in which individuals make their sudden decisions to have happiness in life as reflected by the nameless young boy who goes for the first day of his first job in a subway in Manhattan in Robert Fox's "A Fable." The limited wording short short story has Edgar Allen Poe's Single-Effect Theory basis that has sudden decision in itself. The "single-effect" unity is effective in the whole story (Lowell, 2008, p. 29). Edgar Allan Poe's Single-Effect Theory hints the the most important point in a story or a short short story. It draws the attention of readers on hard work ethic in the rat-race of living. The title is "A Fable" because of the fact that sudden changes happen in it in a very short time like a fable. However, everybody has not comfortable working conditions in the mechanized world as the main character in this short short story. The nameless young boy represents other individuals who pursue the belief of the American Dream of success to have the pursuit of happiness. Yet, the real circumstances in the working life do not have the pursuit of happiness and success all the time. Therefore, this article argues that pseudo happiness in the rushing life is mainly the opposite to hard working conditions in the industrial world. Friedman notes the depth of the stories defining many aspects in the same expressions:

Microstories often do present a single scene or speech, but they are not normally restricted to small static actions: in fact, the typical microstory action is large, with major changes and reversals as the rule rather than the technical impossibility that Friedman expected. Rather than narrowing down steadily from large dynamic actions to tiny static states, the very short story goes through a narrative wormhole beneath a certain length, and the actions narrated pop back out to full size. (Nelles, 2012, 90-91)

As the quotation emphasizes, a single effect is influential in all short short stories and the reading public focuses on that theoretical single effect. The "wormhole" (Nelles 2012: 91) in the short story hints that there is the depthness underneath what is narrated. This means that the depth of meaning is beneath every word. Such a depthness implies the existence of a poetic language in which there is a wide perspective of meaning.

Robert Fox implicitly criticizes the case of happiness in "A Fable". When individuals like the young boy, the protagonist, in the subway wishes for the actualization of their goals in life, they are unaware of the "great inequality of environment" that Andrew Carnegie specifies in "The Gospel of Wealth" in the epigraph. Although people in the subway, representing the other individuals, seem to be happy in their competitive worlds; they are unconsciou of the hidden difficulty of the working life. They want to work in the competitive world of city to earn money to support themselves in the industrial world. Monotonous working hard conditions is effective in individuals' way of living. When the power is in the hands of a few, other individuals try to earn their living through depending on the probability of opportunities they encounter in their social life to have affluence. The young boy becomes a self-made man through devoting his life to hard work to improve in his life circumstances. He believes in the myth of the American Dream and expects the actualization of his goals through hard work. This

emphasizes that his happiness in his happy utopic world will probably end in his future life. He expects to find the pursuit of happiness in social life:

The American dream, or myth, is an ever recurring theme in American literature, dating back to some of the earliest colonial writings. Briefly defined, it is the belief that every man, whatever his origins, may pursue and attain his chosen goals, be they political, monetary, or social. It is the literary expression of the concept of America: the land of opportunity. This motif has found its voice in such diverse men of letters as William Bradford and Walt Whitman, St. Jean de Crevecoeur and Ralph Waldo Emerson, Thomas Jefferson and Benjamin Franklin. (Pearson, 1970, p. 638)

The young boy believes in the American Dream that considers America as a Land of Promise, because he expects the actualization of the pursuit of happiness in "A Fable." He's an optimistic individual who solely believes that the life is settled on the American Dream of happiness. Jim Cullen underlines what American Dream means: Several American dreams shape "American identity from the Pilgrims to the present." He explains America as a 'Land of Promise' (Cullen, 2003, p. 16). This means that when he encounters any pessimist circumstance, he will be frustrated. However, the American Dream, is a nightmare. It is only a myth but not a reality. It does not exist. It only lives in minds. To illustrate, the newcomers encounter many hardships in their lives as reflected in Upton Sinclair's The Jungle in which the wife dies through her birth giving in her working life and the worker husband has many hardships in his hard working conditions. The whole novel is full of pessimist descriptions due to their lack of sanitary accomodations and hard working circumstances. Family members do not have enough time to deal with their family relationships in their lives (Sinclair, 1959, pp. 102-103). Their difficult living circumstances imply that not all individuals have happiness in their working conditions.

1. Theory

In this article, there will be a literary analysis of a short short story. After defining what a fable means, the focus will be on Robert Fox's "A Fable" characterized as short short story. As individuals expect to have their happiness in their family and working lives, there will be an emphasis for the American Dream of Success. However, because of its being only a myth and the impossbility of its actualization, it will basically be critisized in the article.

2. Findings

At the end of analyzing what a short story is, it is possible to evaluate that flowing time is influential on individuals' desicion making. They suddenly give desicions, yet, they become unaware of the mythic structure of the American Dream: They disregard the difficulty of actualizating what is dreamed in real life.

Discussion

American Dream, coined by James Truslow Adams in *Epic of America* in 1931, is a "powerful metaphor of core American values" that are based on the theme of econmic success that necessitates hard work and individual effort (Schneiderman 2017, p. ix). Adams expresses that people from other countries arrive in America because of the existence of riches: coal, iron, silver, and gold (Adams, 2017, p. 6). They have the opportunity for upward mobility and have social order in life. Therefore, the country is the Promised Land for most individuals. The American Dream is a significant metaphor that pulls individuals from various countries to America to have the pursuit of happiness. Coined as American Dream in the Great Depression in the United States, it aspires the dream of success for all individuals to have homeownership and education to have progress in life. Although everyone becomes successful, it encourages all individuals to acquire wealthiness through pursuing the myth of rags-to-riches through hard work ethic. What the American Dream hints is that everyone is equal no matter from which country they are from and have the chance for happiness and livelihood.

The title of the short short story drives researchers to focus on the meaning of the word "fable." As it is defined in *Britannica Encylopedia*, (https://www.britannica.com/) "the fable" means a narrative form that features animals' behaving and speaking as human beings. There is a moral lesson behind its highlighting human follies and weaknesses while mentioning about animals. Moreover, as *Dictionary of Literary Terms* defines, it points a moral lesson at the end (Childs and Fowler, 2005, no pagination). This short short story signifies individuals' being in a rat-race in their lives in which they become like a machine, however, the young boy in this short short story is unaware of unexpected happenings in his working conditions. In this case, the whole short short story is a sudden short story emphasizing how individuals transform in the rat-race of the mechanized living and are accustomed to the flowing time cooperated with materialist living (Yılmaz, 2019, p. 61). Hard work ethic is in most individuals' lives and drives them into difficult working life to earn their living.

Being in the genre of short short story, these stories have several names depending on their word count: "flash fiction," "short-short story" (Asimov, 1992, p. 32), "micro-fiction" (Nelles, 2012, pp. 88-89), "sudden-fiction" (Baxter, 1997, p. 87), "skinny-fiction," and "smokelong stories" (Shapard-Thomas, 2007, p. 11). In Turkish it is known as "küçük ölçekli kurmaca" (Erden 2002, p. 314). The "Fable" belongs to new sudden fiction type divided into two as "newsudden fiction" having approaximately 1500 words and "flash fiction" having word count from 250 word count up to 750 words (Thomas-Shapard, 2006, p. 12). It is significant that all these short short stories have implicit meanings because of their restricted wording (Tosun, 2014, p. 271). To illustrate, hustling spirit in the routine lives of individuals reflects the tensions that they live in their environment. Hastiness is a sign for sudden unexpected events that people encounter. Shapard and Thomas express the existence of many short stories in their book related to sudden short short stories. These stories hint the social life having extremely "compressed, highly charged, insidious, protean, sudden, alarming, tantalizing" features and they "confer form on small corners of chaos, can do in a page what a novel does in two hundred" (Shapard, 1986, p. xvi). This emphasizes that they have semantic depthness. As a whole, these stories contain the individuals of the time period. These short shorties fundamentally focus on the chaotic, compressed, and rushing life and intend to convert it to the unfinished type. Therefore, the writers, thereby, are like the living voices of the hastiness of unexpected events (Köseman, 2020, 14). Suddenly occurring events reflect the changing circumstances.

The title of the short story is "A Fable" and the protagonist who is an unknown boy trying to conform to the hasty living of his city. It is like a fabular short short story and invites the reader to acknowledge for its hastiness and unexpected incidents (Korkmaz, 2011, pp. 91-92). Casual restlessness in the target short short story is a hint for complex and hasty lives of individuals. Although the name short short story is quite new, its forms are like the "parable and fable, myth and exemplum" (Shapard, 1986, p. xiv) so that they involve the novels' embodiment within themselves. They concurrently have characters, setting, conflicts, theme, symbols and so on. They are fulfilled with the meanings kept in a novel. They have unity, totality, and a single effect to direct the short short story as a whole. When an individual looks to the first sentence, she/he guesses the end (Özer, 2012, p. 106). The reader evaluates that the first sentence will be followed by several transformative sentences. At the end of sudden changes in the text, there will be an interesting counclusion. This unity in the story reflects comprehensiveness. This implies that the reader has a significant role to comprehend it through several readings.

In addition to defining short stories with different words, it is substantial to express the real meaning of "sudden fiction" implying unexpected several changes in it. The main character, the young boy, has unexpected decisions so that he actualizes epiphanies in a short subway trip and has sudden wedding proposal to the daughter of a mother on the subway in "A Fable." A sudden decision for marriage is performed on the subway. He imagines about his new

approaching family unit and, therefore, chooses the unknown young girl as his wife. He has the sudden choice of bride. As the young boy is about to have his first day work life, he is, thereby, ready for a new self-recognition by creating a new life for himself: Having his new family unit in a very sudden moment (Koçsoy, 2018, p. 118). Hence, the young boy has an initiation story in his life and plans for a new living. He is in search for an epiphany: a sudden change in his way of living (Özer, 2018, p. 75). It is the time of enlightenment and revelation for the boy to have a new life in that rushing hour in the target short short story.

Following his utopic happy world, the young boy in "A Fable" has the optimistic outlook while observing his environment: Everything seems to be in happiness. Nonetheless, Protestant hard work ethic is utmost issue in their belief for the American Dream of economic success. Individuals concern about how hard they should work to earn money to become happy and wealthy in their lives. In this case, they are aware of the necessity of hard work. Will to work is substantial for all individuals: "In America, wealth and position were to be organized differently— open to every person of talent and hard work. The frontier beckoned to those seeking a new chance. The fabulous wealth of the continent promised abundance for all who were willing to work. It was the natural setting for an ideology of individualism" (Vanneman, 1987, p. 257). Through their individualistic ideology, individuals work hard to earn their living, yet, working conditions would be different contrary to how they expected to be. In this case, different people reflect various explanations of American Dream (Schudson, 2004, p. 566). Although in the Declaration of Independence, there is the item that "all men are created equal" and have "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," (Norton and et al., 1994, p. 165) yet, in real life, the working conditions become hard because of circumstances in factories and industrial sectors. To illustrate, individuals like the young boy, who are under hard working conditions are after their American Dream of success through their Protestant hard work ethic.

This article concurrently searches for how "A Fable," a short short story, written in 400 words, embodies the implicit aspects in its textual context. Most individuals like the young boy are after their American Dream of success through their Protestant hard work ethic. Although written in 400 words, "A Fable" has got valuable messages in its depth: Individuals have selfreliance and hard work to earn their living and have their individualistic wishes of success and upward mobility for themselves. However, while caring for American Dream, individuals, like the young boy, are unaware about the difficult aspects of working life. Through their hard work, what they aim is to have the pursuit of happiness in their lives. This short short story highlights that human beings try to conform to the rat-race in life by experiencing its hastiness and becoming alienated to each other in their family units. What they care is their hard work ethic in their living environment to become happy and wealthy in life. They have sudden decisions in their lives to reach happiness. To illustrate, the young boy constructs his family unit on the subway by means of his sudden decisions: He abruptly chooses a beautiful young girl to propose marriage. Without having a careful search about the girl's personal traits, he intends to marry her. He wants to become a self-made man by his sudden marriage choice. Since all individuals are alienated to each other in the rushing hour of social life, most of them feel themselves lonely in their surrounding. Therefore, individuals are lonely to decide about their lives themselves. Since they are helpless in their social living, they want to acquire the pursuit of happiness of the American Dream. Individuals strive hard for self-improvement and become self-made men who prepare for their circumstances themselves in their competitive world. At the end of their hard work, they acquire success from the rags-to-riches policy in which individuals have patience for striving hard in their living standards to earn money. As Henry Bamford Parks states, all individuals accept that money is the center of business life in the industrial world as the young boy becomes very happy in his first day of starting working life in "A Fable." His life is full of happiness when he is in the state of being accepted for work.

With the transformation of the pioneer into the businessman, money became the principal symbol of success and the main object of ambition. The business classes sought to

prove their strength by the conquest of money, as their anscestors had done by the conquest of the wilderness and judged each other in monetary terms. (Parks, 1959, p. 260)

As the quotation hints, the meaning of success for the boy is the money he will earn. He is happy due to acquiring his mission of acquiring money. He has the voice of identity by means of his Money-earning. Gaining money is regarded as the symbol of success. He can be accepted as a self-made man because of introducing himself to the industrial world. This implies that he has a great transformation in his social life. He devotes himself to working life through pursuing Protestant hard work ethic. The ruling class is happy with the working ethic that organizes the process of working hard. This hints that a hard work ethic is what rulers want in working life. When workers "work all the time like machines they need a place for relief and feel themselves as being humans" (Işık, 2021, p. 101). Their mechanized and monotonous life is needed for the capitalist work that requires an interest in hard working life. Since financial success is significant for the industrial world, "with the help of Puritan work ethic, America – 'the land of opportunity' offers its inhabitants equal chance to achieve their own dreams of 'pursuit of happiness' through hard work, courage and determination" (Koçsoy, 2021, p. 1130). Workers intend to reach the pursuit of happiness in their lives while becoming the means of financial success through their Protestant hard work ethic.

In order to be successful, individuals require money. The ambition for self-improvement necessitates hard work and strength when individuals consider progress for themselves. They struggle hard to become a self-made man: To define it, a successful person is an individual who should direct himself and should have enough working discipline. Moreover, having a historical outlook, "the importance of virtue and passion" is important as it is for Benjamin Franklin, Henry David Thoreau and Frederick Douglas in the late colonial and Early National Periods in American literature to have success. Therefore, Protestant work ethic is essentially a requiered policy to be a self-made man. As Max Weber states, Protestant work ethic is a highly welldisciplined social action and encourages hard work through becoming thrifty and righteous (quoted in Ashley, 1998, pp. 300-301). As a whole, hard work is the main interest of individuals in self-made success explanations. The individual who acquires becoming self-made man concurrently has the accumulation of wealth. Their self-reliance is the first item of success ethic that has the accumulation of possessions in its center. To acquire achievement in life, work ethic transforms individuals' living circumstances and drives them to construct a family as the young boy does in "A Fable" no matter what the marriage candidates' parents require. In a dialogic construction, the mother wants the possession of the materialistic wishes of a job, a car, a house:

Do you have a car? She asked.

"Not yet," he said. "But I should be able to get one pretty soon. And a house, too."

"A house?"

"With lots of rooms."

"Yet, that's what I expected you to say," she said. She turned to her daughter. "Do you love him?" (Fox, 1986, p. 38)

As the quoted dialogue demonstrates, the mother volunteers to give his daughter to the boy who implies that he has his job beginning, a proper house and a car wish soon. This implies that the parents need especially materialistic things in the target short short story. The young boy expresses in the story his optimistic way of living as "It's my first job, but I'll have my own desk and handle a lot of papers and carry them around in a briefcase, and they will pay well, and I'll work my way up." (Fox, 1986, p. 37). In addition to his marriage proposal, the young boy expresses the girl's parents' needed materialist cases. Here, gaining money is significant for the boy. He becomes the participant of the machine world. He is happy with his new working environment. He conforms to the rushing mechanic world and obeys the orders of the directors in the rushing working system.

"A Fable" can be accepted as poetic because it has meaningfulness in itself: its language flows fluently to finish reading in one sitting. Underneath its poetic language lies various meaningfulness: The short story has its characterization, plotting, and thematic basis around the single effect of hastiness as Edgar Allen Poe underlines (Özer, 2018, p. 15). Single effect theory is the factor that short stories, long short stories and novels have. In this case, the unity of effect is effective on the reader's sensation (Lowell, 2008, p. 29). To illustrate, the hastiness of their lives forces two individuals to get married in "A Fable" in a short process: They have mutual love to each other.

Similar to the young boy in James Joyce's "Araby," who is affected from the prevailing darkness of his surrounding and plans to go to a bazaar to refresh himself the young boy is influenced from the rushing atmosphere of the subway in which all passengers expect to actualize their ideals. In the target short short story, the boy intends to have his marriage proposal to a young girl in "The Fable". The boy in "Araby" has the obsession to be closer to the girl. Likewise, the boy in "The Fable" is in the obsession of getting married to the girl he encounters in the subway. Moreover, the conductor, thereby, suddenly comes to actualize their marriage ceremony and their marriage unit will be actualized in an abrupt period of time. Hence, the conductor abruptly certifies their marriage decision and all the passengers applaud their happiness to congratulate them. So, they have the sudden determination in the rushing hour of the subway to begin for a new life in a very short process. In this case, the young girl provides a sense of beauty for the boy's imagination in the subway. The young boy is cheerful and happy enough and considers that everybody is happy despite he does not know anybody he encounters in the subway. He is cheerful and feels that he loves all the world so that he will have the first day of his job (Fox 1986, p. 36). His lively appearance reflects that he is full of life and is expectant of the approaching happy days. The short descriptions and the dialogue of the short short story brings forth the effort to be read in one sitting in a short process. Suddenly realized marriage emphasizes the creation of sudden happiness in life no matter whether they may have divorce decision probaby in the future:

```
"Everybody in the car smiled and applauded."
```

The conductor climbed down from between the cars as the train started up and, straightening his dark tie, approached them with a solemn black book in his hand." (Fox, 1986, p. 38)

Thus, the conductor suddenly performs a marriage ceremony. He will sign the sudden marriage that has a strong love in itself. Yet, before this sudden marriage decision, there is a quite interesting marriage acceptance determination of the mother at the end of real love situation. The girl explains her decision to her mother:

```
"He's good and gentle and kind."

"Are you sure?"

"Yes."

"Then you really love him."

"Yes."

"Are you sure there isn't anyone else that you might love and might want to marry?"

"No, Mother," the girl said. (Fox, 1986, p. 38)
```

The author of the short short stories has the control of writing in unity by deciding the beginning, the development and the conclusion to have an open-endedness that readers find out new conclusions for the story. The author writes about a sudden marriage decision in the

[&]quot;Isn't life wonderful?" the boy asked the mother.

[&]quot;Beautiful," the mother said.

conclusion. Therefore, the writer has the unity of creating the short short story and awakens the readers to be effective for the creation of new different endings. Moreover, the writer hides implicit messages in the story's depth. All the characters in this sudden fiction, the young boy, mother, and the girl, are nameless individuals implying that they accordingly represent the other individuals in their social surroundings. The main thematic basis that lies in the depth of this sudden fiction is the materialist work ethic in the rushing working life. The rat-race of social living forces individuals to earn money to support themselves in life like the young boy in the target short story. Starting his first day of work life, the young boy intends to become an officer to earn money. Aspiration to earn money leads him to become happy and optimistic in life. Thereby, he wholeheartedly loves all the world. Actually, earning money causes differentiation: Money and work life are in the center of individuals' lives in this case. As a result of his new optimistic outlook toward setting up a new living, the young boy suddenly intends to set up his family. Therefore, the meaning of the young boy's life and his environment change as alive. He intends to have his own new happy family unit. In this case, this article specifies that there is a new sincerity in the young boy's attitude to form his new life in a very short process in the subway.

While deciding to have a family life, the young boy is questioned by the beautiful girl's mother whether he has a job, a house, and a car at the very beginning. This emphasizes that what is required is the money to get along with and the house not to be homeless in his environment. This reflects that materialist cases are needed in forming marriages. The short short story that begins in medias res has a unity in itself. Beginning from the middle implies that there is a monotonous hard living as reflected in the subway. There is the hastiness of hard living conditions in all the environment. The clean shaved young boy is very happy to begin for his new job. Therefore, he is very excited for the following days. His happiness for having his new job hints that individuals become content with their earning.

Conclusion and Suggestions

Since the young boy becomes the participant of the rat-race of working life after his first day working, he begins to earn his life for the pursuit of happiness. He is the one that every family requires. He will earn money and be content with his rushing living circumstances. Having an indefinite characterization of himself, he represents all individuals living in his surroundings and concurrently chooses an indefinite girl to get married. Similar to him, the girl conveys that she will not find anybody else to love and will not want to marry anybody else except him. Therefore, there is sincerity behind their marriage decision: A young boy suddenly comes across a beautiful girl and makes a decision for the sincere ending: The conductor who performs his registrar duty congratulates the marriage he witnesses at the end. Everybody in the subway concurrently applauds and smiles for the happy ending. Lovely endings occur at the end of sudden decisions: The construction of a sudden marriage at the end of hard-working life is the outcome of the short-short story. Readers may have an optimistic outlook for life when the passengers in the subway seem to leave everything behind.

The story is applicable for contemporary subject matters of study, therefore, researchers who will try to focus on the same short story may revolve around research titles in contemporary period. Short short story interested academicians may find new approaches to study for the same target short short story. They may evaluate how the subway accumulates various people in the same setting and become a subject matter for study. They will also have the chance to express how the rat-race of life influences all individuals to make sudden decisions in the subway setting and write their observations of communal life.

Kaynakça

Adams, J. T. (2017). The Epic of America. (1931). New York: Routledge.

- Ashley, D. and D. M. Orenstein. (1988). *Sociological Theory: Classical Statements*. Boston: Aliyn and Bacon.
- Asimov, L. (1992). 100 Great Science Fiction Short-Short Stories. New York: New American Library.
- Baxter, C. (1997). Anlık Kurmaca. Trans. Taner Karakoç. Adam Öykü. 12, September-October: 85-90.
- Carnegie, A. (1952). The Gospel of Wealth. (1889). *The Gospel of Wealth and Other Timely Essays*. (1900). Cambridge: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press: 3-50.
- Childs, P. and R. Fowler. (2005). Fable. *The Routledge Dictionary of Literary Terms*. Routledge. Retrieved February 06, 2022, from https://www.uv.es/fores/The_Routledge_Dictionary_of_Literary_Terms.pdf.
- Cullen, J. (2003). *The American Dream: A Short History of an Idea that Shaped a Nation*. New York: Oxford University Press, Inc.
- Erden, A. (2002). Kısa Öykü ve Dilbilimsel Eleştiri. İstanbul: Gendaş Kültür Yayınları.
- Fable. *Encyclopedia of Britannica*. Retrieved February 06, 2022 from https://www.britannica.com/art/fable.
- Fox, R. (1986). A Fable. *Sudden Fiction: American Short-Short Stories*. Shapard Ed. Utah: Gibbs M. Smith, Inc. Pp. 35-38.
- Işik, S. (2021). The Effects of Capitalist System on Individuals: The Fool. Dumlipinar University Journal of Social Sciences. 71: 99-105. Retrieved February 03, 2022, from http://dergipark.gov.tr/dpusbe.
- Koçsoy, G. (2018). Küçürek Öyküde Epipfan. *Humanitas International Journal of Social Sciences*. 6(11): 115-127. Retrieved 10 July, 2021 from http://humanitas.nku.edu.tr.
- Koçsoy, G. (2021). Anomie in American Business System as an Aftermath of the American Dream: David Mamet's "American Buffalo" and "Glengarry Glen Ross". Motif Akademi Halkbilim Dergisi. 14 (35). 1129-1143. Retrieved February 06, 2022 from https://dergipark.org.tr/tr/pub/mahder/issue/64867.
- Korkmaz, R. and M. Deveci. (2011). Fabl ile Küçürek Öykü İlişkisi. *Türk Edebiyatında Küçürek Öykü*. Ankara: Grafiker Yayınları. 61-63.
- Köseman, Z. (2020). The Metafictional Quality of Robert Coover's 'Sudden Story'. ISPEC 5th International Conference on Social Sciences and Humanities Proceedings Book. Eds. Elif Hatun Onal and Kılıç Beyli. 219-222. Ankara: ISPEC Publication. Retrieved February 06, 2022, from www.ispeco.org
- Lowell, J. R. (2008). Edgar Allan Poe (1845). *Bloom's Classic Critical Views: Edgar Allan Poe*. Harold Bloom (Ed). New York: Inforbase Publishing. pp. 29-36.
- Nelles, W. (2012). Microfiction: What Makes a Very Short Story Very Short? *Narrative*. The Ohio State University Press. (20):1. January: 87-104.
- Norton, M. B. and et al. (1994). A *People and a Nation: A History of the United States*. New Jersey.
- Özer, S. S. (2012). Kısa Öyküde Mitleştirme Dili. *Dünyanın Öyküsü*. İstanbul: Heyamola Yayınları. 106-112.
- Özer, S. S. (2018). *Cağdaş Kısa Öykü Sanatı ve Politikaları*. Ankara: İmge Kitabevi.
- Parkes, H. B. (1959). The American Experience. New York: Random House.

- Pearson, R. L. (1970). Gatsby: False Prophet of the American Dream. *The English Journal*. Vol. 59 (5). Pp.: 638-642+645. Retrieved February 03, 2022, from https://www.jstor.org/stable/813939.
- Schneiderman, H. (2017). Introduction. *The Epic of America*. (1931). New York: Routlege. Pp: 9-19.
- Schudson, M. (2004). American Dreams. American Literary History. (16): 3. Oxford University Press. Retrieved February, 05, 2022 from https://www.jstor.org/stable/3568068.
- Shapard, R. (1986). Introduction. *Sudden Fiction: American Short Stories*. Utah: Gibbs Smith.
- Sinclair, U. (1959). The Jungle. London: Charles Birchal and Sons, Ltd.
- Tosun, N. (2014). Modern Öykü Kuramı. 2. Edition. Ankara: Hece Yayınları.
- Vanneman, R. (1987). The American Dream. The American Perception of Class. Philadephia: Temple University Press. Retrieved February, 01, 2022, from https://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctv941wv0.17.
- Yılmaz, E. B. (2019). Edebiyat, Şehir, Hafiza: Türk Romanında Hafiza Mekânı olarak Şehir. İstanbul: Kesit Yayınları.

ETİK ve BİLİMSEL İLKELER SORUMLULUK BEYANI

Bu çalışmanın tüm hazırlanma süreçlerinde etik kurallara ve bilimsel atıf gösterme ilkelerine riayet edildiğini yazar(lar) beyan eder. Aksi bir durumun tespiti halinde Afyon Kocatepe Üniversitesi Sosyal Bilimler Dergisi'nin hiçbir sorumluluğu olmayıp, tüm sorumluluk makale yazarlarına aittir.