

**THE MIND IS ITS OWN PLACE – THE BOSS AND WOODIFIELD IN
MANSFIELD’S THE FLY: A STUDY IN CONTRAST**

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ABSTRACT

With the inception of modernism in the literary arena human mind has become the focus of all critical analysis. A close study of the inner workings of the mind helps us unravel its hidden realities which, in many cases, are quite the opposite of the visible reality. In Katherine Mansfield’s famous short story *The Fly* we find the same thing happening. The protagonist, the Boss and his colleague Mr. Woodifield share a conversation in the former’s lavish office and gradually it becomes clear to us that there is more to these characters than meets the eye. In this paper we have tried to read these characters under the light of Existentialism and Psychoanalytic criticism to bring out their ‘real’ nature.

KEYWORDS: Modernism, Mind, Existentialism, Angst, Freedom, Psychoanalysis, Contrast, Appearance