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## Abstract:

Psychoanalysis has been a research field for authors a long time ago. The human psyche is complicated; it is a mix of emotions, instincts, actions and reactions. The 20th century is revolutionary, new inventions and discoveries were trending, with the new way of living people started to lose faith. William Golding's *Free Fall as a Künstlerroman* is tracing the development of the artist Sammy Mountjoy's character from childhood until he matures. The things he faced and the factors that reshaped his life. He was chastened by suffering as he learned from the school of life. In this non-thesis paper, a study of the character of Sammy as he grows up is explored with examining the factors that affected his personality. The introduction illustrates *Künstlerroman* as a subgenre of *Bildungsroman* and explains them as a theoretical framework, the difference between them and their characteristics. Also, it discusses psychoanalysis definition. Chapter I will focus on Sammy's childhood living in Rotten Row and his friends, the role of his parents and moving to the art school where he met Beatrice. Chapter II will discuss Sammy the man when he was investigated in prison. It deals with mature Sammy who wants to fix his mistakes and feels free from guilt.

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College of Languages and Translation  
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## **William Golding's *Free Fall* as a *Künstlerroman***

**By**

**Noura Al-Madi**

A Non-thesis Paper Submitted to the Department of English Language  
and Literature of the College of Languages and Translation in partial  
Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in  
English Literature

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## Abstract

Psychoanalysis has been a research field for authors a long time ago. The human psyche is complicated; it is a mix of emotions, instincts, actions and reactions. The 20<sup>th</sup> century is revolutionary, new inventions and discoveries were trending, with the new way of living people started to lose faith. William Golding's *Free Fall* as *Künstlerroman* is tracing the development of the artist Sammy Mountjoy's character from childhood until he matures. The things he faced and the factors that reshaped his life. He was chastened by suffering as he learned from the school of life.

In this non-thesis paper, a study of the character of Sammy as he grows up is explored with examining the factors that affected his personality. The introduction illustrates *Künstlerroman* as a subgenre of *Bildungsroman* and explains them as a theoretical framework, the difference between them and their characteristics. Also, it discusses psychoanalysis definition. Chapter I will focus on Sammy's childhood living in Rotten Row and his friends, the role of his parents and moving to the art school where he met Beatrice. Chapter II will discuss Sammy the man when he was investigated in prison. It deals with mature Sammy who wants to fix his mistakes and feels free from guilt.

### Key words:

Free will; *Künstlerroman*; Maturation; Role model; Psychoanalysis.

## Introduction

The human psyche has been the subject of study a long time ago. Many researchers and psychologists try to analyze and evaluate the causes and effects of the human actions. This paper discusses the character development of an artist, Sammy Mountjoy, the artist and protagonist of William Golding's novel *Free Fall* (1959) from a psychoanalytical perspective. It will focus on the protagonist's life as a boy and as an adult through the incidents he experienced and the people he met. Likewise, it will deal with *Künstlerroman* as a subgenre of *Bildungsroman*, the differences between them, the characteristics and examples. Women's role in the protagonist's life is also dealt with in some detail. The novel is written in the literary device 'flashback', where the character remembers certain incidents that happened in the past sometimes relevant to the present; Sammy recalls and comments on the situations throughout the novel.

### ***Bildungsroman*: A Theoretical Framework:**

Etymologically speaking, *Bildungsroman* is derived from the German constituents *Bildung* (education, formation, growth) and *roman* (novel). Ómarsdóttir states that

A *Bildungsroman* gives the individual a voice, as novels within the genre focus on the development of the individual and his or her moral growth from youth to adulthood. *Bildungsroman* novels are often written by authors who refuse to go by societal norms, both in their professional and personal lives.

(1)

Then, he goes forward to add that

A *Bildungsroman* needs a conflict as the resolution of the conflict brings forward the character change and growth that is essential for the protagonist

to reach adulthood. This conflict is often between society and an individual but the conflict can also be between the individual and religion and the conventions associated with religion (13).

There are subgenres of *Bildungsroman* such as *Entwicklungsroman*, a development story which focuses on the general growth of a story rather than self-cultivation. *Erziehungsroman*, an education novel which mainly concentrates on training and formal schooling. *Künstlerroman*, an artist novel which studies the development of an artist and shows a growth of his/her character.

There are many features of *Bildungsroman*, the most important of which is the development of the protagonist and his/her search for identity. There is one protagonist and usually he is an orphan. The hero/heroine is round and dynamic as he/she changes in the course of the novel. Usually there is one or unknown living relative. Also, the protagonist belongs to a middle class background. He/she is good and willing to help others. Afterwards, he/she experiences poverty and hunger. One example of the *Bildungsroman* genre is the novel *David Copperfield* by Charles Dickens, originally published as a book in 1850. David, the adult, narrates the story, and he remembers many incidents and people that influenced him through his journey. The book ends with the adult David sophisticated and experienced about the world around him.

### ***Künstlerroman:***

On the other hand, *Künstlerroman* is a subgenre of *Bildungsroman*. Etymologically speaking, *Künstlerroman* is derived from the German words *künstler*, for an 'artist', and *roman*, for a 'novel'. According to Abrams, it is an 'artist novel' that charts "the growth of a novelist or other artist from childhood into the stage of maturity that signalizes the recognition of the protagonist's artistic destiny and mastery of an artistic craft" (193). Both *Bildungsroman* and *Künstlerroman*

are similar in their etymology and their characteristics. The difference is that in *Künstlerroman* the protagonist is an artist, such as a painter, musician or poet.

This paper focuses on *Free Fall*, a novel written by William Golding in 1959. It discusses the human being and his relationship with others. It also refers to religion, how at that time people started to question faith and seek liberation. George stated, "It is largely a "stream of continuousness" in which Sammy Mointjoy looks back on his life in an effort to find out at what point he had lost his freedom of choice and action. It is a more optimistic book which posits both free will and the possibility of grace"(9).

*Free Fall* is considered one of the complex novels as the flow of the actions is not chronological: one has to read it more than once in order to understand the plot and connect the events. Sammy Mountjoy, an orphan, loses his father at a young age and cannot get to know his mother well for she is difficult to communicate. Although the circumstances are harsh, his life as a little boy is warm. He enjoys the school as a young boy where his talent as a painter is first discovered. Later on, he meets some friends and becomes a gang leader. In the art school of London he meets Beatrice Ifor, to whom he is strongly attracted. He soon discovers that it Beatrice not what he looks for as she is empty. Afterwards, he meets Taffy at a Communist Party meeting and falls in love with her. Also, the plot shifts more towards Sammy's life. We are told that he has two teachers who are against each other: the science teacher, Nick Shales, and the Bible teacher, Miss Pringle, who is cruel and does not reflect the ethics of the religion. Sammy is locked in a dark cell in Germany as a prisoner. A man called Dr. Halde interviews him about other prisoners who have escaped from the camp. At that moment, under the pressure and darkness he starts to question and deeply searches for answers in his life and when he lost his free will.

As mentioned earlier, the present paper will focus on the character of Sammy from a psychological perspective. Simply speaking, the psychoanalytic theory is a new approach to the

study of the abnormality of human behavior. Sigmund Freud is the father of psychoanalysis. The Psychoanalytic theory analyses the character since childhood and studies the situations he went through, the conflicts between the conscious and the unconscious. Baldick defines Psychoanalytic criticism as "A tradition of modern literary interpretation employing methods derived from psychoanalysis, whether in its orthodox forms based on the works of Sigmund Freud or in various heretical versions. This tradition is almost exclusively interpretative, showing little interest or competence in evaluation"(275).

Every century has its own characteristics. In the Twentieth century, there were many movements and inventions. It was the century of change on many scales politically, socially, scientifically and in religion. The Second World War and Communism played a major role in affecting people at that time. Many Europeans were displaced and shattered: "Disillusionment was the order of the day". Because of the war, new attitudes and values were born (George 1-2). They began to lose faith and at that era and started to question many things.

William Gerald Golding was born in 1911 to Mildred and Ales Golding, who were typical of the poor but educated lower middle class. It is his wartime and post-war experience that contributed to his making an artist. He won the noble prize in literature in 1983. George stated, "Golding experienced two things that he counts the greatest influences on his writing-first, the war and his service in the navy and second, his learning ancient Greek"(6).

Golding concentrated on man and his inner deep feelings; he tries to analyze the cause and effect of the human actions and reactions. As he puts it himself, "Man is not instantaneous creatures, nothing but a physical body and the reaction of the moment. He is an incredible bundle of miscellaneous memories and feelings, of fossils and coral growths"(Free Fall, Golding 46).

William Golding was a modernist. It was after the First and the Second World Wars, the globalization contributed in the rise of modernism. Literary modernism is a twentieth-century movement which takes new aspects of literature. Modernism rejects and goes against the old convictions of the classics.

Free Fall tangled many issues such as the human instincts and how at some point we might lose the track. The search for identity and stability. To quote Lupsa,

*Free Fall* should be the best of Golding's novels. The people are more vividly drawn motives are more complex. There are dramatic rather than melodramatic tensions. The thesis again is Golding obsession, original sin, but in this case the story is of the struggle to transcend it. Furthermore, since the characters seem at first not presented purely as vehicles of the thesis, it is possible to judge them as people"(192).

Sammy is an orphan, who never knew his father. He kept asking his mother about his father, but he never had a reliable answer. One time his mother told him he was a soldier. Another time an officer and another time she said he was in the Royal Air Force. Sammy Mountjoy was poor. In Rotten Row he experienced poverty. It was a dirty place to raise a kid. He was always observing and describing everything in detail. The protagonist went to a boarding school which is the school of art in London. In London, he met Beatrice Ifor, His relationship was not love as he thought, it was an obsession and it was not a passion it was only a physical need. He starts to ask about his life, how it turned to be a mess. In the course of the novel Sammy changes and searches for his freedom. He was caught as a prisoner of war. Prison was the place that he recalls the memories to try to answer his question about his fall.

The first chapter will outline the importance of psychoanalysis and how childhood stage is very crucial in building character. It describes Sammy Mountjoy's childhood in Rotten Row, his happy life, and peaceful mind. How he grows up poor and parentless. The chapter will examine the importance of role models in child's life and the impact of childhood friends on Sammy's personality. In addition, it discusses the factors that contributed creating Sammy's character. As an artist, he moved to London where he met Beatrice. It is here we meet the lost Sammy. He used Beatrice, their relationship was not love it was obsession. He followed his lusts and needs without thinking of the consequences.

The second chapter studies mature Sammy. He was interrogated in prison by Dr. Halde. In prison, he was pushed to confess about the escaping of some prisoners. The presser of Dr. Halde and mocking made Sammy collapsed. In the dark cell, he was afraid, he recalls the memories of his life to point out when he lost his freedom. The chapter also deals with two teachers who represent faith, science and the conflict between them. The final picture of mature Sammy is discussed and how he tried to fix his mistakes.

## Chapter I: Sammy before Maturation

Psychoanalysis and the changing motives inside the human being have been a rich field from long time ago. Critics have always tried to analyze the human system. Since humans are driven by their instincts and needs, it is important to study the human psyche. By studying these factors, the final picture of the human character will be comprehensible. Through this given picture, critics are going to analyze the reasons and situations that contributed to create this character. The character is going through many stages until he reaches maturation.

Childhood is the first stage and the most important one in life. It is the base of a healthy and stable being. It is very crucial because the child is getting and learning his first impressions, ideas and beliefs. Also, the people surrounding him, most importantly his parents who are the first ones to interact with them. These are very effective factors in building the child's character. In the words of Bondi the psychoanalytic theory is: "a school of psychology it also emphasizes the importance of childhood experiences in moulding one's adult personality and behavior" (95).

Golding was affected by his time, the lost generation in the nineties. This is portrayed in Sammy, who lost his identity throughout the course of the novel because of the absence of role model in his childhood. Also the chaotic relationship with Beatrice Ifor whom he met in London and affected him tremendously. He thought he is in love with her but in fact, he took advantage of her. Moreover, he was affected by the terror in the cell when he was interrogated by Dr. Halde the psychologist in the Nazi camp. Dr. Halde's way of interrogation pushed Sammy to reconsider his life. Friedman mentioned, "In its obsession with freedom, *Free Fall* mirrors the transcendent issue of existentialist literature. Existentialist characters invariably concern themselves with the problem of identity. Sammy Mountjoy's attempt to identify that moment when he lost

his freedom is equally an attempt to identify what he is in terms of what he was"(68). Adult Sammy wants to find the reason behind his lost soul. Sammy finds himself lost eventually and this is a result of his weakness because he followed his lusts. He used poor Beatrice. At first, she rejected him but, later on, she surrendered and gave him everything he asked for. One day he got bored of her and married another woman.

Sammy Mountjoy, the protagonist, lived in different places, which affected his inner stability. The journey of Sammy's life, moving from place to another contributed to create Sammy the adult. He lived with his mother in Rotten Row a rural slum; then he was adopted by Father Watts-Watt, then the art school of London then came the war. Each place has its nature and defiantly it affected Sammy. By analyzing his experience and incidents as he grows up, the final image of Sammy's character and feelings will be answered.

The events of the novel do not follow a chronological time as the protagonist moves from memory to another; this reflects the mess and confused inner of Sammy. "Sammy writes his first-person account of these events at some undefined point in time after they have occurred, and tries, in retelling, to clarify his responsibility for what has happened to himself and others"( O'Donnell 85).

Mature Sammy narrates the story of the young inexperienced, simple Sammy. Golding started his novel by Sammy Mountjoy wondering about the reasons behind his fall and how he lost control over his actions. Sammy states, "When did I lose my freedom? For once, I was free. I had power to choose"(Golding 5). Therefore, from the beginning, Golding wants to expose the mental situation of Sammy being lost and depressed. He assures that free will is something that one must feel and experience, the will to do something and not to do another. It is not a thing that someone can talk about

without being tested. We are affected by our choices in life and through time, it defines us.

By reading his early years memories, Sammy is telling us that he is suffering to find out the point when everything changed; by recalling his memories he is trying to do so. It is after the interrogation in the dark cell Sammy woke up from the coma, asking himself about the past. The experience of the cell redefined Sammy and pushed him to maturation. He wants to find the link or anything that can bring him back to his happy simple childhood: "I shall see the connection between the little boy, clear as spring water, and the man like a stagnant pool. Somehow, the one became the other"(Golding 9).

Golding chose to begin his novel while Sammy is young because he believes that the more you are young the more things are easy and not complicated. As a very young child, he was happy, although he never knew his father. Things were clear as crystal for young Sammy. He wants to have fun and adventures. Things went upside down the moment he felt losing his will and control; by following his lust, his life became dark and sad as he grew up: "I put the day in the park first in my story, not because I was young, a baby almost, but because freedom has become more and more precious to me as I taste the potato less and less often"(Golding 6). Freedom became precious to him the more he gets older. The continuous recalls of the memories uttered by Sammy are to reach an understandable image of his present situation. How his present comes to be gloomy? Adult's mental system is different from the simple mental ability of children, the process of analyzing and explaining the situations, the concept of cause and effect, actions and reactions. Weekes and Gregor discussed the protagonist's urge to define his current situation compared to his childhood, how he turned to be lost as an adult compared to his innocent childhood "Seeking to discover how he became what he is,

seeking to explain how his childhood innocence came to be destroyed by the consciously choosing will"(138). Sammy needs to understand how his actions reshaped his life, the decisions and choices he made willingly during his life affected him as he grows up. The things he did wrong are what caused him this feeling of torment.

One of the messages in *Free Fall* is the importance of communication. Sammy clarified that our fear is not the fear of being abandoned or not well liked; it is the fear of the things that are inside us: what we feel, hear and see. How we understand and deal with our passions, our needs, and sorrows. It is the fear of being alone. Human nature is eager to communicate. By narrating the story he is trying to communicate.

Sammy Mountjoy spent his childhood in Rotten Row: "For the child Rotten Row is a paradise" (152 Younis). The atmosphere was difficult. People were poor and their circumstances were harsh; children were not clean even the adults. It was a place for the lower class. Even Sammy as a kid liked the atmosphere; he has never disliked dirt. So, "The surface of Rotten Row is a rural slum: poverty, hardships dirt and moral delinquency" (Weekes and Gregor144). The name reflects the low class and the lack of resources. Sammy explained the way of living, going to school bare feet. Children were screaming loudly, dirt is everywhere. There were no worries or rules.

Young Sammy was an orphan: he lost his father at a young age. He never knew his father nor what he does. Several times, he asked his mother but he got no clear answer. Sometimes he was a soldier, a lovely man; other times he is an officer, once he was in the Royal Air Force. His identity was not known. This insecurity Sammy had to face as a young boy accumulates to shape Sammy the adult.

The role of parents is very tangible in children's development. Sharpe assured that: "Emotional regulation, or the ability to control emotions and emotional responses,

stems from the level of response and involvement of parents in a child's life"(5). Several Studies proved that child behavior is related to environmental aspects and biological aspects. Therefore, the absence of the role model in Sammy's life shaped the adult Sammy. He suffered from environmental factors such as living poorly, the way his mother treated him with carelessness, the impact of his friend Philip and when the priest adopted him. Because of the absence of the parents in the life of Sammy, he dealt with the situations he went through with gullibility. Parents are supposed to cultivate the principles and ethics in their children, to prepare children to act wisely and surpass obstacles. A study done by Cavallaro and Anderson proved that most frequently children named their parents as role models and heroes. Based on the study parents came first then entertainers, friends, professional athletes, acquaintances, finally authors and historical figures (166).

Child mother relationship was not close, the protagonist and his mother did not get along often. The responsibility of their living exhausted her especially they were poor. He describes his mother as a failure; he did not admire her nor see her as a heroine. Children see their parents as flawless, but it was the opposite with Sammy as he describes his mother as a regular person: "In my misery I saw her as a stranger might see her, a massive, sagging creature, mottled and dirty. Her hair was in wisps over her brown forehead, her face was a square-ish, drown down-down mass with a minute fag sticking in one corner of her mouth "(Golding 69).

Sammy considers his mother as unsuccessful; feeling this way towards his mother without appreciation will grow and will be in his unconscious all his life. Later on, he will act according to what he believes. The passiveness of the role model in his life, growing apart from his father and a passive mother threatened his stability as he grows moreover; it causes him inner and outer struggles. The role of parents is very important

in developing and creating stable confident and healthy characters in the societies. The findings of a study done by Demuth and Brown suggest that father's role is sufficient in the development of a stable child. They also add "We expect that parental absence will be associated with higher levels of delinquency, on average, due to fewer (or weaker) direct and indirect controls."(65). He and his mother were not close; they did not share a stable, comfortable and caring relationship. Even when she died, he did not show any emotion.

Golding had similar relationship with his mother and that is reflected in the protagonist's life. Golding was close to his father. His mother was violent: she threw things at him. He mentioned that they did not touch each other.

Next, he moved to the primary school. Two childhood friends influenced Sammy's life: Johnny Spragg and Philip Arnold. They both encouraged Sammy to violate the rules and create the environment that help him to dare to do so and be bold:" In the primary school we become much more aware of the darker side of the boy's world. Now there is violence and gang warfare"(Weekes and Gregor145).

Johnny Spragg was attracted to airplanes and he loved the airfield: "Johnny was an expert. He knew things that still astonish me. "(Golding 37). They had adventures together. One time they sneaked to a forbidden place, Sammy was afraid and hesitated to go after Johnny who loves airplanes. Johnny insisted on seeing what would happen to the airplanes in the airfield, although Sammy was tired and hungry he stayed because Johnny wanted him to stay. Another incident, both of them tried to sneak to the general's garden, although the walls were high and there was a policeman. Sammy was psychically ready to break the rules and regulations. On the other hand, the evil Philip Arnold pushed him to violate and revolt against rules. Sammy admired Philip. He

states," he was my Machiavelli"(Golding 49). Philip knew about people and took advantage of their weaknesses to serve his need. He was a fast runner and when he is frightened, he runs faster than anyone else does. These characteristics made Sammy admire him. Philip encourages Sammy to violate the school's authority by stealing other boys' fag cards. In addition, Philip's impact was worse on Sammy as he asks him to urinate on the altar of the local church but Sammy said he cannot urinate but can spit. Sammy's actions bring him nothing but pain when he was caught by the drum major of the church and was beaten. He declared that no one affected his life as Philip did:" Yet neither the general nor the god on the airfield, nor Johnny Spragg, nor Evie nor even Ma, altered my life as Philip altered it "(Golding 47). Philip and his evil influence surrounded Sammy. Yet Sammy was ready and obedient to whatever he suggests. This shows how Sammy's character is susceptible.

When Sammy was sick, he was taken to the ward and his mother died when he was there. The final stage of the protagonist childhood life was spent in the ward.

The adventures of his childhood friends are important to Sammy in the way they build his story, since they contributed to introduce the life of Sammy Mountjoy. Biles and Evans described the adventure as "Being small boys of romantic imagination, they accept the rumor that the grounds harbor wild animals, a belief that heightens their sense of adventure and adds to Sammy's sense of primordial existence"(121).

Sammy's childhood was innocent and ordinary. Yet he went through some circumstances that affected him growing up such as the absence of the role model and the negative influence of his friend Philp:" I look for the point where this monstrous world of my present consciousness began and I acquit him in the ward. Here? Not here"(Golding 78).

At the age of 19, Sammy went to the art school of London where he first saw Beatrice. She was studying to be a teacher. Sammy was not astonished when he first saw her as a model in the art class. Looking at her after he drew her in the sketch made the difference. He saw her as a woman and liked her, "I saw in her face what I can neither describe or draw. Say she was beautiful to me" (Golding 221). Golding is foreshadowing the guilty experience that affected Sammy. It is when Sammy crossed the bridge he lost his free will; he was "lost", "caught", "trapped"(Golding 81). The bridge is a metaphor of the new experience; he crossed the youth to be a teenager, experiencing new things. Sammy means that he is going to get to know Beatrice. Seeing Beatrice makes Sammy crazy; his heart beats so fast because he feels that he cannot control himself. He said "Already I had left my freedom behind me" (Golding 79). He admired her to the extent that he wants to be her. O'Donnell explains that "Sammy wants to "nail down" Beatrice, to pull the heart of her mystery from her, to literally *be* her, thus imposing his own patterns of being upon hers"(90). He is jealous of everything near her.

It costs Sammy his freedom to get Beatrice because the "sacrifice is always regretted". On his graduation day the headmaster had given him the advice that proved to be right" if you want something enough, you can always get it provided you are willing to make the proper sacrifice. Something, anything. But what you get is never quite what you thought; and sooner or later the sacrifice is always regretted" (Golding 235). We are the victims of our sacrifices; we always pay a precious price to fulfill our needs. Sammy made a wrong decision in sacrificing everything to get Beatrice without thinking of the consequences. Friedman states: "Sammy asks himself, "What will you sacrifice? to Possess Beatrice. The answer- "Everything"(76). He was not satisfied, he

was empty and his sacrifice was invaluable. He adds, "Although Sammy's youthful passion for Beatrice is conceived in love, it is achieved in duplicity"(75).

Sammy's relationship was not love; rather, it was attraction at the beginning as there was no passion; it was only sexual:" Throughout Sammy's relationship with Beatrice, Golding wants to show that animality is stronger than the social and religious obligations"(AlSa'di 9)." Help me. I have gone mad. Have mercy. I want to be you "(Golding 84). He told her that he is willing to go mad if she did not respond to him. This shows Sammy's dark inner wish; he was obsessed by his instincts. There is no balance in their relationship; Sammy wanted to dominate her to control her. Beatrice is from a religious background and that is the reason why she was not active in their sexual relationship. Biles and Evans surmise their relation:" Sammy succeeds in bringing Beatrice to his bed, believing he will know her. But he is mistaken. Submissive, yielding, obedient, she nevertheless is not there, not for him"(125). It was meaningless she did not respond to him or give him a convincing answer for she was often silent. Her usual answer "maybe" explains he uncertainty of anything, she was ambiguous as if she knew the end of their relationship." The innocent and religious Beatrice proves unresponsive, their one-sided lovemaking a sordid sexual exploitation"(Friedman77).

Two years later, he got bored of her; nothing attracts him anymore. The relationship was not satisfactory; there is no life in their conversation, nor excitement, and he left her without saying anything. He took advantage of her by not even trying to understand her. On the other hand she was not helpful to give him the chance to understand her. Sammy was guilty in the way he treated her. This is a result of a non-emotional and unexperienced character. Poor Beatrice was an image of a betrayed woman, innocent and helpless (Golding 127).

One day he went to a communist party where he first met Taffy and fell in love with her. He left Beatrice and no longer desires her. He did not talk much about Taffy although she influenced him the way he felt stable and satisfied. Sammy believed in the harmony and the chemistry of their relationship. Weekes and Gregor described their relationship as "The world of Taffy and Sammy is smaller, but it does not destroy, and what it gives is real"(153). Ibrahim proves it, as he points out that Sammy needed more emotional and active person as Taffy because what was missing was the spiritual side of his life (70). Being with Taffy made him believe that their relationship has a real value. Both of them are communist and their private life was their concern.

None of the earlier reasons are convincing in the way he left Beatrice lonely, which drives her insane later on. Beatrice was exploited and left alone. Sammy declared that these memories of him with Beatrice prove his failure and degradation (Golding 123). He did not feel any emotional or spiritual closeness as with Taffy.

Golding wants to show how females are important in understanding male's moral nature. Starnes states "Female characters play central roles in the protagonist's developing awareness of what it means to be a fallen creature" (1). He also adds, "understanding his relationship with Beatrice is central to our understanding of Sammy as a moral creature" (78). Beatrice as a female character affected Sammy deeply. Using her to satisfy his needs led to his feeling of loss and guilt. She is important in his search for an answer to understand the difference between the young innocent boy and the guilty adult.

## Chapter II: Chastened Sammy

*Free Fall* discusses the idea of the modern man and his suffering to understand his society, his beliefs and most importantly himself. *Free Fall* as a *Künstlerroman* focused on the maturation of the artist Mountjoy, experiencing new things he overcomes the obstacles he faced. "The critical issue of the *Künstlerroman*- becomes the focal point of the moral inquiry of *Free Fall* "(Friedman 83).

Through the novel, Sammy is trying to clarify the aspect of being and becoming. Sammy concentrated on the aspect of becoming, what he achieved as an adult. He is what he chose: "Being and Becoming cross at the moment of *Free Fall*, where Sammy becomes what he chooses"(Weekes and Gregor 167). Tracing the memories of his childhood to point out his fall, his loss of freedom and the feeling of guilt that is torturing him. Sammy is now a prisoner of his fall. Through the journey of Sammy's life, we can see the difference between Sammy the boy and Sammy the adult. Sammy's childhood describes the state of being; as he reaches adolescence, he is experiencing the state of becoming.

Sammy the man is looking back to his childhood searching for a connection between his happy childhood and his chaotic restless adulthood. During World War II Sammy was prisoned by the German army. Dr. Halde is the Gestapo officer who investigates Sammy; he is a psychologist who knew how to play with people's minds. The interrogation room is dull and pale; the table is old and refined. The first impression of Sammy towards Dr. Halde was admiration. His smile, his blue eyes, his face and most importantly his English. Sammy's humble background as a working-class and the lack of self-independence made him compare his English to the German psychologist: "Dr. Halde spoke better English than I did. Mine was the raw, inaccurate stuff of common use, but this had the same ascetic perfection as his face

"(Golding135). The picture in Sammy's mind about Dr, Halde as an educated and prestigious man gave him the superiority and power to control him. Sammy's main concern as Acheson points is "Sammy's chief fear is that Halde will find him "uncivilized", a creature of "gross sensuality" "(76). Dr. Halde influenced Sammy strongly; he made him feel that he is not important. As a psychologist, he gave Sammy the impression of him being great. In contrast, Sammy's character was the opposite as a prisoner he was weak and confused.

Dr. Halde wants to know about how two prisoners escaped from the camp. He clarified that it is a dangerous situation where anyone who will escape will be shot; Dr. Halde declared that he "cannot take any risk at all"(Golding147). He is interrogating Sammy in order to stop any chance of prison break. Through the interrogation, Sammy's frustration made him mix things up. Sammy, under pressure, answered Dr. Halde : "you want the truth. All right I'll tell you the truth. I don't know whether I know or not! "(Golding 151). The quotation explains how depressed and lost Sammy was. He could not think clearly with his mind full of fear. Sammy now is lost and confused; he cannot decide what to do. The mental state he reaches at the prison was the state of hallucination. Why is this happening and how, what have I done? as if his consciousness woke up and he starts to evaluate things.

Dr. Halde at the beginning of the interrogation said something that made Sammy angry. He said, "We know all about you"(Golding 139). Saying that sentence to the lost confused Sammy is a daring sentence as it assures his suffering. He answered with denial on many occasions. The constant way of repeating to Sammy that he knew about him frustrated him: it made Sammy start questioning the events in his life. Every time Dr. Halde challenged Sammy and he felt threatened, he said:" I am a commissioned officer and a prisoner-of- war"(Golding 138).

The pressure of Dr. Halde on Sammy is starting to accumulate, the continuous laughing of Dr. Halde resembles the mocking of the superior authority over Sammy. He was in control of Dr. Halde "you are in my power absolutely"(Golding 140), which caused him to fall "I'm going to be sick"(Golding147). Dr. Halde exhausted Sammy to speak about the escape so that no other prisoners can run away and be killed. He wanted to dive deep in the character of Sammy; he finds him a mystery that needs to be resolved.

The way Dr. Halde interacted with Sammy was harsh. Despite the approach that he used to interrogate Sammy, he "represents the dark side of civilization to use science as a tool of tormenting people" (Ibrahim 69).

The dark room was the climax in Sammy's story; it reshaped and changed his life. When Sammy was sent to the dark room, he recalled his memories and tried to collect what is left of his reason. Actually, the dark room was more frightening than anything he ever knew. Sammy tortured himself in the dark room by his imagination as Al-Sa'di described:" he is made by Dr. Halde to feel that there is some terrible object hung in the middle of the ceiling. As he touches it, he feels a slimy lump so he fancies that it is a lump of human flesh"(11). The cell was small; many shapes flew and moved in the darkness. He stretched his hand in the darkness and touched something wet not knowing what it is, Sammy imagined many evil things as snake, acid, poison, coffin or a dead slug. These objects were present in the mind of Sammy to represent the weakness and collapsed psyche of the protagonist after the torture. He cried for help but with no answer. It was a cry of a helpless soul, a cry with no hope.

At the cell, the protagonist is afraid of darkness: "How did I come to be so frightened of the dark?"(Golding 154). Biles and Evans discussed that Sammy

suspects that his fear is derived from going to sleep in a room that he cannot turn on the light, or from his relationship with Father Watts-Watt who had homosexual issues. They finally conclude that Sammy is wrong and the source of his fears of darkness is of "another, interior sort"(126-127).

Sammy was released from the cell. After all the hallucinations and torture, he was free from the darkness. After the prison, Sammy was born new, the way he looked to the huts and the way he feels towards the world. Darkness surrounded him and made him rethink about his life and his relationships. What has Sammy achieved?. The adult mature Sammy after the cell and darkness is now able to see through things. Finally, he can judge and make decisions. Clearly, the first thing he wants to do is to see Beatrice. Eventually, he realized the importance of relationships and responsibility of his actions. To establish a stable and successful society you need to understand the urge to communicate and how "the relationship of individual man to individual man"(Golding 189) is very crucial. Mature Sammy, who is now chastened by suffering in the cell. He wants to fix his old mistakes, to heal wounded hearts. The reason behind Sammy's fall is the way he took advantage of Beatrice. The innocent Beatrice who gave up everything for Sammy and wanted to marry him was abandoned sadly.

He went to the asylum in which Beatrice lives. Sammy, who regrets his mistakes and his unawareness of the consequences of his actions, is trying to offset his old mistake. How he treated Beatrice, how he used her and then left her one day for another woman without explanation. Sammy went to visit Beatrice, the moment he saw her she was different, a picture of a broken, weak and wilted women. When Beatrice saw Sammy, she could not control herself; the man who is standing in front of her was once her lover and husband. Poor Beatrice, out of shock, "pissed on her

skirt and her legs and her shoes and my shoes. The pool splashed and spread"(Golding 243). This reaction of helpless Beatrice indicates the depth of her sorrow. The scene has hurt Sammy and proved the deep scar he caused in Beatrice:"It is impossible for Mountjoy to obtain forgiveness from Beatrice, whom madness has rendered incapable of speech"(Acheson 81).

Beatrice's doctor, Dr. Enticott, blames Sammy for using her. For him, Sammy is the reason behind her insanity. To quote his very words to Sammy, "You use everyone. You used that woman. You used Taffy. And now you've used me"(Golding 246). It is clear that Sammy played a major role in the fall of Beatrice. Acheson concludes, " rightly or wrongly, Mountjoy feels responsible for what happened to Beatrice: guilt over his behavior to her is the guilt he refers to early in the narrative"(77). Through the story of seduction, Sammy learned how to deal with his emotions and how to rearrange the priorities when he visits her at the end. It is after the war we meet the mature Sammy, going through all these obstacles and experiences that reshaped his vision of life. The war made him reconsider his past and what he had done.

Sammy's state of being has shaped his state of becoming. In the words of Goyal, "Thus, the novel traces his mental voyage from Being to Becoming with emphasis on 'free will'. In short, Being gives way in this novel to the exploration, explanation, and discovery of Becoming"(5).

Inside every human being, there is always a fight between what the reason suggests and what faith tells you to do. So young Sammy has those wonderings. At the end of the novel, Sammy remembers his childhood teachers, whom he considers his spiritual parents. Two contradictory worlds influenced Sammy Mountjoy. As a

young boy his view of life was represented by two of his teachers: Miss Rowena Pringle and Mr. Nick Shales. Miss Pringle teaches the Bible and she represents religion and faith while Mr. Shales teaches science and he represents reason. Therefore, as Ibrahim stated "Religion and science are in enormous fight against each other in the mind of Sammy"(67).

Miss Pringle was cruel, cold-hearted and hateful. She was in love with Father Watts-Watt. She hated Sammy because he was adopted by him. She was jealous. Miss Pringle "ruled, not by love but by fear"(Golding 195). She treated Sammy harshly; she made him believe that every time he was wrong. She did not practice which she preached. In one of the lectures, while Miss Pringle was explaining to the students, Sammy interrupted the teacher's discussion saying that he knew more. Miss Pringle was angry and humiliated him in front of the class. By embarrassing him, she hurts him. She did not know how important the role of the teacher to study the characters of the students, she did not understand Sammy. Instead, she broke his confidence: "We all know where you come from; Mountjoy, and we were willing to regard it as your misfortune"(Golding 203). She could have been a role model since his mother died. Instead, she was selfish and treated him badly.

On the other hand, Mr. Shales the science teacher was rational and loving. He treated children with respect and equality. He focused on teaching the children the world they live in; to live in a world that has no place for the spirit.

Nick's previous advice to sacrifice everything has affected Sammy in many scales. He considered him as a father but he was misled following the advice blindly. He followed that advice without thinking of the consequences. Following your dreams and getting what you want should not cost you everything including your freedom.

Mature, regretful Sammy went at the end to visit both teachers but his visit was effortless. Nick is sick and in the hospital; he was sad seeing his loveable teacher lying there. Miss Pringle still has her powerful presence but she was lost.

We need both science and faith to have effective members at societies. These two worlds are real but different. We cannot choose one; they work together. We need both of them for balance. Sammy chose the goodness of Mr. Nick Shales and hated the cruelty of Miss Pringle. He was driven by his needs and did not follow religion or ethics. Both worlds are guilty of the darkness and unawareness that it causes in the minds of humankind, which as a result leads to a destructive way of thinking and acting because humankind need balance and stability. The role of the teacher is important as a role model and guide for many young students.

The protagonist's last name, Mountjoy, is ironic. It symbolizes his relationship with Beatrice. Also, it stands for living with joy and peace, which is the opposite of Sammy's messy and lost soul. In the words of Fraassen "His name is surely an irony in view of the book taken as a whole, for a man who must, near the end, acknowledge his guilt and regret for much of what he has told us"(75).

Many factors affected the growth of the protagonist; he was lost due to the twentieth century society's principles and mentality. The loss of faith, war, growing up parentless. Golding opposed these issues to symbolize the nature of man living in a society governed by these factors. Eventually, Sammy, changed and matured, went to visit Beatrice who was the reason behind his lost soul. He is searching for freedom from guilt and feeling peace with himself. Biles and Evans conclude, "Sammy does succeed in getting back into "pure duration," perhaps more often than most men"(133).

## Conclusion

Many scientists and authors showed a great interest in the human nature and its actions. *Free Fall's* protagonist Sammy Mountjoy is an artist. The novel as a *Künstlerroman* traced the development of Sammy from childhood until he grows up and matures. He was chastened and corrected by suffering. Sammy the protagonist narrated the novel, although it did not follow a chronological order it reflected the misery and the sadness that Sammy was feeling. How eager he was to find the point where everything changed.

A young boy, an orphan who grew up parentless; he went through many hardships that affected his personality and balance. His mother died at a very young age and he never knew his father. Without the guidance of a role model, he committed some mistakes that reshaped his life. Parents play a major role affecting children characters.

In addition, the influence of his childhood friend Philip is very clear, he sees him as a role model and someone with great personality while he is an evil person, his negative influence was clear on Sammy. He pushes him to violate the rules and this thing grew up with him and made him selfish.

All in all, Sammy lived a happy life when he was young. He enjoyed his life in the old slum. Despite that, he was poor and the fact that Rotten Row is a dirty place to grow up in; it did not prevent Sammy from enjoying his peaceful and innocent childhood. After he met Beatrice we meet lost Sammy, the guilt he feels after their relationship. The way Sammy took advantage of Beatrice is the reason behind his fall. The female factors in Sammy's life as his mother, Beatrice and Miss Pringle represent the negative influence on his life.

*Free Fall* tackled and reflected many issues at the nineties. It was the time of wars, the First World War and the Second World War affected people at that time including authors. The war was present in most of the novels at the nineties. Even if they did not write about battlefields, war was in the background. William Golding wanted to deliver a message that our choices define who we are. At that time people started to lose faith, it was the era of liberation. With the coming of new inventions and new ideas, people started to lose their identities. Due to the changes in society and the new way of thinking authors and psychologists found this era as a great opportunity that must be exploited. Psychology flourished, many authors wrote about the human conflicts, inner conflicts and outer conflicts with society and religion. *Free Fall* discussed and reflected the modern man and his lost personality.

The prison was the climax in Sammy's life. The way he was interrogated by Dr. Halde and the darkness in the cell pushed Sammy to rethink of his life and decisions. He woke up to reality; he knew what brought him to such sadness. He knew how obsessed and selfish he was and tried to fix his mistakes.

Although the novel seems to be complex at first, it did reflect the issues of the human nature, seeking balance and peace. In addition, it sheds light on the problem of following his lusts without thinking of the consequences. Beatrice was the victim and Golding wanted to point out that using others to satisfy your needs has a price. Doing what you want and neglecting the needs of others is wrong, it costs Sammy his freedom. By suffering, he learned from the school of life, the situations he faced and the people he met helped Sammy to reach maturation. At the end, he wanted to fix his mistakes and feeling of regression. Everybody can make mistakes what is important how we learn from our mistakes. Sammy Mountjoy the artist matured and learned from his mistakes.

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