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SAMUEL BECKETT'S PLAYS: A PSYCHOANALYSIS

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ABSTRACT

The most important aim of this research is to show psychoanalytic problem in Beckett's plays. This will be done by describing Beckett's characters, as well as Beckett himself, ideas about *identity* and *existence* in three of his major plays: *Waiting for Godot*, *Endgame*, and *Happy Days*.

Beckett's father dead when he was in his mid-twenties. So, when he lost his father due to personal loss his mental and his physical health. He had night sweats, fear and anxiety. He couldn't sleep on his bed alone. During the therapy sessions, Bion has suggested that he should write in order to release the pain and the inner struggle. Consequently, in a way, writing became a therapeutic tool for Samuel. So, Beckett's writing helped him to treat himself. That is why there are signs of psychoanalysis on Beckett's plays and Beckett's characters.

Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot*, in this article the aim is analyzing the two characters of Vladimir and Estragon in order to investigate their identity. These two characters put their whole existence into waiting. They are waiting for Godot all times. They believe that Godot will have all the answers of their questions. Beckett shows the unconscious mind of his characters, so we analyzed the play with psychoanalytic lens.

Another play is *Endgame* by Beckett, in this research two characters of Hamm and clov for their identity were studied. Hamm and Clov often discuss Clov leaving, but Clov never does and Hamm is ambiguous in his feelings about Clov leaving. *Endgame* never shows us a clear ending, so we consider this play and character's play by psychoanalytic. Another play is happy days, Happy *Days* offers only two characters: Winnie, a woman has fifty years, and Willie, a man has sixty years that Samuel Beckett searches for the meaning of existence in the play.

KEYWORDS: Psychoanalytic, Id, Ego, Super Ego, Sigmund Freud, Becket's Play