

The Problematic Hero in The Novel "When a Man Thinks" By Khawla al-Qazwini Based on the theory of Lucien Goldmann



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Abstract

One of the most common concepts of the capitalist society is the "problematic hero" whose lifespan does not exceed a century. This concept was first proposed by the Hungarian critic Georg Lukács in the 20th century and continued by the Romanian critic Lucien Goldmann. According to them, the mutual relationship between literary and social structure has made literature a means of responding to social issues. In the realistic novels of capitalist societies, some people's adherence to fundamental principles has made them problematic. The hero of this type of novel, often from the general public, is marginalized by criticizing a society lacking actual values. This article, written with a descriptive-analytical method, analyzes the mentioned novel from a sociological point of view, relying on the concept of a "problematic hero" and comparing it with Lucien Goldman's opinions. Since the previous novel has deep sociological layers and by analyzing them, a better critique of Kuwaiti society can be achieved, the necessity of conducting such research becomes more apparent. The result of this research indicates that as a problematic hero, Muhammad adheres to fundamental ideals such as trying to correct social corruption, reviving valid values, respecting opponents' opinions, and standing against the conspiracies of enemies. And he is in conflict with the implicit values of society, such as seeking power, and he cannot solve this conflict, and he is placed on the margins of society in a way, and finally, this conflict results in his removal from society with death.

Keywords: Problematic Hero, Sociological Criticism, Lucien Goldmann, The Novel "When a Man Thinks", Khawla al-Qazwini.

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