

Pseudo- Feminism as an effective means of shaping womanhood: A study in Dan Brown's novels

Feminism is a theory that applies the approach of Women's liberation and freedom in thought and expression. Various nuances of Feminism have existed throughout the ages and generations. While its thrust was on the identity aspect, women were also gaining a status as close to the men, without commonly being referred to as the fair sex only. When the time seems ripe to sort out issues and differences, it is not really necessary to condemn men and brand them as domineering but on the flip side, respect them at the time of truly acknowledging their contribution to family and society. It is not the time to bring about oppositional differences to the forefront but to examine the various cliché of the feministic approaches.

Pseudo-Feminism is highly challenging in the workplace and society at large. It has placed justice on the highest rungs of the social ladder. The principles of justice are enumerated in the very idea of empowerment for women. Gender based violence and harassment free society is the motto of Pseudo Feminism. At the same time, this branch of Feminism doesn't place men as villains, but curtailing the spread of resentment at its very outset. Gender equality is taken as a factor, and most importantly the perpetration of Criminal offences are delved deeper into. This paper does not project the de-personalized effect of feminist roles like that of influencers attitude, instead it establishes the fact that men are also equal partners in the creative process.

Bad branding men or condemning them for acts of injustice perpetrated on women is one of the stances that this group of feminists takes. My paper follows an inductive approach and is based on three premises.

1. De-institutionalization of established societal patterns.
2. Prioritizing Work over Biological Differential Theory.
3. Binary Opposition in reproductive and other capacities.

For the purpose of my analysis, I have taken the novels of Dan Brown. Angels and Demons(2023) the best selling work of Brown investigates into the idea of breaking down stereotypes of Catholic beliefs and convictions. Earth, air, fire and water are exclusive domineering elements. Father Leonardo Vetra represents strong religious values while the woman character Vittoria stands for truth and justice while bringing the murderers of the father into the open. She is being kidnapped and gets unconscious. Robert Langdon's fears are confirmed by the Vatican's Holy Conclave where the time bomb was kept hidden. The central idea of Jesus and Mary Magdalene coexisting with each other is typecast. The Secret of Secrets is a thriller novel and the second in the series. Robert Langdon is in Prague with Katherine Solomon his scientist girlfriend. She had seen a very scary dream during the night when they were being evacuated. A false threat and perception caused panic but the effective handling of the situation was done by Katherine. Katherine becomes a target of secrets due to

the publication of the book that dealt with human consciousness. Her books were to be destroyed for revealing truths regarding psychology of the mind in the seconds before a person's death.

Golem and Shasha are the same person; the psychological condition they suffered was for dissociative identity disorder. Shasha's mental state and the people in the Threshold help people install a fatal kill switch in order to combat epilepsy. She is wanting to release the confession video. She keeps an eye on the events and she leaves Prague; while acting as a guide Katherine's book is published with the removal of a few elements.

The title is released commemorating life after death. Origin a mystery novel and the fifth in the Langdon series and his most powerful feminine character called Ambra Vidal who is the Museum Director.

The first instance of Pseudo Feminism being that of strong religious sentiments which evokes the world of mysticism and culminating in the death of the Mother figure. Lash between Conservatism and Liberalism in Modern Spain has been the inter twinning themes. This is also coupled with the role of technology in an age of evolution and humanity. Isabel Willerson a real life character travels throughout Germany and India tracing put the caste system in the history of countries. Origin's focus is on the science and religion aspect coupled with atheism, the themes intermingle and juxtapose with the other. There is a lot of stress on the apocalyptic thematic patterns and the concept of Cybernauts, Science and AI evolution that dosent recreate religious stories but the discovery made by a character called Kirsch, Ambra Vidal, Spain's Queen goes to Barcelona and locates passwords.

Science, religion and technology is the means through which puzzle solving is made easy. Questions on scientific advancements and faith are challenged, shelved and a scope for ethical beliefs that get questioned. Humanity's future hangs in the balance. They are the two sides of the same coin.

Inferno(2013) eulogises Harvard University Professor Robert Langdon and wakes up in amnesia. Langdon escapes and goes to an apartment. Inferno received reviews from critics. The New York Times praised the book as being "jampacked with tricks and a fun message with art, history, science. James Kidd expressed that the Prose and Context of the books. New York Times rates this book as "one of those book length scavenger hunts that Mr Brown creates so energetically. This energy manifests itself in the new thriller where his fused history, codes, symbols are crafted. Inferno represents Florence and backdrop, the Palazzo Vecchio and Boboli Gardens come alive. Venice and Italy is being straddled upon back and forth. The glorious tapestry is set in the best of cultural and historical elements. The old and new mix of themes keeps the blend become compelling.

The Lost Symbol is a tension filled thriller novel that dwells on free masonry as its recurrent leitmotif. Robert Langdon a symbologist wants to give a lecture in the US Capitol but a mason named Solomon has asked him to bring a package but it goes missing. Katherine Solomon is depicted as a Noetic Scientist and her aid Sato is an investigation agent. Very powerful in her time and a Principal investigator, they solve the mystery along with Langdon.

They represent a strong pseudo womanhood. Sato plays a thunderous role depicting independent womanhood. She is very tactful in her dealings and a true advocate of security. Isabel Solomon is the mother of Katherine and grandmother of Zachary. Brown's feminine characters in the novel are flagbearers of the power symbol and strength of physicality. Katherine gets targeted by a villain character Malakh. Malakh expresses "the world is adrift in ignorant darkness. We're really becoming more stupid as time goes by". I mean the human race or atleast the majority of it. I wish there was something that could finally open our eyes to our true potential as a race devoid of greed, materialism and capitalism". The bad aspects of society need to be done away with. Her yet another powerful statement is "God's love has no gender". Gender neutral statements are uttered by the female characters, truly depicting Pseudo-feminism.

Digital Fortress is a novel dealing with the government's monitoring of electronic data on the citizens, the use of civil and ethical liberties. Code Digital Fortress cant be broken the role of the Head Cryptographer is Susan Fletcher. She tries to uncover it and is daring enough. Midge Milken is the Head of NSA Internal Security and Carmen Helerta, a chef in the USA Commissary. The greatest attributes of Susan Fletcher is her IQ level of 170 and is a beauty with brains. She's a top class cryptographer and a very capable woman even though a damsel in distress. Critics have mentioned that Brown can be a case of Sociological Criticism. She handles the social situation with ease and guarding her honour.

Susan Fletcher is a towering character as she goes from the skyscrapers of Tokyo to the churches of Spain. She holds a battle of survival, grace and impregnable conceits, followed by codes to be written to the world. Her role is equally fixed as the dealings with the world of Cryptography is opened. Susan's powerful ring contains the code from Tankado who becomes dead.

Deception Point is a pseudo-feminist novel depicting women carving out powerful roles such as Intelligence Analysts, Political Advisors. Rachel Sexton, the central character makes scientific discoveries while clashing with her father's contrary opinions. The qualities of intelligence and resilience are the building characters. She goes on an expedition to the Arctic Region to discover meteorites but uncovers it. Marjorie Tench is an Intelligence Officer and Advisor to the President. She's unchallengeable. Ganrielle Ashe, being the aide of Senator Sexton is a powerhouse of Political activism. Gabrielle Ashe, Sexton's aide supports the Senator, though highly competent, yet unloyal to the employer.

Norah Mangor, a glaciologist is part of the team of meteorite scientists discovering hoax. Dr Wailee Ming, is a Paleontologist and a minor character. Katherine Wentworth Sexton is the mother of Rachel. She dies in an accident, infidelity of her husband being the main reason. Criticality of reason and situation define the female character protagonist's approach. Wild Symphony, another work of Dan Brown has female characters representing the form of the maternal quality of animals. Swans become very graceful dancers. The Big Blue Whale is a mix of Masculine and Feminine qualities. Cheetahs of Swiftness, beetles forming orchestra groups, bees symbolizing life itself. Overall the women characters are very rock strong, showing resilience and physical and mental strength. They unravel mysteries on their own

but bring about uniformity of thought and action. Women's sinister design and plans ultimately works in favour of situations and life controls. Ultimately the women characters are the manipulators of their future and creators of the past.

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