

H.H. MUNRO'S *THE LUMBER ROOM*: A LACANIAN READING

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Abstract - The association of psychoanalysis and literature is a common thing which comes for a long period. This paper attempts to discuss the engagement of Lacanian concepts of psychoanalysis with H.H. Munro's (Saki) one of the notable short stories "*The Lumber Room*". The story depicts the powerful imaginative power of the main character named Nicholas and his authoritative aunt. The main character: Nicholas' aunt draws him into a psychological collapse and he escapes from that affliction, with the support of his imaginative power. As the methodology it is followed the method of textual analysis, giving attention to the protagonist's traumatic experience of *The Lumber Room* and his imaginative power under Lacanian psychoanalytic criticism. Therefore the keen attention is given only for Lacan's concepts, not for the ideas which generated by the father of psychoanalysis: Sigmund Freud. Further the study provides a clear alignment on the character Nicholas, his traumatic experience which undergoes due to his aunt and how he escapes using his affluent imagination collaborating psychoanalytic criticism of Jacques Lacan. Finally the story is observed through the Lacanian perspective in order to fulfill the objective of the study.

Keywords: Psychoanalysis; Jacques Lacan; The Lumber Room; H.H. Munro; imaginative power