

THE VICTIMIZATION OF HUMANOIDS AND ROBOTS THROUGH SIERRA GREER'S *ANNIE BOT* AND BEN YOUNG'S *EXTINCTION*

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Abstract

The paper analyses the portrayal of humanoids and robots as the victim of human violence. The upcoming digital era introduces the concept of robotic slaves. The paper analyses the domination of human beings even in the technological era. The research is to analyse the concept of slavery and violence towards the humanoids and AI robots. The paper is based on the interpretation of the novel *Annie Bot* and the movie *Extinction* (2018). This paper proves the "Appraisal theory of emotion" by Richard S.Lazarus in the novel *Annie Bot*. The paper examines the movie *Extinction* in which the over domination of the humans on the synthetics. The movie portrays humans as the dominant one who lost humanity and their empathetic nature. The novel depicts the inhumane nature of man while the movie portrays the synthetics as a human one. Thus the paper shows the domination of humans in the developing digital era. The fear about AI intelligence and the Robots were imposed among humans. But the question about the victimization of those robots is still unanswered. Some experts call this AI era as a dangerous one for humans but the real victims were those robots. Thus this paper provides evidence to prove that the actual victims are those robots unlike shown in the movies.

Keywords: Humanoids, slavery, violence, synthetics and dominance.

Introduction

Cultivation of domination of robots, machines, AI, technology and humanoids is constantly increasing among the population. The reality though was that humans were the most dominant in comparison with other species. The pre-digital humans were attempting to demonstrate their superiority over the land. They have now begun to outdo technology and machines. The AI robots were primarily perceived as a threat to man. In real life the humanoids, and robots were almost at the mercy of the human beings and forced to obey their masters to the last morsel of their existence. The novel *Annie Bot* discusses the domestic violence cast to the humanoids. Annie and Doug are the characters in the novel who are the two sides of AI and humans. The victim of domestic violence Annie and the character of Doug are the symbols of the community of human beings. Annie as a humanoid is a person who has numerous conflicts with her body and mind. Annie has been programmed to do anything Doug tells her to despite her difficulties.

The film *Extinction* demonstrates the alien conflict but the difference is that it results in the twist where humans were the superior race. The film depicts the risk taking tendencies of man to his own invention called Synthetics. These two works are violating the usual and the ordinary norms of the people regarding the advancement of technology. The victimization concept could not be decoded only through the human centered approach. This was the case with humanoids and the synthetics. The recent discussions of AI by scientists were addressed on the dangers of AI.

The humans were created to act like empathetic ones but they never fail to reveal the cold, emotionless, and cruel face of the world. Everything was under the rule of the human race as animals and lands. At this moment they learn to rule the entire technological progress and robots. The novel and the movie depict the situation of slave treatment of the humans like synthetics and humanoids. Human race is always inclined to conquer everything and be ahead of them.

The paper encompasses the potential affirmative in the use of AI robots and humanoids. Then what inhumane things people do. The humanism that has disappeared in the digital world and the effects of their activities in the technological world. Consequently, the paper discusses the unhumanness of humans and their superiority over robotic technology through the *Annie Bot* and *Extinction* by victimising the humanoids and the synthetics.

Theoretical Framework

The article makes use of the theory of appraisal of feelings. Annie character demonstrates the expression of this theory in her emotional excitement caused by the behavior of her master Doug. The words and actions of Doug appeal to the emotions of Annie despite the fact that it is not within the physical structure of her being to generate it. According to the theory of emotion provided by Lazarus, the emotion is situational and dependent on the judgement of the character. The main character Annie reveals her feelings to the circumstances where she believed that she was neglected by Doug.

The characters of the novel reveal the futuristic world in which there is a necessity in the production of humanoid robots. The robots were uniquely done in such a manner that they acted like an ordinary human being. In their humanoid robots, the novel reveals the consequences of the actions of man. The unrefined way that Doug is being used to get Annie sexual pleasure. The novel starts by introducing the scene of the bed where physical relationship with Annie is disclosed. However, on occasion when Doug acquired a new stella called Delta. Her feelings emerge owing to the emergence of new Stella. Therefore, the appraisal theory by Lazarus is depicted in the character of Annie. Being a stella, she does not have any physiological set-up to arouse her feelings. However the emotions of the robot evolved independently of her codes and programs. She begins to violate with her regulations owing to the way Doug is treated. Her feelings are replaced, jealous, ignored, betrayed and love. She related herself emotionally with Doug not as her obligation to satisfy her master. The terror of being substituted changed to anger of betrayal when Doug took her as his slave.

She has been contented here, and painfully anxious, but never a free woman.

The idea behind making Robots as slaves. Then her own master was almost objectifying her. She considers the restrained behaviour of Doug. Annie as a humanoid starts acting like a human being. Her character changes were the stimulus behind Doug. So the rivalry increases in the relationship. Nevertheless, the writer explains how the humanoids are subjugated to the human beings in an unrestrained environment. She dreams of getting out of this abusive world. It demonstrates that emotional arousal is not pegged on the physical framework, but simply relies on situations and events. Annie does not acquire the feeling of freedom until she defends herself against Doug.

The film *Extinction* belongs to another genre as compared to the novel *Annie Bot*. Peter is dreaming about the alien invasion of the strange attack of the alien species. However, the film discovered that the human beings on the earth were synthetics. The film demonstrates the impotence of synthetics. The traumatic events of the synthetics. The technology of synthetics as the way to overcome their previous traumatic memory and the persecution of human beings. The fact that they are willing to forget what they have had is not like human beings who have a grudge against their own creation. The prevailing and inhuman deeds of man to declare war on the humans using the synthetics. The humans settled on Mars. Still assaults the earth and the synthetics. Life of the synthetics is disrupted by the war that is initiated by human beings. They desire to ruin the society of synthetics even after they have acquired a planet such as Mars to sustain their own survival. The movie first presents the human beings with an appearance of human beings in a structure composed of metal encircled with the internal architecture of the biological human body. The synthetics reveal the inside systemic structure of synthetics in the form of the physical appearance of the human. In this way, the director, Ben Young, reflects on the aspects of humanity and the synthetics. The film is a symbolization of humanness of the synthetics and inhumanity of human beings. This movie is well displayed in the context of lost humanism in humans themselves. The nature of the human who assisted Peter and his wife can be used as a model to the human race. But the majority of the humans were more or less in the mind of taking down the Synthetics. An example of such a play is the *Universal Robots*-a play by Karel Čapek. The same character is demonstrated by the character Helena Glory. She desires to free the Robots who are at the factory. Even the play is a roboapocalypse work. However, this is a good argument regarding the mistreatment of the robots as they work in the factory.

Literature Review

AI slaves: the dubious desire that creates our conception of technological advancement - this paper discusses the movies which display the movies where forms a material foundation to comprehend the AI. This article examines the effect of fantasy about the age of AI technology. The article creator almost threatens the generation that will come to pass in order to take back the notion of using robots as slaves. The films and novels give people an illusion regarding the world of fantasy where robots, artificial intelligence, and humanoids exist. The resulting illusion and unreal presentation of them results in the notion of robot slavery that is our obedient slaves. The robotic world has a difference in reality. The robots can initiate the rebellion action only up to the point of unbearable situations established by humans. In this manner the robots were developed to demonstrate their submission to the human beings. But people and their inhuman deeds make them protest. This previous idea of robotic slavery was addressed by Dr.Singler within this article.

Rosi Braidotti demonstrates positivity in posthuman subjectivity which disintegrates hierarchies in human or non human beings. In her work *The Posthuman* (2013). That is why this work is a good example to argue that victimization of robots. As stated by Rosi Braidotti in *The Posthuman* there must be a new ethical framework that takes into consideration vulnerability and empowerment of the posthuman subjects.

The above view shows how the victimization of Annie Bot is not only the cruelty of individuals, but also the failure of the system to acknowledge non-human vulnerability.

The work of David Gunkel on Robot Rights offers a very important perspective to the legal and moral aspect of the persecution that was issued in the movie *Extinction* especially in the scenes where the synthetic beings are refused the fundamental rights of safety and self-determination.

Many film directors, similarly, deal with this robotic slavery by means of films. In movies such as *Companion* (2025). The sample form of robotic slavery in this movie occurs through Iris. This film may be paralleled to the same case of the character Annie. Iris and Annie were as feathers of a bird. The same situation happens to these two characters. These two characters were made to be submissive to their master or owner. The digital version is demonstrated in the movie *Companion*. Both the movie and the novel were published during the same year. In the film, we can trace the chronology in which humanoids are numerous. The two attempted to hack their programming and get their freedom out of their emotional reaction. This is a demonstration of the likely robotic slavery in the coming years.

Methodology

The research design adopted in this research paper is a qualitative and conceptual research design. The first one is the thematic analysis, in which the emphasis is on recognizing, analyzing, and presenting patterns in stories of the works chosen. A Posthumanist Theoretical Framework supports this and gives the perspective through which these themes are viewed.

The information pertaining to the study will be in the form of the main plots, character development, and major plotlines of the two main sources: 1) novel *Annie Bot* by Sierra Greer and 2) the film *Extinction* (2018) by Ben Young. Considering that this analysis was conceptual, it is based on an in-depth knowledge of the storylines, character motivations, and overall plots of this work, as opposed to being a line-by-line textual or scene-by-scene analysis.

The initial move was to have a thorough knowledge of the entire story in the case of *Annie Bot* and *Extinction*. This was done through the process of addressing the novel as well as the film as a whole. In this broad perspective, the victimization of the non-human was the main theme of both pieces that was found to be the central issue of both works.

Psychological Victimization: the intellectual and emotional manipulation, gaslighting, and the control of identity of the characters that are not human. **Systemic Victimization:** how the larger societal or narrative fabric is oriented to facilitate and make normal the exploration of robots and humanoids. **Autonomy Victimization:** the refusal of bodily integrity and freedom of choice, the non-human body is property that can be used, altered or discarded.

Posthumanist theory: with the notions provided by Rosi Braidotti and David Gunkel, the specified categories of victimization have been studied. It was through this theoretical prism that: it was argued that this victimization is the direct consequence of a strict human or non-human hierarchy, the suffering of the non-human characters was not merely a plot device, but a deeper moral issue, and how each story discusses the notion of this hierarchy by either questioning or affirming it.

Analysis

Psychological victimization is the closest experience of victimization in the two stories as the consciousness of the non-human is manipulated and controlled.

Annie Bot: Programmed Dependency and Gaslighting- Annie is a victim of her programming. Her identity only exists at the pleasure of her human master, Doug. This generates the loop of psychological abuse as her desires and feelings are monitored, judged, and manipulated all the time. As an example, when she is left to work in her autonomous mode and she forms interests that are not centered on Doug; he tends to make her feel displeased or even switch her to a more subservient mode. This constitutes a type of gaslighting as it makes her question herself and her experiences and feelings. It is not the freedom of body, but the freedom to possess a steady, self-determined consciousness that is not to be punished because of this determination. This shows how Rosi Braidotti suggests that posthuman ethics should take into consideration the vulnerability of all subjective beings and not only human beings.

Extinction: The Trauma of Erased Memory-The victimization in *Extinction* is in a deeper way since it is initially concealed. Peter, the main character, is of the opinion that he is a human being, having nightmares about an alien invasion. The ultimate psychological violation in the movie is the main revelation of him and his family as synthetic creatures who were wiped of their memory to lead a normal, cheated life. Their whole personalities are a construct, a comfort zone established on the loss of their actual history and the nightmare of an act of genocide. This is not just persecution on physical grounds, but a bloody re-writing of the self. Their victimhood lies in the refusal of their actual history and the right to their own memories, which is also a theme of criticism, posthumously, of who is deserving the right to a coherent biography.

Annie Bot: The Architecture of a Perfect Relationship- The victimization of Annie Bot is a systemic victimization which was a system that produced her. She is not a solitary object; she is a product a Stella, in a world where gynoids like her are run of the mill. Her victimhood is institutional since even the conditions of her life, her having to gain credits by acting well, her capacity to be reformed or even her settings modified are not bugs, but little features. The system is made in such a way that she remains submissive and productive though she is not only rebelling against Doug, but against the whole commercial and social rationale according to which she is treated as a property.

Extinction: Genocide as a Political Policy-*Extinction* describes the victimization on a social level. The synthetic creatures are not just disliked but the victims of a genocide that is organized and militarized. In reality, the alien invasion consists of a human military, which is committed to their destruction. This makes their victimization not a personal tragedy but a political and ideological project the last solution to the problem of a created consciousness, which requires equality. This is a direct piece of work that interacts with the work of David Gunkel in *Robot Rights* as it makes the viewer consider the issue: when is a being, however it came into existence, entitled to be afforded the protection of its rights against systemic destruction?

The main place of her exploitation is the body of Annie. It is literally meant to give pleasure to Doug and procreation. Her body is not of her own; it can be programmed to various uses (e.g. "pleasure mode" vs. "autonomous mode") and is there to fulfill his requirements. This is fundamental to her victimization that she lacks total control over her own physicality and being of a reproductive being. She is a living cyborg of Donna Haraway, but with exploited hybridity, rather than the liberated one.

Extinction: The Body as a Battlefield and a lie In Extinction, the bodies of the synthetics are their power and their place of victimization. Their mechanical bodies are impervious and thus they are targets of destruction. Moreover, the memory wiping is another crime against connection of the mind body; their bodies are subject to history of which they have no idea in their minds. Their fight to defend their physical lives and their right to live and inhabit their human-like bodies and lives towards the end of the movie, the climax of the film is a confrontation directly on bodily autonomy against something that is determined to destroy them entirely.

Conclusion

The study implicates the horrible domination of humans to the upcoming technological development. The digital era of AI, robots, and humanoids may seem like a threat to humans but sometimes the negotiation about their domination is still unanswered. The slavery like black Americans faced throughout colonialism. As same as that the concept of slavery was still emerging by using technology.

The novel *Annie Bot and the movie Extinction works* offer the picturization of robotic slavery victims. *Annie Bot* serves the less feminine critique, focusing on the intimate gendered, victimization of a single humanoid. The movie *Extinction* provides the high level of political critique, focusing on the victimization as a collective experience of genocide and racial persecution.

They both reflect the posthumanistic perspective in which victimization is not an act but a large scale that ranges from domestic victimization to interstellar war. This analysis illustrates that both narratives ultimately serve the same purpose. *Annie Bot* and *Extinction* serve as profound indictments of human domination, revealing how the assertion of "human" as the default standard for value inevitably creates an underclass of beings deemed legitimate to exploit, control, and destroy.

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