

CHAPTER-II

MEMORY AND REMINISCENCE IN *THE BOOK OF EVIDENCE*

The notion of memory and reminiscence, in John Banville's texts, is common. It can be viewed in many of his texts in which he has presented his protagonists living an ordinary life. His literary works like *The Newton Letters* (1982), *The Untouchable* (1997), *The Sea* (2005), and *Ancient Light* (2012), comprise elements of nostalgia, memory, and reminiscence. He explains, "a man is in crisis he begins to search for a solid ground to stand on, some place where he himself, or some versions of himself, will be real." Considerably, escaping to the past is journey of a common man from the unbearable present situation to the soothing past. He usually shows his intensive curiosity in exploring the past days with the help of different sets of memory which are stored mysteriously at some place in the mind. However, he continues to move in search of self-importance and self-complacency. He puts more emphasis on the process of recalling from the stored data which is primarily fascinating and worthwhile. Trotting swiftly through those days of childhood and adulthood with the help of stored data, provides him a feeling, is of other world where a man is far away from disturbance and distress. He expositis number of good and bad memories, sometimes chronologically, and sometimes randomly. Memory of his old days, associated to him, retains a special position in his life and allows him to bring down the distress of real life. Moreover, it assists to prove one's authenticity.

John Banville always believes in the idea of self- exploration and thorough investigation of those incidents which shook him from inside, and have some remarkable significance in his life. Therefore, he believes that human being can live in two different worlds. First, the real world where one always lives, and second, the arena of memory and reminiscence of those days or incidents of life which chiefly strikes him, may be pleasant or unpleasant. Memory frequently affects everyday life and assists to retrieve the unforgettable moments of the past which extensively affect present condition. He seems to use his memories as evidence in some contexts and contrives to reveal it to others. He rummages mistakes of his life through his memories, and problems which he faced because of others. He travels back to the places pertaining to past memories of his life which evoke to recall immediately those incidents of life

that are, however, related to the places. The act of beholding the places and reminiscing simultaneously about them, associated to his early days, arises to capture the events of life in such a way as they cannot be forgotten forever. He believes that the incidents of past days change the meaning of remaining life. He reveals the past experiences which are collected in form of memory for later use, furnish as a phantom who keeps prompting his life. Time keeps on moving on its speed, but it leaves residues of the happenings of everyday life behind, especially of childhood and adulthood.

For Banville, the new world is not as relieving as the days of childhood. He feels disturbed from relentless surroundings that could not locate a nostalgic position in his mind. He curses industrialization and development which has destroyed natural landscape and made everyone selfish, and the life is remained tasteless. Human beings are victim of their own reasons in this fast-mobilizing world. They are heading towards a world of immense chaos and discontent. Banville takes examples from the real world in which men are busy in taking advantage of others. His protagonists are suffering to ensure their existence among the people who care nothing for others. They strive to seek their own comfort zone by reminiscing randomly any of the days of past which suits in the current situation. They are no longer interested in city life which is more deteriorating. They are always traced to rehabilitate themselves to the very existence of their life. Memory of life contains most of happy as well as days of anguish pertaining to childhood and adulthood. They prefer to recall them instead of surviving in this tormenting life of city. Banville feels gratitude to share the intention of human beings. He knows that life of human beings is affected everyday by the acts or happenings of the past which he ever came across. He incorporates them in his novels by depicting through his protagonists who experience any of Banville's concerned motifs of life. Each individual character experiences a distinct situation. But, remembrance of exuberant early days becomes panacea for all kinds of sufferings.

Banville has presented his protagonists in most of the works as restless human beings who never stop on a place. They sway flawlessly seeking self or finding out the existence of their life. Banville has taken his protagonist to explore the birth place as in *The Newton Letters* (1982), *The Untouchable* (1997) and *Eclipse* (2000). They are found retreating to their origin places which retain some sorts of erotic story related to their life. *The Newton Letters* comprises the adventures of an unnamed aspiring

biographer of Isaac Newton. The protagonist tries to communicate what happened to him while spending the summer in the country near Dublin. Initially, he rents a rural retreat in the south of Ireland to put the finishing touch to his book on Newton. There, he usually recalls the happenings of passed days. *Eclipse* (2000) is renowned which is lyrically rich and, have unorthodox structure. It has been ascribed more as a prose poem than a novel. Alexander Cleave who is a disillusioned fifty-year-old actor, retreats to his empty childhood home for indefinite period of introspection leaving his wife Lydia behind. He seeks to disclose incidents of life jumbled in his mind in form of memories.

The Untouchable (1997) is written as a memoir which deals with story-telling of self by a former British spy, Victor Maskell, who has been discovered as a double agent working for Russia during Second World War. He faces disgrace for his double role and his sexual orientation. He is intensely criticized by the community which is both angry and disgusting due to lies. Consequently, he is removed from his knighthood and position of director. He is beseeched by a lady who wants a private meeting and discovered as she wants to write a book on his life. He let her know an account of memories of his life which she finishes it in a book. The book is based on the story of the real-life Cambridge Spy. Banville delineates his first-person protagonist as a well experienced man having complete taste of life. He brings alive those times in Cambridge where there was no thought or concern about right or wrong. But his life was all about living on the edge and indulging in pleasures as there was no tomorrow. He recalls the early days which are striking since happened to him and still remaining afresh as a part of real-life incidents.

In *Ancient Light* (2012) John Banville pleads for moving back to his early days with the help of memories. The protagonist Alexander Cleave is sixty-year-old retired actor who recalls his almost ten-year back memories when he lost his daughter. Likewise other protagonists, he also has the abundance of good and bad memories which help him to live the rest of his life out of distress. Cleave begins to record his memories of life in which he had a unlike affair to his friend's mother who was twenty years senior to him. He himself says that Bill is his best friend and he falls in love with his mother. The book oscillates between memories of this affair and his current grief which he shares with his wife Lydia. The story touches themes such as family, love,

grief, and the reliability of memory.

The Book of Evidence is also one of the remarkable works of John Banville. It contains the life journey of a first-person narrator before his imprisonment. The novel is one of the Frames Trilogy which comprises the rest two novels such as *Ghost* and *Athena*. It has won The Guinness Peat Aviation Award for its excellent depiction of a first-person narrator. It was also shortlisted for the Booker Prize. Banville's fame, through this novel, was recognized among the well-known novelists. He is famous for expression of human psychic and behavior. Banville, as always, never fail to inspect the life journey of his protagonist. Similarly, *The Book of Evidence* is right there on the same path. He portrays a quite vivid picture of the protagonist, Freddie Montgomery, who is, like his other protagonists, has closely experienced the memorable events of the life which haunt deliberately. The memories of the events, experienced by the protagonist long ago, give a sharp description of the expedition of life among many difficulties. The protagonist whose full name is Frederick Charles St. John Vanderveld Montgomery recognized as a proclaimed convict of murdering brutally an innocent lady. Initially, he is found in the jail and confined there. He shares his experience of painful incarceration and of extreme careless management in the jail which give him a feeling of disgust. He has finally no option rather to accept his current situation and seeks somehow to soothe himself. He prefers to recall the days of past which were more delightful than the present. He then wants to recall those early days when he was living joyfully in his childhood and adulthood with his family and friends respectively. Those days were interesting for him because he had those experiences among the renowned persons who helped him to develop his ideologies and social identity. He is found oscillating in the jail with subsistent happenings which are associated to him. He accounts of the days which he has passed either feeling happy or being in distress. Since, the protagonist is an unfortunate 'traveler' who is followed by the mishaps that lead his imprisonment. His imprisonment not only pauses his fourth journey in life but also left him annoyed and aloof in the world of prison.

The Book of Evidence is considered as a work furnished with the elements of memories, nostalgias, and recollections rather than a confession of the convict. It is a book comprising scenes collected together from Freddie's life. Freddie prefers to remember memories which directly influenced him rather than people, and these

memories are grayish reminiscent of the color of the weather as Freddie observes it. His focused view and experience of personal aspect are associated with the reminiscence just as an existentialist who observes men and the characters of the novels. Freddie's memories are often sorrowful and distressing, even though, he manages to express those sorrows in front of the court. He delineates his investigation of those occurrences which engendered grief and left him in such condition. He was born in a rich family, but things were changed when he grew old. He is, being a loved-one for his parents, dropped in a deep world of pain which subverted his goal of life. Now, his cheerless life is no longer assistance to return on track again. The somber memories sometimes cause a kind of trauma which strikes in the mind intermittently. He recounts the events that echo and seem to be taken from the repository or from the storage of retrieval data, consisting of the realities of life, which he never wants to miss anymore. It always seems, out of his present condition, his close observation of the real-life incidents of the past is assimilated through his sensibilities. He recalls his grief caused by his mistakes or by others, and immediately shifts to remembrance of those merry moments which caused by his noble deeds too. He feels remorse inside the prison; furthermore, such situation will create more difficulties to him. Therefore, he prefers to move to those days which comfort him.

The protagonist is found in the court where he has to present himself before the judge during the confessional trial. He is brought there to give his statements and challenge evidently the conviction charge against him. He is asked to prove his innocence by giving solid evidence. Banville has depicted his protagonist who commits a crime and flees from the spot. He is captured by the police and imprisoned where he never feels comfortable and found things disgusting all around. He gets irritated in this situation and disorganized system in the prison. He rebukes the authority for its carelessness. Nevertheless, he admits to stay in the prison and the malice surroundings keep enticing him to escape from the present and live in the world of memories. When he was brought before the judge to narrate honestly the whole incidents, he confesses that he unwittingly murdered the lady because he had no option. He accepts that if he had more options except killing, he might not have killed her. But, for him, he says, the situation was out of his control. However, he tried not to murder her brutally, but he left her in the car to die.

Moreover, during the confession, he reveals stories and the incidents of his life by recalling or reminiscing that are happened to him before imprisonment. He willingly recalls his life journey not from the childhood. Initially, he remembers his wife, Daphne who was, according to him, very beautiful girl. He observed her beauty closely. He says “I think it matches very well her damp, dark, myopic beauty, I see her, my lady of the laurels, reclining in a sun-dazed glade, a little vexed, looking away with a small frown, while some minor god in the shape of a faun...” (09). His close observation of her beauty shows that he never let anything escaped anything from his mind. He has a fresh remembrance of every day’s moments which he has spent with her. He even recalls his first romantic meeting with his wife, Daphne. He says that they meet at a party in America where he falls in love with her seeing her sweet smile. He says, like other couple, he enjoyed his life with his wife. He has romantic honeymoon and shares his emotions and feelings. He says that he never has ill-respect for her, but one thing that he cannot like, is her attitude while negotiating the situation. She is appreciable, but he does not like her laziness. His wife and his son are opposite in nature as they don’t like each other.

Further he recalls his first meeting with his friend, Randolph. He meets his friend first in a bar where they were habitual of smoking and drinking. He introduces him as a wicked American who is, according to him, a liar and a well-known smuggler. He says that Randolph likes to give the impression that he is a very dangerous character and he speaks of dark deeds which he does. Freddie asks him about his profession Randolph manages to tell lies, but later he says that he makes his money by dealing in dope among the island’s transient rich. He becomes friend because he along with him used to visit the bar daily. In the course of his meeting with Randolph, Freddie asks him to lend money which he refuses to give. Freddie reminds him the promise that he made days before. Randolph gives him money as much as he wants. Freddie recalls the days of enjoyment with his family along with his close friend, Randolph. He never forgets his visit to various places which leave some echo in his mind. He recalls a shocking incident of a day when they receive a small package wrapped in brown paper. It contains a tobacco tin, cotton wool and gristly piece of meat crusted with dried blood. Freddie takes no time to recognize it as a human ear, and he immediately moves to see Randolph who covered his one-side ear. It is really painful for Freddie and he expresses

his grief for making such a huge mistake. He remembers incidents happened to his friend because of his faults. He feels remorse for his deeds.

In the course of his reminiscences, Freddie recalls his adulthood ambitions and his despicability. He says that he had a dream to become a man of importance. He wanted to fulfill his desire to achieve prosperity. He says, “When I was young I saw myself as a master builder who would one day assemble a marvelous edifice around myself, a kind of grand pavilion, airy and light, which would contain me utterly and yet wherein I would be free.” (17). He wants to become a master builder, but his ambition could not be fulfilled. He could not mark his importance among well-known persons. He later reminds his inabilities and uncertainties which never leave him. They go after him everywhere. He articulates his sadness over doing the right things wrongly. He says, “If I was reading something, an argument in some book or other, and agreeing with it enthusiastically, and then I discovered at the end that I had misunderstood entirely what the writer was saying...” (18). He delineates how the things automatically happen opposite to him even though he is unwilling to do them.

Another following memory haunts Freddie’s mind regarding his travelling from Spain to home town which echoes the morbid condition of the place. He recalls how much he hates Spain, as it is a brutish and boring country. He shares a lot of his bad experiences in Madrid when he settled there to spend some days. Further, he shares a set of retained memories of early days at Holyhead, as he was a denizen of the city. It was the city which consisted of a good number of reminiscences attributed to his life chiefly of when he was a kid and young man. Firstly, he stresses his inclination towards persistent natural beauty of that place which he finds nowhere, it is more stimulating and worthy for living. For he observes the natural beauty which involves the sunset, the clouds, and the light on the sea, were as if to console him of something lost. He exclaims that he never felt elevated elsewhere as he finds the things here soothing from several severe torments. In addition, he immediately gets reminded the incidents of those days that he spent with his father. He recollects the incidents of a particular place, Kingstown, where he used to go along with his father. His inclination towards the place which was fascinating was a few miles away from his house. He says, “It was all so affecting, I was surprised. I liked it here when I was a child, the pier, the promenade, that green bandstand. There was always a sweet sense of melancholy, of mild regret, as

if some quaint, gay music, the last of the season, had faded on the air.” (27) His ecstasy related to the places leave a melancholic impression somewhere into his mind. However, such lively moment pertaining to that place never skips from his mind because it is really more indulging rather than any other places where he visits later being adult during his professional life. He further remembers his frequent visit to the place usually in weekend and in the school holidays. Even when he used to go with his father, as his father was wittingly desirous for the place, did left him in the car giving an ice-cream when he was twelve-year old. He observes his father’s closeness to a mistress seems to be unfaithful to his mother. However, his mother is not much interested and never accompanies them to visit the place.

Banville has a close perception of human beings including attitudes, physical appearances, and conscience. He does not let anything to be overlooked from his eyes and preserves everything in the faculty of mind for later use. While reminiscing he portrays them exactly the same as if he came across them yesterday. Even when he recalls a single incident, he never misses to depict the personality of the individual: for instance, as he describes his wife. Similarly, he describes the physical appearance and the temper of his father and mother, and even of his friends who he meets. He gives a vivid description of his father. He portrays him as slight, neatly-made man with pale eye brows and pale eyes, and a fair moustache. He also delineates his mother as fat, ugly-faced, and bad temper lady. He depreciates his mother and depicts his less inclination towards his mother. He also portrays his friends some of them having good appearance and temper and some having dubious nature.

Freddie is quite curious to memorize those places where he visited last ten years before his imprisonment. He expounds two-fold of his memories of the same places. He depicts various pictures of the cities in terms of memory by visiting those places frequently. These were cheerful and pleasure evoking on the one hand, distressing and devastating on the other. He says that when he turns away from his house to the city and settles there, he gets multiples opportunities to move back to the places which he ever visited some ten years before. He reaches one of the places, is his hometown. He lives his parents and his friend Charlie. He walks along in the streets and finds that things are changed. He says “Whole streets were gone, the houses torn out and replaced by frightening blocks of steels and black glass. An old square where Daphne and I lived

for a while had been razed and made into a vast, cindered car park.” (29). He expresses his regret and gets devastated by the industrialization and development which brought down and destroyed completely the true beauty of nature of the places. According to him, the ruined heaven includes selling of church, damaged pleasant air and people seemed as survivors, are really dreadful that caused to happen. He heads towards houses through the streets and might have seen horrors. He says it seems that drunks, staggering and swearing, and lost in joyless befuddlement, are prevailing everywhere. The completely ruined picture of the towns is inducing somber feeling inside and has thwarted cheerfulness of the days which were there some ten years before. He inspects the faces of people which seem blurring without happiness. He says that he never anticipated the fully changed picture of those special places which ever evoked positive feelings, now has turned into a bursting dreadful city. He further recalls that he used to visit to the pub which belongs to his friend, Walley. When he was a student, he would be going to the pub to drink. He also visits the place where he meets first time to his childhood friend, Charlie, and never forgets him as Freddie causes great distress and humiliates his dearest friend. He recalls his early days with Charlie when both enjoy their life together. He finds various moments when both drink a lot of wine and tries to hide it to their parents. He enjoys a lot there among his friends but later things change and remains as a deserted land having nothing which may animate positivity.

Freddie enumerates the frantic memories of childhood while peeping into the memories of adulthood which emerge after his long time visiting to his house. It is really, according to him, a place of immense pleasure and penchant as well as full of childhood memories which he finds after his frequently visiting to the place. He says that he finds the distinct façades of the surroundings. The things are changed and not like that as they were in his childhood. He inclines to recall those past moments which were some values in his life. He visits his home town after a long time to see his mother and collect the residues belonging to his childhood. In an interview, John Banville states: “You know, as human beings we struggle through childhood, longing to get away from our parents, then afterwards we try to cherish them and take care of them.” He initially wants to move away from his parents to stand as an identical person, but being in an uneasy situation, he decides to unite them again. He is seemed to be obsessed to homecoming and wants to experience again those moments which were left

behind. He says “I took the bus to town, and got off at a street where I used to live years ago, when I was a student, and walked along by the railings of park in the warm wind under the seething trees, my heart filled with nostalgia.” (153). His mind is filled with nostalgia of his house. Though he has already toured across the country being as a young man, but he could not appease his appetites and console himself from the current oppressive situation and contemporary social fabrics which caused pain and distress. He observes the changing in surroundings but his mother remains in the same situation as she was some ten years back. Such adherences recur and evoke something in the form of memories of childhood days when he used to live with his mother and father. He says that he remembers his frequent visiting to the neighborhood and buying apples from the farmer’s wife. He recalls that the morning imbues vigor of freshness with more vividness and force than the real things surrounded him. He feels pleasure while memorizing the fields all around, the light above the fields, and the vast and slow late summer day. He gets affected with the natural surroundings which entice him to think furthermore those things which help in ameliorating from the distress. He finds ways to recall almost all trivial and important memories. He further says that he feels irksome with his current situation and yearns for the sweet odor of air of his own house. Therefore, he wants to get rid of all these annoying elements. He gears himself back to find his way again where he was in childhood. He finds his mother out there when he reaches home. He describes his mother as “she is a large, vigorous woman with the broad face and heavy hair of a tinker’s wife.” (40). He enters the house and finds the smell of the house as it was when he was a child. He says “Is there anything as powerfully, as piercingly evocative, as the smell of the house in which one’s childhood was spent?” (41). The smell of the house, disorderly management of the household, and the scattered utensils inside the kitchen arouse the exact sense of childhood and draws him in that state again.

He roams inside the house and examines each and everything closely. He enters into the rooms of upstairs and downstairs and finds many things attributed to his of childhood and adulthood. He says “things thronged around me in the shadows – a battered rocking horse, an old high bicycle, a bundle of antique tennis racquets – their outlines blurred, grayish, fading, as if this place were a way- station where the past paused on its way down into oblivion.” (45). His belongings of the childhood affect his

psychic and stir him up to be in the reminiscence of his house. Things happen to him as though they took place by yesterday. He goes to his father room. Though his father dies of illness long before, the memory of his father is still striking fresh in his mind when he enters the room. He hangs up with his father's memory which evokes from the things lying there. After his father's death, he says, he sits on his father's chair where he used to sit and read the books. He too looks for the same books which his father ever preferred. He finds all the moments retrieving while sitting on the chair of his father. He discovers his mother's summons to look after his father who was suffering from a severe disease. When he goes his father's room, he will find him pushing about in corners, playing with things or just standing and tilted at an odd angle. He observes odd behaviors of his father and finds him performing unnecessary task when he enters the room. He gets devastated with sudden death of his father. He also remembers the day of his father death when he was lying on the bed having tied up, ready for coffin. He portrays him even on the death-bed as though the incident of long ago happened just day before yesterday. He says "He lay on the bed with his hands folded on his breast and his eyes shut tight, like a child being good. His hair was brushed in a neat lick across his forehead. His ears, I remember, were very white." (49). He portrays his father on death-bed which is clear enough to him. He adheres to the memory of his father who is dearer to him.

Freddie reveals the incidents of his life through various sets of memory which left some remarkable impact. He subsequently recalls his involvement in a bitter argument with his mother on the pictures and says "they were mine, my inheritance, my future and my son's future." (56). He exhibits his possession on the pictures which have tied him up to life of his father and yielded in invoking the memories of his ancestors. He gets reminded to his father when he looks at the pictures. He argues to his mother to get the pictures back. He demands to know where the pictures are. He bursts out on his mother to know the truth regarding what happened to the pictures. He inquires into the rooms but he gets the pictures nowhere. Finally, he rushes to his mother to know. His mother too bursts out on him because he left the house twenty years before with no reason. Neither he nor his wife and son come to see her within these years. He leaves the house without caring about his mother and his attributes. They exchange abusive words with each other for a while. She thinks for some moment

and says that the pictures are sold to Binkie Behrens. He ponders about the Behrens, the family he came across ever since the pictures. The pictures lead to his meeting with Helmut Behrens, the father of Binkie Behrens. His father had a tussle with Helmut Behrens while collecting the pictures from house of a lady whom his grandfather had ever courted. Initially, the pictures belong to that young lady's house hanging on the walls. His father collects the pictures from the house of the lady because he was fond of those pictures. Now, he further says that the pictures belong to his father. He finds these pictures in his father's room. He spots his father with pictures some thirty or forty years before. As much as his father was so affectionate to the pictures, similarly, Freddie too is inclined towards the pictures.

Generally, Freddie recalls the incidents of his life that are intertwined with other incidents. Likewise, the memory of pictures brings another memory concerned with Freddie's life. It is the pictures that bring Anna Behrens close to him. In the beginning, when he meets Anna when both are quite young. He says "I seem to remember once at Whitewater being sent outside to play with her in the grounds. Play! That's a good one. Even in those days she had that air of detachment, of faint, remote amusement, which I have always found unnerving." (59). Freddie gets struck of the memory of Anna and recalls the moments when he meets her very first time in their young age. He always has feelings towards Anna. He is fond of her beauty and wants to spend time with her. But he departs from her soon when he moves to American. He says that he is surprised to see her again in a huge art gallery where she is working. His meeting with Anna exalts much pleasure because he reunites with his loved one who was dear to him since young age. He wanted to spend time with her delightfully when he was student. Freddie comes across two sets of memory with Anna. First, when he meets Anna in young age; she was poised, silent, and palely beautiful; she was nicknamed The Ice Queen. Second, when he settles in American with his wife; he finds her in an art gallery. He feels elevated when he finds her again. He invites her to his house for dinner so that he can spend more time with her as he used to do. He had an intimate relation with Anna since quite young age. All his feelings that were buried, he says, came out abruptly when he sees her again. Both had a great time in their student life as well as after meeting again in America. Both enjoy a lot by travelling various places in American. Freddie feels solace when he recalls his first crush with Anna. It is about his mind from

where irresistible memories of her come out and do not escape any of them barred mentioning. He delineates each moment passed with Anna gleefully. Even when he invites her to his house, he sneaks to see her beauty. He says that she is still beautiful as she was some twenty years back.

Freddie pressurizes his mind to tell something more about his memory affiliated to pictures and his life. Having coarse dispute to his mother, Freddie moves out of the house to find out where the pictures are. He does not want to let the pictures go away because they contain memories of his family. He has the only thing that he can have in form of memory living abroad. He wants to give them to his son to persist the memory of his parents. His disposition to get back the pictures is strong enough. He tries to possess them by hook or by the crook. He all of a sudden rush to Binkie Behrens's house. He takes taxi for miles and also walks along the road when Anna approaches him. She stops her car beside him and offers him to get into the car. They reach at a beautiful house. Freddie has still feelings for Anna that he could not express yet. He wants to tell her that he loves her but cannot. Freddie stays Anna's house for a while to know from Binkie about the pictures. Binkie claims his possession on the pictures and says that the pictures were sold by his (Freddie) mother. He further says that he has paid just double for the pictures to his mother. Freddie gets disillusioned hearing Binkie's such claim on pictures.

As the things around him are despicable, Freddie gets chances to look out through the window of the cell. He looks upon the changing in the seasons and the movements outside that evoke a sense of freedom to go around. The changing of the seasons provokes emotions for something or someone whom he misses a lot. Though the condition inside the cell is worse, he glimpses outside; the straggling of the schoolboys; the tree and people around it; and the movement of the vehicles on the road. He anticipates the fancy night outside which would be a world of immense delight and painstaking. Such views of outer world also evoke multiple sensations in him and appeal to reminisce those days which were passed happily without any restrictions. Moreover, Freddie tends to remember his father and says "At this time of year I often dream about my father. It is always the same dream, though the circumstances vary. The person in it is indeed my father, but not as I ever knew him. He is younger, sturdier, he is cheerful, he has a droll sense of humour." (84). Memory

of his father assists him to spots his father in the hospital-bed. He is admitted there because of a fatal disease. He accuses his father and blames him for being in such condition. He also delineates his father's activities as he is sitting up in bed with a steaming mug of tea in his hand. He sits on a chair silently beside his father for a moment and observes him watching his face closely. He shows pity on his father's condition as he just escaped from the mouth of death. He recalls his responsibilities towards his family especially towards his mother whom he has deserted without any forewarning. Subsequently, he recalls his wandering from city to village and vice-versa. The glimpse of winter and autumn, he observes being inside the cell, arouses him to recall his visit to the village. He goes to the village by hiring a taxi. The natural surroundings in the village provoke hidden emotions and feelings, and also console him. He wanders place to place aimlessly. He says that he roams in the streets with his driver, Reck, in the darkened night. As he does not find shelter to stay, he goes to the driver's house. Here, he finds Mrs. Reck who looks scary to him. He spends many days there observing nature closely from the balcony of Reck's house. He stays there until he manages to do what he wants. Meanwhile, he preconceives a plan to be figured out as soon as possible. He contrives to burgle into Binkie's house to collect his pictures. He goes to a hardware shop and buys implements that will be used during burglary.

Freddie's mind consists of memory of the fascinating and terrific incidents of his life. Nonetheless, he shares the terrific incidents that cause to feel regret for his wrongdoing. Freddie recalls the deadliest incident of his life when he was involved in crime which caused his imprisonment. He kills a woman who is a maid at the Binkie's house. He says his heart is filled with remorse and fear when he recalls the incident. Apparently, he also feels happy when he shares the fascinating incidents of his life. He endeavors to contrive a plan to be carried out by stealing the pictures from Binkie's house. He dares to go to Binkie's house to possess the pictures. He is overwhelmed with the obsession of possessing the picture which is owned by Binkie. He arranges a car by hiring it using another name. He enters the house and inspects all around. After examining everything carefully in the house, he manages to seize up the picture and run away. Unfortunately, he is discovered red-handed by a woman in the house, the situation gets reverse. Somehow, he manages to escape by taking the woman along in fear of being caught. He flings her on the car along with the picture and takes her to a

secluded place. It is not as he plans. He attacks on her with a hammer on the way when she scuffles with him. He leaves her alone on the car to die. He manages to escape smartly from the spot. He says it is the saddest moment of his life when he unwillingly kills a woman. He drives his car across the city in search of safe place where he can cast her aside. The worst thing he does when he leaves her to die over there. He feels pity for committing such heinous crime.

Freddie's memories have far-reaching impact on his life. He seems to be abundant with multiples range of memories. He shares every single memory with great enthusiasm. He misses those moments which he passed living happily. Similarly, he feels remorse for those moments which bring him distress because of his miscues that left him in desolation. It seems, accumulates the incidents of his life through his first person-narrator by reminiscing them being in the jail. He cumulates the incidents in the form of memory to please himself by recalling and may help him to prove to be innocent.

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