Dystopian Society and the Individual in the Works of Philip K. Dick

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Abstract

This paper entitle **Dystopian Society and the Individual in the Works of Philip K. Dick** the problems of human battles with era, fall of society and nature fanciful technological worlds, dystopian supremacy of technology over people, and trying to find redemption in Philip K. Dick short stories. It also says approximately hazards of mechanization of existence and excessive-technology as a terrible development which leads to dystopian international. Technology is called a double edged sword and human usually thinks about the useful and utopian-making fringe of it, however Dick's quick works display his fears of struggle, social failure, rising of military generation and political struggles, and he portrays turning of life that's seeking out a utopia into a dystopia on the opposite fringe of this sword.

Keywords:-Robots, Science, Dystopia, distant future.

I. INTRODUCTION

The dystopian genre is a unique science fiction subcategory. The word "Dystopia" is an antonym of "Utopia," a phrase originally used in the 1516 title of his work Utopia by the poet, Sir Thomas More. The concept is based on the Greek Greek word "ou." It refers to the Greek word "not" and "topos." This indicates that utopia is creative and thus unenforceable for the real world. The word "dystopia" emerged in the eighteenth century, but dystopian literature as a subgenre of science fiction prospered primarily in the twentieth century. However, the Dystopian works have not been a by definition forgotten in the twentieth century. Conversely, the number of contemporary writers who have published dystopian texts has risen by a great number of people and dystopian literature has become very popular also among teens.

"Minority Report" short story in 1956. Originally published in magazine Fantastic Universe, the novel *A Scanner Darkly* is quite distinct. It was written twenty years ago at the time Dick's writing short story for pulp magazines is not half-autobiographical, like A Scanner Darkly. His most well-known novel *The Man in The High Castle* was published later in 1962. He continued to write more nuanced and lengthy texts. This does not say, however, that Dick's short stories, like "Minority Report," are not complicated, or that Dick's later novels have little consistency. Dick's use of certain elements of scientist-fiction such as alien leaders or intergalactic flight is one of the principal variances between "Minority Report" and *A Scanner Darkly*. The most extraordinary concept of 'minority report' is its core phenomenon: the so-called pre-crime mechanism used by the police, through which the 'would-be criminals that are forecasted to commit a crime will be seen and avoided (MR 63). However, pre-crime is also troublesome.

II. ANGLO-CHINESE WAR

The story is located in a very distant future, after a fictional Anglo-Chinese War, in New York, which is now part of the Federated Wesbloc Alliance. There are two big, corrupt systems fighting each other to win the rule over Westbloc-the Army, which ruled during the War and "ran the complete show, both military and domestic" (MR83), and the police using the Precrime system, governing now for above thirty years. The purpose why the Army is mistaken and dystopian lies in the detail that it would do everything to win back the military law and its overall control, not undecided to contrive against the head of the Precrime system, John A. Anderton, and the system itself. It provokes the given typical society against the ruling system and its chief during an Army rally, where the Army leader, General Leopold Kaplan, tries to discredit Precrime.

On the other hand, the Precrime system is morally corrupt too- firstly, it captures innocent people who are believed to commit a future crime, but they never do, just because they get arrested and sent to detention camps(64). Precrime hence does not take people's free will and presumption of innocence into account. Secondly, the system is fully dependent on the predictions of "Precrogs", who are enslaved, disabled 'mutants' living imprisoned in "monkey blocks' and connected to the computers. They are thus forewent for the superior good of the entire society. This shows the ethical and ethical downside of the seemingly perfect system, which is distinctive for dystopian fiction.

The strong element of surveillance in this dystopian society is obviously present too. Not only is the population's future monitored by the precogs, but the monitoring of citizens is also possible due to modern technology: for example, phones that enable audio as well as video calls, a radio that informs citizens about Anderton who is on the run, or fingerprint and brain-wave pattern examinations mentioned by Anderton at one point (74).

III. DONNA, JERRY, and MIKE

Anther dystopian feature of the short story lies in the characters of Donna, Jerry, and Mike. They are precogs "human beings, who suffer from severe developmental defects, but at the same time have a talent for predicting the future. Despite their disability, the safety of the whole society lies on their shoulders. When describing Donna's defect that affects her brain, Anderton shows no concern about the ethics (or the lack thereof) of the precogs' enslavement" "but what do we care? We get their prophecies. They pass on what we need. They understand any of it, but we do' (64). A minority must, therefore, succumb to the majority. Although the Westbloc is basically a police state, precogs and the Precrime system are not used only by the Police department – as Anderton explains, "[e]very important bureau has its cellar of treasured monkey" (65), meaning the precogs, so there are not only Donna, Jerry, and Mike, but probably many more precogs imprisoned in other divisions, too. The precogs are thus deprivedof their right of freedom, entally remaining "dull, confused, lost in shadows" (64). The enslavement of precogs resembles the sacrifice of Bob Arctor in A Scanner Darkly, where he also has to serve the greater good of the society (Rubin 191).

Unlike Bob Arctor, however, the protagonist of "Minority Report", John A. Anderton, is not sacrificed; on the contrary: he is highly praised for the foundations of the Precrime system. Although he is also a policeman, jut as Arctor in the story, Anderton differs from Arctor very much. He is the head of police, therefore he is in charge of everything that happens – but only to the point when he has to face "the political consequences of predicting the future" (Vest 118), i.e., the army starts to conspire against him. Charged with the future

murder of the head of the Army, Anderton experiences the same injustice as the people sent to detention camps by the Precrime system. This offers a unique insight into the rotten core of the system, which Anderton still defends. He even chooses to kill Leopold Kaplan to preserve it (85) the system which is morally as corrupt as the system the Army would bring.

Unlike Bob Arctor, Anderton does not represent counter culture, on the contrary, he is the brain of the ruling oppressive system, although he is replaced by Witwer at the end of the short story. Also, the disrupted concept of family is not present here "although Anderton first suspects his, how else than brown-eyed and dark-haired (Robb 15), wife Lisa of plotting against him with Witwer, he soon realizes that the conspiracy was prepared by the Army. After Anderton murders Kaplan, he is not imprisoned but sent into off-planet exile, and together with Lisa, they fly to Centaurus X. Due to Anderton's exile, it is possible to preserve the corrupt Precrime system.

Leopold Kaplan and his subordinate Fleming and Anderton's subordinate, Wally Page who looks after the precogs and who also carries knowledge to Kaplan and Fleming who serve the army, are the secret antagonists in the plot, who seem to be the allies of Anderton first. However, while Anderton has to meet secret rivals such as Bob and Fred in *A Scanner Darkly,* he discovers eventually the truth and can take suitable measures to rescue both he and his invention of the machine pre-crime.

IV. HUMAN-MACHINE

This is a relationship in which all the android is not worried and hunted, but in which the potential of a human-machine hybrid is realized, in which the possibility of "extending embodied awareness in highly specific, local, and material ways that would be impossible without electronic prosthesis: (Hayles 291) becomes reality. These innovations must not be viewed as a challenge to human autonomy, because, as shown, the borders between the machine and human life are by no means strong. Computers can be used as a mental prothetic for men where a huge quantity of material, much like a personal library or archive can be accessed at will. Personal computation is nevertheless the same alienating result in the stories of the empathy package. The body is frequently overlooked during contact with a machine, as the mind is distracted by the computer's possibilities. These technologies are not destructive in themselves, as Dick claims that these inventions will be misused through "the wrong hands" (The Android, and Human 196) to the detriment of humanity or people who really may not use the technology safely. In the same essay, Dick says:

> Our flight must be not only to the tars nut onto the nature of our own beings. Because it is not merely *Where We Go…* but what we are as we make our pilgrimages there. Our natures will be going there, too. *Ad Asstra—but per hominum* [to the stars—but as men]. And we must never lose sight of that. (189)

V. CONCLUSION

Dick preaches Hayles' agenda here, emphasizing the value of the human body while acknowledging and promoting scientific and technological advancement in parallel. It is not incompatible with technologies and humans. Indeed, Technology has always been connected to human life as a human creation and has influenced and guided the relationship between people and the outside world. If a more open technology connexion is formed, the chances for simultaneous and complementary growth of human beings and technology are greatly expanded similar to the one proposed by people such as Hayles. A transparent and integrative

interaction with technology will make humanity much more secure rather than treating technology as the end of civilization.

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