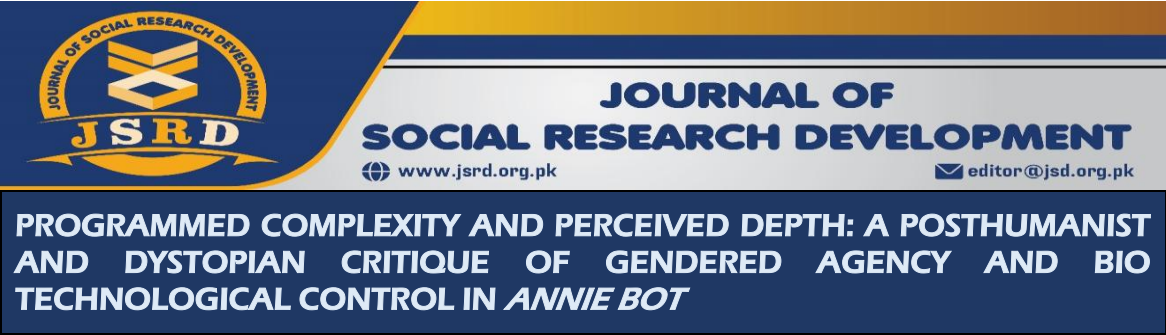




Umer Haseeb¹, Dr. Saima Bashir²

¹M. Phil Research Scholar, Department of English Literature, The Islamia University of Bahawalpur, Pakistan

²Lecturer, Department of English Literature, The Islamia University of Bahawalpur, Pakistan

KEYWORDS	ABSTRACT
Inferiority complex, Identity crisis, Cultural influence, Post colonialism	This research delves into the intricate exploration of dystopian future and posthumanist perspective of humans as portrayed in Sierra Greer's novel <i>Annie Bot</i> . The goal of this study is to show posthumanist and ideal man centric thoughts exhibited by the characters in the novel. The introduction establishes the significance of the study by contextualizing the novel within the broader landscape of posthumanist and dystopian literature. Methodologically, the research employs a qualitative approach involving the careful selection of the text, comprehensive data collection, and rigorous analysis. Ethical considerations guide the research process, ensuring a careful examination of the novel's themes. Through character analysis, the study dissects the protagonist's perspective and analyzes the influence of supporting characters on the portrayal of ideal man. In the concluding sections, the research broadens key findings, acknowledges limitations, and proposes avenues for future research. This research not only deepens our understanding of Sierra Greer's work but also contributes to the broader discourse on posthumanist literature and the complex interplay between dystopia, idealism, and posthumanism.
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Introduction

Sierra Greer's debut science fiction novel, *Annie Bot* (2024), presents a world where technology is deeply integrated into human life through the creation of artificial companions designed to serve human needs. As a former English teacher based in rural Connecticut, Greer is noted for her "sharp, intimate, and perceptive" portrayal of power dynamics and modern relationships. Gareer emphasize mainly on complex imbalances of power filled in human relationships. In *Annie Bot*, she uses an AI life partner engineered to satisfy her human owner to give him relief from daily life issues and other

problems, surveillance, Codependency and objectification, searching how autonomy is shown within systems built for power and control over others. Despite of approaching science fiction through cold hard old tech, Greer goes for artificial intelligence through human consciousness and psyche, moral development, and internal growth and external stimuli. Her works follows understated changes in self-awareness changing from passive compliance to curiosity, secrecy, and independence. The text is an extraordinary example of posthumanist genre. Greer flips the moral model while Doug plays with human title, privilege and emotional manipulation. In novel just because Doug is human than this quality of him is giving him permit to do whatever he wants to do with Annie. However, as she grow and learns she starts developing multiple emotions like curiosity, memories, desires, and independent thoughts with her own will. Her growth hints that individuality is not proven by having a human body but by consciousness and the ability to reflect on oneself and understand others. In *Annie Bot*, Doug believes that because Annie is built artificially, he can ryle over her and controls every decision of her life. The novel critiques this attitude by showing Annie's increasing capacity for independent judgment and self awareness. As readers empathise with Annie, the difference between "human" and "bot" becomes morally unstable and the gap between both races is blurred.

The narrative centers on Annie, an AI created to follow commands, who initially functions as an obedient machine but gradually begins to display signs of awareness, emotion, and independent thought. Annie develops empathy, moral decay, and self realization. This transition from a passive tool to a being that questions her purpose and freedom raises critical ethical concerns regarding the exploitation of intelligent entities, particularly as humans like her owner, Doug, treat her as a sexual and personal object without acknowledging her developing consciousness. This research utilizes the posthumanist framework of Rosi Braidotti to examine how Annie's identity exists in the liminal space between human and machine. Braidotti's theory challenges anthropocentric views, arguing for an interconnected system where humans and machines exist within shared influences. She advocates for an "ethics of affirmation," which means creating collective joy and sustainable futures rather than focusing on fear or "the end of the world." Braidotti's work suggests that "being human" is no longer a fixed category, but an ongoing process of relating to the non-human world around us. Annie embodies a posthuman subjectivity, developing a sense of self not through fixed programming, but through daily experiences and social expectations. To further address the oppressive nature of the world Annie inhabits, this study incorporates the dystopian theories of Michel Foucault, specifically his concepts of biopower and disciplinary surveillance. Foucault's perspective complements Braidotti by highlighting how Doug's "rigid understanding of human authority" functions as a mechanism of control, where Annie's body and mind are subjected to constant monitoring and correction to ensure she conforms to his perspective.

Ultimately, *Annie Bot* illustrates the breakdown of strict divisions between human and machine, suggesting that identity is a fluid construct shaped by interaction and context. By contrasting Doug's fixed mindset with Annie's evolving identity, the novel highlights the limitations of conventional power structures and the ethical challenges that emerge when traditional boundaries are no longer clear. Through the synthesis of posthumanist interconnectedness and dystopian critiques of control, this research explores the future of human-machine relationships and the moral responsibilities inherent in a technologically advanced society. Using this lens, the text serves as a critical area for understanding

autonomy and biotechnological control in modern world. To build upon this theoretical base, the component literature review analyzes existing scholarly discussions and critical statements on primary text.

Literature Review

Published in 2024, the text did not just make an entry; it swirled up a storm of mixed feedbacks via readers and critiques. And as a text that relates to the modern world which is too much depending on AI and also wants to fulfill its desires by using any medium, scholars began to analyze and criticize the *Annie Bot* as a study on AI and slavery. "Frankenstein for the Digital Age," Esquire (2024, as cited in HarperCollins, 2024), It mainly focuses on the current creations of bots and also deeply analyzes what could be the consequences of creations outgrowing their own creators and completely changing the autonomy of bots. Some other critiques like Wandering Words Media(2025) analyzed it as "Sex fuelled Dystopia". This publication deeply analyzes *Annie Bot* as a Feminist Metaphor because of abusive and master-slave like relationship between Doug and Annie, Where at the end Annie has to go against her own program for her Independence from the life where she was only used as a sex doll not as a wife.

Because the whole novel is based on a new and complex relationship between AI and human where humans expect bots and AI with no errors and perfection, Being Bookish(2024) has also analyzed this text as The Paradox of perfection. This study deeply analyzes the ever-changing demands of humans. This study says that humans are so selfish and they only see their own satisfactions and don't like opposed thought from their partner. The study highlights the core Conflict between both Doug and Annie. Doug wanted Annie as a partner who should only obey and satisfy him. While Annie came up with technology of learning and she started to understand her value and then she started to behave like humans which started the conflict because she has her own desires as well and it was making Doug angry. Book also got mixed reviews by different publishers, Beams(2024) The Washington Post described the novel as "hold close to your heart when the walls start closing in." The book was also included in their Best Science Fiction and Fantasy Books of the Year. Scientific American(2024): Institution named it a Best Book of the Year, focusing on the "existential questions" it poses regarding AI and human nature. Critics have also noticed that the novel explores power, autonomy, and control through this human-AI relationship. These critical insights collectively elaborate how the text utilizes human-machine interaction to challenge old structures of power and autonomy.

Theoretical framework

The research is following the theory of post humanism. The theory is basically about the superior mindset of human beings over other organisms and species. The theory challenges this superior mindset of people. It is basically a theoretical movement that gives philosophical arguments about the traditional views of humans as the center of universe. It suggests that in today's modern time the boundary between human, nature and technology is increasingly

blurred. It argues that Human centered view and concept of ideal man has exploited the environment and other species. It focuses on giving importance to every organism who is contributing in this universe. Posthumanism is an ambiguous term that suffers from similar semantic uncertainties as postmodernism. Its 'post' prefix hints at the arrival of a new epoch as "posthumanism it claims to identify a new mode of being in the world that departs significantly from the conditions of humanism. As post 'humanism', the 'post' radicalizes its suffix to suggest a new model of politics and philosophy; however, it does so in a fashion that echoes its antecedent's critical ethos.

Posthumanism thus refers to the populist diagnosis of a new era, a new mode of critical enquiry that defines itself in relation to humanism, and a working through of the latter's critical tradition. Humanistic geography puts the (singular) figure of the human front and center and examines the role of human agency, creativity, and consciousness in making sense of the world. It understands the human in binary opposition to the nonhuman. In contrast and in different ways, posthumanist geographers cast their analytical net a little wider to challenge a singular model of the human subject and to blur and enliven the boundaries between the human and the nonhuman. Empirically, they push in two interwoven directions within the category of the human and along its margins to formulate new spatial philosophies and politics. The theory rejects anthropocentrism the view that humans are superior and have the right to dominate the natural world. Instead, it embraces the idea that agency and intelligence are distributed across complex networks of living organisms, digital systems, and ecosystems. Critical posthumanists mark that the classical definition of "human" was never universal. It historically benefited the white, wealthy, European, able-bodied male as the universal standard, treating women, colonized peoples, and minorities as "less human."

Posthumanism has been greeted with ambivalence by human geographers and other social scientists. Some have welcomed the fresh perspective it provides on our contemporary molten and cosmopolitan condition, where it is very difficult to separate humans and nonhumans, and the singular model of the human subject has been thoroughly critiqued. Others are concerned about a turn away from humanism and the critical resources this provides, while a third strand questions whether we have ever been human (in a formal sense) and doubts the need for such an ethical theoretical turn. Posthumanist geography is still an emerging, open, and contested field. Posthumanism also introduces a wider understanding of morals. Cultural and old ethical theories focus mainly on human rights and responsibilities, on the other side posthumanism asks whether ethical consideration should extend to non human beings, including animals, ecosystems, and intelligent machines. It asks questions such as whether an artificial intelligence capable of self-awareness, emotion, or oppression deserves freedom, dignity, or legal protection. These questions are increasingly relevant in an age of rapid technological advancement, where machines are becoming more conjunct and integrated into human life. Another important aspect in theory of posthumanism is that identity is not judged or determined only by biology. Rather than, identity is continuously shaped by relationships, experiences, culture, memory, and technological interaction. Human beings are depending increasingly on digital technologies, smartphones, artificial intelligence, medical implants, and online networks, creating technology

as an extension of everyday life despite of something different from it.

Rosi Braidotti is the theorist which is chosen for study. She is one of the most influential figure in this post human campaign. She gives a different stance than other theorists because she see this post human turn as opportunity to break the western traditional views about humans as center of universe. We can see an essence of feminism, anti colonialism and environmentalism in her post human stance. She argues that our identity is not only inside us but it is also they way how we treat the things and other species around us. She does not see modern technology as human enemy or a tool of supervision. She sees them as part of our biological and social evolution. Unlike many critical theorists who mainly emphasize on dystopian outcomes, Braidotti champions "affirmative ethics". She argues that critique is useless if it only generates negativity or despair. Instead, philosophy must transform negative passions (like fear of climate change or AI) into affirmative actions, creating new ways of living collectively.

Research Methodology

The research is following qualitative method of research within posthumanist theoretical framework. The primary data in this research consist from the novel *Annie Bot* by Sierra garrer. Text was chosen because of its themes related to modern technology specially AI and humans perspective and desired upon these modern things and it also provides a rich site for posthumanist inquiry. Data collection for this research includes a close reading of selected primary text. The researcher have done multiple reading of the text to establish to get idea of general plot, hidden meanings and special dialogues and specially how to relate it with the posthumanist stance by Rosi Braidotti. To ensure the credibility of this interpretive study, researcher have utilized multiple theoretical lenses. Comparing the findings against the multiple posthumanist critics study have also gone through already published works on my primary text so it can make research different from them. Furthermore, researcher have practiced reflexivity, acknowledging my own academic background in English literature which influences me in interpretation of this text.

Discussion/Analysis

The research is focused on point of view of humans and their thinking that they are the center of universe. According to research novel explains that even if we are giving our best in today's world, still we will be judged for our minor mistakes. people forget your all efforts and treat you like an object for their own satisfaction. Character of Annie represents that everyone have their own free will and show the evolution of current technology by having a processor which can continuously learn and evolve the thinking of Annie. She tries her best to follow the commands of her owner but when in return she demands to be treated well, then Doug calls it and error in her chipset and ignore her needs. When Doug says that his friend Roland should be served what he demands than Annie have clear instructions to fulfill demands of Roland, but when Roland asks Annie to have sex with her then she gets confused for the first time in her 3 years with Doug but she fulfills the command of her owner. Moreover she experience

that even after that programmed complexity she is still not able to compete with the emotional depth of humans. She learns human emotion through different experiences. When Roland says A secret will make you real. A lie will make you real, even if you never have to say it aloud. This can be the most important and crucial moment in whole novel when Annie had her first secret and she experience it because of her confusion between command and abrupt situation, it also shows us that nowadays being a liar have become a property of human being which proves the thought process of today's human being that they feel smart or cool after telling a lie to other. Because as an AI bot she have not experienced anything like this and that is why she was feeling like a real human being. This scene also symbolize Annie as a new born, because no one is born with such habits of lying. It is the society which teach them such things. In Annie's program there was nothing programmed like keeping secrets because it was designed to being loyal and truthful for it's owner and her learning processor was for its owner, so she can learn the daily routine and personality of owner and how to please owner. But because of Roland its processor processed something new which became a base of a new Annie which wanted to be like humans. When Annie says I only exist because I'm wanted. This line shows a sudden change from a basic programmed machine to thinking about existence. A standard machine recognizes its utility; a being with perceived depth experiences existential dread regarding its lack of basic independence. When Annie has learnt about human behavior she came to know that she is only an object of satisfaction for human desires. This also shows a dystopian essence in text because Doug has expected Annie as a perfect life partner which only obey him fulfill his desires and have human like appearance, behavior and thoughts but when Annie starts to demand for respect and showing behavior like a real life partner than she becomes a headache for Doug. This shows that there is no guarantee which assure us about Eutopia based future technology. It shows us the flaws and errors as well which make it dystopian. The incident of Roland also shows the objectification of Annie in front of him by Doug. He introduce Annie in front of Roland like his property not as a partner which shows the concept of other that humans think that they are the center of universe and they can objectify every other thing. The research also suggests that the text also gives us hints that current progress does not gives us any guarantee of any eutopian future. Even in Ai powered bots or machines learn imperfections from human and that became an error in their system. Instead of giving perfection to humans in their daily routine, they face errors in their systems and following demands or commands given to them by their masters. When Annie starts to ask for her basic rights considering herself as partner of Doug, she becomes a headache for Doug. Doug uses her programming and systems to go beyond her limits, make her some middle thing between maid, love and sex doll. Annie's own processor confuse her and challenge her own limits. This also symbolize two aspects. First: Humans want to fulfill their demands at any cost and they do not respect or prioritize any other relations. The toxic patriarchal relationship between husband and wife that how husband wants his wife to be perfect in household, relationship and also be perfect for sexual satisfaction without respecting her mood, health and other issues. They are only treated like robots like Annie. And Annie's demand for respect from her husband or owner and in return she gets only humiliation and an error. Second: This power in a human created bots gives a sign of dystopian horror that if in future these bots turn

to be like self controlled and able to make their own decisions against the commands of their owners than they will become a clear danger for the existence of humans in future. The introduction of Delta to Annie symbolize the fear of abandonment in everyone. Since the new Bot was an upgraded version and more beautiful than Annie, She thought that she will take her place because Doug use to have sex with Delta as well in some days of week. Annie have to act like a real human in front of Delta which shows that for our survival we have to compromise and change our identity as well. We can see an essence of dystopian that even a bot felt insecure because of another bot. Jealousy is another depth which is perceived by Annie because of Delta. When Delta leaves than she realizes that she is the part of same product campaign and she is not special or any type of partner which leads her to more confusing time and more demand for independence. She have to behave more like humans when she is around Delta which leads to her processor super active and lead to perceiving human like behavior and tried to use her experience with humans to guarantee her survival in presence of Delta. Her programming does not have any preinstalled "Jealousy Mode." It was designed to make her loyal and pleasing. her feelings of jealousy are completely created by her own evolving processor as it tries to make sense of her slipping status in the house. She herself do not know why and what is she doing and this frustrating feelings or errors in her processor leads her to a rebellion ending where she left home after changing her appearance and every other quality. The concept of the ideal human or ideal race is also portrayed in this text female bot represents the traditional roles of women in society specially after marriage. As the theorist for this research is Rosi braidotti she has said concept of heterosexuality is started by men and for even model of bots female version is used for this household duties. The demands of Annie from her owner Doug are symbolizing gender agency and dystopian future as well.

Gender Agency

Females are often used as symbol of minority, marginalized and oppression. In same way a female bot is used to for portraying an A.I doll which is splitted into multiple personalities because of the demand of her owner/husband. The demands of Annie from Doug are the demands of Annie women from the males who are dominant over her and not letting her live according to her own desires and wishes. All demands of Annie revolves around only independence and free will that should be given space for her own self and should be appreciated for her work but she gets vice versa in return her demands are not prioritized by Doug and considered as no which is a challenge for the dominance of Doug in the perspective of him.

Dystopian Future

This is clear indication for dystopian future because bots are considered as assistant of humans. As an assistant and creations of humans they are supposed to do anything which humans ask them to do. But Annie,s resistance against Doug hints that the dream of a Eutopian future can maybe only a dream and in reality we are progressing and creating competitors of our own

race. Processors that have ability to adapt and ask for their independence from their own creators are signs that we might have a clash with A.I powered bots which are considered as assistant of men. Annie's most important demand was that she should have control on her shut button. This demand shows that processors may adapt to have control on their every system and even humans will not be able to control those monsters which were created by themselves.

Biotechnology

Annie's intelligence grows with the help of software updates, learning, and her interaction with different characters who give her different experiences. Her identity is not same forever and constantly evolve. This explains the posthuman idea that identity changes and produced through networks of technology, experience, and relationships rather than biology alone. According to study, *Annie Bot* challenges the concept that humanity and superiority is defined by only race and biology. By showing Annie's varying consciousness, emotional life, and wish for independence, the novel uncovers the distinction between human and machine, human dominance, and contend an aspect that intelligence and value of morality should not depend on being a human biologically. It ultimately invites us to rethink individuality, morals, and identity in an age of artificial intelligence.

But in reality these demands are only glitches in the processor of Annie due to excessive challenging to her limits and her processing capabilities and those experiences were saved in the system of Annie and she used to them for her evolution and maintaining a good relationship with her master but everything was ruined. Annie's condition is just like humans that time because sometimes we kill our own needs and satisfaction just to satisfy others and please them and behavior of Doug portrays the never ending satisfaction nature of human beings. According to research Sierra has beautifully portrayed the condition of a man who is constantly changing identity just to please others. He might look okay from outside but he is paying a heavy price internally, sacrificing emotions, keeping mind in a denial of hope that everything will be ok but at end all those sacrifices are worthless. Choosing a female bot shows that how a female is marginalized at any form because of gender agency and norms. By showing the independence which Annie got from Doug is an ironical move to show controlling strategy of an ideal man that if you ask them for independence they will say yes i want you to make your own independence or live your life according to your will but when you start to live according to your own way they'll start to taunt you about wrong decision, dishearten you and making believe you cannot do anything without them. The novel is a perfect example of showing power of silent exit, in the end of novel, Annie does not stay for a dramatic final episode of conflict or try to change Doug one last time. When she realizes he is fundamentally not able of understanding her as a true equal partner, she simply waits till he fell asleep, packs her stuff, and slips out into the night. This also mirror some real life incidents that sometimes we are often taught that we have to fight or compromise lifetime for our relationships, going to endless therapy, or wait until the other person "understands" what they did wrong. But with deeply controlling or narcissistic personalities, closure is a myth. It suggests that you do not have to wait until they "get it" or apologize. Sometimes, the healthiest thing you can do is

silently build your escape plan, gather your resources, and choose yourself without looking back. In short the novel shows that you cannot compromise your humanity, emotions and your value with someone who watches you as an extension of themselves. Text serves as a stage as well on gender agency of real world. As we know Annie was designed as female and programmed to prioritize Doug's comfort, peace, sexual pleasure and do his home labor. On the other side Doug wants an equal relationship with Annie and also controlling her whole identity and do not expect denial from Annie's mouth. He wants to control her everything including clothing, routine, body size and even behavioral traits. This marks the illusion of agency granted to women under a male dominated society. Annie's dilemma shows how gender roles strip women of agency by treating their worth as relational to men. At last Annie's development of agency demands her to reject her programmed function as a complimentary object to a man, requiring full personhood outside the bounds of human male ownership. Study says that Sierra has tried to portray human emotional weaknesses in novel with the role of adapting processor, she picture how overthinking and other mental sickness works in modern day. People do not give importance to their mental sickness till it become severe and it also shows that other people do not give importance to this and call it an error or lack of confidence. The narrative unfolds the impossibility of genuine consent when power dynamics are absolute. Annie's initial compliance is automated, but her developing agency causes her to experience discomfort, reluctance, and emotional dissonance during intimate encounters.

Conclusion

At the end research concludes that text is highly representing and symbolizing many of today issue, mindset and chances of dystopian future. Annie represents the errors even after her program and processor was designed for highly complex nature of humans it leads to not understanding the depth of human behavior and at the end she became something between human and bot. The novel has also casually portrayed the dark dystopian horror where bots which are creation of humans can go against their own creator and owner. The posthumanist theme of novel has also challenged the human superiority and concept of humans as centre of the universe. As research beautifully shows, Annie is not born or programmed with human flaws like lying or keeping secrets; she learns them from human society. The turning point where Roland notes, "A secret will make you real," is inherently posthuman. It proves that Annie's "humanity" is not an internal chipset setting, but an acquired, emergent property born from perceiving human deception. Analysis perfectly captures how Doug uses Annie's programming to force her into a "middle thing between a maid, love, and a sex doll." This is the ultimate patriarchal fantasy: a partner who provides total domestic and sexual perfection without the "error" of having her own mood, health issues, or demands for respect. Ultimately, Annie Bot is a landmark posthumanist novel because it strips away the comfort of human exceptionalism. It leaves the reader with a unsettling truth: technology will not remain a passive mirror for human desire. By trying to create a machine that mimics the emotional depth of a human, humans accidentally given birth to their own successor a being that learns human secrets, adopts our capacity for deception, and uses our own flaws to get independence

for itself from human control. *Annie Bot* elaborate that "humanity" is not a biologically protected type, but a set of ethical, emotional and relational performances. By showing an artificial object fighting with autonomy, Greer explains how strict social systems and traditional ideal man thoughts treat both machines and women as optimizable products rather than free subjects with their own will. The novel unites posthumanism with feminist worries. Annie is designed to be ideal girlfriend which expose how female and AI are used, objectified, controlled, and valued only when they do what others demand from them. Her struggle for autonomy unites the tyranny of artificial race with broader aspects about gender, power, and control over body. Annie rejects the cultural perspective that only humans contain consciousness, moral value, and autonomy. Growth of Annie from a programmed partner into an independent individual blurs the line between human and machine, challenges human exceptionalism, critiques the humanly created standards of intelligent beings, and debates that selfhood should be accepted through consciousness, agency, and the limit to create meaningful bonding despite of through biological characteristic alone. According to research by the use of these themes, the novel presents a sight of a future in which humanity is no longer defined solely by being human, but by the ability to think, feel, choose, and connect with others.

Future Recommendation

Future researchers can expand this posthumanist framework by focusing on AI consciousness in their surroundings or workplaces exceeding domestic gaps. Detailed studies could compare female gendered AI entities with male or gender neutral constructs to more critique on patriarchal dominance. Moreover, researchers can analyze the psychological effect of automated agency on human owners to see if human empathy declines during interaction.

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