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## Psychological analysis according to the situation in Adrian McKinty's – The Chain (Part 1)

Aishwarya.S

II MA ENGLISH LITERATURE

Nirmala college for women – Coimbatore

### **Abstract:**

This article analyses the psychological mind of the people according to the situation

**Keywords:** Psychology, mind, situation.

Adrian McKinty is an author of crime novels. He had returned 12 novels, and won many awards like the Barry award, Edgar award, Ned Kelly award, Anthony award and his works are translated in more than 20 languages. The novel "The Chain" is a psychological thriller.

The book consists of 77 chapters. It is divided in two parts. The first part is titled as "All the lost girls" it has 42 chapters and part two is titled as "the monster in the labyrinth". It is only in the second part, we get to know who actually the kidnapper is and what is the reason behind it. In this book, the author addresses a theory that a book must end in 77<sup>th</sup> chapter. This theory has become unpopular today. 77 is an ending number as it is the atomic number of iridium that killed all the dinosaurs. All the books should end on the 77th chapter. And I agree that every book should end in 77th chapter.

The beginning of first chapter of part 1 starts in Thursday morning at 7:55 a.m. In Plum Island, where the 13 year old girl Kylie who is the daughter of Rachel is being kidnaped. And the kidnappers informs to Rachel. And gives instructions. The kidnapper tells that "remember it is not about the money- it's about the chain". It says that she will get a call in 5 minutes. Rachel tries to check the caller ID but the number is not there. At first she thinks that this is some sort of prank.

In my perspective of psychology, this is the first reaction always when something worst happens.

And thinks that her child is in the school safe but now she's thinking that the sky is falling and the sky is coming down and she could not breathe. And the chain can do anything to kill Kylie and pick the different target and she will do because she has to get her son back safely. From this I come to know that parents can go to any end to save their own kid's Life. And Rachel will also do and it doesn't matter to her but she has to pay the money next rule is to kidnap a target and then only she will get her child back. From this point on Rachel's life is totally changed. She was a good mother to her daughter but now she has to kidnap some other child and get back her child safe. She begs The other mother to leave my child. Rachel was a helpless single mother. After listening to everything Rachel begins to shake and she feels nauseated and she could not do anything since the woman called and burner phone, gun everything needed to kidnap. That was no other go She was trapped at the chain and she has to do whatever it takes.

On Thursday 9:01 a.m. The protagonist Kylie is taken down to the basement by the kidnappers.

Psychology: mind adapts to the situation easily. This leads to critical thinking.

It was down the house very far. When the blindfold is taken off Kylie notices the man holding the gun he wears jeans a black sweater and he was a heavy man and she thinks that he was an English teacher, she could notice. The basement is rectangular and roughly 20 feet or 30 feet and it was as a very small square of with minds and that was a concrete floor a mattress and an electric clamp next to the mattress and there was a sleeping bag about a toilet paper, cardboard box and two large bottles of water and the rest of the basement was empty. Only after Rachel and does all the other works as instructed then only Kylie will be left free. The kidnappers put on handcuffs so that Kylie could not escape or do anything. When she is alone in the basement she cries herself dry and then looks at the two water bottles but thinks that what if they had to poison her or what will happen if they did not come in for several weeks and they will just find her dead body. Also, think that what if the two water bottles or not enough for her and she will be thirsty for more days. She is being watched from the camera that is being fixed in the basement. And again in a positive note she thinks about the girls who are lost and who came back home safely like Elizabeth Smart the girl that was the Mormon girl. Here Elizabeth smart becomes the role model for Kylie as in interviews she had said that she has been dignified and calm and she said that there was always hope in the situations and her faith had always given her hope. But she feels panicky and the basement is so claustrophobic. To get out she had many ideas in mind like she checked on some if there are some nails so that she can get the handcuffs off. And she looks in the box there was pen and pad she wrote that I am a prisoner in this basement, and thinks that she can give the note to someone and get help from but later she understands that she was very far away and there was nobody to give the note to and get help from, if at all she screams also no one can hear. Later she tries to calm her by drawing a star and moon which she thought that the Egyptians afterlife was located in the stars.

Psychology: thinking about after life, Kylie was preparing herself for worst circumstances and that was death. By reading these lines I come to know that the girl has so much hope and she believes in afterlife like her grandmother. Kylie misses her mother so badly and she wanted help from her. Literature used as motivation because Kylie keeps motivating her through stories.

On Thursday 9:16 a.m. Rachel tries to call her ex-husband Marty. But she could not connect. This happens to be known to the chain and threatens her not to tell to anybody but as she is a single woman she cannot do anything so she needed help and ask if they could do anything. Marty was not a gentleman he had many girlfriends and currently was withstand Tammy. Rachel thinks that why she was alive after 2A breast cancer. Rachel feels bad about herself and she thinks that it was because she was not with Marty. If at all she had been with Marty the 13-year-old girl would not be kidnapped.

Psychology: Rachel blames herself because she feels responsible for her daughter and that's the reason she makes a false assumption that it was wrong to leave her husband.

Rachel considers herself a loser. And she goes to the first national bank on State Street in downtown Newburyport to get a loan from the bank. There a stranger comes and beats her in her stomach. And he tells that he was also once in the chain and out now he had got out but I he is not out because the chain follows them even though they are not in the chain for few years, so he is a messenger from the chain that if Rachel tries something foolish or try to get in cops or FBI, the chain would kill her and they will kill their daughter also and then the stranger runs off who was a man. As she goes inside the Bank, first they refused to offer the loan but the bank manager was her ex-husband Marty's friend, so she somehow gets \$15000 loan by stating that her roof needs to be worked on and she needs some money. And for \$10000, she buys Bitcoins with her visa , and gives the ransom. From this we can understand the cryptocurrency Bitcoins which has both advantages and disadvantages.

In order to Search for the victims she tends to go to the library but later her mind strikes that Facebook that everybody is logs on and update about themselves every 5 minutes. From these lines I come to know that the social media will make you vulnerable and anything can happen. And the person who post publicly doesn't have any idea. She aims for people who upload their location, interest, food preferences, restaurant choices, political ideas, hobbies to Facebook, Instagram, twitter, and other social media. From this we know that there are both advantages and disadvantages of using social media and posting each and every whereabouts. Technology helps in a wrong way. So she buys the burner phones gets gun, rope, duct tape and everything and then researches for the target and finds one.

On Thursday 11:59 a.m. Kylie has no phone and she has no idea what time it is. The protagonist Kylie feels very cold in the sleeping bag, she tries to move the cast- iron stove but it is very big old and she could not move it. She examines her

wrist and handcuffs. And think about Houdini miniseries who escaped handcuffs by using the hidden key to escape. From Houdini also she learns and she take him as role model. And promises that she will learn many survival skills like that of handcuff- lock picking for self-defense as soon as she gets out.

So through these lines, we can say that the protagonist has strong faith and determination to get out and she has lots of hope that she will escape definitely.

To open the handcuff, she wants some material to just turn the keyhole either clockwise or anticlockwise, so she tries with the zip of the sleeping bag but it does not work. Then she uses the pencil they have given but that also did not work and then she looks at the tube of toothpaste and uses that and to use in the keyhole but that also did not pick into the keyhole. By doing this Kylie thinks that the woman will kill her if she finds that she is trying to escape and trying to escape as a dangerous long shot but it is better than no shot at all.

Thursday 12.15 p.m. Dr.Haverkamp comes who is her neighbor and gives Rachel, Kylie's phone which was found in the bus stand. And Rachel did not know the four-digit code. And after twitter that the chain is watching her she blocks all the cameras in her phone, iPod and Mac like Mark Zuckerberg once put a piece of tape in all the electric appliances. Later she starts to think about herself that why the Chain chose her because she would not certainly do something as evil as kidnapping a child, she has always been a good girl, straight-A student, at Hunter college high school she aced her SAT's and nailed the Harvard interview, she never speeds, she pays her taxes; and never late for anything. Rachel is thinking why always something wrong happens to good people

Psychology: we are always conditioned to think if we do good, we will get good but that's not always the case.

Then she thinks about Boston which she and Marty thought was a safe place to live but now it was not safe. Nobody is safe. For kidnapping her target she has to choose a house. So she chooses the empty Appenzellers house. Marty's brother Pete, was an engineer, car expert, and fixer. The only niece Pete has is Kylie. Rachel broke into the house of Appenzellers. Then she opens her Mac book and finds potential targets in Facebook. Selecting the target was vvery important and she has to choose the right kind of victim who is right who has the right kind of family who does not contact the cop. And pay the ransom. She ranks children in order of preferences,

Rachel thinks about going to the FBI but she can't risk her daughter's life. She gets a call from Marty and he inquiries about the leaky roof and asks her to ask help from Pete who can fix the roof and he further tells that he and Tammy will be coming this Friday to spend the weekend with Kylie. Now Rachel gets an idea that she can get help from Pete.

On Thursday at 2:44 p.m. Pete is in the woods west of Worcester. Kylie and Pete texted every day and they go to the movies also. In the Marines, he had been an engineering officer. Then he receives two new messages from Rachel and one from Marty. His grandfather was in the Navy. He reads Rachel's message as where are you? And it strikes him hard that something is happening wrong, so he visits Rachel.

On Thursday 3:27 p.m. while sleeping in the bag and thinks about Houdini, magic escapes and she liked magic. And thinks about the Egyptians lived in a god- and-demon infested world, there are demons on earth also but they are all human being wonders about her mom that what she wo could be doing at this time. Kylie thinks that she had been kidnaped wrongly assumed that she has any government secrets or access to the bank vault. And she wanted to escape from the basement badly and she thought that the river would take her away from this place and she will go along with the current and float down. And watches every inch of the basement and looks for something that could help her to escape.

On Thursday at 3:31 p.m. Rachel follows the first kid Denny. But his mother had an affair with the police and Rachel did not want any cops to be involved. Now she keeps the second target as the first and follows the kid named Toby Dunleavy. She gets on noon call and it tells that she has to install download the app Wickr account. And she should send the details of the targets chosen. Temperature asks the unknown caller that if she cannot ask help from her ex-husband Martin because he goes direct to the cops whether she can get help from Pete's brother. And then I'm not an unknown caller say yes so that she can get help from him. Pete was a drug addict. Rachel Messages to Pete that" they said it was okay for me to bring you in call me please ". So Pete called her and Rachel tells him about Kylie. After listening to Rachel Pete gets all his weapons and grenades and goes to Rachel's house. And when Rachel researched about Dunleavy family she

comes to know that Amelia Dunleavy has a peanut allergy. So she decided to kidnap Toby Dunleavy. Pete finally comes to Rachel and ask the story from the beginning. So she said that she had paid the ransom and she had broke into Appenzellers house and bought the gun. After listening to everything, Pete has seen evil up close in Afghanistan and Iraq but he wasn't as expected something this clinical and diabolical in America that too to his family. Rachel tells that her phone is being hacked or the Chain is listening to all her conversation and looking at wherever she goes and to whom ever she speaks. So Pete removes the spyware. Through these lines I come to know that not all appliances are safe that can have bots, malware or spyware which will show everything that is present on our screen to the bad people.

When they go to kidnap Toby Dunleavy, Marty and her girlfriend Tammy comes home to get Kylie for the weekend, but Rachel tells him that she went to New York with her mother. When Pete and Rachel plans on kidnaping Toby, he happened to be in his friend's house and they all could see was only Amelia Dunleavy his sister. Now Rachel had no other go but to kidnap Amelia itself so they kidnap and take her To Appenzellers house and put her in the basement. And calls her parents and gives all the instructions.

On Friday 11 a.m. Kylie misses all her gadgets because there was no iPhone, or iPad, no Mac, no watch and nothing. All she can listen was occasionally some planes and distant traffic sounds. The kidnapers come and give her a hot dog and a glass of milk in tray they used to carry a gun and Kylie notices it everyday. And realizes that the gun only is going to help her. After some time as the sun moved slowly across the sky she could see the Wrench on the corner of the basement. So she decides that the wrench is the Key.

Psychology: Kylie thinks about every possibility and finally gets the Key that she was determined to find to escape.

Later finally things about her mum and dad but her mum will be so worried and sick and she will go into pieces she isn't too strong woman but pretends to be and it hasn't been since her she finished chemo and dad, he was awesome but he was not the most dependable guy in the world. She tries to move the wrench toward her side. She tries to move the oven little by little in the night.

Psychology: she had so much patience to move the oven the full night because she wanted to get out anyway, without getting caught in the camera and without making any sound.

Before kidnapping Amelia, Pete bugs in their house so that they get to read all the email, Skype, face time, and iMessage everything along with their password.

On Friday 1139 a.m. Kylie wakes up from the sleeping bag and wonders where she was and suddenly remembers all the horror and whatever had happened that now she is in a basement. And thinks that the men and women are psychopaths and they are going to kill her. By looking at all the books and reference to Moby Dick man says, she considers the man to be an English teacher or something. The man was willing to talk to Kylie but the woman upstairs did not allow him to talk so he goes back. Today also Kylie notes that they are carrying the gun which is her key.

On Friday at 3:13 p.m. as Rachel did not use her iPhone much or not laptop the chain could not see what she was up to, so the chain thought that she was into some foolish plan, they decided to ask 25000 dollars more to keep her in the line. And Rachel did not have any option but to pay so Pete helps her by giving her the 25,000 dollars in Bitcoins. Oly is one of the chain. He keeps everybody in line that is why he thinks that fear is very important. That is the whole mental component, human beings are creatures whose lives are governed by deep instincts.

On Friday 3:57 p.m. Rachel always thinks that she had to be lady Macbeth to do something cruel. Reference to lady Macbeth is made by the author frequently whenever Rachel is asked to do something terrible. When they Kidnap Amelia, she tells them that she wants her mother. This makes Rachel feel bad and also Amelia tells that without Mr. Boo doll she could not able to sleep. But Rachel gives her some other toys such as marshmallows. And as there was an allergy to peanuts for Amelia. Rachel could see the food label properly the ingredients and then only give to Amelia.

Psychology: mother is always mother even though she had kidnapped in order to save her daughter Kylie she takes good care of Amelia by seeing the ingredients that she is going to get so that she is not affected by peanut allergy and she should not be suffocated without anything and she also give the proper environment with all the toys and bed and everything. The Dunleavy family do as instructed.

On Sunday 5:38 a.m. Kylie plans to escape she was closer to the Wrench. She takes to the wrench and examine it firmly. She plans to hit him or her whoever is coming down to give her food in that she will hit them and then they will be unconscious at that time she can take the gun and then as soon as they get up she will point the gun over them and ask for the key and remove the handcuffs. Point the gun and get out. And she thinks of giving 24 hours time to them in order to get out of the country. But thinking about everything Kylie starts to shake in fear in the sleeping bag. But she thinks that her family is full of courage.

Psychology – in this point also she is not letting her hope away because she has full courage in her family, she looks up to every woman in her family including her mother and grandmother who are very brave and courageous.

On Saturday 7:27 a.m. in the basement and as usual the man comes down with the tray, Kylie deliberately place to the Moby Dick book on the floor so that he will come near pick that up and place it in the cardboard box. Then he comes as she had planned she hits him in the head with the wrench and he becomes unconscious, she tries to find the key in his pocket but she could not get any so she waits until he gets up she will point the gun on his head and as soon as the man get up she says, " I will kill you if you do not open my hand cuff , man first panics and then laughs out and then says that you can try killing me so Kylie has no other go she pulls the trigger but nothing comes out as there was no bullet inside it now the man asked ask Kylie to give that the gun, she gives a back and the man explains that you are just a 13 year old girl and we got our son Jared is back, because we did as they told now you don't act smart your just 13 your old girl. And ask whether I will have a bullet in my gun. You have crossed your limit says the man and slaps her. Kylie's was shocked that her plan did not work she starts crying. And the man says that his wife Heather will not care if he is dead. Kylie notes the names.

Psychology- even though her plan flopped she was determined that she will anyway get out as she had got a clue that the man's wife's name is Heather and their sons name is Jared who was also been kidnapped and he is back likewise she would also be with her mom soon.

She can talk to her daughter so she allows to talk with daughter. On the same day The woman Heather opens the door and tells to Kylie that she is free. Kylie was so happy next the woman calls to Rachel and tells that Kylie will be released within a hour. Also feels happy that her child is safe. Finally Kylie and Rachel meet each other they hug each other and they cry. Next Rachel asks Kylie what went through Kylie and Kylie also ask Rachel and Rachel tells about uncle Pete that he had been helping through situations. Finally Pete meets Kylie. Rachel gives back Kylie's phone and she gets excited. Rachel tells about Amelia also to Kylie, she feels very bad about her mother as she had undergone so much pain as she was kidnapped and she could feel how Amelia will be thinking.

Psychology- even though her mother Rachel done so far too helped Kylie return home safe according to Kylie it was very bad to kidnap somebody else because she was herself in that place.

Kylie ask about Amelia and where she was and she wanted to meet her. Rachel also bring Kylie to Amelia and they both play but Amelia did not cover her face with the hood rather she was like her friend and played. Later and Kylie's and Rachel had some alone time Kylie sat on her mother's lap. Finally they were safe.

Therefore we should train out mind to see the good in all the situation.

### **References:**

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