

**PETER JAMES AND THE CONCEPT OF DEATH IN DEAD SIMPLE
AND DEAD TOMORROW: A CRITICAL STUDY**

HERGIE ALEXIS SEGUEDEME,
Université d'Abomey-Calavi (Bénin),

ALIDOU RAZAKOU IBOURAHIMA BORO,
Université de Parakou (Bénin),

KOSI JOINY TOWA-SELLO,
Université d'Abomey-Calavi(Bénin),

ABSTRACT

Peter James's *Dead Simple* and *Dead Tomorrow* discuss the metaphysical concept of death. This paper has explored this concept considering the human attitudes toward this eternal matter and its social dimension. From our critical analysis, using the psychoanalysis and feminism as literary theories, we can conclude that death has always been a crucial problem to human beings. Death's interpretation is pluridimensional and it is quiet difficult to access its main cause. This provokes often doubt in human minds. Willingly or unwilling, sooner or later, we should one day die because death is the only one certitude. But we should avoid dying for nothing since prevention is better than cure.

Keywords: Dead, Accident, Poison, Bicycle, Life

Résumé

Les romans *Dead Simple* and *Dead Tomorrow* traitent du concept métaphysique de la mort. Cet article a explore ce concept considérant les attitudes humaine vis-à-vis ce problème éternel et sa dimension sociale. De notre analyse critique utilisant le psychanalyse et le féminisme comme théories littéraires, nous pouvons conclure que la mort a toujours un problème majeur aux Hommes. L'interprétation de la mort est pluridimensionnelle et il est difficile d'évaluer la cause principale. Ceci provoque souvent un doute dans les esprits. Volontairement, involontaire, tôt ou tard, nous devons mourir car la mort est la seule certitude. Toutefois, nous devons éviter de mourir bêtement car mieux vaut prévenir que de guérir

Mots Clés: Mort, Accident, Poison, Bicyclette

INTRODUCTION

Death is unfortunately the only one certitude. we all know that one day we shall die, generally we are so reluctant to think of our passing away that this knowledge does not hint our hearts, and we live our life as if we were going to be in this world forever. Likewise, the

need to satisfy themselves exposes people as human beings to manifold nuisances. Sometimes this is due to the depletion of natural resources or a quick way to solve human beings' harms. Simon Watson claims:

I have had two death sentences today – one from Brigadier Harter, whom you met just now, and one from Ministry of whatever it is that looks after the plight of the , as they are called, “senior. The first sentence is death to the village. Brigadier Harter came to tell me – quite descent of him really, he didn't have to - he came to tell me that the whole of this area is going to be, as he put it, ‘rationality’
“Knocked down – cleared away. When he doesn't know; what for, he doesn't know – probably no one does; but the point is it's on the list and down, therefore-sooner or later-it will go; which makes sense when you consider that it is dying anyway. It started dying the moment they decided not to develop it as a seaside resort. ‘Develop or die’, that is the way it is nowadays¹.

Simon Watson defends that even the things can die one day. In Simon Watson's *No Man's Land*, the death issue is about the desert of the village. However this way of the area disappearance cares of the characters and even the soldiers. The lasts forever or permanent end of life of everything is certain. Peter James as the twenty first century novelist has decided to provide knowledge to his audience through his detective fictional novels such as *Dead Simple* and *Dead Tomorrow* since prevention is better than cure universally talking.

People die for many reasons. We do not understand the mains foundation or reason of this death. For another reason people avoid dying, however nobody know the reason and the different attempt that prevent human beings from it. The purpose of our research work is to show through the death's sources in Peter James' selected fictional works. It also searches to technology impacts on human beings' life.

To reach the main goal, this study is divided into five main parts. First of all, we pinpoint the theories used throughout the setting of the whole work and after, we deal with Peter James' work and the criminality. In addition to that, we discuss the deal of family as first social institution by foregrounding the drawback of technology and then, we prove also how as human beings we can die at any time.

1.0 ACCOUNT OF THE THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Theories such as, Feminism and Psychoanalysis have been used as an essential supporting structure of the writing of this research work. This is due to the different kinds of characters involved in the achievement of Peter James' detective fictional work. The second reason is about the psychological specific feature of the writer and his characters' attitude about the issues of the death. We use those theories for many reasons as Pewissi (2017) claims:

¹Simon Watson, *No Man's Land*, London: Heinemann Educational Books, 1982, pp. 17-18.

Feminism aimed to protect the right of women and empower them so that they too can feel human as their men counterparts. As the word indicates, feminism was for the women in the society where men had privilege over women. (*Rethinking Womanism: When Difference Maps Chaos*, p. 9)

Feminism theory plays an important role in the understanding of the feminist aspects in the novel. For Susan, who as woman needs to be heard by her husband since she does not want to become widow and losses a part her right in the society. While taking into consideration Pewissi (2017) claiming and Susan as one of the main actor of the first social institution family, she also wants to have her voice on the matter. So, feminism should be useful for us in the ground of woman's decision and a great determination at home. Talking about decision and determination in the *Text book of Psychoanalysis*, Mr. Meissner and M.D. claim: "Sigmund Freud made many significant and important contributions to the understanding of the functioning of the human mind. But among the most enduring and influential we can consider the concept of the dynamic unconscious". We must use this theory as functional reference of minding about every people's psychology through their thinking in order to well achieve our goal.

During the 1970s, the high periods of *political* feminism, feminists had a tendency to show little interest in psychoanalysis and philosophic discourse. An extreme position by Betty Friedan in the late 1960s held that women's oppression was political², and in the light of the topic under study, the death issue or everything concerning security need's the assistance of our psychology. That is why we use psychoanalysis to interpret Peter James' characters' state of mind.

2.0 PETER JAMES AND THE ISSUES OF CRIME AROUND THE WORLD

We could define a **crime** as a felony that merits community blame and punishment, usually by way of fine or imprisonment. This is different from a civil wrong (a tort), which is an action against an individual that requires compensation. In *Business dictionary*, crime is a

Harmful act or omission against the public which the State wishes to prevent and which, upon conviction, is punishable by fine, imprisonment, and/or death. No conduct constitutes a crime unless it is declared criminal in the laws of the country. Some crimes (such as theft or criminal damage) may also be civil wrongs (torts) for which the victim(s) may claim damages in compensation³.

In fact, Peter James, born on August 22nd, 1948 in Brighton (UK) is an international British novelist who most of the time deals with writing crime. He is the creator of the much-loved Detective Superintendent Roy Grace. As such, anybody cannot do this fictional job without forgetting all about the importance of life, death or the breaking of law previously established by the State. In *Dictionnaire de philosophie*, crime is "a serious violation of permitted rules and regulations by a State (my own translation)" for Kant "A deliberate transgression (the one which is linked to the conscience that operates by violation) is called crime"(Russ, 2012:

² <https://www.grin.com/document/145186>
<http://www.businessdictionary.com/definition/crime.html>

61). So, by sorting out the *Business Dictionary* definition and the second one from philosophy ground, a crime is not a natural act, it is a serious violation of moral requirement. In other words, Mr. James, through his fictional works deals with a serious violation of all moral requirements. We can infer that the international British writer of crime fiction⁴, Peter James is a manipulator of death and life spirits since the one who collaborate with the violation of moral requirement belong to the death as living human being. Beside, Mr. James' Publisher claimed that Peter James was educated at Charterhouse then at film school. He had lived in North America for a number of years, working as a screenwriter and film producer before returning to England (Mr. James: Introduction to *Dead Simple*). In this way, while taking into consideration Peter James' intellectual background, we can without doubt infer that James is more informed about world criminality than others since he lived for a long time in the world centre of criminality which United States of America. Then, spiritually, Mr. James, throughout his carrier, copes with devil in the achievement of damage created by the criminal people around the world. If we consider the crime as the break of rules and regulations that deserves fines, Mr. James is viewed as the writer felony and accordingly responsible for injustice, driver of social crime, commentator of discrimination, creator of unbalance society or social discrepancy, leader of a State doomed to failure. Such a thing had created social unrest and prevented the African people to find the sustainable development road for long time.

The Marxist theory of violence holds that violence is a subject of class struggle. To Marxists, violence is an imperial tool to increase power of the ruling class in order to divide the masses of the world through divide and rule strategy, causing confusion, mistrust and misunderstanding among the innocent less privileged people.

In *God's Bits of Wood*, the social unrest appears as simple affair. However in African context when people are struggling throughout singing, then this conflict is no more mere struggle, it can beset dangerous consequence. Beside, according to Roux-Kemp (2014)

Struggle songs/music, also referred to as revolutionary songs/music, freedom songs, liberation songs/music or protest songs/music, first became popular in the context of the anti-war movement in the USA in the 1960s.¹¹ Pring-Mill, writing about struggle songs in Latin America, describes them as 'songs of socio-political commitment' and suggests that not all struggle songs are necessarily 'anti' something. In addition to the 'combative' role of struggle music in the political sphere, it also has a 'constructive' role and purpose and some struggle songs therefore offer hope or promote something positive to replace the oppression that the singers are experiencing at that time.

Without any fanfare, strength of the song in the matter of revenge or any African or American social conflict context since in the matter of the social transformation in Africa, the song attendance is meaningful and as such, the song constitutes another kind of weapon that

⁴ Looking at the history of crime fiction as a serious genre, it didn't begun to be considered a serious genre until around 1900. Crime fiction generally started in 1841 with the publication of Edgar Allan Poe's story 'The Murders in the Rue Morgue'. From there it gradually spread over the United States, Great Britain and France. By the turn of the century crime fiction was generally acknowledged as a new and special kind of literature. (http://www.findmeanauthor.com/crime_fiction.htm)

African people used to struggle. So the British writer Peter James and the writer of *God's Bits of Wood*, Sembène Ousmane, have operated on the same fictional field. However, their fictional works have not the social vision. Peter James' career prepares the future generation not be surprised by dead in any circumstances and cope also with police at any time, whereas writer of *God's Bits of Wood* anticipates on what could happen to the workers through companies in Africa.

The issues of crime or the impacts of the negative social transformation constitute a bit break to the sustainable development since it beset upheaval that conducts to the death sometimes. Peter James as a crime fictional writer plays an important role in the matter of people conscience awakening since as such, in the real situation or in real life, people should know before hand and prepare them in advance. At the same time, in the African continent in which the rate of illiteracy prevails literacy, where people difficultly understand each other. The tangible proof of such a thing – illiteracy, is the draw backs created by the social network which normally, at first glance should help people in the matter of communication but unfortunately constitutes the source of conflict and even death.

Mr. James's Detective Superintendent Roy Grace series was set in Brighton and translated into thirty-seven languages with international sales of over nineteen million copies. Moreover, in 2018 he received a Specs avers Honorary Platinum Bestseller Award⁵. While taking into account what happens around the world and mainly in Africa in the matter of crime he must be more congratulated than those rewards. Because Davieson (2014), relates a remorseful jihadist confesses his jihadi crime and atrocities to an investigative journalist, Johnny Cameron, on a dangerous assignment in Borno State, northeast of Nigeria. Cameron realized that Boko Haram was more determined and deadly than the Nigerian military. Cameron knew that he must be brave and smart if he wanted to survive a war that seemed bigger than the war in Syria. The acts of murder, mayhem and carnage, form the nucleus of this book of terrorism, which is essentially a work of fiction Davieson (2014). Many of Peter's novels have been adapted for film, TV and stage.⁶ So, in the foreground people could think that Peter James's fictional works have nothing to do with what happened in Nigeria, but in the matter of social transformation we can infer that Peter James 's experience helps human being to support or cope with every kind of stuffs related to life or death.

Researchers consider the oldest murder found to date was committed 430,000 years ago in a pre-Neanderthal society. Christian, Muslim, and Jew religions believe the first breaking of a law was in the Garden of Eden when Eve enticed Adam to partake of the fruit of the knowledge of good and evil, and the first recorded murder was the murder of Abel by his brother Cain. Antique oral histories and texts and religious writings from various cultures and religions all record such criminal firsts in those societies. So the record for the very first crime is lost in the fog of history, religion, and science.⁷ So Mr. James is not viewed as criminal for the reason that he produces awakening handy for human beings. He is a good medicine doctor who cures disease by disease. After spending many years in USA Peter James become a master of the crime novel. Crime and thriller fiction has been around since the days of the British Empire; no one can resist a good old crime thriller⁸. We must point out

⁵ <http://blakefriedmann.co.uk/peter-james>

⁶ <https://www.peterjames.com/biography/>

⁷ <https://www.quora.com/Who-has-done-the-first-crime-in-the-world>

⁸ <https://www.theguardian.com/childrens-books-site/2014/aug/06/peter-james-master-crime-fiction>

that in matter of crime, the United Kingdom embodies an international pivotal point around the world. Below the rules of British colonialism, people around the world were exposed to mass famines, atrocious conditions in concentration camps, and brutal massacres at the hands of imperialist troops. The Brits also played an important role in the transatlantic slave trade. Mr. James has hesitated criminal belongs from his ancestral parents and is righting now what his parents had created to the humanity. That is why Davieson (2014: 256) claims:

Before the advent of western influence in Nigeria, our people traded by bartering their goods with other, without the need for money. But the influx of western goods also brought its bad influence which included the use of money. Money brought evil to Nigeria, and that evil has kept the country backward and retrogressive, while the perpetrators of the evil that bedeviled the country are out there calling the continent of Africa, a dark and an underdeveloped continent.

In Mr. James criminal fiction, the crime conceptual definition has the same meaning as the one that has been the worldwide concern despite the fact its core is based in UK. All of the European countries are enjoying the profit beset by the colonization. However African children are never politically and economically independent and the wars, the Jihadist, sharp poverty, to not list only a few. In nutshell, the word crime is defined in Mr. James' criminal fiction novels during the twenty first century as the break of natural or unnatural law and regulation throughout an illegal action or activity for which the characters can be normally punished. As a result, Peter James creates criminal fiction so as to entertain his worldwide readers first and then shows up the world that the criminal issues encountered human being in real life has been a fictional one before being implemented.

3.0 TECHNOLOGY AND THE ISSUES OF DEATH IN DEAD SIMPLE AND DEAD TOMORROW

Around the world, in the matter of development, people can survive or die from what they provide whatsoever its quality. That is why, Peter James foregrounds through his novels all kinds of technological goods so as to allow his charachers enjoy their selves. He claimed in (*Dead Simple*, 1) that there had had been plenty of the stuff that day before, when four of them had made the same journey, taking with and empty coffin and shovels. In actual fact, technology and human life cannot be separated. Society has a cyclical co-dependence on technology. Today, people use technology; depend on technology in their daily life and their needs and demands for technology keep on rising. In *Dead Simple*, Peter James' characters use technology to travel, to **communicate**, to **learn**, to do **business** and to live in comfort. So, according to Peter James, death is nothing since people born and one day they will die. Mr. James copes with technology so as to raise people's attention on both technology positive and negative sides.

In *Dead Tomorrow* (2009: 1), the narrator claims: "Susan hates the motorbike. She used to tell Nat that bikes were lethal, that riding a motorcycle was the most dangerous thing in the world". Technology has also caused us concerns. Its poor application has resulted in the pollution of the environment and it has also caused a serious threat to people's lives and society. This calls for the proper use of technology. The leading challenge people facing is to

determine the type of future we need to have and then create relevant technologies which will simplify the way we do things. In *Dead Simple* (2011) the author, rises the issue about journey which is something suggesting travel or passage from one place to another. It is also implied the concern of transport and security. Technology is the application of scientific knowledge for practical purposes, especially in industry whereas transportation is one of the basic areas of technological activities. Both society and businesses have benefited from the new transportation methods. Transportation provides mobility for people and goods. So when we refer to the technology's definition, it is clear that the nature of people make successfully the technology's methods are not recognised while the methods application are ongoing. The people who buy also this technology materials are not also recognised in the tasks assigned to the technology material process. This being said, people encounter sometime, some difficulties, even sometimes die by being killed by their own materials, because they would like to satisfy their need. In this case of the human's needs satisfaction, Peter James as the twentieth century writer pinpoints to his audience what should the new technology be and at the same time shows it the permanent cessation of all biological functions that sustain a living organism which is death. Throughout the conscience of his own characters, Peter James embodies in his *Dead Tomorrow* (2009), the rouser of awareness. Susan one of Mr. James's characters and Nat's wife are not far from Rabelais what shows in his *Pantagrue* that science without conscience is but the ruin of the soul. The transportation is the movement of people or goods, that implies many means such as the using bicycles motorcycles, cars, trucks, airplanes, trains, pipelines, to list only a few cannot be without drawbacks. The character Susan, in Peter James' *Dead Tomorrow*, makes a particular perception about motorbike and hides behind her idea related to the use of motorbike and many other drawbacks.

As a matter of fact, the use of motorbike can have as outcome, the lethal accident or the fracture. Accident is in general, an unplanned, unexpected, and undersigned (not purposefully caused) event which occurs suddenly and causes injury or loss, a decrease in value of the resources, or an increase in liabilities. As a technical term 'accident' does not have a clearly defined legal meaning. In *Oxford dictionary*, "accident is unpleasant event, especially in a vehicle, that happens unexpected and causes injury or damage: a car / road/ traffic accident". *Oxford dictionary's* definition does not anywhere or even does not recognise.

As a result people could find themselves at hospital so as to be taken care of by the nurse, the surgeon, the medicine doctor. During the process, the injured people could die because at hospital many additional and other issues could complicate the patient's troubles. Besides, at the hospital, the ones who are in charge of patients are not always perfect on their field so as to save accident people from danger. Around the world hospital and mainly in England there are doctors who are good at failure. It is the case of doctor cure or dies in Mrs. Gaskell's *Wives and Daughters* in the nineteenth century's UK.

In Peter James' fiction the issue about people's death cannot be denied since the one who is supposed to satisfy the injury need is specialist at failure. The narrator of *dead tomorrow* claims:

Her life, in a nutshell, had been a thirty seven years long trail of disaster, starting with small stuff, like getting the end of her index finger chopped off by a car door when she was seven, and steadily bigger as life took on more

gravitas. She had failed her parents as a child, failed her husband as a wife, and was very comprehensively failing her teenager that as a single parents mother (*Dead Tomorrow*, 4).

In the light of death or various situations that could cause death throughout technology material using, Doctor Rose Hunter is one of the Susan talks about since her husband is very expensive for her. This doctor of surgery that the narrator foregrounds could only kill accident people. Peter James embodies the ineffectiveness of Britain hospital agents through Rose Hunter, as a surgeon who constitutes in general a danger for her society and in particularly a danger for the accident of people in England. Mr. James goes so far as saying:

(.....) if she was honest with herself, she would be hard pushed to name any other constants at all. Apart from her *failure*. That was definitely a constant. She was good at failure, always had been. In fact was brilliant at it. She could fail for England (*Dead Tomorrow*, 4.)

Anyway, prevention being better than cure, Susan prevents her husband beforehand from death. The above assertion is one the tangible proof that shows after an accident caused by the motorbike people can die after the surgeon's care at Britain hospital. For Peter James, motorbike is not the only way to die, but people can also die in this kitchen.

In point of fact, today, technologically speaking, human beings are exposed everywhere but nothing venture nothing have. The tangible proof is when Nat claims: "That the most dangerous thing you could do was go into your kitchen. It was the place where you were most likely to die" (*Dead Tomorrow*, 1). In view of the topic understudy and while foregrounding Peter James selected works backup the word "death" and "life" are complementary ones. Can people prevent themselves from kitchen and survive? The answer is no. Unfortunately Nat bans to her wife cook at kitchen for fear to be likely destroyed. First of all, there are many kinds of accidents at kitchen. Among those accidents we can list, slip and fall, electricitcal accidents, burns and food poison. We think that Peter James is somehow right when he raises the concern of the other user of the road. On the road, people may get accident because of other behaviour. Sometimes, people do not respect the traffic regulation and by doing so as motorbike user you can have accident and likely die. Whereas at kitchen people can prevent themselves from accident if they respect the kitchen regulation and are also self-confident. At kitchen the use of a dull knife or holding a knife improperly when cutting can result in a kitchen accident. Burns can occur from a variety of sources. An unattended pot of boiling water can be pulled down onto an unsuspecting child causing serious burns. A pan of oil that gets too hot can ignite and cause burns to the person who tries to put it out or set the kitchen on fire. Loose clothing can dangle into flames from gas burners and ignite. Putting frozen food into a hot fryer full of oil can result in the oil bubbling up onto your hand and arm. Handles of pots and pans can become heated by the burner underneath them, and an unprotected hand can suffer burns. For electricity, water and electricity do not mix, so if a plugged-in appliance gets pulled into a sink full of water, electrocution could result. Plants that drip water or spills onto appliances can result in electrical shock. Sticking metal objects into appliances such as toasters can also cause electrical shock. Extension cords that are frayed or overloaded can result in fires or shock. However, the food poison does not necessarily depend on the cooker only at any case.

Actually, people are not aware of what we consume today; the foods that people cook are highly technologically poisoned. In Peter James' fiction throughout his *Dead Tomorrow*, what is "lethal" is not only the use of "motorbike", the genetically modified organism can also kill human being. When people take food from genetically modified organism they maybe get diseases such as cancer, allergy etc.... So, when we talk about genetically modified food diseases, we refer to toxicity, cancers apart from the tendency to provoke any allergic reaction and cancer. In a nutshell, at kitchen, people are exposed to many accidents in the matter of the lack of self-confident and also on the ground of food technology. This being said, Susan and Nat are all right since. People are exposed on road with their motorbike as well as being in kitchen

4.0 DEATH: A SUCCESSFUL EXAM IN JAMES'S DEAD SIMPLE AND DEAD TOMORROW

Victory is the achievement of something that you have been trying to do and the contrary of this process should be the failure. We are all born to die on day according to the Almighty outline. Likewise, during the delivery, the pregnant women give babies birth that can survive, die or even can be stillborn. Anyway whatever human beings are, nobody can prevent himself or herself from dying. As Ousmane Sembène claimed in his *God's Bit of Wood* (1960), human being is nothing without others; they come through their hand and die through them. In the writing ground, Mr. James has brilliantly written thirty four narratives and two works of non-fiction. He is best known for his Detective Superintendent Roy Grace series, which began with *Dead Simple* in 2005 and lead to thirteen consecutive *Sunday Times* number one bestsellers.⁹ His crime fiction is the genre of fiction that deals with crimes, their detection, criminals, and their motives. Most people did not think all crime novels share a public structure¹⁰, since police action involves many kinds of social issues such as accident, hold up, stealing, murdering, terrorism, security of good and services and any kinds of social public security concerns. So working on writing criminal fiction compels Mr. James to shift his work between life and the death the social institutions. Most of the time, human beings as a mortal God creator, the one who cope with the life and death so that to survive. He knows that the last dwell all human being is death and at the same time should be controlled because it is also a journey without backway.

In addition, there are among people's daily issues the problems of honour, or any kinds of social betterment or progress that compel. Those concerns can probably be useful or useless. That is why, the narrator of *Dead Simple* avers "So far, apart from just a couple of hitches, Plan A was working out fine. Which was fortunate, since they didn't have Plan B"¹¹. Mr. James is an enlightened writer he plays the role of conscience raiser. He does not want that people be surprised. Besides, the Publisher of his first novel claims " All his novels reflect his deed interest in the world of the police, with whom he does in-depth research, as well as science, medicine and the paranormal (page about *Dead simple's* introduction). Accordingly Peter James deals with life and dead in most of his novels since we cannot work on dead without knowing what life is.

⁹ <https://www.peterjames.com/career/>

¹⁰ http://www.findmeanauthor.com/crime_fiction.htm

¹¹ Peter James, *Dead Simple*, P. 1

In fact death is the action or fact of dying or being killed; the end of the life of a person or organism. It can also be the permanent ending of vital processes in a cell or tissue. According to Jacob in her *Dictionnaire de Philisophie*,

Other necessary conditions for the very possibility of evolution are death. Not death from outside, as a consequence of some accidents. But death imposed from within, as a prescribed necessity, from the egg, not by the genetic program itself. (My own translation)¹²

The definition beyond points out many aspects of life and raises problems related to human living conditions and even the beginning of every human being. François Jacob (1920–2013), historian of science and philosopher, in his book, *Logic of life* explored the idea that biological knowledge has evolved in successive steps¹³. However, in *New Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, death is:

The definitive interruption of the process of life, by which the organism dissolves itself into inorganic elements. Much discussed in biology is whether death is inherent in life: in any case it appears in a being as a sudden separation. Death is then considered as purification, or a transition, to a higher life. (*New Encyclopedia of Philosophy* p. 100)

First of all, Jacob's definition and the one that comes from the *New Encyclopedia of Philosophy* are playing the complementary role in our research work since psychologically, Mr. James as a fictional writer is preparing his audience to everything concerning life that has two dimensions in one. Because, talking about only the Word "death" is evocative or suggestion of a huge fear. This word "death" can launch through human beings organism every dangerous kinds of diseases such hypertension or heart attack that can quickly and immediately kill people. So, on the light of the above heading our study and while taking into consideration the *New Encyclopedia of Philosophy's* definition, Peter James deserves tribute and is considered as a great fictional detective writer of boldness of the new generation since today is no more an open secret or public secret. The fictional writing work that he is carrying out just to make public or his audience around the world be accustomed to the word. That is why in Africa in general and particularly Mr. Ousmane as African fictional writer claims: "When they had finished eating, the men began to gather in front of the gate and soon there was a tangle of bicycles and motor scooters leaning against the fence that surrounded the yard" (God's Bits of Wood, P. 17). Here, the use of the motorbike which creates a squabbling among Susan and Nat in Peter James' *Dead Tomorrow*. In *God's Bits of Wood* nobody as character bans the use of motor scooter or bicycle, because the death is "considered as purification" according J. Grooten and G. Steenbergen in their *New Encyclopedia of Philosophy*.

5.0 FAMILY AS A SOCIAL INSTIUTION IN PETER JAMES' FICTION

¹² Jacqueline Russ, *Dictionnaire de Philisophie*, p. 84

¹³ <https://www.nature.com/articles/497440a.pdf?origin=ppub>

For us, family is a group consisting of two parents (father & mother) and their children living together as a unit. We can call this unit this first 'social institution' because of human beings history of creation. Besides in *Myth and Meaning*, Head and Maclea (1976) claim:

No sooner had he done this than they came alive as man and woman. Hoenir gave them the gift of understanding, and Lodur gave them their outward form and the five senses. This first man and woman were give the earth as their home. (*Myth and Meaning*: 50)

The above philosophical definition from *The Creation of Human Beings* from chapter in the book of (Head and Maclea, 1976) points out two things concerning human beings. The very first one is the setting of the world's first social institution and the second one is related to the place where it lives. So, People have many ways of defining the word 'family' and what is being a part of a family means to them. Families differ in terms of economic, cultural, social, and many other facets. Anyway, what is important here is the achievement of the members of this social institution about each other's lives. In Africa for instance family as the first social institution plays a central role in African society. It shapes such daily experiences as how and where individuals live, how they interact with the people around them, and even, in some cases, whom they marry. It can determine a person's political identity and the way money and property are transferred. We think that from this African conception of the roles of family are played by its members. That is why we encounter fruitful between Susan and Nat family so as to socially secure their own family. The narrator states: "Nat likes to wind her up by telling her that actually, statistically, she was wrong" (*Dead Tomorrow*, 1). This discussion witnesses how much Nat is expensive to Susan. Susan does not want her husband's death by accident. She thinks that death is considered as a bad social transformation and safes indirectly her sweetheart of that. So Mr. James embodies her female character as a well-wisher of her family and plays the role of awareness in Peter James' fiction. These argument testimonies also what Peter James claims through one his male character by saying?

(...) .His late mother was fond of telling him that you could choose your friend but not your relatives.

He had read somewhere that when a man marries a woman, he hopes she will stay the same forever, but when a woman marries a man, her agenda is to change him. (*Dead Tomorrow*: 2)

So, the claim above is nothing but how the functions of families are around the world. Accordingly People must negatively and positively impact. As a matter of fact what Nat hears from his wife can negatively impact him because of two reasons. The first reason is a psychologic one and the second one is what his late mother told him before dying. Nobody can deny his/her family; this means that Nat normally cannot reject his wife's proposal at in any case. The exceeding quotation also reveals the world family's realities. As a result, people must pay attention to all things they say since our mouth is sacred according the *holy bible*. In the matter of social responsibility, the author lets his audience in dilemma when he claims: "If, as they say, the secret of life is to choose your parents wisely". So, in this case, is it possible for children possible to choose their parents in order to avoid untimely death? Anyway, for Mr. James death is close to people every time, that is why he claims: "There had been plenty of the stuff this time yesterday, when four of them had made the same

journey, taking with them and empty coffin and four shovels". Through Mr. James's fiction, death is one of the final results of the life of human. He asked everyone not to be afraid of it and an advocate coping with death is another way to live or to enjoy life without worry and anxiety.

6.0 CONCLUSION

Peter James's *Dead Simple* and *Dead Tomorrow* discuss the metaphysical concept of death. This paper depicts human attitudes and toward this eternal matter and its social dimension. From our critical analysis using the psychoanalysis and feminism as literary theories we can consider that manifold results have been obtained. Death has always been a crucial to human being. Its interpretation is pluridimension. Its cause has never been well accessed and provokes doubt in human minds. Willingly or unwilling, Dead simply or, tomorrow or later, we should die because death is the only one certitude. But we should avoid dying for nothing since prevention is better than cure. We also have to pay attention to all foods since what we consume for our survival can be the source of our death.

7.0 SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

A- Corpus and Other Selected Books

- Ablordepper, Philomena and al. *Essay Learning English Language*. Ghana: Excellent Publishing &Print, 2014.
- David, F. Todds & Womack, Kenneth. *Formalist Criticism and Reader-Response Theory*. New York: Pal Grave, 2002.
- Grooten, J. & Steenbergen G. Jo. *New Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. New York: Philosophical Library, 1972.
- Head, G. James & Maclea, Linda. *Myth & Meaning*. Illinois: McDougal, 1976.
- James, Peter. *Dead Simple*. London: Pan Book, 2011.
- *Dead Tomorrow*. London: Macmillan, 2009.
- Person, S. Ethel and al. *The American Psychiatric Publishing Textbook of Psychoanalysis*. London; British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data, 2005.
- Pewissi, Ataféi. *Rethinking Womanism*. Ghana: Yamen Ltd., 2017.
- Russ, Jacqueline. *Dictionnaire de Philosophie*. Paris: Bordas, 1991.

B- Articles and dissertations

- Mogilna, N. & Magufwa A. "GENETIC MODIFIED FOODS: ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES" at <http://essuir.sumdu.edu.ua/bitstream/123456789/7916/1/14.pdf> , on August 10th , 2019 at 6 O'clock AM

C-Detailed Webography

- What is Death at <http://www.death-and-dying.org/what-is-death.htm/c>, on August 10th 2019 at 11 AM
- Reader-response criticism at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reader-response_criticism
- On the Relation Between Feminism and Psychoanalysis at <https://www.grin.com/document/145186>
- http://www.findmeanauthor.com/crime_fiction.htm
- ¹ <https://www.nature.com/articles/497440a.pdf?origin=ppub>
- ¹ <https://www.peterjames.com/career/>
- <https://www.quora.com/Who-has-done-the-first-crime-in-the-world>

- <https://www.theguardian.com/childrens-books-site/2014/aug/06/peter-james-master-crime-fiction>
- <https://www.grin.com/document/145186>
- <http://www.businessdictionary.com/definition/crime.html>
- ¹ Looking at the history of crime fiction as a serious genre, it didn't begin to be considered a serious genre until around 1900. Crime fiction generally started in 1841 with the publication of Edgar Allan Poe's story 'The Murders in the Rue Morgue'. From there it gradually spread over the United States, Great Britain and France. By the turn of the century crime fiction was generally acknowledged as a new and special kind of literature. (http://www.findmeanauthor.com/crime_fiction.htm)
- <https://www.quora.com/Who-has-done-the-first-crime-in-the-world>
- <https://www.theguardian.com/childrens-books-site/2014/aug/06/peter-james-master-crime-fiction>