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## Disabilities and Beyond A Comparative Analysis of Chabon Michael's *The Final Solution* and Raquel Jaramillo Palacio's *Wonder*

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**Abstract:** English literature has long had a complex and evolving relationship with disability. Historically, it has served as a platform for diverse portrayals of differently abled individuals -ranging from negative characterizations and associations with villainy to more nuanced, empathetic, and truthful representations in contemporary times.

This research paper undertakes a comparative analysis of two key literary texts: *The Final Solution* by Michael Chabon and *Wonder* by Raquel Jaramillo Palacio. The objective is to explore the phenomenon of caregiving and its effects on the lives of differently abled individuals as portrayed in these narratives. The study uses the method of thematic analysis and draws on John Bowlby's Attachment Theory, which states that primary caregivers are the greatest influence in a person's life. Bowlby emphasized that the caregiver-care receiver relationship is not determined by feeding alone. This paper is divided into twelve parts, beginning with the Introduction, Themes and Concerns, Methodology, Bowlby's Attachment Theory, and other key themes such as: Disability in Literature, Universality, Self-awareness, Parenting, Influence of Caregivers on Care Receivers, Influence of Social Networks, Animal Companionship, and Conclusion. Through intensive research, it has been found that primary caregivers play an extremely important role in the life of a differently abled person, from childhood into adulthood.

**Keywords:** Disability, Differently abled, Caregiver, Care receivers.

English literature has a fascinating relationship with disability. It has served as a platform for diverse portrayals, of disability ranging from the negative light cast upon the differently abled by William Shakespeare, as seen in Richard III .in the play, Richard III Shakespeare 1.1.18), to the more realistic portrayals found in contemporary works like R.J. Palacio's *Wonder* featuring characters like August Pullman and Daisy the dog (Palacio 149).

### Disability in Contemporary Times

Stephen Hawking, a great man, uses the power of words to tell people that disability is not an unbeatable problem. He said that, "It is a waste of time to be angry about my disability. One has to get on with life and I haven't done badly. People won't have time for you if you are always angry or complaining" (Stephen Hawking) Understanding who a differently abled person is requires a clear definition of disability itself. Disability; is generally understood as a condition that restricts one's involvement in various activities, either fully or partially. These factors can be physical, psychological, or social. Thus, anyone with an inhibiting condition may be considered differently abled. In India, around 2.68 crore people live with a disability, according to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India. While



there are many types of disabilities, India recognizes only twenty-one categories under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (RPWD Act, 2016). Each form of disability is unique, and providing a fulfilling life to these individuals requires a specialized approach. Recognizing this fact, the United Nations introduced the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and its Optional Protocol. This convention has the honour of being the most widely accepted convention at the time of its introduction in United Nations history. The CRPD marked a transformative shift in understanding disability and differently-abled individuals from being perceived as social liabilities to being seen as valuable assets. This perspective is primarily reflected in Articles 4, 8, 9, and 27. Article 4, which outlines the general principles, emphasizes the inclusion of differently-abled individuals in policymaking. Article 8 focuses on raising awareness about disability, Article 9 addresses accessibility, and Article 27 promotes work and employment opportunities. Together, these articles highlight the three most crucial necessities - accessibility, employment facilitation, and disability awareness - for the empowerment and upliftment of persons with disabilities. (United Nations, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2016).

#### Need, Aim and Expected Outcomes

There are many people with disabilities. According to the, World Health Organization there are 1.3 billion People who are dealing with a disability. Some of them have had great impact on human civilization. An outstanding example is John Milton the, English scholar who wrote his most impactful poem, Paradise Lost. When he was blind with the help of his primary caregivers. (Labriola 16). Today the Poem, Paradise Lost is one among the most thought provoking works of literature and this would not be possible without the, cooperation between, John Milton, the care receiver and his caregivers. So the bond between the caregiver and receiver is very important but just how important is it? There is no fixed answer to this question as the factors that affects the relationship evolve with time. The aim of this research is to conduct a comparative thematic analysis of the primary texts using the lens of, attachment theory to understand the phenomenon of care giving and its impact on the lives of differently abled people and their caregivers. The expected outcomes of this research are a further understanding of care giving which could promote social welfare, to achieve a deeper understanding of factors that influence caregiving for differently abled individuals and contributing further knowledge to the ever-evolving field of disability studies.

#### Methodology

The research employs a qualitative method of comparative thematic analysis, interpreted through the lens of John Bowlby's attachment theory. Bowlby's theory emphasizes the importance of early relationships, particularly those between infants and caregivers. Through his studies, Bowlby concluded that bonds between a child and primary caregiver are not solely based on feeding; rather, nurturance and responsiveness are the essential components for creating secure bonds that play a "significant role in life" (Cherry 3). This approach enables a detailed examination of the primary texts, uncovering themes that highlight the experiences of differently abled individual.

#### Bowlby's Theory of Attachment

Cherry Kendra, a psychosocial rehabilitation specialist explains, John Bowlby's attachment theory in the article titled biography of Psychologist John Bowlby: The Founder of Attachment Theory, she states that. Bowlby's theory of attachment is shaped by his personal experiences of childhood neglect and his career focus on children. He defines attachment as a lasting psychological connection between people. Infants, he argues, have an innate need for bonds with caregivers, a survival trait driven by evolution. Caregivers, in response, have a natural



desire to care for dependents. Bowlby explains that such bonds are not dependent on feeding alone but are formed through acts of responsiveness. He illustrates this, through the fathers' involvement, underscoring that attachment involves multiple stages and plays a crucial role in life (Cherry 6).

#### Limitations of the Study

This paper focuses primarily on the positive aspects of caregiving and does not explore the negative dimensions that may arise within caregiver - care receiver relationships. Furthermore, the application of Bowlby's Attachment Theory introduces certain limitations, as the theory was originally developed to explain childhood attachment and its psychological impacts. As such, it does not adequately address adult caregiving relationships, which are central to the literary texts under study. Additionally, this research does not examine the reciprocal influence that care receivers may have on their caregivers.

#### Concerns

Primary and Secondary themes in the novels under analysis include. Disability in Literature, social factors such as Universality, Self-awareness, Parenting, Influence of caregivers on care receivers, influence of Social networks and Animal

#### Synopsis of The Final Solution and Wonders

story of The Final Solution is set in WWII England and follows Linus Steinman, a differently abled boy, and his parrot. The narration begins with Linus walking along a train track, where he meets an elderly man. Readers then encounter the Panicker family and their lodgers, and it becomes clear Linus is differently abled. Later, two police officers seek the elderly man's help in order to solve a case of murder. In which they suspect the Panicker's son as the perpetrator. Despite initial reluctance, he agrees to assist in the investigation due to Linus's missing parrot. Through the efforts of the old man the, Panicker's son was proven innocent. And later in the story the parrot is rescued through the combined efforts of the old man Mr Panicker and Linus In Wonder, the harsh reality of having an unsettling disability is shown through the life of August Pullman. Throughout his childhood, August had to be homeschooled due to many medical complications in order to give August a fulfilling social life, his parents convince him to go to school. It is here where August faces various social evils such as untouchability, social isolation, and ragging However, through his actions, August overcomes these hardships and is able to show his schoolmates that an individual must not be judged for their appearance.

#### Disability Representation in English Literature

As mentioned above, English literature has a dynamic relationship with disability. In The Canterbury Tales from the pre-Renaissance period, disability is represented in its multifaceted nature. For instance, in The Prologue, disability is used to emphasize the negative qualities of the Pardoner. Additionally, in The Wife of Bath's Tale and Chaucer's Tale of Meliboeus, disability is depicted through female characters as a form of social disadvantage and a tool of violence. (Geoffrey Chaucer, 523).

During the Renaissance, the representation of disability in English literature underwent a major transformation. As the English language gained greater acceptance, English drama and poetry flourished. However, the portrayal of disability increasingly became associated with villainy. This phenomenon is evident in the works of Edmund Spenser and John Webster

In Spenser's The Faerie Queene, the poet highlights the evil witch's character by using descriptions of disability. For example, in Book One, Canto Two, he writes:

Chaunst to see her in her proper hew Bathing her selfe in origane and thyme: A filthy foule old woman I did vew, that euer to haue toucht her, I did deadly rew. Were hidd in water, that I



could not see, But they did seeme more foule and hideous, Then womans shape man would beleeeue to bee.

(Spenser, Book One, Canto Two)

Similarly, in *The Duchess of Malfi*, John Webster also uses disability to highlight aspects of villainy. He does this through the character of Ferdinand. In Act Five, Scene Two, the audience sees that Ferdinand is struggling with a mental disability as he refuses to repent for his crime of familicide. (Webster, *The Duchess of Malfi*, 5.2.15).

In the Victorian era, England underwent a period of great transformation. During the Industrial Age, the quality of life became sharply divided - some enjoyed great prosperity while others struggled for daily survival. In response, writers turned their attention to real-life experiences, resulting in more subjective and realistic portrayals of disability. This shift is evident in the works of John Stuart Mill, Mary Anne Evans (George Eliot), Wilkie Collins, and Harriet Parr. In *The Subjection of Women*, John Stuart Mill discusses the social disability faced by women. What is even more remarkable is the author's awareness of the challenges one faces when advocating for social change.

"Those who attack an aslmost universal opinion are faced with difficulties all the way. They have to be very lucky and unusually able if they are to get a hearing at all. It is harder for them to obtain a trial than it is for any other litigants to obtain a verdict." (Mill, 1)

In *My Blind Sister*, the themes of poverty, temporary blindness, and recovery are explored through the lives of two sisters, Jane and Lettie, who face great difficulties when Lettie temporarily loses her sight. (Parr, 4). In *Silas Marner*, the protagonist, Silas, a middle-aged weaver, struggles with multiple disabilities, including social alienation, psychological issues, and financial hardship. (Mary Anne Evans 16) In Harriet Parr's short story *My Blind Sister*, as well as in the novels *Silas Marner* by Mary Anne Evans and *The Moonstone* by Wilkie Collins, disability is depicted with depth and realism.

Wilkie Collins' *The Moonstone* presents a unique portrayal of disability and disabled individuals, showcasing various types of disability. The novel explores self-inflicted disability through Franklin Blake, suicidal tendencies through Rosanna Spearman, and terminal illness through Ezra Jennings (Collins, 666). Thus, the Victorian era marked a shift towards more subjective and realistic representations of disability. But how has disability representation evolved in modern literature?

Disability Representation in Modern English Literature can be best seen through the writings of Wilfred Owen, Carson McCullers, and O. Henry. In Wilfred Owen's poem *Disabled*, the narrator, a soldier who has acquired a disability, expresses his frustration and alienation. Owen uses simple yet poignant language to highlight the soldier's physical loss and emotional despair:

Legless, sewn short at elbow. Through the park  
Voices of boys rang saddening like a hymn,  
Voices of play and pleasure after day,  
Till gathering sleep had mothered them from him.

(Owen, "Disabled") Similarly, in the narratives of *The Gift of the Magi* by O. Henry and *The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter* by Carson McCullers, disabilities - both physical and social - are explored, particularly in relation to economic hardship and isolation faced by the middle class people. The financial struggles of the Dillingham and Kelly families serve as a powerful representation of economic disability. The phenomenon of social isolation due to disability is poignantly depicted through the character of John Singer. (McCullers, 81; O. Henry, 11).





The postmodern age is considered the golden era of disability representation. Today, not only writers but also scholars are taking an active interest in the phenomenon of disability. With the advancement of human civilization, people have become more open to individuals with disabilities, a shift that is reflected in contemporary literature and academic discourse. This growing awareness is illustrated in the works of Ria Cheyne and Jodi Picoult.

In Ria Cheyne's book *Disability, Literature, Genre*, the scholar provides a comprehensive analysis of how disability has often been used in English literature as a tool to highlight socially complex issues. She examines how narratives use disability in a negative manner reinforcing stereotypes Cheyne discusses this phenomenon through horror fiction.

"Vignette the full version is less than 600 words nondisabled teenagers (we can safely assume) are threatened by a doubly deviant disabled monster. The Hook's disability functions as a narrative hook, catching the reader's interest and attention and generating ominous affects. The character's physiological and psychological abnormality is inseparable from his murderous acts and works alongside them to generate a sense of fearful anticipation, a dis-ease only partially dissipated when disaster is averted." (Cheyne, 1).

Jodi Picoult is an outstanding writer, standing out even among her peers and predecessors. In her critically acclaimed novel *My Sister's Keeper*, she masterfully portrays the complex realities of disabled individuals face through the experiences of the Fitzgerald family and Campbell Alexander. Their lives are deeply affected by disability in both positive and negative ways, highlighting the nuanced and multifaceted nature of living with a disability. (Picoult, 328).

#### Disability the Invisible Universal Reality

Disability is a universal concept, yet people do not often recognize it as a part of their lives. Jill Feder of Accessibility.com attributes this phenomenon to voluntary avoidance. Of knowledge related to disability she further suggests that people with disabilities often conceal them due to fear of stigmatization. In her article, she notes that people with "real but poorly understood disabilities," such as speech disorders, experience negative reactions when sharing their struggles with others, to maintain social acceptance, they often keep their disabilities hidden. For example, both Mrs. Panicker and Jack Will demonstrate concealment of disability in order to maintain their relationship with others. Mrs. Panicker, a WWII character, keeps silent about traumatic family experiences, while Jack Will, a financially struggling 10-year-old, hides his family's difficulties from friends to preserve their relationships. Feder asserts that concealing disabilities can lead to misunderstandings between caregivers and those needing care (Feder 10)

#### Importance of Comprehensive Self-Awareness

Self-awareness forms the foundation of genuine bonds. This is especially vital for the differently abled, whose lives are often deeply intertwined with their caregivers. August and Linus embody the quality of self-awareness, they are able to understand their emotions and those of others toward them. Their self-awareness enables both of them to have genuine bonds with their caregivers, which increases their chances for positive futures. This is shown when Linus reaches out to the old man in order to find his pet, parrot Bruno and in the case of August his self-understanding is shown when he let go of his teddy bear while he was leaving for a school trip in order to reassure his mother. Patino Erica a health content writer, observes that self-awareness in special-needs children enhances their chances for fulfilling lives (Patino 1).

#### Parenting: The Essential Foundation

Parenting is central to children's development, shaping their future path. In both primary texts, parental figures exhibit varied parenting styles, from the understanding Pullman couple to the



neglect shown by Justin and Miranda's parents. John Bowlby noted that secure bonds with primary caregivers significantly impact a child's life. Mahalakshmi Soundarya of Mentoria.com emphasizes that primary caregivers are the most influential figures in children's lives, providing security that fosters growth. Olivia who is able to confide in her mother, leads a balanced life, while Miranda who is neglected emotionally by her parents, seeks recognition from unkind peers thus denying her an environment that fosters emotional health (Mahalakshmi 2). Had Miranda continued with these unhealthy relationships she might have had to deal with "serious mental health problems. Like Misses Panicker whose, life is negatively influenced by her past traumas which are a result of the neglect she had experienced in her childhood and which resulted in her extreme self blaming ore, Miranda could have become a delinquent like, Reggie Panicker.

### A Shoulder to Depend Upon

The question of the "greatest job in the world" is often answered with mentions of high-status professions. However, upon reflection, many find caregiving to be the most rewarding role - one that requires full dedication and offers unparalleled satisfaction. Caregiving is deeply influential, as seen in the lives of Mrs. Panicker and Mrs. Pullman. Both are devoted mothers, yet they differ greatly: Mrs. Panicker radiates negativity, shaped by trauma, while Mrs. Pullman exudes a comforting positivity. But there is huge difference between these two mothers.

Dr. Diana Lang, an Associate Teaching Professor at Iowa State University specializing in family studies, explains in her book *Parenting and Family Diversity Issues* that parenting interactions are complex and multifaceted, shaping the emotional climate of caregiving relationships and their outcomes. Dr. Lang notes that positivity is an essential factor in evaluating the quality of parenting interactions. "Parents' personalities also affect parenting behaviours. Parents who are more agreeable, conscientious, and outgoing are warmer and provide more structure to their children. Parents who are more agreeable, less anxious, and less negative also support their children's autonomy more than parents who are anxious and less agreeable. The paper examines the parental interactions of Mrs. Panicker and Mrs. Pullman with their respective parents. Throughout *The Final Solution*, Mrs. Panicker thinks about her parents just once, during a time of difficulty. Even then, the only memory that surfaces is of her father smoking and his subsequent death. Furthermore, Mrs. Panicker's father was neglectful toward his children, as his sons were involved in delinquent behaviour. Thus, it can be concluded that Mrs. Panicker's interactions with her parents were largely negative, and these experiences partly influenced her disappointment with her son. Who displace delinquent Behaviour like his uncles. In contrast, in *Wonder*, Mrs. Pullman never directly thinks about her parents despite the many challenges she faces. Instead, the readers learn about her parents through Olivia's memories. One noteworthy memory is when Mrs. Pullman's mother temporarily became Olivia's primary caregiver, stepping in while Mrs. Pullman tended to August during one of his major surgeries. This act highlights the loving relationship between Mrs. Pullman and her parents, showcasing a positive and supportive dynamic. These nurturing interactions enabled Mrs. Pullman to maintain a comforting aura of positivity, even while raising a child with multiple progressive disabilities. The effects of these positive interactions also extended to Olivia's mental growth. Through this comparison of Mrs. Panicker and Mrs. Pullman, it can be concluded that while it is challenging to define all the elements of good parental interactions, positivity and moral support are reliable indicators of healthy relationships between primary caregivers and their dependents and it is these positive relationships in between, primary care giver and receiver that enhances the quality of life across generations. (Lang14)

### Effects and Influence of Social Networks



Human beings have always lived in communities. Since the Neolithic Age, people have eaten, slept, worked, and even fought together. This instinct for social togetherness is one of the primary reasons the human race has continued to thrive. But how has this need for social connection influenced the lives of disabled individuals?

Sai C.N.G. Blackbyrn, an entrepreneurial coach who advocates the Social Support Theory, emphasizes that people require social support throughout their lives in various forms. According to Blackbyrn, the three primary types of support needed are emotional, informational, and material. He also notes that individuals who build strong, supportive social networks tend to be healthier - both physically and mentally (Blackbyrn,4). The Social Support Theory, along with its real-world application, is especially crucial for disabled individuals and their caregivers, as it helps them navigate both emotional challenges and physical limitations. This phenomenon is reflected in the realistic lives of characters in the primary texts. For example, August, Jack, and Linus - all children facing unique challenges - benefit from supportive social networks that help them during moments of isolation, trauma, or social marginalization. In *Wonder*, August and Jack encounter social rejection and bullying at school, primarily because of August's facial difference. However, the presence of caring families, understanding teachers, and genuine friendships helps them grow emotionally and morally. Without such support, both boys might have experienced far greater hardship.

Similarly, in *The Final Solution*, the character Linus and his caregivers demonstrate how a nurturing social environment can help individuals cope with traumatic incidents, discrimination, and the physical limitations of old age. The novel also presents a contrast in the form of Reggie Panicker, a character who does not invest in building positive connections. Instead, he aligns himself with antisocial elements and ultimately faces severe consequences, including being forced to flee.

Thus, it can be concluded that supportive social networks significantly benefit not only disabled individuals and their caregivers but all people seeking a meaningful and stable life. As these narratives illustrate, social connectedness is not merely beneficial, it is essential.

#### Animals: Our Friends

Throughout the history of the human species, animals have been irreplaceable companions. Humans have always used animals to circumvent their limitations. Dogs were used as hunting companions because they had sharper senses when compared to a human. The sheep was domesticated for its wool, and the pigeon was domesticated in order to exchange information faster. Animals have always been a part of human civilization, with a deep bond between man and animal. And it is this bond that has helped many differently abled people in numerous ways.

Mr. Don Moore, an expert on human-animal interaction, in his review titled *Animal-facilitated therapy* : A review states that pet care - along with a near-homely environment - is part of the recovery process. This is strongly shown through the relationship between Linus and Bruno. Through acting as Bruno's primary caregiver, Linus is slowly recovering from his trauma. In the case of the Pullman family, acting as Daisy's primary caregivers allows them to experience non-judgmental and unconditional love. This, in turn, helps them deal with a society that often judges August harshly. Thus, human-animal companionship plays an important role in the lives of differently abled people. Had Bruno and Daisy not come into the lives of Linus and the Pullman family, the consequences would have been tragic. This is clearly shown in the primary texts - when Linus loses Bruno, he enters into invisible depression and in *Wonder*, the readers are able to understand what Daisy meant to August and what his life would be like without her. (Moore 2)



## Disability and Its Complex Interaction with Caregiving

Disability has always been part of human history. The treatment of differently abled people has varied across centuries and has often been determined by changing social factors—which is clearly reflected through literature. Today, more than three billion people live with some form of disability. In medieval times, disability was not viewed positively. Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, though multifaceted in its portrayal, does not present disability in a positive light. The Renaissance period continued this trend, with authors like Shakespeare, Spenser, and Webster using disability as a narrative device to emphasize villainy. In the Victorian era, however, rising poverty and class divisions shifted literature's focus toward realism. Writers like John Stuart Mill, George Eliot, Wilkie Collins, and Harriet Parr began to represent disability more objectively, portraying the real struggles of common people rather than reinforcing stereotypes. The modern age brought even more realistic portrayals due to global upheaval from wars, racial tensions, and economic hardships. Writers such as Wilfred Owen, Carson McCullers and O. Henry focused on portraying disabled characters not as metaphors, but as individuals navigating a difficult world. This shift intensified in the postmodern era, where growing societal acceptance of differently abled individuals led not only writers but also scholars like Ria Cheyne and Jodi Picoult to explore disability through a more nuanced and empathetic lens. Their works show how crucial the presence of a primary caregiver is - not just for disabled individuals, but for all people seeking meaningful emotional support. This research applies John Bowlby's Attachment Theory and comparative thematic analysis to compare the portrayal of disability in primary texts. In order to analyse the effects of care giving on the lives of the differently abled. The key themes analyzed included: universality of disability, self-awareness, parenting, caregiver-care receiver dynamics, social networks, and animal companionship. These themes help explain the complex interactions between disabled individuals and the caregivers in their lives. Self-understanding is a unique theme that depends entirely on the individual. Characters like Linus and August learn to accept themselves and, as a result, understand how to form meaningful relationships with their caregivers. The universality of disability and its social rejection causes characters like Jack Will and Mrs. Panicker to hide parts of themselves to fit in. Parenting plays a critical role in shaping the emotional world of differently abled individuals. In both primary texts, children are influenced by their parents-for better or worse. Mrs. Panicker's excessive self-blame stems from childhood neglect, while Mrs. Pullman's positive aura reflects the loving guidance of her own mother. The effects of caregivers on care receivers are inseparable from parenting.

As Bowlby suggests, early interactions shape emotional stability. A primary caregiver's influence is often foundational to identity and resilience. Similarly, social networks provide essential emotional and practical support, as seen in the lives of August, Jack, and Linus. The human-animal bond, too, plays a powerful role. Characters like Bruno and Daisy act not only as pets but sometimes as emotional caregivers themselves. When Linus loses Bruno, he falls into invisible depression, and Daisy's loss deeply impacts August and his family. Though John Bowlby developed attachment theory for children, this research suggests it applies across a disabled person's entire life. Mrs. Pullman, for example, experiences social disability and often seeks her primary caregiver's support during distress. Bowlby's idea that children prefer security is modest- it applies just as strongly to teenagers and adults. Linus and Miranda, who both suffer from parental abandonment, struggle with mental disabilities and long for secure emotional attachments. In conclusion, caregivers especially primary caregivers—are foundational to the lives of differently abled individuals. As shown in the texts analyzed, their support profoundly shapes personal identity, social integration, and emotional healing.





Bowlby's theory remains relevant not just in early life, but throughout the lifespan of anyone navigating disability.

#### Suggestions for Future Research

As discussed above, the factors influencing disability and caregiving are not static - they continue to evolve with advancements in medical science and societal attitudes. For instance, while certain genetic diseases or conditions like August's facial deformity may be difficult to address in 2025, by 2050, they could potentially be treated with minimal medical intervention, possibly even within a single day. Therefore, research must remain ongoing and adaptive in order to understand how disability - and the experience of being differently abled- changes over time. Additionally, while John Bowlby's Attachment Theory remains foundational in understanding the relationship between children and their caregivers, newer studies suggest that adult relationships, individual mindset, and social factors also play a significant role in shaping the personality and emotional health of differently abled individuals. Future research could benefit from integrating contemporary psychological frameworks alongside Bowlby's theory. Finally, while this paper focuses on two primary texts - R.J.Palacio's *Wonder* and Michael Chabon *The Final Solution* - further comparative literary studies could be conducted with other works featuring caregiving and disability. Such expansions would provide broader insight into how literature reflects the evolving realities of disability and care across diverse genres and time periods.

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