

HUMANITIES INSTITUTE
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SALAD DAYS / KAVAK YELLERİ (1961)

RESAT NURI GUNTEKIN (1889 – 1956)

Apropos

Salad Days, the seventeenth novel written by Resat Nuri Guntekin, is one of the works of the novelist's maturity period. The novel, which was first serialized in *Ulus* newspaper in 1950, was later published as a book by *Inkilap Publications* in 1961. Based on the personal experiences of the protagonist of the narrative, the contrasts between Istanbul and Anatolian society, specifically the urban and peasant conflict, are presented to the reader through the author's observations and critical thoughts. As in the novel *Fire Feast*, the narrator, who is present in synchronic time, talks about his own past through the use of narration technique. Therefore, the narrative is conveyed to the reader by the homodiegetic narrator. From time to time, the narrator addresses the reader directly. Narrative techniques such as narration, summarization, analepsis, prolepsis, inner-monologue, dialogue and description are used. The narrative consists of two main parts in total. The first one takes place in the Province (Vilayet) and the second one in Istanbul. While the first main part consists of fifty-five subchapters in total, the second main part consists of twenty-six subchapters. Looking at the narrative as a whole, it is seen that the time span in which the narrative takes place is seventeen years. The span in which the narrative takes place is the first years of the Republic in real time.

Synopsis

After graduating from school, Sabri, who had set out to work in Anatolia with a few idealist friends in Istanbul, arrives in one of the Anatolian towns. Since the republic has just been proclaimed, the institutions of the new state are just beginning to be established and the revolutions are just beginning to spread. Landowners, merchants and some government officials exert significant control over the peasants. Secular schools began to replace the madrassas and a cold war between the progressives and reactionaries is felt to be going on in the society. The conflict between the reactionaries and the progressives intensifies with the establishment of the Liberal Republican Party on Ghazi's order. After settling down in the town and never returning to Istanbul, Sabri decides to go back to the city upon the death of his wife, longing for the enjoyable times he had during his youth. During his stay in Istanbul, he stays in hotels and although he runs into a few old friends and has fun, over time he witnesses how corrupt they have become and how they ruin their own lives due to depression. When Ali Osman, one of his old schoolmates, is arrested for having heroin in his house and Sabri, his namesake, ignores his sick wife and spends every night in clubs, he decides to return to the town. Because there is no trace left of the innocent Istanbul of Sabri's youth that once adorned his dreams.

People

<i>Sabri</i>	Protagonist of the narrative is a doctor who settles in Anatolia.
<i>Galilee</i>	Sabri's educated and domestic wife whom he married in the town.
<i>Emin Hulusi</i>	Sabri's old friend and schoolmate in Istanbul.
<i>Mufti</i>	Modern-looking mufti of the town. Establishes an orphanage.
<i>Jamila</i>	Daughter of the protagonist.
<i>Hadji Omar</i>	One of the wealthy names of the region. Former overlord who owns a farm.
<i>Hadji Muslim</i>	Galilee's father. A wealthy pharmacist in the town.
<i>Midget Helper</i>	Works as a helper in Hadji Muslim's pharmacy. His real name is Aslan.
<i>Isa</i>	The town's unlicensed and overbearing doctor.
<i>Sabri</i>	Protagonist's old schoolmate. A fortune hunter.
<i>Andelib</i>	Daughter of Ashik Feyzi from the Karayamuk family. Wants to marry Sabri.
<i>Perihan</i>	Works in Ali Osman's hospital and studies dentistry.
<i>Ayper</i>	Perihan's friend.
<i>Ibraheem</i>	Jamila's husband and Andelib's son.
<i>Ali Osman</i>	Sabri's old classmate.

<i>Kocho</i>	A hotel employee.
<i>Father</i>	A Bektashi from Monastir. He runs a restaurant in the town.
<i>Karabaghian Aunt</i>	One of Mr. Muslim's relatives.
<i>Ziver</i>	Close friend of Mr. Muslim. He is a surgeon.
<i>Sitki Karayamuk</i>	Judicial officer.

The names of a narrative person in the narrative are as follows: Butler, Esma (Butler's wife), Shaziment (Sitki Karayamuk's daughter), Midwife, Big Sister Shafiq, Coachman Tahir, Mayor, Health Director, Pockmarked Huriye, Ashik Feyzi, Hasan Karayamuk, Hussein Karayamuk, Uncle Husman, Uncle Morteza, Blind Sami, Imam Hasan, Shafiq Davarcioglu, Priest, Violinist, Mr. Affan, Hurrem, Abdullah, Osman Mutlu, Hassan Effendi, etc.

Extended Storyline

Death of Galilee Upon the death of Mrs. Galilee, the wife of Dr. Sabri, a funeral ceremony is organized. The ceremony is attended by the town's dignitaries and even soldiers. Sabri had sent his eight-year-old daughter to Uchdul Farm in Karasekili village. Sabri also went there after the funeral. Then Sabri goes to the club in New Station Park and listens to the conversations around him. The dignitaries of the town talk about the elections, the Liberal Republican Party and the funeral. Hadji Omar, the rice seller who owns the Karabalchikli Farm, has become one of the richest people in the area called "the opposite side" with the railroad that divides the town into two. Hadji Omar, who has sciatica, wants to be cured by Sabri. Due to the paddy fields, there is no one left in the region who has not contracted malaria. For his treatment, Sabri reviewed many sources and even sought advice from a former classmate named Emin Hulusi. Hadji Omar, who has a disease that can be treated with alcohol, is not told that the medicine contains it. When Hadji Omar comes to the park and says that his wife is ill, Sabri takes his black bag from his house and goes to Karabalchikli Farm.

Sabri is alone for the first time Just as the saz is important to a minstrel, the black bag is equally important to a doctor. During the ride, Sabri thinks about his wife who died of cancer and questions whether she would have been able to recover if she had received treatment. Galilee's illness lasted for two years. When he arrives at Hadji Omar's house, his wife is no longer ill and Sabri has to spend the night there. Lying on the porch of the house, Sabri spends a night alone for the first time and thinks about his late wife. He thinks whether he truly loved his wife. He comes to the conclusion that he is not in love with his wife as she is, but with an image of Galilee that he has created in his own mind. He questions why he does not cry for his wife. In his youth, he worked in Cholera Hospital in Hadimkoy during the Balkan War, and later in the typhus epidemic during WWI, risking death.

Revival of Sabri's sexual urges Esma is one the volunteer helpers of the farm. From time to time, she offers Sabri some of the pastry with feta cheese filling she makes and establishes a bond with him. People living in the region have generally contracted malaria at least once. When Esma, Butler's wife, falls ill with a high fever, Sabri takes care of her. He takes Esma's temperature and injects her quinine. Sabri has seen Esma meeting secretly with Butler in the stable several times. Sabri later confesses that he was sexually aroused by Esma. In his office, he has Divan of Fuzuli, Broken Stringed Instrument (Tevfik Fikret), Hammer translation and Murad Bey's History. He keeps up with professional developments and tries to read new books related to his field as much as possible. Once, he managed to beat the heart of a man who was thought to be dead with a medicine he later remembered. He owes this to reading and acquiring new knowledge. He thinks of the lives he has saved with what he has learned and the lives lost because of what he did not know. A woman dies of meningitis after contracting an infection during childbirth. Religious people become immoral and lose their faith when they contract sexual diseases. Sabri, who also reads psychology books, says that the inner world of human beings also has physiological symptoms. Despite all this, he later realizes that the winds of his youth have begun to blow on his head.

Sabri, who is thought to be leaving the village, is prevented The next morning, Sabri returns to his routine and talks about village life. Milking, watering flowers, inspecting trees are some of the daily chores. The villagers give him various gifts in return of his services. Huriye, Galilee's older half-sister, takes care of the housework. She took care of Galilee during her illness and was entrusted with her keys. Sabri thinks that the villagers might have an issue with him being alone at home with Huriye. The protagonist identifies himself with words such as "poor" and "abandoned" used by people dressed as beggars, whose origin is unknown, but Sabri guesses that they come from Bukhara. He

remembers the years he spent in his youth with Emin Hulusi in Istanbul, and after coming to the town and getting married, he begins to feel like he belongs there. A friend of the protagonist, an accounting clerk, also experienced similar feelings when his wife died. Thinking that Sabri will leave the town, the local people decide to leave him the farm of a Greek who fled to Greece during the national struggle. Political figures also intervene and Sabri is offered a parliamentary seat. However, Sabri had witnessed many times in the past that many people who had been promised a parliamentary seat had been let down. Finally, as a last resort, it is decided to remarry Sabri to a woman from the town. Initially, he is planned to marry one of the widows in the town, but Mufti advises him to marry a young girl and tells him that it will be good for him by mentioning religious names and parables. While many people think of marrying him off to his daughter, Hadji Omar even thinks of marrying him off one of his grandchildren.

The Karayamuk family and Sabri and Galilee's meeting With the proclamation of the Republic, it becomes a tradition to dance and play games in the town. However, Galilee is jealous of Sabri, whom she sees dancing and playing games with other women, and prevents him. Especially during examinations, Sabri is forced to get close to sick women. After examinations, Galilee questions her husband and starts to complain. Country girls are usually looking for wealthy husbands and they reveal themselves with their appearance and behavior. Among them are those who try to impress Sabri. Galilee is the daughter of the overlord of the Karayamuks, a family that once had a sermon read against the Sultan. There are constant fights between the family over land, real estate and inheritance. During the war years, the family experienced serious turmoil and the war of succession started with the death of the elders of the family. While the men were at war, the women were the heads of the family. Sabri and Galilee met at Karasekili Farm and started making love there.

Sabri is tried to be married off to a family member Sitki Karayamuk, a member of the Supreme Court, handles the family's affairs in Ankara. After Galilee's death, he wants to marry off his daughter Shahande to Sabri. As they fell into financial difficulties despite being a wealthy family, Shahande began to yearn for her former glamorous life. Sitki, who cannot bear his daughter's complaints any longer and wants to marry her off to a wealthy man, meets Sabri. Galilee's father Mr. Muslum also sued his son-in-law claiming that he was owed money after his daughter's death. Ashik Feyzi, a member of the family, wants to marry off his daughter Anelib to Sabri. Known as a vagabond, drunkard and gambler, Ashik Feyzi is said to have married in Erzurum, traveled to Mosul, worked as a muezzin in Albania and died there. However, Ashik Feyzi returned to his hometown in a disabled condition. Sabri finds Anelib to be closer to him. Upon the death of Ashik Feyzi, they try to marry off his daughter Anelib to Sabri.

Sabri's arrival in Anatolia When he first came to the town, he was given a room in the house of the municipal midwife in Kavakli neighborhood, where their current house is located. The midwife died of amoebic dysentery. The midwife delivered the baby of Galilee. The doctor tried to prevent the midwife, who earned extra income by washing the bodies of dead people. At night, the voices of women being beaten by their husbands are heard and the midwife realizes that a woman has been killed by the sound she makes. Sabri meets the muezzin who recite the adhan in the morning from the mosque next to his house and talks to him from time to time through the window. Unable to earn money from being a muezzin, the character is also made to work as a covered bazaar crier. After graduation, Sabri sets out with his idealist friends to work in Anatolia, but loses many of his friends during the journey. Emin Hulusi stayed in Istanbul because he could not leave the girl he was in love with. Since the winter was severe, they stayed in a public house in Eskisehir for a few days. One of Sabri's friends returns after his relative, who works at Ministry of Health, arranges for him a job in Istanbul. While sitting in the minaret of the mosque, he thinks about Camlica, Sisli-Tunel, Moda, Kadikoy Ferry Pier, Beyoglu, Karakoy, the neighborhoods where he spent the best times of his youth. He imagines the places he has visited and the places he could not visit and the sanatorium he wanted to open with Emin Hulusi on one of the islands. While he is thinking these thoughts, a stork keeps him company. The town watchman has hardly left Istanbul, where he had stayed for thirty years in order to save money.

Social life In the past, a fire broke out in the town spread over a large area with the wind and many lands and houses were burned. After the properties were burned, the question of which land belonged to whom became a problem and there were big fights because of this. With the urban development, the railroad passed through the town and the town was reorganized accordingly. The club with garden in the town square, Mr. Muslim's pharmacy and Dr. Isa's office are common places

where people meet and talk. Sabri, who was taken to the municipal club in Galata by his friends in his youth, read books and newspapers because he did not enjoy playing games. In his youth, he read literary works such as *Monte Cristo*, *Under the Lime Trees*, *The Mysteries of the Inquisition*, *Mavi ve Siyah*. *Koroghlu* play is also performed in this club. Mr. Muslim and Mr. Isa are brothers-in-arms who served together on the same fronts. Mr. Isa got married in Anatolia and never returned to Istanbul.

Fear of reactionism and orphanage There are Turkish writings in Mufti's dar al-muwaqqit. He translated the adhan into Turkish and wrote it in his own style. Mufti, who used to be a calligrapher, also wrote Latin letters in calligraphic style. He also included photographs of actresses among the writings for fear of being accused of being a reactionary. Because he had narrowly escaped execution after Sheikh Said rebellion, his hands trembles from time to time when he felt fear. He is against turbaned people and cer hodjas. He recommends naming the dar al-muwaqqit as "clock house". Mufti also mentions the need to establish an orphanage. He takes a dilapidated madrasah from pious foundations. The regiment commander repairs the building and the military provides the necessary furniture. The village women cook the children's meals and do the laundry. In addition to orphaned children, sick and disabled people are also sent to the orphanage. Sabri warns Mufti about possible bad incidents, but he is not taken seriously. Since no records are kept, it is difficult to keep track of the in and out of the orphanage. Mufti brings the dying child he found on the mountainside, loaded onto a donkey. Sabri warns him about the epidemic and says that he should not bring every patient to the orphanage.

Enterprises open in town Father's restaurant is one of the most luxurious places in town. It is the only place in the Dereboyu bazaar that is open after the evening hours. Civil servants such as inspectors and engineers working in the region sleep at Cumhuriyet Hotel and eat at his restaurant. With the proclamation of the republic, hotels began to be built all over the country, and the wealthy, seeing that these enterprises provided good income, tried to build hotels. Shafiq Davarcioglu, a bandit and wannabe gangster, is sent away from the town and when he receives the news of his father's death, he returns to the town. Having undergone a radical change in personality, Shafiq has become educated and well-informed. Although he undertakes the construction of Modern Palace, he is forced to leave the town due to the family's past debts. He returns to Istanbul and joins a improvisational theatre and never returns to the town.

Conflict between reaction and revolution Father, estimated to be between 50-70 years old, is a Bektashi from Monastir. The food served in his restaurant is appreciated by everyone. One day, Father, who had been reciting nefes (breath) poem in his restaurant, is suspected of being a sectary and an investigation is launched, and Mufti and Sabri tell him how to make a statement to the prosecutor. They advise Father to say that he had sang a song, not recited a Bektashi breath. The singing of secular and revolutionary anthems in the demonstrations held at orphanage disturbs Hadji Omar, who supplies rice to there. Anti-madrasah expressions in the marches sung during the demonstration disturbs Hadji Omar and he takes a stand against both Mufti and the orphanage. The modern schools are praised. For this reason, Hadji Omar is about to give up giving the rice he had donated to the orphanage. Later, an argument takes place between Mufti and Hadji Omar. Accusing the children in the orphanage of theft and immorality, Hadji Omar seeks new supporters for this view. However, as a result of the pressure, it is realized that Hadji Omar is actually against not giving religion lessons to children in the orphanage. Mufti, who had barely escaped with his life at independence tribunals, said that he would never give the children religion lesson and resigns. Many townspeople could not get used to the new letters and script. However, they also do not know how to read with the old letters. The rhetoric of the reactionaries in the region spreads and is repeated among the people. Reactionary components are quite strong in the town and easily influence the people. A conflict between the old and the new erupts between students and the elderly.

Gaining acceptance of Sabri in the town Mr. Isa instilled fear among the townspeople with various deceits and threats, and ensured that the doctors sent by the government left the town in a short time. He even intimidated the district governor by threatening to write a report against him. He does not want to share his income and authority in the town with another doctor. The number of unlicensed doctors working in towns and Istanbul significantly increased. Sabri also experienced serious difficulties in the first years of his career. Contrary to expectations, Pharmacist Muslim, who works with Mr. Isa, treats Sabri warmly and expresses that he will help him. Mr. Isa takes advantage of the helplessness of the local people and exploits them. He does not hesitate to oppress and torment

anyone who might undermine his authority. For this reason, Sabri is soon loved and favored by the townspeople.

Sabri and Muslim become close After lying on his sick bed for a few days, Mr. Isa returns to work. Mr. Muslim, the pharmacist, continues to give Sabri medicine and find patients under the table. In time, Sabri gains the respect and love of the townspeople. However, Mr. Muslim, who is not happy with Sabri's goodwill being abused by patients due to his excessive modesty, takes actions to ensure that Sabri is paid fairly. Mr. Muslim, who is fluent in Arabic and Persian, is also interested in philosophy, history and literature. He translated *Herboriste* from French into Turkish under the title of *Herbalist Booklet* and wrote a religion book titled *Guidebook of Hajj*. Mr. Muslim, who loves hiking, often goes hiking with Sari and the two become close during these walks. Mr. Muslim, who know all the ins and outs of the town well, enables Sabri to earn additional income by trade. Mr. Isa, on the other hand, got up from his sick bed and started tormenting people again. One day Sabri is invited to the house of Mr. Muslim, whom he cannot see in the garden, and goes there. The house in Dereboyu has a big garden where Mr. Muslim keeps chickens and rabbits. He had sent his daughter Galilee to Ankara years ago to receive education and never married again after his wife died.

First encounter with Galilee Galilee, who has come home for the holidays, has been lying on her sick bed for two days. Galilee is engaged to her uncle's son who is a merchant in Mersin. Mr. Isa is treating her for malaria. After examining Galilee, Sabri meets with Mufti, who tells him that Mr. Muslim wants to give his daughter to Sabri. Sabri, who learns that the two liras in his pocket were secretly put there by Mr. Muslim, reluctantly accepts the money. From that day on, Sabri takes care of his clothes and the order of the house. His passion for Galilee fascinates him. Years later, he puts on his clothes again after cleaning them with a detergent given by Emin Hulusi. When he is called for the second time, he goes to Mr. Muslim's house again. A room is prepared for Sabri downstairs. A room is prepared for Sabri downstairs. He examines Karabaghian Aunt. Surgeon Ziver Effendi and Mr. Muslim met at Jeddah Military Hospital. Mr. Muslim worked as a pharmacist and Ziver Effendi as a surgeon. Over time, their friendship grew and they constantly helped each other. They always looked after each other during epidemics and wars.

Sabri tries to get closer to Galilee Sabri establishes an intimate relationship with Karabaghian Aunt and asks her questions about Galilee. In order not to be caught by Ziver, Galilee is given an alias. Sabri learns from Karabaghian Aunt that Galilee is studying in Ankara. He tries to get information from Karabaghian Aunt and asks questions about Galilee's relationship with her fiancé. According to Karabaghian Aunt, Mr. Muslim will not marry Galilee to him and she does not have intense feelings for someone she has never seen. It is rumored that her uncle's son is with a bar girl in Mersin. When it is learned that she wants to complete her education in Istanbul because she failed a course in Ankara, Sabri begins to fear that she has a boyfriend in Istanbul. Sabri, who had been waiting for months for an opportunity to see Galilee, sees her when he goes to Uch Ablalar Farm. After taking care of the children with measles, he meets Galilee while walking in the fields and talks to her. However, Galilee is quite distant. Sabri thinks that Galilee is different from the other girls, but her frost demoralizes him.

Conflict between Liberal Republican Party and Republican People's Party According to the rumors, a new party will be established by Ghazi's order. A few days later, Mufti arrives in a hurry with a newspaper and confirms that the rumor is true based on the news he read from the newspaper. Upon this, the dissidents in the town get excited. While dissidents like Mr. Isa gather in the pharmacy garden and talk about the new party, people like Mufti and Mr. Muslim suspect that the new party is formed to identify and punish the opponents of the regime. The new party becomes a hope for the supporters of Enver Pasha and the Unionists. A deceased peasant woman asked for a school to be built with her wealth in her will. At the ceremony for the opening of the school, the supporters of the two parties confront each other for the first time. Although the supporters of the Liberal Republican Party seem to abstain at first, they start to join the debates and fights break out between the two sides. All those who are uncomfortable with the practices of the current government come together in the Liberal Republican Party. Among them are also monarchists and religious conservatives. There is a constant debate and strife between the townspeople who are divided into two. Due to political conflict, one day Mr. Isa loses his office. His office is given to Sabri. Mr. Isa, who had been angry with Sabri for a while, becomes close to Sabri after the treatment of an angina attack.

Sabri and Galilee's marriage and Galilee's death When Galilee and Sabri get engaged, Mr. Muslim tries not to leave them alone and not to make Sabri spend too much since he knows his

financial situation. During the wedding shopping in the bazaar, Galilee acts very frugally. Karabaghian Aunt leaves the couple alone from time to time and makes sure that they are alone. After the marriage, Galilee becomes a good and loyal wife to Sabri. Her homeliness and care for her husband are always appreciated by Sabri. Galilee dies of cancer ten years after getting married. After a while, Mr. Muslim also passes away. Although Sabri's entire life has now been devoted to Jamila, he cannot help but think about his youth.

Sabri arrives in Istanbul and Emin Hulusi passes away Sabri, who returns to Istanbul after many years, cannot understand why he was not welcomed by Emin Hulusi at Haydarpasa Train Station. Although he decides to stay overnight in the bachelor's room where he used to stay, when he learns that a ferry is leaving for Heybeliada at night, he quickly gets ready and heads to the ferry pier. During the ferry ride, he gets information about Emin Hulusi from a couple he learns that they are going to Heybeliada. Sabri learns that he has aged a lot and becomes sad. When he arrives at the island, Sabri looks at Emin Hulusi's house from a distance and realizes from the crowd in the house that there is a funeral and that his friend has died. According to Sabri, Emin Hulusi died of regret for not being able to realize his dreams and for living a narrow and boring family life. Not wanting to join the funeral crowd, Sabri leaves before entering the house.

Sabri remembers Jamila married Andelib's son Having received the painful news of his friend's death unexpectedly, Sabri does not know what to do for a while. Sabri, who is staying at a hotel, is forced to make a new plan since all his plans have been destroyed by Emin Hulusi's death. Left alone for a while and not knowing exactly what to do in Istanbul, Sabri remembers how his daughter Jamila was married to Mrs. Andelib's son, despite all his objections. Sabri, who is left all alone after the death of his wife Galilee and his best friend Emin Hulusi, could not accept that his daughter Jamila marries someone else and starts a new life. Sabri, who did not want to share his daughter with someone else, tried to prevent his daughter's desire to marry, but he could not succeed.

Sabri's search for fun Sabri, who is overwhelmed with loneliness and bad thoughts in the hotel where he is staying, goes to the club to have fun and get rid of the bad thoughts in his head on the advice of Kocho, one of the hotel employees. After getting drunk in the club, Sabri meets two prostitutes who come to him while he is sitting at Taksim Square. Due to both sadness and pride, Sabri refuses their offer and does not go with them. However, Sabri later goes to the hotel and regrets having refused the prostitutes' offer, and the next night Sabri goes to Taksim Square again, hoping to find the same women. Having found the women, Sabri goes to a hotel with the younger one. After paying for both the room and the prostitute, Sabri realizes the situation he is in and decides to go back to his hotel.

Sabri treats Kocho's wife and is visited by his son-in-law's relatives Sabri is visited by Kocho, one of the employees of the hotel where he is staying, who had previously recommended a club for him to enjoy himself. Kocho tells Sabri that his wife has been ill for some time and needs to be examined. Dr. Sabri goes to Kocho's house to examine his wife. Later, Sabri returns to the hotel and is visited by Hurrem, an acquaintance of his son-in-law who lives in Istanbul. Kocho then organizes a banquet at his house on behalf of the protagonist who had examined his wife. Afterwards, the father of Dr. Sabri's son-in-law and Hurrem visit him again at the hotel and do their best to get him to return to town. Jamila wants Sabri to return to town. Because she is anxious about him and wants to reconcile.

Sabri drifts in Istanbul Sabri goes to the hospital to be treated for an illness he has suffered, where he meets Ali Osman, one of his old classmates. He starts to receive treatment in the private hospital opened by his former classmate. Sabri operates on a wounded person who is brought in the first night he is hospitalized in his former classmate Ali Osman's private hospital with the help of a girl who is a student in the Department of Dentistry. Sabri encounters his namesake Sabri, who was a student in a higher grade during his years as a student at the school, and Sabri invites the protagonist to his house for dinner. Sabri takes the protagonist to a club and tries to spend as much fun time with him as possible because of the prolonged treatment of his wife, who is being treated at Bakirkoy Psychiatric Hospital for a nerve disease. Hasan Effendi, a taxman from the town, and Hadji Omar's eldest daughter Gulsum and her husband Osman Mutlu arrive at the hospital where Dr. Sabri is staying.

Sabri goes back to town The protagonist, who has been spending time with his namesake Sabri, a friend from school, and going to entertainment venues at night, is going to a ball to be held in

Yalova. The two attend this ball together with two women named Perihan and Ayperi. However, Perihan and Ayperi dance with two young men at the ball and this makes Sabri very uncomfortable. On their way back from Yalova, the two namesakes learn that Ali Osman has been arrested for having heroin in his bedroom. Having failed to find what he was looking for in Istanbul, having seen that there was no trace left of the Istanbul of his youth that he constantly remembered, and having witnessed with his own eyes that his friends were corrupt, Sabri decides to return to the town with Hassan Effendi, who has also come from there.

Themes

Escape The protagonist of Resat Nuri Guntekin's novel *Salad Days*, Dr. Sabri comes to Anatolia with a few friends finishing school, driven by the idealistic spirit of the period to work there. In the Anatolian province where he has come to realize himself and serve his country, Sabri falls in love with a woman named Galilee, marries her and settles in the town where he works. However, Sabri, who loses his wife ten years after his marriage, as he always thinks of the Istanbul of his youth during his stay in Anatolia., decides to go there in order to get rid of his depression. When he arrives in Istanbul, Sabri thinks that he will be happy in the entertainment venues where he spent his time in his youth, but he is disappointed. Because there is no trace left of the innocent Istanbul of his youth. Having spent his youth in a province in Anatolia, Sabri looks back and questions whether he made the right choice by coming to Anatolia. He thinks that returning to Istanbul after the death of his wife would be a good choice, but he is mistaken. Because the innocent Istanbul of his youth and his old friends have completely changed.

Love Dr. Sabri, the protagonist of Resat Nuri Guntekin's novel *Salad Days*, goes to one of the Anatolian provinces to work in order to become a benefic citizen for his country after graduating from school. Initially having difficulty adapting to the Anatolian town, Sabri completely changes after he meets Galilee, the daughter of Mr. Muslim, the pharmacist with whom he begins to work. Sabri, who attaches too much importance to Galilee and idealizes her, pulls himself together in time and becomes completely rooted in the town. For Sabri, who has fallen in love with Galilee, the feeling of love becomes the most important force that binds him to the town. Galilee, a domestic, loyal, satiated and unpretentious woman, wins Sabri's heart with her pure love. Although she is the daughter of a wealthy family, she does not expect anything from Sabri financially. Although the feeling of love makes Sabri become rooted in the town and become an Anatolian, it is seen that he starts to long for his youth after losing his wife.

Conflict Although the main narrative of Resat Nuri Guntekin's novel *Salad Days* focuses on Dr. Sabri's love for Galilee and his desire to escape after Galilee's death, many social events, situations and phenomena are also covered in the background of the narrative. After the proclamation of the republic, new schools were opened under the guidance of the new revolutions. Secular and scientific schools are established instead of the traditional madrassas. New schools are not easily adopted especially by Anatolian people. Therefore, it is seen that there is an underlying hostility towards new schools among the people. At the same time, there is a conflict of the old and the new between the young and the old. Upon the news that a second political party will be founded by Ghazi, all the opponents begin to gather under the same roof of the new party. Everyone who is dissatisfied with the revolutions, reforms and practices of the current government joins the newly established party. Emile Zola's novel *Vérité* also features a thematically similar conflict.

Alienation Dr. Sabri, the protagonist in Resat Nuri Guntekin's novel *Salad Days*, after completing his studies and graduating from school, gets caught up in the idealistic politics of the period and migrates to Anatolia to work in order to serve his country and become a benefic citizen. Sabri starts working in an Anatolian town and encounters various problems. Because Anatolian people generally did not embrace the new revolutions and reforms. Since most people are afraid of being tried and hanged for reactionism in independence tribunals, they keep silent and pretend to embrace the new regime. Sabri, who has come to Anatolia with idealistic aspirations, is disappointed by the social picture he encounters, but it is his love for Galilee that prevents him from becoming disillusioned. However, after the death of his wife and the marriage of his daughter, nothing binds Sabri to Anatolia. Because of this, Sabri begins to long for his youth and returns to Istanbul. However, Sabri, who encounters the immoral face of city life and witnesses his old friends living in immorality and vice, cannot find what he is looking for in Istanbul either. Since then, Sabri feels strange and alien everywhere he goes.

Patriarchy In the Anatolian province, the open and spacious space in which the first main part of Resat Nuri Guntekin's novel *Salad Days* is set, patriarchal norms dominate society. The atomy of the Anatolian people, a kind of religious-agrarian society, is x-rayed in a fictional narrative. In the Anatolian town where the narrative takes place, women do not have a say and are generally suppressed through violence. It is seen that women are exploited and marginalized under the identity of femininity determined and defined by the existing social structure. It is not tolerated for women to receive higher education and have a say. Even though the republic is proclaimed, it takes a long time for values, revolutions, reforms and understanding of the new regime to spread to the society. Therefore, the female characters presented to the reader in the narrative mostly assume figurative roles. They are functionally in the background in the narrative.

Character Analysis

Sabri (Open/Social/Conscientious/Rational/Emotional)

After graduating from the Haydarpaşa Medical School, he set out with seven idealist friends to work in Anatolia to serve his country, having been carried away by the revolutionary politics and spirit of the period. He observes that there is a problem of backwardness in the province where he starts to work and that the revolutions and reforms do not fully resonate with the people. In addition, some landowners, merchants and government officials use their influence to exploit and bully the people. However, after meeting Galilee and falling in love with her, Sabri overcomes his frustration and despair and in time becomes one of the Anatolians and takes root in the town. However, in the back of his mind, he always felt that he belonged to Istanbul and he thought about the memories of his youth in Istanbul whenever he had the chance. After the death of his wife and the marriage of his daughter, Sabri goes to Istanbul because of nostalgia for his youth, but after a while he decides to return to the town. Because vulture capitalism has corrupted the city people over time.

Beloved Sabri, who rushes to everyone's aid without any financial interest, is loved by the townspeople: "They know me as a good man in the district: a good man, a good doctor, a man who loves his homeland, his nation, his family; a man who is a father to the poor, etc..." (Guntekin 2016, 5).

Pensive Through inner-monologues/dialogues, the inner world of the protagonist is revealed to the reader: "He – Don't force yourself... You can't force yourself to cry. You don't feel like it. Me – Are you talking to me? Am I a man who has never cried? I have cried many times for others' patients, for their dead" (Guntekin 2016, 27).

Lover When he falls in love with Galilee, he experiences a complete transformation both intellectually and as a person: "Moreover, on the nights when I gazed into the darkness in my room and thought about her, I worked on this blurred and incomplete picture as I pleased, and completed the parts that I could not see well or forgot with some colors and shapes according to my own dreams and desires. (...) In other words, I had become a lover of a dream" (Guntekin 2016, 200-201).

Idealist He migrates from Istanbul to Anatolia with the aim of serving his country and being useful to his fellow citizens: "Once upon a time, in the last years of the war of independence, the motto of young people who had just finished school was "Young countryman to Anatolia". We, seven young idealists, are preparing to go to improve the medical situation in Anatolia" (Guntekin 2016, 85).

Reputable Over time, he gains the respect of the townspeople with his honesty and hard work: "My reputation in the district is partly due to the fact that I know how to calm my fellow townspeople with skillful jokes in such tense times. Although I was a much more naïve and ineffective government doctor during the days of the Liberal Republican Party, I can say that I prevented bloodshed" (Guntekin 2016, 14).

Changing Initially an urbanite, over time he becomes one of the natives of the Anatolian town where he takes root: "What's the matter my friend! What's going on? This is your hometown now. (...) Although your wife is dead. But you have so many friends around you, and also a beautiful child who is the true fruit of this land" (Guntekin 2016, 42-43).

Lonely After his wife dies, he feels completely alone in the town: "I am seriously thinking of selling all my property and possessions and leaving this town with my children in my hands, as if there

is nothing that binds me here anymore, and this idea is gripping me more and more” (Guntekin 2016, 45).

Realist “Moreover, on the nights when I gazed into the darkness in my room and thought about her, I worked on this blurred and incomplete picture as I pleased, and completed the parts that I could not see well or forgot with some colors and shapes according to my own dreams and desires. (...) In other words, I had become a lover of a dream” (Guntekin 2016, 200-201).

Galilee (Closed/Asocial/Conscientious/Rational)

Galilee, the daughter of Mr. Muslim, the pharmacist, belongs to a wealthy family. After studying in Ankara for a while, she returned to the town due to her illness and during this time she met and married Sabri. The couple has a daughter name Jamila. Galilee has a half-sister named Huriye. Despite having lived in the capital of the country for a while, Galilee looks and behaves like a typical Anatolian woman. Galilee does not like to dress up and wear expensive clothes. She always keeps her distance from people. She is extremely frugal as she cares about the family economy. She does not like to leave the house and considers it her duty to please her husband. She has a very domestic character. Galilee, who has a maternal personality, is the most important driving force that keeps Sabri going with her love, loyalty, interest, sacrifice, and labor. Although Galilee shows herself physically in a small part of the narrative, she is an important character directing the narrative. With her appearance and personality traits, Galilee symbolizes the values representing Anatolia for the protagonist.

Jealous “Galilee was a jealous woman. Although she was not very clever, the devil himself could not think of the deviltries she thought of to prevent me from fraternizing with young women” (Guntekin 2016, 68).

Asocial “Galilee knew the town like the palm of her hand, even though she rarely left her house and met very few people” (Guntekin 2016, 74).

Modest “Galilee was a simple woman. She never had eye on clothes and entertainment” (Guntekin 2016, 75).

Proud “Galilee had failed he class and this is because she felt humiliated. She resented not only those who gave her unfair scores, but everyone in Ankara and never wanted to see the face of this city again” (Guntekin 2016, 255).

Calm “But in the face of Galilee’s formal face, which never changed, and her short answers, which occasionally cut my words in the middle like scissors, the fate of all of them quickly turned into the fate of the subject of the almond” (Guntekin 2016, 260).

Understanding Knowing the financial situation of his future husband, she ensures that he spends less during the wedding shopping: “But this time and again the two of them bargained hard with the man and reduced the price to a quarter and forced me take the rest” (Guntekin 2016, 292).

Contented “Although we were one of the richest people in the town, she had no eye for any entertainment, luxury or debauchery” (Guntekin 2016, 294).

Domestic “She was very clean and frugal. She loved her home more than anywhere else. During the week of our wedding, after a couple of visits to relatives and friends, she closed our doors to almost everyone” (Guntekin 2016, 294).

Emin Hulusi (Open/Social/Rational/Emotional)

Emin Hulusi, who was Dr. Sabri’s classmate at Haydarpasa Medical School, initially decided to go to Anatolia with the idealistic student group, but later gave up this idea for the girl he loved. He spent his youth years with Sabri, traveling in neighborhoods such as Camlica, Sisli, Tunel, Beyoglu, Karakoy, Moda, Kadikoy and having fun in clubs. Therefore, when Sabri goes to Anatolia, he finds the strength to endure by thinking about the time he spent with Emin Hulusi in the early years. Sabri also writes letters to Emin Hulusi from time to time. After the death of his wife, Sabri decides to go to Emin Hulusi and wants turn the dreams in his head into reality. However, when he goes to Heybeliada, Sabri learns

that his old friend is dead. According to Sabri, Emin Hulusi died because of his narrow and boring family life. Because Emin Hulusi is too active, colorful, exciting and lively a character to get married and live a routine family life. With his appearance and personality traits, Emin Hulusi symbolizes the values representing Istanbul for the protagonist.

Dominant Emin Hulusi likes to influence and guide others: "Emin Hulusi used to teach and guide many of us, while also belittling us a little" (Guntekin 2016, 302).

Self-confident Although he is indecisive and miserable, he is confident that he can live the life he desires in Istanbul: "Today, perhaps more miserable than you, I walk the sidewalks of Istanbul, but I will find my way on those sidewalks anyway" (Guntekin 2016, 302).

Prideful He doesn't like to reveal his weaknesses by telling his problems: "But when I began to improve financial situation with unexpected speed, the same pride made him wary of me. However, he did not hide his distress and the discomfort in his home from me, and occasionally made veiled and sarcastic complaints" (Guntekin 2016, 302).

Regretful Sabri thinks that he died in regret because he stayed in Istanbul and started a family: "Was it a bunch of children who besieged, who got in the way just when he should have been working and striving? Or was it a disagreement that caused that misfortune?" (Guntekin 2016, 302).

Wasted "I see Emin Hulusi falling like decayed tooth that fell into our mouth one day on its own after many years of aching and whining" (Guntekin 2016, 304).

Dreamer During his student years, he dreams big about the future: "It's true. I could not have imagined the prosperity this town has given me even in the days of Istanbul, hand in hand with Emin Hulusi in the nights of the salad days, when my head was like a caramel machine, constantly pouring dreams and hopes" (Guntekin 2016, 43).

Lively "On some summer evenings when we were students, we used to go to Moda and Muhurdar clubs with Emin Hulusi and other friends. I even remember going to Taksim and Tepebasi a few times" (Guntekin 2016, 127).

Devoted He gave up his future dreams for the woman he loves and his family: "Emin Hulusi was going to come with us. But he loved a girl. She was a soft and sensitive girl. Emin Hulusi was afraid that if he left her, she would get depressed and die. For this reason, he had separated from our group in the last week and sacrificed both me and the ideal for her" (Guntekin 2016, 111).

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