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The Architectonics of Labor Dissent in Contemporary Perspective: A Comparative Sociology of Melville's Bartleby and Kldiashvili's Platon Samanishvili

Prof. Dr. Nana Parinos

Caucasus International University, Georgia

Abstract

This paper establishes a comparative socio-literary framework to analyze The Architectonics of Labor Dissent, directly addressing the contemporary crises within the sociology of Labor & Work and Economic Sociology. By evaluating Herman Melville's *Bartleby, the Scrivener* (1853) alongside David Kldiashvili's *The Stepmother of Samanishvili* (1897), the study maps the structural, systemic, and emotional anatomy of resistance against economic exploitation and class entrapment.

From a contemporary 21st-century perspective, the "architectonics" of these narratives reveal two distinct structural models of socio-economic protest. Melville's Bartleby embodies the model of radical, passive withdrawal--prefiguring modern phenomena such as "quiet quitting" and absolute disengagement from corporate alienation. His refusal, *"I would prefer not to,"* is analyzed as a structural collapse of the labor contract. Conversely, Platon Samanishvili represents the tragic architecture of over-compliance; trapped in systemic Poverty & Wealth anxieties, his "protest" is manifested through desperate, absurd efforts to sustain an obsolete social status.

By translating these late-19th-century paradigms into modern social theory, this paper explores how late-capitalist work dynamics echo the structural claustrophobia experienced by both characters. Ultimately, we demonstrate how the structural design of labor dissent has shifted from Bartleby's overt refusal to Samanishvili's internalised, precarious survivalism, offering critical sociological insights into modern workplace burnout and structural helplessness.

Keywords: Architectonics of Dissent, Sociology of Labor, Economic Sociology, Precarity, Melville, Kldiashvili.