

*Abstract: This study investigates the relationship between Lacan's theory of desire and Jay's questing character in Hanif Kureishi's novella, Intimacy. The paper argues that Intimacy explores the passionate desire hardly satisfied through social and familial relationships. When it is read in Lacanian terms, the narrative reveals that the protagonist's unrelieved desire is fuelled by prolonged dissatisfaction. As the present paper will show, Intimacy portrays the protagonist as constantly fleeing from any kind of attachment. Presented as a self-producing motive, Jay's desire acts in relation to the other, beyond language, law, and reality. Even though the desiring subject in Intimacy nearly achieves his demanded object, his ultimate satisfaction seems possible only in protracted fantasy.*