CHAPTER I.

Introduction:-

The condition of English Society in the early decades of the century -- The concern of the young writers with the social and economic malaise of the time -- Greene's insistence that only religious faith can help man to feel at home in the universe -- His great psychological insight into the intricate workings of the human mind -- The blending of religion and psychology in his works.

CHAPTER II.

Biographical Background.

The importance of the early experiences in an individual's life -- The childhood and adolescent experiences that moulded Greene's personality -- Greene's obsession with certain themes like the corruption of innocence in
childhood and the universality of evil — His habit of analysing all human behaviour both from the point of view of religion and modern psychology.

CHAPTER III.

Religious Concepts.

The concepts of the Catholic Religion which provide Greene's works with a unique atmosphere of their own — Greene's belief in Original Sin — His conviction that life will become meaningless in the absence of religious faith — His opinion that it is better to keep hold of the comfort provided by religion than be disillusioned by the hypothetical happiness based on materialism.

CHAPTER IV.

Corruption of Childhood and the Inevitability of Sin.

Greene's belief that the corruption of innocence is the result of Original Sin — His conviction that
there is a parallel between human development away from the primitive and the individual loss of innocence in childhood — His belief that Grace is the only medicine which can save us from sin.

CHAPTER V.

Suffering and Evils

Greene's attempts to reconcile the problems of sin and suffering with the love of God — His conviction that suffering is not only inevitable, but that it has got a purgative value also — Suffering, evil, and even sin are part of the scheme of Christian providence — Greene repeatedly points out the capacity of religion to transform suffering into insights of profound significance.

CHAPTER VI.

Greene and the Catholic Faith

Greene's attitude to the Catholic
Faith — The conflict in his mind between his modern ideas on sex and his belief in the teachings of traditional Catholic religion on sin — Greene's tolerance towards sinners — His profound understanding and vivid portrayal of the tension in the minds of his Catholic characters as a result of the consciousness of their sin.

CHAPTER VII.

The Psychological Background

Greene's rare insight into the inner life of his characters — His constant use of the introspective recollections of his characters, of dream incidents, and childhood fantasies to illumine the past of his characters as well as the development of their personalities — His conviction that belief lies deep in man's emotional constitution — His frequent references to the concepts of modern psychology.
CHAPTER VIII.

The Influence of Childhood.

Greene's emphasis on the importance of the impressions we receive in our childhood -- His constant stress on the fact that the contents of an individual's conscience depend on the training and the cultural environments of his childhood -- With great psychological insight Greene points out how the childhood environment of each of his characters contributes to his or her development in a particular manner.

CHAPTER IX.

Characterisation.

Greene's masterly study of various emotions -- His rare insight into the workings of the human mind -- His thorough analysis of his characters to find out the motives for their behaviour -- The psychological subtlety of his characterisation.
CHAPTER X.

Greene's Technique.

Greene's constant use of dreams and memories and interior monologues to give us information about the lives and background of his characters -- His close and continual contact with the subconscious of his characters -- His technique is of great help to him to probe deep into the mind and lay before us the inner life of his characters.

CHAPTER XI.

Blending of Religion and Psychology.

Greene's constant attempts to interpret religious doctrines in terms of the concepts of modern psychology -- His preoccupation with the sense of guilt in his characters -- The religious tone of his works, the psychological subtlety of his characterisation, and his use of the technique of the modern psychological novel in the narration of his stories result in a unique blending of religion and psychology in his works.
CHAPTER XII.

Conclusion.

Greene's opinion that the growing feeling of mental anguish experienced in modern times is, to a great extent, due to the decay of religious faith -- His conviction that life without belief is meaningless -- His view that even a sordid life under the shadow of religion is infinitely better than an atheistic and purely materialistic life in a "Chromium" world -- His contribution to modern fiction lies in the unique blending of religion and psychology which he achieves while interpreting his characters and the human situation.

BIBLIOGRAPHY....