Much work has been done on Bernard Malamud, one of the prominent American novelists. Research scholars, critics and others have discovered many aspects of Malamud’s work. However, the theme of “Transformation and Redemption through Suffering and Compassion” in Malamud’s novels deserves a full-length study.

To Malamud, man is his own architect. None but man himself is responsible for making his life a success or digging his own grave. Malamud’s novels are repositories of human values. It is an undenying fact that Malamud has taken all possible pains to see that every human being, irrespective of caste, creed, colour or sex, must live life.

Chapter I, “Introduction”, throws light on the growth of Malamud as a novelist and his plea to man to develop his inner resources in order to live a dignified and meaningful life.

The Second Chapter “Suffering and Compassion” discusses how the protagonists of Malamud, after endless struggles, realise the value of suffering and compassion. They suffer not only for themselves, but also for others.
For instance, Morris Bober and Frank Alpine in *The Assistant* and Yakov Bok in *The Fixer* suffer for the sake of others and attain self-transcendence. This chapter also deals with the theme of suffering and compassion in Malamud’s short stories.

The Third Chapter “Quest for a New and Better Life” discusses how the protagonists struggle for a new and better life despite their guilt-ridden past. Levin in *A New Life*, becomes a changed man by accepting his responsibilities and commitments. *The Tenants* reveals how the world is devoid of understanding and compassion. This novel is powerful and lyrical study of human relations in this century. *Dubin’s Lives* also stresses the need for compassionate understanding.

The Fourth Chapter “Transformation and Redemption” explains that the protagonists of Malamud transform and redeem themselves and attain nobility and dignity. Suffering and compassion transform them.

The last chapter sums up that human values like compassion, love, understanding and humanism give meaning and vitality to one’s life. Though there is misery and conflict, Malamud manages to affirm his faith in the goodness of man. The thesis throws light on Malamud’s positive approach to the inevitable human suffering.