APPENDICES

i. Author’s Biography and Works

Born in 1949, Süskind was born and raised in Ambach am Strarnberger See, Germany. He is the son of Wilhelm Emanuel Süskind, a writer and journalist of Süddeutsche Zeitung best known in Germany for his collection of essays on language, Aus dem Wörterbuch des Unmenschen, a critical collection of essays on the language of the Nazi Era. His mother worked as a sports trainer and his older brother is also a journalist. Süskind went to school in Holzhausen, a little Bavarian village. In 1968 Süskind entered the University of Munich to study Modern History. He later completed a Master of Arts degree at the University of Aix-en- Provence, France, in 1974. While studying in the perfume-producing country of southern France, Süskind traveled and gathered material for what eventually became the novel Perfume. Meanwhile, in the fall of 1981, Süskind's play The Double Bass premiered,
establishing him as one of the most popular playwrights of German theatre. Originally conceived as prose piece that was repeatedly rejected for publication, The Double Bass eventually appeared in novella form in 1984. In the 1984-1985 theatrical season, the play was performed more than 500 times. It became one of the most popular German plays of the decade. Around the same time, Süskind began collaborating with Helmut Dietl on the hit German television series, Monaco Franze. In late 1984 the newspaper Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung contracted Süskind to serially publish his first prose work, Perfume. Published in book form the following year, Perfume immediately became a German best-seller and subsequently sold over six million copies worldwide by 1991. Wary of his newfound celebrity, Süskind declined a five-thousand dollar prize for best first novel from Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung in 1986, vowing to never again accept awards for writing. That same year, Süskind resumed his collaboration with Dietl by co-writing the script for another popular television series, Kir Royal, which revolved around the adventures of a titular Munich gossip columnist. In 1987 Süskind published the novella Die Taube (The Pigeon) which, though critically well received, failed to attain the popular success of Perfume. Süskind and Dietl reteamed again in 1996 to write the screenplay for the film Rossini: oder die mörderische Frage, wer mit wem schlief, which follows the careers of a variety of characters in the German film industry as their lives intersect in a Munich restaurant.

He later achieved international popular and critical acclaim for his first novel Das Parfum: Die Geschichte eines Mörders (1985; Perfume: The Story of a Murderer), a historical fable about a murderous perfume-maker with a keen sense of smell, who oddly lacks any human odor himself. In his fiction, Süskind typically
explores the effects of obsessive behavior upon an individual's life. The dense allusiveness and pastiche style that mark his narrative technique have yielded richly diverse interpretations, including readings that variously study Perfume as a detective story, bildungsroman, and picaresque novel. Although critics have often classified all of Süskind's slender output as definitive contributions to the development of German literary postmodernism, the majority of scholarship has focused on Perfume, which poses for some scholars the dilemma of reconciling the novel's literary merits with its hugely popular appeal.

Perfume: The Story of a Murderer was made into a film in 2006 by Tom Tykwer under the same title. Süskind lives as a recluse in Munich, in Seeheim (Lake Starnberg), and in France. The public knows a little about him currently. He has withdrawn from the literary scene in Germany and never grants interviews or allow photos.

ii. Summary of the Novel

_Perfume: The Story of a Murderer_ is a fiction novel. As shown in the title, this novel tells the story of someone who has a strong ambition in his life. His ambition is, he wants to make a perfect perfume in the world and get the perfume he should kill 25 virgins. The background of the novel is French in 18th century. At the moment, French is a stench country with people who do not care with their body’s odor.

This story begins with the birth of a baby in the 18th century in France. He was born without an odor like a human body in general. Since he was born, he had brought misfortune to people nearby. His mother, who actually wanted his death, was
hanged to death because she had killed her 4 babies before the birth of the baby and tried to kill him. The baby is named Jean-Baptiste Grenouille, after he was baptized. Because of his luck, he was fostered by Father Terrier. Because his mother died, Grenouille was given milk by other women, but none of them survived because the child is so greedy and has no body odor.

Starting from the Father Terrier, Grenouille's childhood was in the foster of Madame Gaillard. She was a disciplined person in managing foster children. Grenouille was considered as a little strange child by his friends, because his face was not handsome and he was slightly stooped. But they did not hate him; it was just that they were feelings of discomfort because they could not smell his body's odor. Grenouille was often more silent, he preferred the smell of new things around him. His sense of smell was very sharp, he could smell the smells that could not be smelled by humans in general. So, he regretted that there were no words which could describe all the scent as he was recognized.

As a teenager, he worked with Monsieur Grimal because Madame Gaillard has been sold him. Madame Gaillard's death ended tragically with throat cancer and had experienced a bankruptcy. Monsieur Grimal was an expert tanner. Grenouille worked diligently and did not talk too much. He always obeys with his master's order. When he was 13 years, Grenouille left the house on Sunday afternoon. He used this chance to continue his penchant recognize that there were any odors. He wanted to keep all the scent that he had inhaled at the time. One time on the anniversary of the coronation of the king of France, Grenouille smelled a scent that really caught his attention and he really liked the smell of it. Apparently, the smell was coming from a girl who was 14 years old. Starting from there, the killings were
begun, because he wanted to kiss the scent of the girl’s body, he accidentally killed her. After the death, he kissed every part of her body. None have passed because every part of her body has own flavor.

When delivering the skin on Giuseppe Baldini, a famous perfume maker, he was very interested to learn how to catch a scent. Baldini finally allowed him to become his disciple. Unexpectedly, Grenouille’s perfumes made very well liked, so helped the career of Baldini that originally was going bankrupt. Grenouille had become an expert distillation. But, he decided to leave Baldini and went to South to learn how to make perfume. Then, he lived in seclusion in a mountain, which no one dared to place it. He was just eating and roughing it. Grenouille met the Marquis who changed his life and brought him to town, he created perfumes that make people attracted to the previous approach because the people had never thought of his presence.

Grenouille moves to the city of Grasse, the place where the center of production and sales of perfumes which is comfortable area. Here, he learns the various techniques of making perfumes. At Madame Arnulfi, he is free to make a lot of varieties of perfumes and perform distillation. His first interest to scent the bodies of a virgin girl get in excited to catch the human scent. 25 tubes of perfume he provides, the hunt is begun. When a girl alone, he hit her head with the wood. Then he shaves her head, strip off her clothes and her body smeared with fat and then wraps it in cloth. The smell of the girl, he finally gets it. He does so until the girl number 24.

This case uproar in the town that there is a sadistic killer which then force the parents to keep their daughters. For the 25th bottle, his destiny is a girl named Laure
Richis, Richis’s father realizes that his daughter become the target of the killer therefore he leaves the city of Grasse and tries to distract the killer. But in vain, the killer with a keen sense of smell might eventually take the girl's scent. However, criminals are finally caught, Grenouille gets hanged. When the citizens of the whole city come to witness his death, he spread a perfume from the scent of the 25th virgins. Unexpectedly on the ground, all people having sex, there is a mass of sex. The scent is so drugged people. Grenouille releases and escapes.

The end story of Grenouille is tragic, he comes close a bunch of people, where he spreads the perfume on all of his own body, and then one by one, people are approaching Grenouille and begin to eat parts of his body with greedily.