

WOMENS LONELINESS IN “A STREET CAR NAMED DESIRE” PLAY

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ABSTRACT:

Life is a lonely idea, a lonely condition, so terrifying to think of that we usually do not. And so we talk to each other, write and call each other short and long distance across land and sea, clasp hands with each other at meeting and parting, fight each. The focus Williams' play is not on characters reveals themselves the full reality of their inner disharmony. The theme of Williams seems to be the utter loneliness of man in a world without beliefs, and man's chief enemy is time. Tennessee Williams is a major American dramatist as Henri Ibsen, whom he admired, dwelt upon several controversial Subjects.

KEYWORDS: *success, emasculation, loneliness, aspiration, travel etc.,*

INTRODUCTION

Named Car Named Desire is the pathetic story of Blanche DuBois, a sensitive girl, who comes to stay with her sister Stella. Her brother-in-law, Stanley, rapes her, and this event becomes catastrophic for Blanche. She is never the same afterwards. Her need for protection takes her from pillar to post, without any solution. Her southern temperament adds to her woes. She is shown sinking deeper and deeper into the mire of isolation, from which she never escapes. At last she ends up in a mental asylum.

When we peep into Blanches' character, many factors come to light, which cause isolation in her life. Like other characters of the major plays of Williams, Blanche also suffers because of being a southern lady. She has got all the manners, behaviors, and even fashions of an old south that do not have any importance in the present world.

Another factor for isolation in her life is lack of adjustment. Neither can she adjust herself to the new circumstances and environment nor is she ready to make any compromise or reconciliation with them. After seeing the rude and brutal habits of Stanley, Blanche becomes much annoyed and irate, and complains to Stella about such behavior.

Blanche cannot exist like others. She is ready to meet the consequence of her indifference. Towards the end of the play, isolation reaches its climax when she is taken to the asylum, although she is much frightened when a doctor and a matron come to take her. The doctor understands her problem, and taking one quick look at the fallen southern belle, resolve to help Blanche salvage her self-respect. He removes his hat, speaks to her in a courteous language, and raises her from the floor. Blanche instantly brightens up and walks out with him, because the gentleman had shown her the courtesy and respect due to highborn lady of the south.

The illusory world which is a common characteristic of the isolated character of Williams causes isolation in the life if Blanche also. She suffers from illusions which shut her eyes from the facts and realities. The important illusion, which she still considers to be real, is about her past life of Bella Reve, where she led a genteel and well-cultured life.

His plays made dramatic history not only thought their phenomenal successes but also by leaving each succeeding ideas. His handling of such themes as homosexuality, emasculation, drug-addiction, venereal diseases and cannibalism kept the greatest of his admirers guessing about what he would deal with next. He always seemed to flout the social and moral code by rebelling against it. In his personal life he was more or less a travelling worker,, always o the move. His love life and his frank confessions about it left his friends cold. On the positive side he earned the enviable reputation of an artist who would know, understand and interpret the feminine sensibility and aspirations dramatically, something that no one else had done as successfully.

Her illusions of her past make her odd and create isolation in her life. This fact comes in the way of her adjustment in her speech and actions. She clings pathetically to her clothing and furs. She tries to be above the environment into which she has descended. Her conceptions and thoughts seem fixed on a decadent past, while her present surroundings are so palpably alive and vital. Her illusory world provides a shelter to her frustrated and isolated life.

Frustration in love is one of the important reasons isolation in the life of Blanche. Since her youth till she is carried to the asylum, she did not get true love from anybody. She is always in search of love but never gets it. At the age of sixteen, she was married to a young boy. She loved him very much. But the marriage proved to be an unfortunate one to her. After her marriage she came to know about the homosexuality of her husband, which was a severe blow to her. This was not the end of her frustration but the beginning. One day her husband committed suicide, which caused further isolation and loneliness in her life.

Failure in marriage changed her way of life. Internally she was isolated but externally she was buried in the pain of love and sex. Externally, she was struggling to face the isolation, but internally isolation had won the complete kingdom of her soul. At Stella's house, she received the harsh blow of rape from Stanley. Mitch came in her life and she dreamed of a joyful life but very soon Stanley disclosed all her secrets to him, and he left her.

The problem of "Find protection" is worth noting which caused isolation in the life if Blanche is a typical southern woman. After the suicide of her husband she goes from one place to another in search of protection, until they had strong protection under a prosperous rich man. Blanche, in order to find protection makes intimacies with strangers. But wherever she goes, she does not get protection, and her airs alienate people from her. She finds protection only under isolation.

Like THE GLASS MENAGERIES this play also gives a message to the readers about the desire consequence of isolation. Blanche, the symbol of the old, dead, and disturbing element wherever she goes. On account of her failure at adjustment, she hands her self up to her isolation, and at last, is led to the asylum.

Williams does not approve of human being living isolated lives. Of course, this state of modern man is the human condition, but his plays, though they vary in themes, point to several causes, among to which the person is isolated. He brings tp the mind of his readers, or audience, these causative factors, implying that if they are tackled properly, the isolated ones can be rehabilitated.

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