

LOST IN THE MAZE: KAFKAESQUE ALIENATION, SURREALIST FRAGMENTATION, AND THE SEARCH FOR THE MEANING IN KUTHIRAIVAAL

Dr. Uma Rajmohan¹ & Dr. T.V.S.Padmaja²

¹Associate Professor, Department of English, Valliammal College for Women, Chennai, India

²Principal, Valliammal College for Women, Chennai, India

ABSTRACT

A Peep into the cinematic exploration of the fragmented psyche of saravanan through Freudian dream analysis and repression. An exploration into lacanian identity crisis and portrayal of the signifier and the signified. The movie wondrously portrays magic realist story telling technique that grounds the surreal in every day. The story deploys the surrealistic aesthetics which dissolves reality into a stream of subconscious images. This paper analyses the meditation of selfhood, memory, guilt and unexplained desire not portrayed for the viewers to understand but to travel along and experience realism and interpret the signs and symbols just like how a psychoanalytic would interpret a dream. Walking along with the crew and viewing through the lens of Freud and Lacan.

KEYWORDS: Kuthiraivaal, Kalaiyaran, Kafkaesque Alienation, Saranavan. Sharry Night

Article History

Received: 14 Jul 2025 | Revised: 16 Jul 2025 | Accepted: 19 Jul 2025
