

MASCULINE INNOCENCE IN ARUN JOSHI'S, *THE STRANGE CASE OF BILLY BISWAS*

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ABSTRACT

Women are considered as soft-natured and innocent creatures in human kind, as we taught so far in Indian society. So, our society offers complete freedom and protection to them. In ancient India, women are treated as superiors. So, they have been given all sorts of sophistications such as education, warships, arts, etc. When the wars started to emerge for the sake of women, it had become adequacy to protect women. So, women are hidden into their houses. Time rolled on. But, the practice remained as the same with metamorphosis reasons that, women were inferior to men and so they had to be controlled and ruled by men. After few centuries, due to the British colonization, Indian revolutionist like Bharathiyar, had taken women out from their slavery. In contemporary society, women are completely away from their suppressions; in some extremes cases women suppress men. Though, men have dominating mind outwardly, they are actually soft-natured and innocent inwardly. Men tend to protect women economically, sociologically and all kinds. Women are enjoying all kinds of sophistications and liberation from men but women attack men's innocent inner-self. Each and every man, in the contemporary Indian society, fell into unexpressed suppressions into their heart. These unexpressed and suppressed emotions cause for frustration and stress. These suppressions created not only by women but the entire society which has deviated from the ancient way of living, detachment from nature, society cultivation in unreasonable rituals which were deviated from the ancient reasons along with women's hurting attitude. I do not indicate all women are wrong but insisting that not all women are correct. These problems mostly occur in the marriage bonding. Women can achieve in all fields which have been proved transparently without any doubt. My interrogation is where women's tolerance has flown away amidst all kinds of sophistications and liberty. This paper is focusing on, the protagonist, Billy Biswas and his variable marriage concepts, due to his innocent side of his inner mind in Arun Joshi's *The Strange Case of Billy Biswas*. Though Billy is born with silver spoon and receiving red-carpet welcome at everywhere, his mind thirsts for other missing element. He could stand neither his outward world nor his inner self. Respectively, it is resembled in the lives of Billy with Meena and Rima. Finally, his masculine innocence is discovered, when he started to live together with Bilasia, the daughter of mother-nature. His archetypal and anthropological mind finds comfortable, with aesthetic pleasure and feels the satisfaction, from unexpected love that attracts his innocent inner self. It tends him to give up all kind of worldly sophistications and his fame.

KEYWORDS: Inner Self, Unexpressed Suppressions, Masculine Innocence, Aesthetic Pleasure, Materialistic Society

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