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Reflection of Innocent Love in Tagore's Selected Short Stories

Dr. Tapan Kumar Panda¹ Sushree Swagatika Mahapatra² and Bichitra Samantray³

¹Associate Profesor, Radhakrishna Institute of Technology & Engineering,
Bhubaneswar (Odisha, India)

²Assistant Professor Radhakrishna Institute of Tecnology & Engineering,
Bhubaneswar (Odisha, India)

³Lecturer, Krypton Science Higher Secondary School, Barunei, Khurda (Odisha, India)

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Abstract:

Love as a prime factor dominates in most of the stories across the languages. The concept of love according to Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore is not based on give and take relationship. It is only to give and think about the welfare for the loved one. In the proposed study, we have taken three characters from the three short stories of Rabindranath Tagore, "SUBHA, POST MASTER, KABULIWALA". In these short stories, the innocent love for the child is reflected and reverberated in the heart of the character even after the separation. These stories hold serious concern for innocent love. The desire to meet and praying for the betterment of the child is the key features of these stories. Tagore has intermingled the star realism and poetry idealism in his stories which reflect the contemporary Bengal. It not only shows innocence but also shows other symbols like animal nature, fear, solution, loneliness, affection and kindness, unconditional love etc. Innocent love is well expressed in these short stories. Child love considered to be pure and platonic is described well in these stories. The diversity of personality and the psychology of children are vividly presented in the stories.

Keywords: Innocent Love, child Psychology, Platonic, Child Psychology

Introduction:

Rabindranath Tagore is a major poet in the history of Indian literature in the pre independence period. He has created a lot of lifelike characters which has been accepted by millions of readers across the world. In most of his stories, he has depicted the beauty of love in its different forms. In most of his short stories, he has depicted the psychology of small child delineating the innocent love. His stories mainly depend on the hope for longing and Love. It depicts the contemporary culture, ethics and the traditional glass ceiling for the women in the 18th century

Bengal. It does not allow the women to express their thoughts, misery and inner pain. Tagore's girl child character is either appeared as a girl child, child bride or widow. It talks about the psychology of a small child towards the possessiveness and innocent love. In most of his stories, he has depicted the sadness and trauma of the character telling the pain of life.

Tagore has said that he had never written a short story before, but he felt compelled to do so because of his duty to the Zamindari lands. While traveling to different countries, he met a range of people who inspired him to create the characters in his short stories. Most of Tagore's stories demonstrate love for children, especially love for girls. According to Tagore, love is now unconditional and embraces both people and animals. Love is the ultimate meaning of existence. We are not able to live apart from society and in seclusion. He gives an example of how true happiness stems from love. Peace is what every man wants most of all. It is the only accurate depiction of life known to humans. The psychology and naive love are depicted in three short stories—SUBHA, POSTMASTER, and KABULIWALA—that have been selected for this proposed study.

SUBHA:

Tagore's collection of short stories contains the story "SUBHA" by him. The story revolves around a number of topics, some of which are fear, isolation, innocence, tradition, and control. The entire story is told in the first person by an unnamed narrator. It is evident from Subha's dark early years that her parents are worried about her future. Their worries center round the marriage of the daughter kid. SUBHA, on the other hand, has a strong emotional connection to her two domestic dumb cows. It's thought that SUBHA causes her parents hardship, something Subha can understand. Subha is likewise quite far away from Pratap because she has no other human companions. All the animals that live with their father are their friends. This is significant because Tagore may imply that SUBHA is associated with the voices due to their inability to articulate their opinions in a manner similar to her own. It's intriguing because Subha receives no affection from her family members and exclusively from the cows. They act as a channel between her emotions and the natural world. Subha's parents are egotistical. However, they stick to their routine and get married to someone who is entirely a stranger. Subha doesn't seem to be in agreement. She is acting on her desire to believe herself as it is advised. It's also noteworthy that Tagore uses phrases like "imprisoned", "hung" and "kill", while Subha's mother is getting her ready for her husband. It's as if Subha has realized that the world that wants to return to the people has ended. She won't be able to resist the drastic changes in her life. She used to have a straightforward and innocent existence, but now she finds herself in a complex world with no means of communicating her emotions. What does Subha's fiancé misunderstand, beyond from crying? She likes Pratap because she doesn't want to go to Calcutta and marry a stranger. By the time the story closes, Subha has been made to live with someone she does not love and in a city where nobody knows who she is. A young, naive girl's concerns and self-

centeredness have destroyed her life, making her long for a straightforward lifestyle.

THE POSTMASTER:

Tagore's Post Master, a story of innocent love and a spectrum of loneliness, has brilliantly portrayed both of these feelings. It is set in a little Bengali village called Ulaspur in the nineteenth century during the British Raj. Once the British owner of the Dye Company in Ulaspur convinced the imperial authorities to open a post office. A man from Calcutta showed up at that post office to take on the role of post master. He felt so lonely that he wanted to write poetry in his loneliness. Ratan, an orphaned girl, was engaged by the post master during this time as a domestic help. The postmaster and the girl became good friends. The postmaster loved her as if she was a member of his family, and she gave him nursing care during his illness. The narrative took a different turn when the postmaster received orders to transfer and settle in a nearby community. He refused and walked out of the job. Ratan, a little girl of about twelve or thirteen, wanted to go with the postmaster when he was going and told him how much she loved him. The postmaster convinced her it was not possible and that he would like to divide his salary to her. She refused to take it and ran away to her home. It shows Ratan, the little child, displaying her innocent love for the post Master.

KABULIBALA:

It is one of the moving stories that have been beautifully expressed about the innocent love between Mini a young girl and Kabulibala the street vendor. In the conservative family of mini, no one was allowed to talk with a stranger. Mini talks and plays with Kabuliwala as per her wish. Her father was a broadminded person and he wanted Mini to live life with freedom and trusted Rehman. When Rehmen went to jail for the case of murder, everybody in the family got shocked but Mini's father did not believe it. He understood that Rehmen loved her kid very much and had complete faith in her because he too had a daughter named Mini. Rehmen was so much in love with Mini that he had come directly from jail to see her on the wedding day. He went immediately to MINI after being released from prison, and to his surprise, Mini was dressed like a bride. Mini longed to meet Rehmen as she had once shown her innocent love for him. She didn't say anything to him because it was her wedding day and she was an adult now.

CONCLUSION:

Tagore's representation of the world of children is as authentic as it should be because of his extraordinary insight of child psychology. He was especially fond of young ladies. He portrays women in a variety of roles as young girls. He depicts a poor young woman working as the housekeeper for mailman. Three girls: a boisterous girl who befriends the Afghan immigrant fruit vendor, an orphan who takes care of her benefactor, and a dumb girl whose emotions are seen through her eyes. Tagore has skillfully conveyed the psychology of childhood in each story. It makes it easier to see how Tagore's views on child psychology are reflected in his short stories.

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