Poetic Art of Sylvia Plath

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ABSTRACT

Syliva plath a twentiety century English poet had made a lot of contribution in the world of literature. Her writings are marked by thematic relevance, technical excellence and individualism. Syliva plath expressed her complex state of mind through her poetry. The art of expressing her mood in terms of outdoor scenes gives an aura of fresh air to her poetry. Plath has the tendency to create myth and then dismantle it. Sylvia Plaths poetry is subliminal and cerebral in nature. Remarkable aspects of Plaths poetic technique is her use of dramatic personae for objectifying her own personal feelings which have confessional urgency. This gives her poerty a fascinating resonance. This paper describes syliva Plath's poetic art with the help of her work "The Colossus"

KEYWORDS: Thematic relevance, technical excellence, myth, subliminal,cerebral, dramatic personae, confessional urgency, poetic art.

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INTRODUCTION

Sylvia Plath's poetry is authentic in nature. It deal with the sole shattering experiences of life, concerning with the daily sufferings of woman in daily life. She potrays the inner sufferings through words in an artistic manner. Her poetic art makes her a point of discussion among critics. She has produced a universal appeal through her poetry .Most of her poems are dramatic in nature and universal in significance. Jon Rosenblatt says Plath's "poems dramatize the transformation of her personal situation in to a metaphor for personal struggle". It Plath's artistic creativity and inventiveness that enabled her to device a series of personae and motifs with the help of her prolific imagery and imagistic art.

Sylvia Plath's first volume of poetry "The Colossus" which was published in 1960 consists of forty-four poems in all. In all the poems we can see how plath makes efforts to express herself through various images and symbols. It (the colossus) shows her poetic craftsmanship and it brought her into the lime light.

"The colossus" is the title poem. In this poem Plath recreate her father's memory through a statue of the colossus at Rhodes. The broken statue is the poet's dead father. As it is impossible to put the broken statue together same is the case to get the dead father back. Sylvia Plath expresses the loss of father through various things in 'the colossus' or it is the poem that shows how the poet longs for his father she does not expect him to get return from the dead to speak to her;

"The Eye Mote" is based upon a real life incident. This poem shows us how Plath uses the technique to use physical aliment as a source for psychological state. The poem connects the speaker's loss of perceptual clarity with her feeling of loss of innocence, unhappiness and sinfulness. Plath says that she suffers because she has sinned. She wishes clarity of her vision in others terms she wishes to get her happiness back after purification of her sins. 'Eye Mote a small thing is made a source of expression by Plath through her poetic art.

'Hardcastle castle' is another poem in 'The Colossus' which shows Plath art. It is a nature poem. Plath uses the pictures of fields, animals, stones and hills. Nature is not praised by Plath just like Wordsworth. She takes it in a negative way. She fears that it would destroy human body. Nature is established as an overwhelmingly violent and powerful force.

'Frog Autumn' a short poem in' The colossus' It is terse in structure, condensed in diction. The poem is full with images taken from nature. The poem shows hollowness of a modern man. Summer is shown cold and it lakes warmth. Mornings are shown without any activity. The poem is imagistic and symbolic. Below the literal description lies the deep

allegorical insight into the ineffectual and shadowy existence of man in the modern world. The structure of the poem is balanced.

'All the dead dears' belongs to the group of poems dealing with Plath's father, mother and grandmother. It is concerned with deaths. The theme is death. Different objects are used to express the death of dear ones. The image of mother grandmother also brings up the images of her father. The art of Sylvia Plath makes the different images realistic for the reader.

CONCLUSION

Sylvia Plath was a skillful poet. This paper discussed five poems found in her collection 'The Colossus'. These poems show how a remarkable aspect of her art is to create beauty out of personal sufferings. Plaths poems employ colour symbolism in an effective manner. Analysis of these poems proved her careful use of structure, images and symbols in order to create true works of art.

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