

Self-Rumination in Isabel Allende's *Eva Luna***P. Sarojini**

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Abstract

Isabel Allende is one of the most eminent and popular writers as well as a renowned satirist of contemporary literature, consistent with her writings for the last forty years. As a feminist writer, Allende focuses on the appearance of female sexuality through her women characters. The changing ethical values of people reaching new heights in riches and civilizations are given an unrestricted description in her novels. Unlike other women novelists who have always shown a mindful self-possession in writing about the physical aspect of the man - woman relationship as well as the psychic angularities in marital relationships, Allende evinces a daredevil courage in writing freely about sex, the new woman and society. The aim of the paper is to analysis the character Eva in the novel *Eva Luna*. The analyzation is on psycho analytical perspective. Psychologically spoken a character is constructed through experiences. Experiences are based on self realization. The need for women to seek their identity is the message in Allende's novels. Allende's Eva in the novel is an orphan growing up in a South American country that is not specifically named in the novel. The ability to craft and tell stories is an important part of Eva's character throughout the novel. Throughout her life, Eva trounces many obstacles, always working to live, but also to help those around her. Allende's women are liberated individuals in the

exploration of a niche in their lives. Eva is one among them who has become the symbol of highlighting different perspectives of creating woman's individual self and liberation.

Keywords: self, experience, individual, liberated explore etc.

INTRODUCTION

Isabel Allende is one of the most eminent and popular writers as well as a renowned satirists of contemporary literature, consistent with her writings for the last forty years. As a reputed journalist, columnist and best-selling novelist, she undisputedly is, one among the most read Latin writer, who occupies an idiosyncratic place in literary circles. As an accomplished writer, a maverick rooted in traditional but open to new ways of being; she discusses every receptive feature of life tactfully and realistically, unfolding all kinds of human relationships in the society and man-woman relationship in particular.

As a feminist writer, Allende focuses on the appearance of female sexuality through her women characters. The changing ethical values of people reaching new heights in riches and civilizations are given an unrestricted description in her novels. Unlike other women novelists who have always shown a mindful self-possession in writing about the physical aspect of the man - woman relationship as well as the psychic angularities in marital relationships, Allende evinces a daredevil courage in writing freely about sex, the new woman and society. The lack of association between writing and political activism has been one of the major charges levelled at the self-reflexive literature characteristic of the Boom that immediately preceded Allende's work. Despite the harsh cries of protest from the

conservative critics, there is no doubt that there are hundreds of admirers of Allende who love her writings for their absolute candidness. In her writing on sex, Allende is not restrained by social sanctions.

The aim of the paper is to analyse the character Eva in the *Eva Luna*. The analyzation is on psycho analytical perspective. Psychologically spoken a character is constructed through experiences. Experiences are based on self realization. The self inside the realization is the creator of our own self. Allende in her third novel *Eva Luna*, join together many of the techniques and gathering associated with the picaresque tradition, magical realism and bildungsroman in order to critique the patriarchy and oligarchy in 20th century Latin America and to valorise the voices and experiences of the marginalized and demoralized. A prominent feature of *Eva Luna* which acts as a vehicle for the novels critique of the patriarchal oligarchy are the abundant motifs and symbols utilized throughout the novel.

The need for women to seek their identity is the message in Allende's novels. Allende's Eva in the novel is an orphan growing up in a South American country that is not specifically named in the novel. The time covers several decades during the twentieth century and the events, in the common and supporting contexts of the 1950s through the 1980s, suggest both Chile and Venezuela as locales that could have served as authority for the author who is Chilean and was exiled for a time to Venezuela. That understanding from her life help shape her fiction is typical of Allende's work as her personal background and historical events are often comingled by the author.

Eva Luna was born to a servant in South America. Throughout the many complicated times that she was forced to face in her life, she showed persistence in her quest for personal

implementation. Eva's mother, Consuelo, was hoard by missionaries in the South American jungles. Eva was born of a brief come across between her mother and the gardener employed by the same person for whom Consuelo worked. The gardener is bitten by a snake and Consuelo helps and consoles him. This escort to them was making love. Consuelo is happy to have experienced love in spite of the fact that once the gardener has fully recovered from his wound, he takes his leave.

The only person to help out Consuelo when she is giving birth to Eva in her room is the household cook who becomes Eva's godmother. Professor Jones is the owner of the house where Consuelo works. Eva grows in the house by helping her mother in house hold chores work. Consuelo tells many stories to Eva, so that girl will not fear the mummies. This instils an interest of fiction in Eva. Eva's life takes a tragic turn when Consuelo dies. Her death is followed by the death of the professor as well. Eva's godmother is unable to take care of her, so she finds herself alone in the world. Eventually, she meets Huberto Naranjo, who leads her to La Senora who runs a brothel.

Eva leads a happy life in the brothel, but then a new chief of police takes over and raids the brothel. As Eva escapes from there, she meets Riad Halabi with whom she moves to Agua Santa to live with him and Zulema, his wife. After a few years, Riad's cousin Kamal resides together with them. While Riad is away, Zulema seduces Kamal and with a sense of guilt Kamal leaves the house. Unable to forget Kamal, Zulema commits suicide by shooting herself. Eva has been arrested for the death of Zulema. Immediately after receiving the news, Riad, arrives to the police station and rescues Eva Luna. After spending one warm night together, Riad sends Eva away inorder to save her and then she returns to the city. There she congregates up with a transsexual she had known as Melesio who is now Mimi and with

Huberto Naranjo. Eva has kindred with Huberto, who is the leader of a group of guerrillas fighting against a cataclysm. She values his friendship but does not consider him the one with whom she will spend her life.

Another description runs through the book parallel to the story Eva is telling from her perspective. The second description chronicles the life of Rolf Carle as he passes from childhood to adulthood. Readers become skilled from the beginning of this portion of the novel that Rolf is the man with whom Eva will eventually fall in love and marry. Rolf is growing up in Eastern Europe and has an abusive father who is killed by local boys. After his father's death, Rolf's mother comes to a decision to send Rolf to live with his aunt and uncle in South America. Rolf grows up to be a journalist and meets Huberto and Eva through his work. He and Eva gradually expand a relationship while helping Huberto and his guerrillas free prisoners from jail in what is considered a revolutionary action. After the mission is over, they express their love for each other and also informed that they are going to marry soon. They know that they have much in common having each had many disappointments and complicated situations to cope with in their lives.

The ability to craft and tell stories is an important part of Eva's character throughout the novel. Throughout her life, Eva trounces many obstacles, always working to live, but also to help those around her. Though her life is tricky Eva never questions the lot she is dealt, she simply does what needs to be done and moves on. Eva creates her identity through her experience and people around her. Allende has displayed the travails of the women from conservatively male-prejudiced society to self satisfied individual beings. Her women characters, both in their participation in creative works and in their pronouncement as a self-governing entity, discard the idea of living a life of depression. Allende's women are

liberated individuals in exploration of a niche in their lives. Eva is one among them who has become the symbol of highlighting different perspectives of creating woman's individual self and liberation.

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