



Mirroring Everyday in Literature

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Abstract:

The article entitled “Mirroring Everyday in Literature” gives glimpses on how one can connect literature in everyday life. Each and every day the people can connect the situations of life to literature. Literature reflects everyday incident. Literature has several genres like poetry, fiction, drama, non-fiction etc., Every genre has its own format and dealt with the different themes that rely on author. The author writes with the experiences that he/she observed or undergone in their life or in the surroundings. Some are direct attack on incident and some are indirect attack. It traces how moment of everyday is recorded in literature and how it helps the readers to rectify their problems. This article evidences only few examples from literature that suits every day’s life. Evidently a reader can connect everyday with all genres carrying stories, facts, myths and so on in literature.

Key words: mirroring everyday, life to literature, experience in surrounding, facts, myths.

Every day, as a human we exist one among others in this society. For our existence we eat; to eat we need money; to gain money we have to work; to work we need energy; for energy we have to eat. Everything is a chained activity. Every day one might face humiliation, domination in their work place. They are pressured in the situation. One’s promotion is denied due to authoritarian in the work place. They are unable to show their ability. They are voiceless. One can trace this situation under subaltern literature. Subaltern is

a term used to mention the suppressed people under any situation. It voices out the problems of minial people. Though we are living in 21 st century we are facing caste, religion and gender issues.

Workers are always workers. They don't have liberty to think beyond and trapped under the routine instructions of authoritarian. It is the state of everyday problem of workers. One can connect this worker's struggle with Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman*. Of course this play is about American dream. It shows the trouble of a worker. The protagonist Willy Lowman is a salesman. He wants to become an owner of a business. As a beginner he works hard as a salesman. Till the age of above sixty years he is working as a salesman. There is no improvement in his financial status. This is because of his owner may be or else the countries economical condition. It conveys the working class is always working class. They don't have any improvement economically. It is the state of every working class. Every day he or she works to get a salary to their needs and their families. There is no savings from their minial wage. This play death of a salesman connects with everyday life of working class.

In the past centuries women are working in the fields and take care of children and family. After that women resides inside the house spent most of her time in kitchen. They are not allowed to indulge in decision making. Now things have changed. They go for work. Taking care of children, family and making decisions on their own. They are cooking. Now women are multi taskers. Still in the kitchen the prominent contribution is given by women. Every day she cooks and that is her part of routine among other routines. In most of our mind the term the kitchen pictures the scene a woman who is cooking. This everday scenario can be connected through the work of Ambai's *Gifts*. It is one of the short stories in *The kitchen in the Corner* which is a collection of short stories. The writer pictures the life of women. She portrays how women are spending their life in kitchen through the character Anni. She says

I was married at fourteen. He was twenty at the time. Not that he was unkown to us or anything; he is my own uncle's son. What else was there after that? My

realm has been to feed them all: two girls I have; one son. We've married them all off now. Can you imagine, I have a grandson?" (Ambai 144).

Anni says she is cooking dosa from her ten years. Continuously she is doing this for forty years. She has to feed food for twenty people a day. Though women are liberated. Still there are women under the clutches of men. Ambai evidences the scenario that is happening in everyday life of women.

Men should behave like men. Women should behave like women. This is the common statement we come across in everyday life. This connected to gender studies in literature. Here there is an examples from the short story, *Boys and Girls* by Alice Munro. The protagonist's father is a fox farmer. The unnamed narrator is a girl. She helps her father. She has younger brother Laird. In this story, her mother says that she would get real help once Laird is grown up. It shows the help of this girl is just a small support and she expects her daughter to work in kitchen. Her mother is always inside the kitchen. She doesn't indulge in the work of father. In the beginning of the story the narrator dreaming her image as heroic and saving all the people from war field. But at the end of the story she dreams of someone is saving her. It shows whatever the liberated thinking at last, a girl is a girl. Grandmother instructs her to behave like a girl. Don't shut the door loudly and sit properly. She is being instructed to behave like a girl. When she saves the horse from shooting her father says anyways she is a girl.

We humans existing without knowing the purpose of existence. One should not know what is destined. We live, we exist and we die. To show every day's absurd life we can connect the absurd theory in literature. In *Waiting for Godot* the two main characters waiting for someone at the beginning to the end. No one will have turned up to meet them. The characters don't know their destination. Likewise, we people running, keep running round the clock to achieve something, but we know this life is mortal.

Romanticism in everyday life. People love to live with nature. Nature is a good teacher. It refreshers our lives. Through nature the poet conveys the beautiness of nature and gives moral to everyday life. Everyday we think our future, what are the things we have to do. Everyday goals can be connected through the two lines of Robert Frost's poem *Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening*. Miles to go before I sleep and miles to go before I sleep. He implies what is one's destination before going to bed daily and also implies what is the life's destination before one's death.

While we are troubled in taking decisions in everyday life, we have to decide boldly. Either positive or negative we have to face it. This decision making in everyday life is connected to the poem *The Road Not Taken* by Robert Frost

Two road diverged in a wood, and I

I took the one less travelled by,

And that has made all the difference (Robert Frost)

Human life come across positivity and negativity in their day to day life. Everyday one might experience romanticism, problems, confusion in decision making. Thinking of goals, suppression of women, domination in business class, stereotyped gender roles and the absurdity of life. Other than this there are so many situations were tackled and enjoyed by the people. Each and every situation can easily connect to literature. Giving everyday incident in literature helps people to search their existence and make them to move further. The writer is the mediator between everyday and literature. People are the beneficiaries by observing his or her everyday's life and incorporate in literature to flourish in their living and trying to be meaningful in existence and teach how to liberate from a situation.

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