

Woman at point

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Woman at Point Zero

Introduction

Literature is essential as it reflects real human life in society. Over many decades many people appreciated literature and therefore even our elders used to apply literature in daily life. Furthermore, literature helps an individual to socialize well with the other people. For instance, helps people to understand another person's culture and the overall way of life. Significantly many people have written various literature books that are used in various universities in the world. Some of the literature books include Things Fall Apart that was written by Chinua Achebe and is even used in the various institution of high writing even to date. However, in our university, we have various books that include ⁶ Woman at Point Zero by El-Saadawi Nawal, The Sorrow of Young Werther Thrift written by Goethe, Johann Wolfgang. Further, as a literature student, I can't forget the book entitled The Train was on Time by the Boll Heinrich. Therefore, this paper is tailored to discuss the book entitled Woman at Point Zero to come with a clear picture of its themes.

Woman at point written by a feminist and psychiatrist from Egypt known as Nawal El Saadawi and this book get published in 1973. The writer tries to show the society how the women get exploited by men at the basis of religion and traditions including law. Therefore, in this novel of a woman at point zero explores the true picture of Islamic women life in society through Firdaus a woman who later became successful and independent after being witnessing and experiencing

exploitation from men in the society. In the same context, through Firdaus, the writer tries to show how men action against women should be referred to crime. For instance, Firdaus says that she can choose to die for the crime that she only committed but not somebody else committed. In this context, she tries to fight for the right of women in society (Karim, Sabrina, &Beardsley, 100-115). Therefore, the author of this book writes what she is aware of in society since she was born in the same society she is writing about and has noticed how women being treated in Islamic society. Furthermore, the writer of this interesting book was among the member of the family constituted of nine siblings. In this context, her parents were fortunate as her father was working as a civil servant and he was ⁸ from the family of the upper class. Nawal El Saadawi was just a feminist writer was against the women exploitation who wanted them to be treated equally as men if the society is to realize the development. Therefore, in this book woman at point zero she discussed various themes that need to addressed in the society hence requiring full involvement of women in social activities.

Themes

Place of women in society

Woman at zero is a novel that talks mostly about the tragedy a woman called Firdaus. However, it is possible to realize that the woman was not alone in the grief since many women were passing through the same tragedy as her. In this context, the tragedy was inevitable to happen to the women as the men had all powers in their hands. Therefore, women's life had almost nothing to cost as the men had protection from traditions and law and also religion as the most important aspect that protected them to have superior powers against women. As a result, men did not recognize the place of women in society leading to more tragedy. The following are themes taken into consideration in this book. (Wangmo, Thinley & Sharma,2017)

Corruption

As this book talks about Firdaus, it showed how the effort of this woman went in vain when she was trying to handle the problem with a man by the name Marzoul in a harmonious and peaceful manner because the man had good connections. Therefore, the protection of a person's dignity could not be realized as corruption was seizing everywhere in the country. Additionally, in this novel of women at point zero corruption is seen and depicted during the time when the prices grew suddenly leaving people to suffering. Finally, corruption in the book was evidenced when the division between people was reinforced. (Smith & Vivian, 113-137)

Abuse

Women at Point zero shows a clear picture of abuse when the people in the society becomes happy and enjoys when the victims were suffering. In this novel men becomes happy at the expense of the suffering among the women. In this context, men commit violent behavior to women just because the law allowed the men to have power over women. In this novel, men claim that good women should be obedience to the men according to God's will. Therefore, the obedience courtesy becomes the order of the day among women creating the feeling of abuse and fear that remains to be constant as the routine of every day hence leaving many people's lives to get destroyed. (Wangmo, Thinley & Sharma, 2017)

Nature of power

The power of men over women seems to be excess where the author of this novel gives a clear picture using the young Firdaus. In this context to the power of man seemed to be usual and normal of which the women were denied such power. In this novel explains how the father of Firdaus had more power than his wife and how the uncle of Firdaus had more as compared to his wife. Furthermore, after Firdaus was married her husband had the power over her hence leading

to deprivation among women. Furthermore, women are seen as objects by in the streets as a result of power granted to men. Sadly, the power of men turns to evil against women when Firdaus was locked in the house by a man by named Bayoumi and allowed some of his friends to commit sex with Firdaus without her will only because this man had power over her (Sitorus, & Samuel, 2018). However, Firdaus changed the perspective about the power after meeting with a woman called Sharifa. This woman was independent and very wealthy and this woman called Sharifa do not allow men to use her body as other women do. Alternatively, she uses the power of desires that women have for own growth and advantage. Therefore, through Sharifa, Firdaus gets to know that women have that they possess and they are capable of commanding it. However, she cannot gain her own powerfully during the time was living under the control of Sharifa. However, after Firdaus setting out herself as a prostitute she learned that she has women have many things that other peoples who have power as men desire. In this context, she learned that by having money the woman can command everything that comes across her. In this context, she learned that with money woman can conquer anybody who slanders her. For instance, she can afford to hire a good lawyer and sue a person in the court of law hence having a respectable life. (Pasko, Lisa, & Meda, 275-295)

Ownership and Surveillance connection

In this novel of women at point zero points that the sense of ownership and surveillance makes a person feel safe. In this context, the novel explains how Firdaus was feeling protected when she was under the protection and surveillance of her mother during a tender age. Therefore, through her storytelling, we come to learn that by seeing herself one of the akin gives her a sense of possession the society. In this context, through this novel, we see how Firdaus remembers how her mother used to look at her when she was learning how to negotiate the world and to walk hence

holding her anytime. According to Firdaus, the act of the mother watching her at her tender age brought a lot of comfort in her life. However, when she has grown and became a mature person in later years she did not feel her mother's surveillance once more. As a result, when she met with a person and realizes that someone eyes were watching her she feels threatened. For instance, Firdaus meets with a man while going away from the uncle's house who stares at her and watches her whole body from the top to the bottom doubts whether the body belongs to her and feels invaded. Later, Firdaus gets married to Sheikh Mahmoud whereby in that she feels discomfort due to the way her husband watches at her. For instance, when they were taking the meal she could see that her husband was staring at her meal every time. In this time, she thinks that her husband was just jealous of her food and therefore she becomes keen on eating. Moreover, Firdaus develops a complex perception about men because feels any man who she encountered he is only interested in her body as it belongs to him and therefore the existence of her body belongs to him. However, at the time Firdaus goes into the prison develops a different perception about the person who examines her. This conclusion comes as the Firdaus takes full control of her destiny and realizes that she owns herself. (Balaa &Luma, 233-256)

Conclusion

⁶ The **woman at point zero** is a book which is very crucial to the life of many women in the current world. Despite the strict human rights, the society is still exploiting the women at the basis of traditions and religion especially in Islamic society (Karim, Sabrina, &Beardsley, 100-115). For instance, from the above discussion we see how Firdaus in the novel was sexually abused by men after being locked in a certain apartment belonged to a man. Nowadays, you find that in the Islamic community the man is allowed to have as many wives as four wives even without the first woman's will then showing exploitation of women even in the current world. However, the novel woman at

point zero encourages women to be strong and stop depending on men as Firdaus finally she realizes that she possesses power the same way men have hence becoming independent. Therefore, this woman serves as a role model to other women especially in Islamic ladies not to allow men to use them as objects. Furthermore, the novel shows clearly that evilest committed in the society like corruption committed in the society happens as a result of men having excess power hence women allowing them to enjoy such evil (Ojiakor, Chinyere & Obika, 556-562). For instance, when Firdaus went to talk with the man to solve the problem her effort went in vain because the man was corrupt as a result of he had in the society.

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