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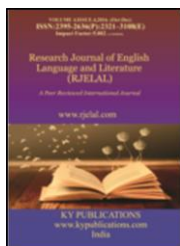
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TWO NOVELS *SWAMI AND FRIENDS* & *THE GUIDE*

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ABSTRACT

This research paper deals two different novels where Raju is the main character of *The Guide* and Swaminathan of *Swami And Friends*. It has been seen that how Narayan respects his created natures fermenting with dreams and so far makes jokes about them being friendly with cultural experiences of Indian Life without worrying about the specifics of real city. R.K. Narayan has never left any space for his characters in his novels. This paper shows the pre independence days in India with innocence wonder, mischief and growing pains. It also describes the colonial days the uprisings, the rebellions, the contempt and the reverence the natives had for their subjugator. It also brings light on confusions of the social and cultural conflict. RK Narayan has put the freedom movements while struggling in Gandhianara. Finely we can see the changes on the Indian society in this research.

KEYWORDS: Fermenting, specifics, mischief, colonial, uprisings, rebellions, reverence, subjugator.

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INTRODUCTION

R. K. Narayan (born 1906) is one of the best-known of the Indo-English writers. He created the imaginary town of Malgudi, where realistic characters in a typically Indian setting lived amid unpredictable events. He had a passion for language and for people. R.K. Narayan's characters are the true symbol of Indian tradition and culture of his brain set fictional town Malgudi in Southern India. This town of R.K. Narayan has all the vastness of the various parts of the country. Narayan wrote his first novel, *Swami and Friends*, in 1935, after short, uninspiring stints as a teacher, an editorial assistant, and a newspaperman. In it, he invented the small south Indian city of Malgudi, a literary microcosm that critics later compared to William Faulkner's Yoknapatawpha County. Many critics consider *The Guide* (1958) to be Narayan's masterpiece. Told in a

complex series of flashbacks, it concerns a tourist guide who seduces the wife of a client, prospers, and ends up in jail. The novel won India's highest literary honor, and it was adapted for the off-Broadway stage in 1968. It was also adopted for movie. Narayan's stories begin with realistic settings and everyday happenings in the lives of a cross-section of Indian society, with characters of all classes. Gradually fate or chance, oversight or blunder, transforms mundane events to preposterous happenings. Unexpected disasters befall the hero as easily as unforeseen good fortune. The characters accept their fates with an equanimity that suggests the faith that things will somehow turn out happily, whatever their own motivations or actions.

Swami and Friends

Swami and Friends is the first trilogy novel written by RK Narayan, a celebrated English novelist from India. R. K. Narayan started his prolific writing career with this novel Swami and Friends written in 1935. It is full of humour and irony. Narayan started writing this novel with the word "It was Monday morning." The novel is set in pre-independence days in India, in a fictional town – Malgudi, which has almost become a real place in India today, due to the wide recognition and popularity of Narayan's many novels. His novels are known for their 'deftly etched characters, his uniquely stylized language and his wry sense of humor'. Swami and friends is the story of a 10 years old boy, growing up during this particular time, his innocence, wonder, mischief and growing pains.

At first glance, Swami and Friends is nothing more than a simple, charming story of a ten-year old boy who lives in a world of (in his eyes) bossy adults – be they parents or teachers at school – and his friends and enemies at school. The central theme of the novel is growing up of young Swami. He is a spontaneous, impulsive, mischievous and yet a very innocent child. His character is a child in the fullest sense of the world. Through Swami's eyes the reader gets to peek in to the pre-independence days in South India. The life portrayed in the novel is accurate in its description of the colonial days – the uprisings, the rebellions, the contempt and the reverence the natives had for their subjugator, together with varied elements that have become one, such as cricket and education. The novel, first intended for a very young audience, later expanded into a universal one, for its simple narrative and depiction of colonial India. Today in India it is recommended as a textbook or a reference book. The novel is full of irony and subtle wit and also disturbing.

In the final analysis, Swami and Friends is more than the story of a child. It is the story of a generation of Indians who are born and brought up in the shadow of the British colonial Raj and who inherit the confusions of the cultural and social conflict. Swami and Friends (1935), Narayan's first novel, is remarkable for his understanding of child psychology and for his depiction of the buoyant

world of school boys in a realistic and convincing manner. About this book Graham Greene wrote: It was Mr.Narayan with his Swami and Friends who first brought India, in the sense of the Indian population and the Indian way of life, alive to me...

The Guide

The Guide is powerful story about spiritual transformation and self-realization. The narrative itself is both fantastical and comical, as the path the main character, Raju, takes to understanding is not intentional. In essence, Narayan's story shows how a man intent on deception, including self-deception, comes to find clarity based in large part on his life of deception. Raju lives in a quaint village called Malgudi. In Malgudi, Raju aspires to be whatever other people want him to be. As such, he is a chameleon of a character, always becoming someone based on someone's current need. His revelation of the truth actually propels him further into the role of a holy man, thus making Raju's malleability a path that has brought him to this point, the true incarnation of a "Swamiji," a holy man.

Raju's transition from common to holy man is both comical and didactic. Narayan's narrative shows how people can be destined for great things without even realizing it. At the same time, it shows how people's pasts are not entirely what defines them. People can change and do good in life. They can go from self-centered individuals to people of character, like Raju. Ultimately, perhaps the narrative shows that there are often greater forces at work than what mankind perceives in a moment of choice, whether a good choice or not. There is hope for mankind, despite outward appearances. Raju's journey is testament to this hope.

Like most of the classics, this novel too is a multi layered one. The first one, the simple and straight forward one which have earthy and seen around characters and situations. This is a kind of book which gives the reader creative satisfaction, like solving a puzzle. You can find the rich but ignorant Indian soul in Raju who was good in heart but lacks a character. The Marco- Rossy relation show the cultural mix of the Indian heritage and how it lost its freedom and spirit by mixing with establishment. There are more bonus form the book

where the artist creatively uses the fun to criticize the hypocrisy existed in the society and how each section do their role to make the nation remain ignorant. You can find a father who preaches about health but do not care his health. You can find the mother who treats the woman guest at home nicely only to say later how she disliked her all those days. The protagonist is full of contradictions. RKN direct some arrows to the hypocrisy exist in the personal relations and thoughts.

DIFFERENCES

Swami and Friends is the novel of Malgudi children which describes the children's balkiness and their true nature of being independent in the society at the time of colonial India where Britishers had the power to rule on the Indians. It was the time where west culture was also on Indian's minds. This novel shows the lifestyle of India during British raj where people inherit the confusions of the cultural and social conflict. It is also the real story of our people who were born and got up in the shadow of Englishmen where The Guide is the powerful story of spiritual transformation and self realization. It is a fantastical and comical novel. This novel is based on needs of the people where the character shows his greed in need like a chameleon. This novel also defines the fast changing minds of Indians to do good forgetting the past. There is hope for mankind living its past style in this novel. The Guide is not a novel but also the journey of men. The novel also exposes the relations of Indian heritage, freedom and spirit. There are hypocritic people in the novel who love to preach others but hate to follow in their own life.

CONCLUSION

In this research we have come to know about the two different fictional novel of R.K.Narayan where Raju and Swaminathan have played major roles. Though, they have shown different natures in The Guide and Swami And Friends yet they depict the true mix culture of Indian people with Britishers. Narayan's skill and construction of his characters are truly remarkable achievement which displays Narayan's peculiar genius to the hilt. Graham Greene considered Swami And Friends as "A book in ten thousand" where The Guide itself brought much fame in Indian society

when adopted for movie. This research paper is the source of East west themes in terms of epical dimensions, a hesitation between tradition and modernity, conflict between religion and rationality, spirituality and materialism, superstitions and scientific outlooks, tyranny and democracy. It also implies the conflict between innovation and tradition. Finely R. K. Narayan is true Indian story writer who gave many words in his works to the Indian society of their past tastes.

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