



THE ART OF LOVE AND SEASON AS PORTRAYED IN ERNEST HEMINGWAY'S "THE TORRENTS OF SPRING"

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ABSTRACT

Ernest Hemingway is one of the most famous novelists all around the globe. He has written many books and the novella "The Torrents of Spring" stands out at the top in terms of Love and Seasonal pattern. The author describes that seasonal pattern (with special account of Winter Season) has a lot of impact in the lives of the people especially factory workers. Further, the bond of relationship between birds and human beings is beautifully depicted. Again, the book has got lots of natural elements present in it. The book also shows how human being reacts to the cold weather conditions. The relation of nature in the form of season and human is beautifully stressed out in simple yet powerful words. The way the author presents nature is quite marvellous, catchy and signifies a lot of importance. The importance of nature in the life of human beings is beautifully shown and presented in the novella. The word used by the author is simple, direct and easy to understand.

Keywords: Spring, cold, Chinook, dead bird, little bird.

Research Aims: To show how an author represents nature, bond of relation with nature and love of birds.

Key Findings: It is found that Hemingway is a natural writer, represents nature beautifully, portray the effect of season on humans and love with birds with a magnificent touch.

I. INTRODUCTION

Hemingway is one of the great writers not only in the history of American literature but also in the literature of the world. He is a kind of writer who displays his thought into action and moreover most of his works are dealt with his personal experience. So, he can be treated as a versatile writer. His ways of presentation of natural elements are beautifully crafted in various forms such that the readers are usually captivated by his exposition. The importance of nature, season and love are found in his writings with a great significance. Further, his personal experience adds more beauty to his works and in addition to this most of the words that he

uses in his stories is simple and easy to understand which makes him one of the versatile writers throughout the ages.

II. ABOUT THE BOOK

The novella is set in northern Michigan and talks about two men who work at pump factory. One of them was a World War veteran named Yogi Johnson and other a writer named Scripps O'Neil. It is a satire on the works of Sherwood Anderson's Dark Laughter. These two major figures bear close parallels to those in Anderson's novel. Scripps leaves his wife and wanders here and there in search for work before he finds in Petoskey. While the war veteran, Johnson was unmarried and uninterested in

women, recites stories as a substitute for living. He befriends with two Indians near the end of the story for a chaotic time until he saw a naked squaw, at which he is overcome by a new feeling which he hastens to attribute to Mother Nature and pursues her into the night. The major themes in the story are that of sense of negativity and imitation.

III. THE ART OF LOVE AND SEASON

In the book *"The Torrents of Spring"* the author talks about how the change in the season has an effect in the mind of the people. The relation of nature in the form of season and human is beautifully stressed out in simple yet powerful words.

"Could it be that what this writing fellow Hutchinson had said, 'If winter comes can **spring** be far behind?' Yogi Johnson wondered." (3) All around the globe, we have four seasons namely summer, winter, spring and autumn. These are cyclic in nature. Each season is unique and different from one another not only this mindset of the people is also changed when the season changes. This proves that indirectly human has a psychological relation with nature. Yogi Johnson was a war veteran who was staying with his writing friend Hutchinson suddenly stuck his mind the quoted lines while looking out of the window. He thought that winter snow which was lying above the pump-factory will slowly fade away with the arrival of the spring season and the workers of the pump will work with a great pace. Thus, the quoted lines prove the bonding relation of the natural environment with the human beings.

"Yogi Johnson looked out of the window at the snowed-in pumps, and his breath made little fairy tracings on the **cold** windowpane." (3) During the winter season one could have a great time in winter near the windowpane by breathing on it and making various shapes with the help of hand or any other things. Likewise Mr. Yogi's breath made tracings on the windowpane. Further he was looking at the snow filled pumps, wonders when it will melt and the workers will have a nice time doing their job. No one can have such tracing in any other season except winter in a natural way.

This shows that there is some sort of relation between nature and humans. The author is

trying to convey through the quoted lines that humans can experience and have a great time enjoying the nature. He further believes that nature has a great element of giving pleasure to humans in various forms while humans indulge themselves in the name of development, work and money making could not even find such pleasures which are lying in front of them. Thus, the author wants the readers to have such wonderful moment with nature and try to mend the relation with it.

"Outside in the yard the snow began to melt. A warm breeze was blowing. A **Chinook** wind the pump fellows call it. The warm Chinook wind came in through the window into the pump-factory." (5) A Chinook wind is a warm and dry wind blowing down the eastern slopes of Canadian Rockies. It means "snow-eater". The arrival of such winds marks the end of winter and beginning of spring season. The beautiful natural phenomenon is shown in the above quoted lines. Mr. Yogi who was looking outside the window saw such beautiful phenomenon and suddenly could feel the warm wind passing through the window into the factory. He then recalls the wind by the name Chinook as his pump fellows named it. To view such a scenic beauty would have captivated Yogi and thus the author wants readers to view such scenery during the fall of the winter and realises the pleasure the nature is giving to humans so that both can produce a great relationship between each other.

"He picked up a **dead bird** that had frozen and fallen onto the railroad tracks and put it inside his shirt to warm it. The bird nestled close to his warm body and pecked at his chest gratefully." (9) Mr. Scripps was one of the major characters in the novel. He was a writer by profession but he takes a job at pump factory while staying at Petoskey. While he was walking down at the rail tracks, he saw a nearly dead bird lying on the cold railroad tracks. To this he picked it up and put inside his shirt to fade the coldness. The bird too felt the warmth while it was inside the body and felt as if it were inside a warm nest. Then, the little bird pecked at Mr. Scripps chest as a gratitude for saving it from the deadly cold winter.

The bond of relationship between natural animals and humans are clearly depicted in the

quoted lines. Further, he has the sense of saving a bird from the cold wind which shows man's power of compassion towards other beings. Thus, the author believes that all the humans in some way or the other has the power to feel and express it in some way or the other and hence Hemingway wants the readers that humans through compassion have the power to mend the relationship with nature which could prove effectiveness for future prospects.

"Ah, what a beautiful gilded cage I'll build for you, my pretty one,' Scripps said exultantly. The little bird pecked him confidently." (13) Mr. Scripps was in a delighted mood in his own world and he wishes to make a beautiful gilded cage for his little friend. His friend too answered to his call confidently by pecking. The above lines show that man and birds can be friendly and live happily together. Love and affection is beautifully displayed by the author too. Likewise the author believes that nature and man can also have an understanding and survive together as without one the other would not be able to survive alone.

Human being around the globe has the habit of destroying nature, carve out the profits and leave it as it without doing anything in return. This habit of humans will have a great impact in the future and thus the author tries to show the readers through his work that if we want to live together than we should have the habit of conserving nature just like Scripps wanted to build cage for his pretty little friend. What humans need the most are the confidence and the ability to do it.

"The ice had already melted in the river and he watched the swirling brown current. Below, beside the stream, buds on the willow brush were coming out green." (59) Mr. Yogi was coming down the road in the middle of the street while on the way he saw that most of the ice on the river was melted. Further he could see the water current of the river and just beside that he could see the buds of the beautiful willow brush coming out green. This was the sign of winter season fading away and coming of the spring season. The beautiful sight had caught his attention for a while and this proves that nature's phenomenon has the power of attraction.

Further Yogi believes that spring season was in the air and felt quite happy for cold winter was over.

Thus, the author has beautifully describes the change of seasons in the book and further talks about how the beauty of nature can be eye catching. He believes that man has forgotten all this beautiful natural phenomenon and further tries to show that man should at least take out some time to view such a beautiful thing so that he can understand and learn more about nature. He further believes that it will help in moulding a good relationship between nature and humans because due to the destruction of nature the seasonal change is witnessing all around the world and such beautiful view might not be seen by the future generation. So, if the human has seen such beauty then obviously they will try to conserve nature.

"On his right was a field that stretched to Little Traverse Bay. The blue of the bay opening out into the big Lake Michigan. Across the bay the pine hills behind Harbor Springs." (61) The above lines describes about the scenic beauty of nature with vast field stretching till the Little Transverse Bay. And the blue colour water of the bay opens into the Michigan Lake. Further a beautiful hill filled with pine trees lay behind the Harbor Spring. This beautiful scenery was seen by Mr. Yogi while he was walking up on the hill. The author describes beautifully how nature can be mesmerising to one's eyes. But people tend to forget the beauty of nature while trying to earn, eat and survive.

IV. CONCLUSION

Thus, the author believes that after reading his story people would believe that they could make difference the natural and artificial beauty. Further he believes that natural beauty lasts that the artificial one for a longer period of time. Further, the love of natural animals especially birds is beautifully portrayed. The effect of winter season in the minds and lifestyle of the people especially the factory workers is depicted and it is seen that this season proves to be of great concern to them. Hemingway further describes the beauty of Michigan Lake where the blue colour of the bay open out to it. He believes that man should take some time out on a holiday and feels the natural environment so that they can observe the beauty of nature and believes that it

could help man understand nature and develop a bond between them so that man would conserve them not only for themselves but also for future generations.

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