

"Confusion Of Life" In Few Late Poems Of Sylvia Plath

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Abstract

This article has endeavored to show the confusion of life in the few poems of Sylvia Plath. Her late poems have shown the pessimistic life and the hopeless situation. Sylvia Plath as the notable author of America has presented the woman confusion in society with restriction of father and husband. Her keen interest in art has built her the immense figure of American literature. She is well known figure of American literature after World War Second. Her historical background shows the bafflement of life. Her family movement to another place of America after the death of her father shows the economic crisis of life. Her scholarship has helped her to join in Smith College. She had finished her B.A when she married to Ted Hughes. Her deep love to Ted Hughes brings the confusion in life that has invited death with suicide. Anyway, this article clearly depicts the life and barriers of human destiny. The faithless husband makes her life unhappy and sad. This article has maintained the pain and suffering of Plath. The Post War Period in which people loss hope and aspiration to live the life is shown in this research paper. Her later poems show the total meaningless life and her desire to do suicide. Sylvia Plath has been suffered by male society in which she is tortured by father and husband. The restriction by father and husband is shown in her poem Daddy. She has demonstrated the extreme hard life in her late poems Lady Lazarus and Daddy. She was really pessimistic figure in America and she became more famous after her death. Daddy and Lady Lazarus were published after her death. These poems are composed after the separation with her husband.

Keywords: confusion, bafflement, pessimistic, anxieties, wrestled, confessional, depression, disillusionment, violence

Introduction

To mention about the confusion of life, we have to know its deep meaning about life and difficulties. Confusion is a kind of absurdity of life. It is problematic issue to learn the struggle of life. Life's hopeless situation brings the wall of progress in journey. That situation hinders the learning and living. That difficult situation has invited the confusion and absurdity. Dealing with confusion and difficulties, I am going to present a reference from Educational Psychology. It has mentioned about the hard life in learning as difficult task.

According to Roberts (1981) Despite its importance, understanding, identifying and responding to difficulties and the resulting emotions in learning

can be problematic, particularly in larger classes and in digital environments.

The life has been created with its full value of learning and living. Knowing truth of life hinders the learning process and we are confused. Confusion comes in big community and electronic technology learning. That confusion seems as difficult situation in knowing and recognizing. Consciousness is a kind of complex issue. Emotional existence brings the difficulties in living and learning. Talking about confusion of life, there we see the difficulties in learning and knowing.

As life is with difficulties, Sylvia Plath is showing her life and learning with great complexities. American born writer Sylvia Plath has picked up

the elements of anxieties and depression in her poems Daddy and Lady Lazarus. Talking about life and confusion, she has presented her anger in her late poems. She has shown the life and tragic moments after the separation with her husband. My deep concern to view her life attempts to show her tragic life with death which presents the great confusion of her life.

The life is wonderful wave in human destiny. We have to face the difficulties and complexities in our journey of life. It has not achieved the happiness and joy always. It has to meet the mysterious challenges that sometimes fail to provide happiness. In this condition, life has to face the confusion and complexities. Sylvia Plath also has presented such complexities of life in her poems.

Being American writer, she has wrestled the life and visited the bafflement of life and at the end she dies. Life is journey in which we have to face beautiful and ugly path. She has focused the ups and downs of life in her poems. Sometimes she has entered deeply in some poems to express her internal feelings. Plath has difficult family relation. So, she vomits the uneasy environment with complex life in her poems. She has presented her frequent death in her poems. It shows the hard struggle with life's difficult journey. Life is confused when we lost our freedom and hope. Life is in confusion when we are deceived in love. Plath has faced many tortures in life which cut happiness of her life. She has denoted the struggle and confusion in some poems. She is presented as confessional poet of her time. Her life has pessimistic wave. So, it is the confusion and bafflement in her life. Plath could not win the life and did suicide. So her works show the bafflement of life with melancholic bitterness. Her immense effort to identify herself is difficult task. Melancholy shows her confusion and she does suicide. Her life as whole has been appeared as the human confusion. Anyway, human life is going on with confusion. That confusion has vanished the life and happiness. The tragic appearance of life ends in death that death is antagonistic force very often.

Death is ending the destiny without thinking human value. Death has borrowed the human confusion.

We unlikely accept death. In her poem Daddy, she has bitterness of patriarchy and its making the bafflement of life. Anyway, confusion is negative word that counts the days of death.

Confusion is itself the hopeless word. It has melancholic voice. The life should be happy always. But that happiness is our dream and guest. It often appears as waves of sea.

Dealing with life of Plath, I see the pain and struggle with futile consciousness. Confusion is a kind of hopeless situation in which people loss the life of hope and living and absurdity appears. As a result, the death becomes the lovely phenomenon to human. Here, Plath has invited death as her bosom partner to accept. No hope is lifted in her life and confusion seems the curtain of life. Historical Background of Sylvia Plath Sylvia Plath is well known novelist, poet and story writer. She is the daughter of educated parents. She was born in 1932 in Jamaica, Massachusetts. Her father Otto Plath was professor of College and mother was school teacher. She was talent child from her early childhood that she started to write poems from her early period. After the death of her father, the family members went to Wellesley with hope of better school for children. Sylvia Plath got scholarship to admit in Smith College. At that time, she was genuine published poet. Her achievement in art and literature is unforgettable. Her achievement in poetry is remarkable and outstanding. She is well known American writer. Her life span had many ups and downs due her father's death when she was eight. Her attempt to do suicide in her ten shows her unhappy days from her early days.

According to Wagner (2000), "In 1953, during the spring of her junior year, her talent as a writer won her a place on the college board of Mademoiselle magazine, which involved working in New York City for a month".

The above line has shown her ability of writing power. Her time of 1953 got huge popularity in college which assisted her to work in New York. The line shows her talent ability before marriage. She is self-made writer. Many females are made by husbands but she seems independent in her early period. Her early works are in Mademoiselle which

have made her popular figure in college life. Her early life was beginning with her innate talent in poetry writing. She is wonderful female to quest the male hand but she gets male with confusion and shock.

Her life had been moved with many ups and downs. She had the tension in economic condition of family members. Later she did work in Cambridge College. In her life, she met the educated poet Ted Hughes and married in 1956. She used to help him in writing poetry with typing and setting. Both husband and wife were professional writers. Evaluating her historical background, she is inspired by Anne Sexton. Plath worked as secretary in psychotic division. Plath shocked deeply to her husband after her second child. She felt unbelievable to her husband. Then she had friendly relation to other women. It was not endurable condition to her and she had started to write other poems. After leaving the home by Ted Hughes, she was depressed and she started to write *Lady Lazarus*, *Daddy*, and many others. In these poems, she has presented the confusion of life and destiny. Her late poems show anger to male world or patriarchy. Later her late poems were refused to publish by some magazines which discouraged her life. Later she did suicide leaving her children alone. The writer "Sylvia Plath" is very much depressive person in her life. She has got only confusion of life. She has attempted to die nine times. It shows her hopeless life that has visited absurdity and confusion. She has presented her deep depression in her late poems. Her real life is showing confusion and bafflement of life. The confessional tone is got in her many poems that helps to depict the confusion and complexities of life.

The history of her life has brought the complete description of her life that depression has associated with confusion. The historical background is emergence factor to show the complexities and immense confusion in her life. Her committing suicide also helps to bring the confusion of her life. Sylvia Plath's history is emergence factor to know what the confusion is. The life of Sylvia Plath is very much sad in her days after marriage. She has her children with Ted Hughes but her separation to him

creates her confusing life and destiny and she does suicide. Her anger to patriarchy and male branch is going to create the feministic rise in the history of American literature. She has presented the woman confusion in her poems due to male attitude. At the early childhood, a daughter is restricted by father figure than after marriage a woman is controlled by husband and then son. The woman freedom is lost and the confusion appears and destiny is lost.

American literature has got Sylvia Plath as the notable figure to show life as the tragic achievement. Sylvia Plath from her early childhood feels the uneasiness in life. She has hardly lived the life up to 1963. Her family environment is also not good after her father's death. When she does marriage to Ted Hughes, she feels uneasy in life. After some years, she gets divorce and she die. Before her suicide, she has composed some poems which depict her personal pain and anxieties of life. In these poems, she has demonstrated the anger and dissatisfaction of life. Her agony has presented the hopeless life and total confusion. That life is in chaos and void.

Her historical description is her mirror of life to bring the confusion of life and destiny. She is not responsible to her life to bring hope and aspiration. She is the most important figure of American literature to show life and absurdity. She is the eternal and immortal pillar of human faith and destiny to show the loss and hopeless life. Her anxiety becomes the lesson and learning of human life. Her notable works have survived her agonized life. Her love to death has shown complete confusion of life and its journey. Her early poems are also many. Some of them are *Night Shift*, *Owl*, *The Colossus* and many others.

Her late poems also are many. Few poems' lines are mentioned to show confusion of life. Her late poems after the divorce with her husband are *Lady Lazarus*, *Daddy*, *Burning the Letters*, *Winter Trees* and many others.

Confusion and Complexities of Living Life in Her Poems

Her late poems have shown her anger and anxieties towards the patriarchy and its restriction to females. She has mentioned her father as Hitler to control her before. She feels herself as Jews having no meaning

in life. It is shown in Daddy. Her frequent life is near death and survival. That has brought the huge confusion in life which has killed the hopeful days. To live life is very difficult. The life is beautiful when we can live with what we have otherwise the life seems depressive. The happiness is only feeling satisfaction. It is nothing more than that. When we think the life deeply, there is not any completeness and perfection. To take birth is a kind of punishment. The life for everybody has confusion when we see keenly from origin to end. This void is confusion. The void has been seen only by some people. Such void is seen by Sylvia Plath too. Her shock to her husband has snatched her living life. Ted Hughes cannot give her happiness that his love to her is deceptive. It shows that love is great energy to live life. After her separation to her husband, she sees chaos in life and dies that is great confusion of her worthy life. Some poems have depicted her dissatisfaction of life. Viewing some criticism, we see her life with great depression.

About Daddy, according to Rudolph Glitz (2018), " in a poem primarily occasioned by her divorce from her husband, then, Plath' s speaker retrospectively reduces their stormy marriage to a mere sympathetic episode in her troubled psycho- biography"(p. 185). Glitz has mentioned her marriage as the pitiable element to bring the depression with huge confusion. Her marriage is viewed negatively that has ended her life with tragic suicide. Her separation to husband is her illness of life which presents her as depressive character. Marriage is not bringing happiness rather it has snatched her happiness. Her attempt to suicide is brought by her divorce. The marriage of her is not happy union rather it seems as natural disaster. Glitz mentions her divorce as major issue to bring the hopeless situation. The pitiable issue in marriage of Sylvia Plath counts her few years with torture and unhappiness. Her anxiety to the separation with Ted Hughes makes her poem different and she writes the poems with anger and dissatisfaction to life and living.

In her poem, Daddy, Plath has disfigured the male

members by connection to German and Second World War. The following lines of Daddy endeavor to show war and depression in Post -war period.

According to Hughes (1981), in the German tongue, in the Polish town scraped flat by the roller of wars, wars, wars. But the name of the town is common (p. 222).

Here the poem Daddy has brought the reference of German to show the meaningless life. She has mentioned the war elements in world which ruin the life of people. She searches the segment of Nazi within her father. She has questioned the origin of her father in German. She sees the blood of her father in German thinking that she is like Jews to endure a lot.

The civilized country like Germany was busy by war. The repetition of war shows the futile life and confusion of life. The city seems common there.

In this way Lady Lazarus of Sylvia Plath has depicted the notion of life with complexities. She has composed,

Dying/

Is an art, like everything else./

I do it exceptionally well.(245)

Effort of dying is a huge craft as art which reflects her suicide as an attempt to view confusion of life. She seems alive again and again. Her attempt to die at the ten is failure. Then again, she has tried to kill herself to know the absurd life. Her lovely phenomenon is death to accept. Nothing touches her to live the life and she kills herself. She attempts to do suicide before. That seems as an artistic action. The well acting to kill herself is a skillful art.

Plath as the well-known figure of postmodern era in America has earned great popularity with her poems. She finishes her life with confusion but her popularity makes her alive and she is eternal pillar of American literature. Her confusion with hopeless life brings her eternal art alive. She has composed novels and short stories too. But her late poems show her depressed mode of life. She is faithful wife but she has got unfaithful husband. She loves death as her ultimate remedy to recover

her confusion and anxiety. Her dead spirit rises with her writings. She has composed many poems in short age. In her young age, she does suicide. It is very much important to read her historical events or life to know the confusion of life. Her life history is complete phenomenon to know what her life is and how her anxiety appears. She is dissatisfied with patriarchy and she has anger to males. She is restricted by her father and later she is divorced by her husband which has brought depression to her and she has chosen the death as intimate fellow in her life. It is males' world which has brought the hopeless life to her. Her freedom is snatched by them and she chooses death as ultimate solution of life. Her late poems very often show her anxiety and dissatisfaction of life. Her death in 1963 has brought the sense of confusion and loss of hope in life.

Conclusion

This article is born with Sylvia Plath's poems to show what is confusion of life. It has come with the history of Plath within the difficulties of life. Life is vast river where it follows only with confusion and bafflement. Here in this article, I attempt to show her struggle and effort to make life happy but the confusion wins the life and dark death appears.

Life is net of sad ropes but we seek joy and pleasure there. But the poems of Sylvia Plath mention the life and confused path. Being the popular American figure, she has presented the pain and suffer in separation of life. She is older child of her educated parents though her life spends in unhappy situation. She is talent from her early years to draw poetic lines. But her life is ending in sad tears. Her separation to marriage gives birth to late poems to show absurd life. Her childhood and late life seem to appear with economic crisis. Her parents are educated though her marriage has brought the veil of life that creates death and disaster. Her mental illness appears after her marriage with Ted Hughes. She feels hard life after the death of her father too. She is helpful partner to her husband in writing poetry. Her barrier in life has mingled the confusion and hopeless situation. After the separation of life with

Ted Hughes, she has composed the poems which show her attempt to do suicide. These poems have aptly presented the confusion and disillusionment of life. In her late poems Lady Lazarus, Daddy and some other poems, she has presented the pessimistic life and absurdity. Her inner pain is shown in her poems and she has not seen any hope in life and she dies or commits suicide in 1963. Sylvia Plath has shown the absurd life with the postmodern elements. That is the meaningless life with chaos and void. She sees the empty pan in life and attempts to kill herself frequently which is shown in her poem Lady Lazarus. Her love to children is deep though she does suicide by keeping head on an oven that presents the huge confusion of life. Plath is presented as pitiable figure after her marriage. Her discouragement in writing seems at her later period. She has provided help to her husband in writing. Her effort to him is futile when he leaves her. That brings disaster in her life. Her historical development has aided to give the life span of her in which we see chaos and confusion. There are many works of her in which she has pictured the depression and void life. Her poetic words against patriarchy are weapons to show confusion of life. Her deep anger emerges when she is broken by her husband. Plath as the light of American literature depicts the hopeless life and acceptance of dear death.

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