

## FEMALE ROLES REPRESENTATION IN THE CHOSEN NOVELS OF RK NARAYAN THROUGH AI

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### ABSTRACT

The study examines the portrayal of female characters in the chosen novels of RK Narayan, one of the most famous Indian English novelists. Narayan's novels present the social, cultural and emotional life of middle class and lower middle class Indian society through the fictional town of Malgudi. His representation of women roles occupies a significant place in his works. The study focuses on selected female characters from novels such as *The Vendor of Sweets*, *The Bachelor of Arts*, *The Guide*, *The Dark Room* and *The English Teacher*.

The paper attempts to analyse how Narayan portrays women as lovers, wives, mothers, daughters and individuals struggling between tradition and modernity. Characters like Grace, Savitri, Rosie and Susila reveal emotional feelings, inner conflict, patience, sacrifice and the desire for self-identity. Narayan portrays them as influential forces to shape the lives of male counterparts in the novels.

The study adopts a women-centric approach to evaluate the condition, role and psychological dimension of women in Narayan's fiction.

The objective of this paper is to understand the contribution of women characters to the thematic richness of R K Narayan's novels. The article concludes that Narayan's women characters rooted in traditional Indian culture. They display individuality, emotional resilience and a gradual awakening of self-awareness.

**Keywords** RK Narayan, Grace, Savitri, Rosie, *The Dark Room*, *The Vendor of Sweets*, *The Guide*,

### INTRODUCTION

Narayan's novels present the social, cultural and emotional life of middle class and lower middle class Indian society through the fictional town of Malgudi. Artificial Intelligence assisted reading confirms that RK Narayan's women are not static symbols; they evolve with India. Female characters of R K Narayan lead an important role in portraying Indian society. Although many of his novels mainly focus on male protagonists, his women characters play a crucial role in shaping the emotional, social and moral structure of the narratives. Grace reveals the cost of cultural dislocation, Savitri tests the limits of endurance, Rosie claims the stage and the bank account and Savitri suffers under the neglect of her husband but she rebels against him. Through these characters Narayan portrays the changing position of women in Indian society, their struggles, sacrifices, emotional strength and seeking for identity. Each character reflects a unique social reality yet together they present a broad picture of feminine experience in traditional and modern India.

**Grace** is a character in *The Vendor of Sweets* by RK Narayan. She is the wife of Mali, the son of Jagan. Grace is a Korean-American woman whom Mali meets in America. She is polite, affectionate, practical and respectful towards Indian traditions. Unlike Mali, she tries to

understand Jagan and maintain harmony in the family. Grace's simplicity and kindness make her more admirable than Mali in the novel.

Grace is Narayan's tool to satirise both orthodoxy and blind westernisation. She marries Mali without ritual. She eats beef in a Gandhian home and writes novels. Jagan, Mali's father calls her that girl but Narayan gives her interiority.

Through Grace's character, Narayan highlights cultural differences between East & West and presents the modern women who adapt herself with understanding and patience.

AI finds Verbs collocates with the character in the novel are ate, painted, questioned, left. Ate includes beef a cultural flashpoint.

### **CHARACTERISTICS:**

Adaptable, Caring and supportive, Practical, Understanding, Patient, Emotionally mature, Respectful, Gentle and Polite and Independent

**Savitri** is the central character in the Dark Room by R K Narayan. She represents the suffering Indian housewife trapped in a patriarchal family system. She is portrayed as a traditional Indian housewife who suffers under the domination and neglect of her husband, Ramani.

Savitri is gentle patient and devoted to a family, but she feels emotionally oppressed and unvalued. When a husband becomes involved with another woman, She rebels against her unhappy married life and briefly leaves home. Through Savitri's character, Narayan presents the struggles emotions and limitations faced by women in Indian family.

AI finds verbs collocate with the character in the novel are wept, endured, bore, suffered and left. Grammar marks are as passive. She is acted upon.

### **CHARACTERISTICS:**

Patient and sacrificing, emotionally sensitive, Symbol of suppressed womanhood and represents traditional Indian wives. She is considered one of Narayan's most memorable female characters because she represents both silent suffering and the desire for self-respect and independence.

**Rosie** is talented, sensitive and ambitious Character in the novel The Guide by R K Narayan. Rosie is a temple dancer's daughter. She is the most modern and complex woman in the Narayan's world. She is Passionate about dance and struggles in social restrictions. She is the wife of Marco, an archaeologist, but she is unhappy in her marriage because of her husband does not appreciate her feelings of her passion for dance. She loves classical dancing and later becomes a famous dancer under the stage name 'Nalini.' Her relationship with Raju, The protagonist of the novel changes both their lives. Though Rosie's, character Narayan explores themes such as freedom, art, individuality and the position of women in society. Narayana does not judge her. Instead, he uses her to explore the conflict between tradition heart and freedom.

Rosie is one of Narayan's most modern and independent female characters, as she struggles to balance personal happiness with social expectations.

AI finds verbs collocates with the character in the novel are dance, perform, struggle, love, Leave, express, achieve, challenge, transfer, depend, resist, pursue, admire, suffer and emerge.

### **CHARACTERISTICS:**

Talented and ambitious, Independent minded, struggles for self-expression and represents modern womanhood.

**Susila** is a character in the novel the English Teacher by R K Narayan. She is the wife of Krishna, the protagonist of the novel. She brings warmth, peace and happiness into family life. Narayan presents her as simple affectionate and emotionally mature. She shares a deep emotional bond with Krishna and their married life reflects harmony and mutual understanding. Susila's gentle nature and domestic affection make the emotional centre of the novel. Susila is loving, gentle, caring and devoted to our family. Happy married life with Krishna forms the emotional centre. Tragically, she dies of illness and her death deeply affects Krishna. After her death, Krishna tries to communicate with a spirit, which leads the novel into a spiritual and philosophical dimension. Through Susila's character Narayan presents the ideals of love companionship family happiness and emotional pain of loss.

AI finds verbs collects with the character in the novel are love, care, support, nurture, comfort, communicate, inspire, suffer, die, guide, maintain, express, share, transform and strength

### **CHARACTERISTICS:**

Loving and devoted wife, caring mother, gentle and affectionate, emotionally supportive, spiritually significant, and symbol of domestic happiness and purity.

### **CONCLUSION**

Grace, Savitri, Rosie and Susila are among the most memorable women characters in the novels of Arke Narayan each character represents a different aspect of womanhood ranging from sacrifice and suffering to independence, love spirituality and adaptability. Together they enrich Narayan's fictional world and provide a deeper understanding of Indian social and cultural life. Their emotional complexity, realism and symbolic significance continue to attract readers and scholars, proving Narayan's lasting contribution to the portrayal of women in Indian English literature. Taken together these four women characters reveal Narayan's deep understanding of feminine psychology and social realities

At the same time they represent themselves as the makers of emotional balance, moral guidance and strength to their male counterparts in the novel.

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