

A critical Study on Karen Louis Erdrich's *Love Medicine and The Beet Queen*

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Abstract:

Every narrative you read or hear has five aspects: setting, plot, literal devices, and theme. These elements work together to help the audience understand the story. These characteristics allow the viewer to relate with the characters in real-life circumstances, which gives the short tales their potential. "Love Medicine" by Louise Erdrich is a superb narrative analysis work in the literary culture. Erdrich's short tales are about urging women to be true to themselves and their identities in order to reflect and accept their strength. There are usually numerous people in many stories. themes for example, "Love Medicine" the short story refers back to women's rights movement and its critical role it played through the nineteenth century. A well story

Keywords: Black and white, socio-political concern, Love Medicine, The Beet Queen.

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Introduction:

During this time period, women didn't have a voice the author recognizes as he refers to an as a metaphor of her title of her book "Love Medicine" which conveys the love between two people as a couple. Meaning what they have to go through ups and downs including incredible pain and heartaches that come with being in love. Many can infer that according to the short story information, life is a cycle that happens over and over. Even after death, the results of the story have no end to the love circle. Overlooking on how "She loved him. She was jealous. She mourned him like the dead" this quote represents its role for understanding the love circle of the story (615). As said the theme shows that women can in power themselves as individuals. Themes in a story overall achieve the reaction the author wants for the audience to grab attention to keep them wanting more. Another theme Edrich imposes is oppression which was upon "to the old times Indians who was swept away in the outright germ warfare and dirty-dog killing of the [White Americans]" which in the time frame affected them by how far of what color you were depended on towards how they lived in a white society and how much her inability to move in life was affected no matter what (616). As mentioned the color you have represented the repetitiveness of the characters' lives of which "a good

The elements in "Love Medicine" creates the process of moving forward into the future embracing her roots of the nineteenth century. When discussing these events that have a major contribution to the audience, not just the author. It involves the audience to feel what the author are going through. Even some can relate to the issue making the elements important to how they contribute to the story. These elements come as a reveal to the moment of how they become a representation of the author's storyline. Providing as an illustration of how the structure of these elements unifies against the story. These elements in the short story are what brings the story to an understanding of how each contributes to the whole story as one. To sum up, a good story contains these elements which are based on to contribute to the message that is being said to inform the audience. Edrich embraced her experiences, including the bad ones. The author allows the people to identify her own life experiences of her life in the love circle everyone tends to be in their lives. The love circle in the stories is represented to describes a unique preventative that shapes the world 's pain and

The Beet Queen:

Not just for the reader's imagination, but also for themes and metaphors, imagery may substantially improve a literary work. The Adares siblings relocate to North Dakota in Louise

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Erdrich's novel *The Beet Queen*. The state of North Dakota is regarded as being gloomy and dismal. Karl is heavily influenced by his surroundings, whereas Mary appears to be less so. The youngsters are contrasted to their environment in Erdrich's comprehensive description, and the detail placed into a tree has an impact on Karl.

The picture of Louise Erdrich sets the tone and depicts the children's reaction to their surroundings. As they get off the train and into North Dakota, the Adares children are introduced to their new life for the first time. "The young Erdrich utilises imagery to skim over many of the features of North Dakota, but he stops and goes into detail over a little tree. "The tree lured him with its sweet aroma," he says. The colour of his cheekbones had changed..." 47-48 ln. Erdrich portrays not just the tree, but also the responses of the two siblings to it. Mary seems unconcerned with the tree and just walks around it; Karl, on the other hand, is more impacted. Initially, color is used for describing the pink on Karl's cheek. This is more than just a description for a tree, but also a comparison between the tree and Karl. The tree is small and fragile, unprepared to survive in the harsh surroundings. Karl is naturally drawn to this tree, because they are alike. For a moment, Karl and the tree are alone, both intertwined in a protective embrace. This is quickly shattered as a woman releases her dog to fend him off her property. Karl turns on the tree and rips a branch to defend himself in such a short amount of time. "Blight would attack the scar where it was ripped off since it was such a big limb off such a little tree" (ln. 67-69). The tree's influence on Karl is not the only thing described by Erdrich; the tree's effect on Karl is also described. Karl leaves an indelible mark on the tree, just as the environment has left an indelible mark on him. And, just as Karl makes a split decision that permanently alters the tree, Karl's surroundings has an impact on him. He strikes out at the dog, the petals that once entrapped Karl, are whipped across the dog's face, in a moment of final action. The effect has two similar responses, Karl flees, and the tree bears no more.

Women empowerment:

Hurston and Erdrich employ the characterization of women to encourage women's emancipation and self-fulfillment in their books *Their Eyes Were Watching God* and *Love Medicine*, respectively. Lulu can be perceived as the classic "bad woman" in Erdrich's work, but she can also be considered as a symbol of female strength for her society through the writing methods offered by Erdrich. In a similar way to Erdrich, Hurston uses Janey's depiction to send a striking message to a future generation of oppressed African-American women. Overall, these two

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authors provide a vivid image of the power that these women have, as well as the obstacles that they must conquer in order to find genuine happiness.

God was in their minds' eye. Janie is shown as a normal African American lady who is obedient to her husband. The males in Janie's life repress her and treat her as if she doesn't have a voice or an opinion. This can be evident in all of her relationships, including her first marriage to Logan Killicks, an older man Janie's grandmother forcibly married her to. This may be viewed as Janie's first roadblock, which she encountered at a young age. She is compelled to live with him as his wife....

Notions in love and medicine

Albertine Johnson's childhood is captured in a flashback following the death of her aunt, June, while she sits in a kitchen with her mother and aunt, Aurelia, from Louis Erdrich's *Love Medicine*. Albertine, like many others of her generation, has sought to leave the community, obtain an education outside of it, and establish a new life in a more archetypal American lifestyle - not that of a Chippewa Native American. Albertine's mother, Aurelia, and Aurelia's mother, Zelda, argue over why June was out in the middle of nowhere on the cold evening she died. They tackle her loss by trying to figure out why and how she died. June had no reason to be walking home, according to Aurelia, because life on the reserve was uninteresting to her. Zelda retaliates with the simple query, "Nothing to return home to?" after being offended by the idea that a life may be nonexistent without mutual love from a husband or significant triumphs to share. (Erdrich, n.d., p. 13). Her daughter possesses...

Author's craftsmen in love and medicine:

Central ideas in literature are frequently built on two or more conflicting forces. Conflicts allow the author to confront the audience's views and societal expectations of the past and present, whether they are based on religion, socioeconomic status, or race. The novel *Love Medicine* by Louise Erdrich exemplifies this facet of creation. Erdrich has spent her whole life as a part of the two distinct groups from which her parents originated as a multiracial author. Throughout her work, she shares with the public some of the challenges and tribulations she has had and continues to face as a mixed person in modern America. Erdrich weaves together a society of ethnic individuals looking for authenticity in this novel of two Native American families, the Kashpaws and the Lamartines. Erdrich draws on her own mixed identity throughout *Love Medicine* to pit

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modernized Western characteristics against the more indigenous components of millions of people's varied heritages throughout the world.

Symbolism in love and medicine:

The novel *Love Medicine* by Louise Erdrich depicts the current status of Native American existence. Above anything else in the novel, her symbolism leaps out to me. While Erdrich employs a variety of symbols and motifs, her use of water and river imagery, as well as the symbolism that goes along with it, is particularly striking. In the story, she utilizes water to represent a variety of topics, including time and religion. Because the unending flow of a river is easily compared with time, the passage of time being likened to the movement of a river is not an uncommon concept.

Nector Kashpaw's recognition and acknowledgement of the passage of time as she displays time and its influence on the novel's characters is perhaps the most obvious example of Erdrich's symbolism. Nector experiences a life-changing epiphany at a peaceful time. Nector notices time passing by while the world around him comes to a halt...

Discussion:

We meet Lipsha, the protagonist of Louise Erdrich's *Love Medicine*, who adores and respects his grandparents, who reared him. The tangled history and dynamics of his grandparents' marriage are interwoven throughout the novel. The fundamental subject of the tale develops from this friendship. Love is ultimately a commitment that needs hard work and constant effort that cannot be commanded, coerced, or handed upon someone, as Louise Erdrich's book *Love Medicine* demonstrates.

Louise Erdrich's book "*Love Medicine*" has a theme of love and power. The irony in the novel illustrates how power can be used by the privileged to oppress others.

In this novel, Erdrich talks about how power is used as an instrument of privilege to perpetuate oppression against those who are disadvantaged. Some examples of this are illustrated in both the protagonist Circe's story as well as those from her family's past. In Circe's story, a white man forces her to have a child with him and it seems that she never thought she could refuse him because she was frightened and didn't have any other options available to her at the time.

In the past, women from different tribes were forced into marriages with men they didn't want to marry. They also had

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Love Medicine is a novel written by Louise Erdrich, an American author. The story is about the lives of two Native American families living on North Dakota's Turtle Mountain Indian Reservation.

The novel explores how different character lives intertwine with one another. It also portrays the influence of race and gender on the characters' interactions with one another. The author tries to show how life has changed for Native Americans since they were first confronted by white settlers.

The story revolves around several main characters but focuses on four important ones which are Joe Strap, Nector Kashpaw, Claude Kashpaw and Lulu Lamartine respectively. Joe Strap falls in love with a girl called Lulu Lamartine, but her mother does not want her daughter to marry him because he is not of their

Love Medicine is a book of many themes and lessons. The irony, symbolism, caste and gender issue, black and white are all present in the novel. It is a story about the Indians who live in North America. In the novel, the author has tried to address many social issues that have been faced by Native Americans from centuries ago to today.

In this essay I have tried to summarize these themes and lessons in Louise Erdrich's Love Medicine.

Conclusion:

The Love Medicine is about the complex relationship between the characters and how they deal with their own identities. It explores the complexity of relationships in a Native American community. The theme can be described as "the irony of fate."

The story begins with a marriage that turns into a tragedy, which is followed by numerous other tragedies that result in memories that are "sad, fierce, and funny"

After reading this book I have come to the conclusion that it's not just about love but also about how people are doomed to repeat their mistakes. Love Medicine is an excellent example of how human beings are doomed to repeat their mistakes.

Louise Erdrich's Love Medicine depicts characters who are always doomed to repeat their mistakes. The book demonstrates how people are doomed to repeat their own mistakes throughout many generations.

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