Migration, Metamorphosis, and Cultural Dislocation: A Study on Select Short Stories of Doris Lessing and Margaret Atwood

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Abstract

The paper examines short stories by Doris Lessing and Margaret Atwood through the lens of cultural studies, moving beyond purely aesthetic interpretations to explore the broader cultural dynamics embedded within these narratives. Specifically, it investigates how the stories engage with multifaceted aspects of culture, including power dynamics, ideology and representation, the intersection of culture and identity, and the relationship between culture and social change. By considering the influence of historical and social context, the analysis aims to reveal how these stories portray the distribution and exercise of power within social groups, challenging or reinforcing dominant ideologies through their representations of various social actors. Furthermore, it explores the formation of individual and collective identities in relation to cultural norms and values, demonstrating how the narratives reflect or contribute to processes of social transformation. By paying close attention to the economic, spatial, ideological, and political dimensions of culture, this paper will demonstrate how these elements are intricately woven into the fabric of the stories, revealing the complex interplay between literature and the sociocultural context in which it is produced and consumed, ultimately highlighting the essential role of culture in individual and societal existence.

Keywords: Culture, Society, Cluster, Political dimension, etc.