



VOICE OF THE SILENCED WOMAN

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ABSTRACT

Janie's search for true, unconditional and fulfilling love in "Their eyes are watching god" throughout her life in spite of harsh judgments gains her abundant strength and independence. Though she gains her own liberation and subjective freedom it is through the Noble weapon of Silence that she was able to finally conquer that cease-fire and congruence that she kept craving for from the right from her first penitentiary life. Though she had to embark on the arduous journey she is daring enough to achieve her own autonomy in spite of all odds as well as the enduring judgments made by others.

"She had waited all her life for something, and it had killed her when it found her."

Their Eyes Were Watching God

The desperate and loud cry of the Afro-Americans to convey to the world the circumstances and the struggle to make articulate a here before silenced and repressed voice of the helpless black female story. Being a woman in any society is more than just survival and sustenance. Silence has indeed crossed every cultural boundary and racial discrimination and one of the stand-alone character who all the black women could relate to at some point of time in life and share major of the similar situations is Janie a character of Hurston. Like every other woman battling and struggling to get to terms with reality Janie spends the first four decades of her life trying hard to learn to achieve her voice against the opposition of men, which is

more than just hands full, for any protagonist or women of the next door. She has to battle to the whims and fancies of the women talk who have delivered and neared her. The trials and tribulations these women go through itself lands up as parameters when they bring up the next two generations. The nanny or the grand mother is always bestowed with the extra responsibility of nearing and nurturing not only her daughter but her granddaughter too. The fears and the major adversities that she faced in her life. During her growing up period and during her very tender age of rearing another child teaches her to be extra cautions and in the process walks into even more graver situations difficult for any individual adolescent who has been thrown in a mess, but she expects a simple life filled with love and care. She does not expect anything flamboyant or extra ordinary, but to be treated like human and paid due respect to the feelings and emotions. But the success of this young woman is soul filling and heart warning to the readers as she is able to make it to her destiny crawling, hopping, running, though she is scared and scathed all through the arduous journey, she reaches the destination with a brimming heart and a vibrant soul.

Throughout history all great leaders and commoners and the villainy all had one great power with them and that power was the power of speech. Even a terrorist has the power to win over numerous souls onto his side to fight or to wag men for noble or ignoble causes. But, but it was only women like Emily Dickenson who knew or were supposed to know that they possessed the greatest prerequisite or the potential, the potential of silence.

“She had an inside and an outside now and suddenly she knew how not to mix them.”

Their Eyes Were Watching God

One has to dwell into the internal consciousness of each and every character in “Their Eyes were watching God” and analyses the purpose behind the so called unique voices of the men, though they were all from Mars, each one had their own unique method of displaying themselves and their authority over women.. Here we learn how these male voices go on to disturb and throw off balance the life of an innocent adolescent who blissfully walks into to marriage hoping to be taken care off, loved, protected and cherished. The brutal reality shakes her and she goes on to findherself (who am I? What am I meant for?),

“She often spoke to falling seeds and said, "Ah hope you fall on soft ground," because she had heard seeds saying that to each other as they passed. The familiar people and things had

failed her so she hung over the gate and looked up the road towards way off. She knew now that marriage did not make love. Janie's first dream was dead, so she became a woman.”

but here, her search matters, it is not just greener pastures but she goes on to search for a horizon, yes, God does show mercy on her and she finds a consoling figure walking down the horizon and her instinct and heart feelings tells her that tells her this is the solace, remedy resurrection what not. All these factors were reinforced or doubly reassured through the words or the future mayor.

“Janie looked down on him and felt a self-crushing love. So her soul crawled out from its hiding place.” **Their Eyes Were Watching God**

A man who not only talks but his actions to reflect it. She takes up a bold step and leaps out of the pan, or like a fish in a bowl which had to witness rugged atmosphere opts to choose a more amicable and glorious bowl of water but unfortunately the bowl has a lot of amiable creatures all around making it livable but that's not the end of the story. The man is the idol who goes on to cherish her company and also make it very big in life, bestowing upon her the highest title and putting on a pedestal, the second husband who is all that her imagination cared for. Unfortunately the hero has to have a fatal flaw and it is his attitude. Inopportunistly he is the authoritative dictator who wants complete monopoly over her. The life that she craved for finally becomes a penitentiary to her from which she desperately wants to escape the author relatively and with full and no-a character uses the interiority as a tool to give voice and actions, in the process she add a new dimension evolution of the male voices seem to parallel the evolution of Janie's. All of the men that Janie is related with is endowed with prominent voice.

“Ships at a distance have every man's wish on board. For some they come in with the tide. For others they sail forever on the same horizon, never out of sight, never landing until the Watcher turns his eyes away in resignation, his dreams mocked to death by Time. That is the life of men. Now, women forget all those things they don't want to remember, and remember everything they don't want to forget. The dream is the truth. Then they act and do things accordingly.”

Their Eyes Were Watching God

Voices that captures the attention and turns out to be beneficial beyond certain privileges. It is the voice of three men which enables the woman to identify and dugout her own voice. In the novel the consciousness of the narrator and the consciousness of Janie fuses into one and at a

particular point of time the readers are not able to hear the exclusive voice of Janie towards the end of the novel when trial goes on for the charge of murder.

The four men that Janie saw in her life play very influential role in her life and furthermore passion and control correspond to the voice and the silence expressed by the three husbands and this goes on to originate her to find her voice and later on she does not need that voice also to express or establish herself, that her voice merges with that of the narrator. The power of silence the most essential tool of a woman turns out to be efficacious and omnipotent, that there is more understood and conveyed to the readers.

Janie had been sprung or woven from the experiences of anguishes and ecstasy she had experienced in the hands of the four men where Killicks and Starks represent despotic and magisterial ways of command which would do fine to run a occupation or even rule a household. The tyrannical attitude of three men did not allow the potency and aptitude of Janie ever come out. It was only through the men like Johnny Taylor and tea Cake who were able to tap and bring out the dexterity in the women at a very tender age when she was very naïve and raw and the other at the penultimate stage where she had been battered and bashed by the crudities and adversities thrust upon her through various dimensions. Yes it was only through silence her noble weapon and perseverance that she attained her goal and earned peace and harmony the most essential countenance in her late life.

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