

Paradigms of Consciousness



Editor

Dr. Shanthichitra

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SUBHANJALI PRAKASHAN
KANPUR (INDIA)

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IDENTITY LOST/GAINED : A CROSS NATIONAL EXPERIENCE

MONICALILLY

Fatima College, Madurai

Diasporans who migrated to different nations struggled with their new language, customs, ethnicity and culture. The cultural crisis, dislocation and displacement remain as a pain in their lives. Dislocation is used as 'a term for both the occasion of displacement as a result of imperial occupation and the experiences associated with the event'. The term is used to cover the willing or the unwilling movement from a known to an unknown location, and includes experiences ranging from invasion and settlement to slavery and imprisonment. Dislocation might be the common experience of those who have moved away from home due to 'globalization'.

The cultural dilemma of immigrants having a hyphenated identity creates enthusiasm to stick to the cultural beliefs and customs of the homeland and also gradually imbibe the cultural ways of the adopted land. This is mainly because of the immigrants who are groomed in 'bilingual' and 'bicultural' activities. These diasporans try to overcome the cultural issues and negotiate diverse racial identities. They are very much alienated and feel dislocated and displaced by their trans-nationalism, culture crisis and amalgamation of differences in culture is always present in immigrant psyche and that surfaces in the novel "*A girl named Indie*" by Kavita Daswani, a child to Bombay based parent. Her undying ardor for fashion has led her to take

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AN AVID EXPLORATION OF SEX AND LOVE IN PAULO COELHO'S ELEVEN MINUTES: A CRASHED MORAL LEADERSHIP

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Abstract

This paper will describe a way of being able to examine the notions of Moral leadership being fractured, in this discussion of the aspects that will be addressed are: sacred nature of sex, divinity of love and encircling prejudices of both. This is done through the protagonist's journey of 'self-discovery'. It is indeed an attempt to examine changed perspectives of ethics keeping in mind the torments and psychological frustrations people undergo. The main focus is on the compromise between spirituality and sexuality. This idea of sexual journey is illustrated with Paulo Coelho's *Eleven Minutes*.

Quest about sex is shockingly answered by 65-year-old Brazilian author Paulo Coelho. Persuasive and charismatic characters, break moral leadership styles, prioritizing personal needs are questioned. But above all, ethics is the most influential factors in leadership and decision-making. With unselfish approach, these leaders are people that we look up to, who guide us to a common cause by using ethical values. A realistic depiction of human difficulties to keep up these moral ethics is genuinely explicit in *Eleven Minutes* which revolves around the protagonist (i.e. Maria), a prostitute, with a beginning point where she decides that this could be an exciting and adventurous job. Yet, what starts off as curiosity and anxiety towards sexual encounters, especially after her adolescent frustration towards love, eventually brings her into realizing her love for a painter. Nevertheless, throughout her journey as a sex worker, she finds the greatest truth about herself. A spiritual realization, ironically, in the case of this novel, emerges through the "eleven minutes" of sacred sex. Her encounter towards sex is not her greatest sin. Nor is it the relentless self-promotion.

The Philosophy of sex is a brutal logic where moral system weakens and it is the part of human nature. A few

sex scenes form platitudes in Coelho's philosophy of a harsh worldview: unhappiness or lack of fulfillment is the reason Maria gets off track. 'Love is a terrible thing that will make you suffer' this is the idea that surfaces through this character. The universal ideas of dream, love and purpose, gives a pop philosophical slant to this novel. Maria's travel to Geneva, did not allow her to follow her dreams of finding fame and fortune. Instead, she ends up working as a prostitute. I used to think of people who went to bed with men for money as people who had no other choice and now I see that it isn't like that. I could have said 'yes' or 'no' no one was forcing me to do anything. I walk about the streets and look at all the people, and I wonder if they chose their lives? Or are they, like me chosen by fate? (pg.59)

In this odyssey of self-discovery, Maria chooses between pursuing a path of darkness, seeking pleasure for its own sake or risking everything to find her own "inner light of moral values". Maria, however strong, sensual young woman suffers unrequited love, has a child, learns a bit about sex as a teenager makes an advised decision to leave Rio on a Swedish ship in the promise of fame and fortune. I don't care whether it was once sacred or not, I HATE WHAT I DO. It's