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Unveiling Loyalty and Social Class Inequality: Delving into Arundhati Roy's "The God of Small Things"

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ABSTRACT: The project is a sum of the non-fiction work of Arundhati Roy "The God of Small Things". This project excavates the themes of the novel very briefly specifically the social inequality that is spread in our Indian society. This project covers the personality of Arundhati Roy and tells us about her in much detail. In this project, we will understand the aspect of society and how people are divided into social distractions and have created a boundary between them. In this project, we will know about how small things matter in our lives and how these gesture makes our life bigger, and how little happiness is way more profound and prominent than bigger happiness. This book will give you a sense of loyalty, forbidden love, innocence, colonialism and post-colonialism, discrimination, and social class inequality. This project will show an auto-biography of Arundhati Roy and an analysis of her famous work, "The God of Small Things".

II. INTRODUCTION

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Arundhati Roy is a political exponent, activist, and a great Indian writer. She has done wonders for English literature and showed her perspective through her writings. She was born on 24 November 1961 in Shillong, her full name is Suzanna Arundhati Roy. She spent her childhood in the city of Aymanam. Since childhood, she was always interested in politics and wanted her voice to reach through people, not as people of state power, but as human beings, so she started writing novels and articles online. Her non-fiction works show what kind of political writer and activist she is, she has written many articles on human rights, class and gender inequality, and many other related topics. She has published many books that mention these issues well, such as **Algebra of Infinite Justice, Listening to Locusts, and Broken Republic**. Her writings show how passionate she is about his work, and she is always talked about in society for her controversial perspective and advocacy for social justice. She was an active social figure and an outspoken critic. Her activist approach covered many topics such as the Narmada Dam project, the Kashmir conflict, the rights of marginalized communities, and nuclear weapons. She is also an advocate of anti-globalization and a critic of foreign policy and its impact on India. Her books have received both praise for defending people and fighting inequality, and criticism for radical thinking and simplification of complex issues. She is constantly involved in many human rights movements and always speaks for people who have faced all kinds of injustices and defends the rights of women and talks about their situation, struggle, and status in society. She was also sent to Tihar Jail for a day as symbolic punishment for contempt of court. She has written a lot against the government and politics of India, the USA, and Sri Lanka, he also dislikes our current Prime Minister and calls him aggressive and militaristic. Apart from being an activist, director, and writer, she is also involved in acting and had a small script in Massey Saab, and also wrote a television series. Before writing this book, he worked in television and drama. Roy didn't want to be a writer, he enrolled to study architecture, but quotes "Life's Turns" in a mysterious way.

III. "THE GOD OF SMALL THINGS"

She gained fame and recognition with his debut book, The God of Small Things, which won the 1977 Booker Prize for Friction. In 1977, the book was on the New York Times Notable Books list. This book is known as a semi-autobiographical book because she drew her real life in this book as the story revolves around Ayemenem where Arundhati Roy spent her childhood and her grandmother also owned a pickle factory like Rahel and Estha's family. She also mentions the stigma of a failed marriage in the book because Ammu was divorced like Roy's mother. In this book, she spoke deeply about what a divorced person has to go through and how society sees and treats her. The novel was titled at the very last minute, and after re-reading the novel, he realizes how many references there are to small things, so she decides to keep the name The God of Small Things. It was an immediate critical and commercial success, selling 6 million copies worldwide. The theme of the novel was many social issues such as the caste system, class gap, stigma of divorce, and the status of women in our society. In this book, she was accused of indecency

because she showed an intimate relationship between a Syrian Christian woman and a lower-class man. The theme of the novel is "big things" and "small things" tells us about the small things that affect our life deeply. As mentioned before, this novel questioned many customs and showed the status of women in our society. It also talked about the class conflict in our Indian society, the novel is a mirror of our society. This play broke the box of a woman's love for an oppressed person. A depressed person must always suffer and be ignored in all situations.

How she mentioned social inequalities in her book;

Here, the others mean that they think there is an upper class and this shows out by their behavior through insulting and humiliating the people who are actually like other people. In the novel "The God of small things" Arundhati Roy shows the boldly and spotless experience of casteism. This novel examines how peak peoples have forced their crucial actions on the oppressed people. Here, Evil wins Humanity. Arundhati Roy's openness as a narrator adds a lot of charm to the novel. Arundhati Roy explains in the novel the connections between the very smallest things and the very biggest things (Revathi, 1).

'...Was dark and clean. It smelled of fish curry and wood smoke. Heat cleaved to things like a low fever... Velutha and Vellya Paapen's bedding was rolled up and propped against the wall... a grown man could stand up straight in the center of the room, but not along its sides. (Roy. 208)

Arundhati Roy describes with facts the helplessness of Vellyan Paapen, Velutha's father. He must sneak back and takes on the social disabilities imposed on the marginalized sector by well-worn tradition.

IV. WHAT IS INEQUALITY

In India, the caste system is growing for decades and still continues. There were four main castes into which society was divided Brahman, Kshatriyas, Vaishyas, and Shudra. Now our society is divided into two groups, the upper class, and the lower class. The lower class always faced discrimination and was always treated like a slaughtered animal. They faced many economic, social, and cultural discriminations in society. They are never treated equally and are harassed by upper-class people. Simply put unequal and unjust distribution among people because of power, wealth, sex, caste, age, color, etc. It is the unequal distribution of opportunities and privileges among different groups of people. Society compares each other with three main categories: wealth, power, and status. Classes include upper class, middle class, working class, and lower class. These divisions create a problem in the society and people do not care about each other. This can limit social mobility by creating barriers that prevent poor people from improving their economic and social status. It can also lead to unequal access to quality education and health care, leading to unequal opportunities and outcomes.

In addition, class inequality often reinforces and intersects with other forms of inequality such as race, gender, and ethnicity, further marginalizing certain social groups. Class inequality is addressed through policies and initiatives aimed at reducing wealth gaps, promoting equal opportunities, and ensuring social and economic justice.

A unique novel about secular notions of caste, class, patriarchy, chauvinism, and social boundaries. The book is very intelligently written and indirectly attacks those social evils which are still practiced in our society and which remain neglected. The book tells the story of each character so that we can get to know their personalities well and judge whether the consequences are fair or unfair to us. We see very rhythmically and poetically the passage of time between the past and the present, which wants to tell us how the pain of the past has affected and changed the people of today. Light puns are used to make the story more interesting. The only thing which didn't excite me about this book was, that it didn't explain or answer some of the questions I was interested in, without giving a reasonable explanation for some of the circumstances created in the story.

For example, I didn't understand how Sophie Mol actually died and what Estha's life was like with a father who was the complete opposite of her previous personality. It left many questions unanswered and left readers with complete anonymity.

Overall, I loved this book, its writing style, the prose used, the clever repetition of words and characters, and the connection to the reality of our society. We finally learn who the god of small things was and why he was called that; It was Velutha, the man who loved Ammu's sons by day and worshiped Ammu by night.

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