

ISSN:0976-8165

THE CRITERION

An International Journal in English



Vol. 7, Issue-I February 2016

7 YEARS OF OPEN ACCESS

www.the-criterion.com

Editor-In-Chief: Dr. Vishwanath Bite

About Us: <http://www.the-criterion.com/about/>

Archive: <http://www.the-criterion.com/archive/>

Contact Us: <http://www.the-criterion.com/contact/>

Editorial Board: <http://www.the-criterion.com/editorial-board/>

Submission: <http://www.the-criterion.com/submission/>

FAQ: <http://www.the-criterion.com/fa/>



ISSN 2278-9529

Galaxy: International Multidisciplinary Research Journal

www.galaxyimrj.com

The Exquisite Depiction of Romantic Suspense in the Novels of Mary Florence Stewart

Shankar Vithoba Bhosale
M. Phil. (Research Student),
Shivaji University, Kolhapur

Abstract:

The present paper is an attempt to explore romantic Mysteries in the novels of Mary Stewart. Romantic mysteries or suspense is one of the hottest genre in the modern society. In my opinion, a romantic suspense means the novel which deals with threat of danger, both Hero and Heroine is in danger, but ultimately both Hero and Heroine reach the crescendo that leaves the mystery solved, the villain is defeated and the novel is ending in happily. The writers like Victoria holf, Daphne du maurier, Arthur conan Doyale, are the brilliant author's in handling this genre. Modern romantic suspense novels are using technology, digitalization, in order to turn that novel into movie. The romantic suspense novel is galaxy of murder, scams, horrors and kindly love. In my opinion, there is misunderstanding regarding of what a romance novel is? In this novels we can see thought provoking ideas, heart-pounding actions, chase scenes, life threatening situations, and dangerous criminals are all the common elements of suspense novels.

Introduction and Development of Romantic suspense Novel

In 20th century mostly the romantic suspense novel emerged as a new genre of writing. Mary Stewart is the major writer in this genre. Linda Howard, sander Brown, Tamil Hoag, kindly generated many more. Cindy Gerard is a successful author of romantic suspense. Even Jane Austin, Bronte sisters made use of suspense in their novels. Actually these novels show relationship and romantic love between two people, and that must have emotionally satisfying and optimistic end. In 18th century Samuel Richardson prolifically made use of sentimental romantic genre in his novels. In 20th century it was galvanized by many writers. In these novels contain more erotic acts, such as pornography, female mutilation etc. These romantic suspense novels are similar to mysteries, crime, thrillers, and paranormal romantics. Julie Garwood is greatest 20th century writers of romantic myself.

Mary Stewart as a romantic suspense novelist

Mary Florence Elinor Stewart (1916 - 2014) is a British feminist novelist. She is pioneer of romantic suspense novels. She is known for much loved novels including Touch not that cat, this rough magic, and nine coaches waiting, she was the first to integrate mystery and romance in her novels. Stewart write trilogy of merlin series – The crystal cave, the hollow hills and the last enchantments. Many Stewart was stylish educated woman novelist, she died aged 97 and Charmed many readers. Stewart introduced a different kinds of heroines for a newly emerging womanhood. She built the bridge between classic literature and modern popular fiction. She was

suffered from ectopic pregnancy. She was petro queen of romantic suspense novels. She contributed to the midcentury gothic craze with its seas of breathless stories of frightened young women in empty mansions navigating mysteries and old family secrets. Stewart was writing best sellers in an era dominated by gothic descendants of Daphne du Mauriers Rebeca.

Keywords: Many Stewart, romantic suspense's, thriller, murder mystery, chasing mansions, flashbacks, panoramic romance, historical romance etc.

Aims Of this paper

1. The main objective of this paper is to develop reader's interest in romantic suspense novels.
2. It is to show the social evils which are prevalent in society through romantic suspense novels.
3. The another aim is that to learn different ways of creating story, that is character driving, plot driven or theme driven with unbelievable characters with goals & conflicts.

Methodology of the study

The present study has been descriptive, the data for this study were obtained from secondary sources. The secondary data has been collected from various references which are already existed in published form, part of the paper is based on literary review. Sometimes author has tried to take aid of e-paper & journals. The author has made an attempt to do primary reading of the selected papers which will constitute the core of this review study. Sometimes author used internet database.

So it's better to know the romantic suspense in novels of many Stewart. Let's us see the detail explanation of the select novels of Merry Stewart Madam, will you talk? (1954) may be the first grown –up romance novels. This novel opens with, the first sentence is”.

“The whole affair began so very quietly”

What else can you ask for?

This novel is set in south of France. Charity selborn is on holiday with her friend. But she married to Johny selborne now charity selborne is widow, her husband's plane was shot down in France during the war. She is staying in one hotel, where murder take place. Richard Byron who has been accused of murder is pursuing his son across the France. The son is David, whose father is murderer. Strange things happened in this novel. Number of coincidents, chasing made the novel glamorous. Charity selborne is a sympathetic heroine, she is independently wealthy after her husband's death Johnny in wwII. The hero has dark side to him, which can make him almost fright nighty nastily at times, but he is both romantic and likeable. Charity selborne leads David's father on a chase all the way to Marseilles.

“A Bentley I thought savagely,
 Barking hard, it would be,
 Something that could give me a
 Fairly alarming chase, unless I did
 Something drastic to it first. I
 Slipped out of car, with thoughts of
 Tyre -slashing, but there was a
 Gargage at the hotel, and who
 Knew what spares might be available?
 As I stubbed across the stones to
 The gray car I thought widely. Not the
 Rotor-arm, for the same reason-
 And I had nothing to slash tires with
 Anyway..... The hood was unlocked &
 I lifted it, with half an eye on the
 Road behind me.

From this extract we readers come to know that how Merry Stewart has utilized the tool of suspense in her novels .Really her novels are combined by adventurous mystery. This novel focuses on prolific narration of mystery, gothic elements

In her second novel, Nine coaches waiting (1958), it is a gothic romance, it is haunting tale of English governess Linda Martin, who travels to France to take care of Phillippe. There she tangled in a plot of murder. She became Belinda now. Lindas parents were killed in plane crash, so she become governess of Philippe. They are in big mansion. Here is how Phillippe villainous guardian is introduced’.

‘I thought, watching her she is
 Afraid of me Then I told myself
 Shortly no to be fool. This was the
 Result of Daddy’s Intriguing build up and
 My own damned romantic Imagination

Just because the man looked like Milton's
 Ruined archangel and choose to appear
 In a hall like the demon king through
 a trap door

Here from this above paragraph we know that Linda becomes aware of that kid who is in danger, and she must protect him from mishap. Many times she tried to save life of Phillippe, like 'The Turn of screw, novel by Henry James in American Literature. In this novel also heroine saving the life of children's from ghostly atmosphere and mansion. In this novel she is hired as a governess for young French boy but a strange terror coiled in that castle. The title of the novel take from Turner's Revenger's Tragedy' Many Stewart has deftly used humor and excels in creating sympathetic attitude towards Philippe. Philippe was Linda's favorite, she said"

We have get bear, he
 Looked earnestly up at me.
 "Like we truly have. His scarlet
 Gloved hands sketched in the air
 Something of the dimension of an
 Overgrown grizzly.

Obviously all her novels are mingled by romantic relationship with other characters. Though it is gothic tale it has aspects of suspense.

In her next novel. The Ivy Tree (1961), is perfect blend of suspense and thriller. In this novel Mary Gray is protagonist. On Sunday she is in home she was cheated by Connor Winslow. Connor persuaded her to be Annabel, so she can get Mathews property, there is resemblance between Annabel and Mary Grey so that Connor proposed the plan. Later on Conner wants to abduct all property of Mathew property. But the original Annabel has habit of horsemanship but this Annabel has not kindly after many chasing Adam Forest discovers that like Annabel after her late night visit to Ivy Tree. Adam discovers her true identity, but Mary grey said her keep her identity secret. In the confusion Annabel and Julie becomes friends. Julie will marry her boyfriend and Annabel and Adam are presumed to marry and Inherit white scare of Matthew, Really this novels is fully scheduled by secrecy, plotting, hidden intrigue etc. This novel is tinged with bit of magic and in most of novels she chooses to give romantic themes, she is superb story teller of suspense. Finally in this novel Mary Grey became Annabelle Winslow. Connor Winslow actually wants to inherit to property.

"There is a estate called white scare and

It is not far from the house of Forrest
As In Adam Forrest, the Adam Mary
Was waiting at on that piece of

Roman wall. There is a prospect of comfort, wealth even romance.

Finally Mary Marries Connor and they together become wealthy. On the other side Adam married Annabel who is her lover. The Ivy Tree is center for her novel. Tension and mystery swirl about her with fate. Here, Mary Stewart's voice was that of female household. She was just as sure a hand of glamorous writing.

In her next novel, 'Touch not that cat (1976), she uses supernatural elements. The heroine Bryony Ashely, has the gift of telepathy, she is speaking with her lover but whose Identity is unsure of. Bryony returns to the U.K. having received a telepathic message and discover that her father has been hit by a car, and has died after speaking some mysterious lines. She is in a confusing state of her telepathic contact. Midbetween she was tried to murder, but saved by rob, with whom she plans to emigrate.

In this way in her all novels like My Brother Michal (1959), This Rough Magic, (1964) Airs above the ground (1965). The wind off the Isles (1967) are all based on elements of romantic suspense novels, even her Merlin series are also called as 'Arthurian novels, are blended with history, paranormal romantic, and suspense.

Conclusion

In this way Merry Stewart is a pioneer writer of romantic suspense. She discovered new genre of novels. Her well-crafted novels caught the attention of millions of readers. She was very popular from late 1950 to 1980 her novels are translated into many languages, her novels are of great amusement, many of them released movies also. Her heroines are in galaxy of adventure, really Stewart deserves credit for her influence on a generation of writers who would play a part in pioneering the modern romance novel. In brief Mary Stewart's books are widely entertaining and spectacularly written for the readers.

Works Cited:

- Regis, Pamela.(2003) *A natural history of romance novel*, university of Pennsylvania press
- Gates, Anita. *Mary Stewart British writer who spanned genres*, New York Times.
- Stewart, Mary. *Internet speculative Fiction Database*
- Stewart, Mary. *Madam, will you talk?* (1954) Holder & Stoughton, U.K.

- Stewart, Mary. *Nine Coaches Waiting* (1958) holder & Stoughton U.K.
- Stewart, Mary. *The Ivy Tree* (1962), holder and Stoughton U.K.
- Stewart, Mary. *Touch not that cat* (1976) Holder and Stoughton U.K.
- Hore, Rachel. *Mary Stewart obituary*, The guardian
- Abrams, M.H. *A glossary of Literary Terms*, (Bangalore : Prism Books Pvt. Ltd. 1993)
- [http www.jstor.com](http://www.jstor.com) source