



ARTIST'S CHARACTER AND SPIRITUAL ANALYSIS IN L. BORIKHON'S SHORT STORY "ONE DROP OF YOUTH"

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ABSTRACT

This article explores the complex interplay between the artist's character and spiritual dimensions as portrayed in L. Borikhon's short story One Drop of Youth. By analyzing the protagonist's emotional, intellectual, and moral development, the article reveals how Borikhon intertwines artistic expression with spiritual transformation. The study employs a multidisciplinary approach, incorporating elements of literary criticism, psychology, and philosophy to provide a holistic understanding of the narrative.

KEYWORDS: L. Borikhon, One Drop of Youth, artist's character, spiritual analysis, artistic expression, internal conflict, spiritual awakening, authenticity, literary techniques, symbolism, transformation, creative process.

INTRODUCTION

Literature has long served as a mirror to the human soul, capturing not only external realities but also the intricate inner lives of its characters. L. Borikhon's One Drop of Youth stands out as a profound exploration of the artist's journey toward self-discovery. The story encapsulates the struggles of an artist whose quest for creative fulfillment becomes intertwined with a spiritual awakening. This article aims to delve into Borikhon's portrayal of the artist's character, highlighting the spiritual challenges and triumphs that define the narrative.

The Artist as a Central Figure

In One Drop of Youth, the protagonist is an artist torn between the demands of societal expectations and his inner calling. Borikhon uses this conflict to craft a character who embodies the duality of human existence: the external pursuit of recognition versus the internal longing for meaning. Through vivid descriptions of the artist's creative process, the story emphasizes the tension between these opposing forces.

1. **The Artist's Internal Conflict** The protagonist's struggle is rooted in his perception of art as both a personal refuge and a societal obligation. Borikhon portrays the artist's initial motivations as ego-driven, seeking fame and validation. However, as the story unfolds, the artist begins to question the authenticity of his pursuits, setting the stage for a deeper spiritual journey.

2. **Symbolism of Youth** The titular "one drop of youth" symbolizes the fleeting nature of inspiration and vitality. It represents the artist's longing for a return to a state of purity and passion, untainted by external pressures. This motif serves as a catalyst for the protagonist's transformation.

Spiritual Dimensions in the Narrative

The spiritual underpinnings of the story are woven seamlessly into the plot, reflecting Borikhon's nuanced understanding of the human condition.

1. **Art as a Medium of Spiritual Expression** Borikhon illustrates how the protagonist's art evolves from superficial creations to profound expressions of his innermost thoughts and emotions. This transformation signifies a shift from materialistic ambitions to a more spiritual approach to creativity.
2. **The Role of Adversity** The artist's spiritual growth is marked by a series of adversities that force him to confront his limitations and fears. These trials, depicted through both external challenges and internal dilemmas, highlight the resilience required to achieve true artistic and spiritual fulfillment.
3. **Resolution and Transformation** The story culminates in the artist's realization that true art emerges from a place of authenticity and self-awareness. This epiphany not only redefines his approach to his craft but also provides a sense of spiritual liberation.

Literary Techniques and Narrative Style

Borikhon employs a range of literary techniques to convey the complexity of the protagonist's journey. The use of vivid imagery, metaphor, and introspective monologues allows readers to experience the artist's struggles and triumphs on a deeply personal level. The narrative's non-linear structure mirrors the fragmented nature of the protagonist's thoughts, adding depth to the story.

CONCLUSION

L. Borikhon's *One Drop of Youth* offers a compelling exploration of the artist's character and spiritual journey. Through the protagonist's experiences, the story underscores the transformative power of adversity and the importance of authenticity in artistic and spiritual pursuits. By intertwining these themes, Borikhon crafts a narrative that resonates with readers on both an intellectual and emotional level.

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