

The Stone Angel

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above the town on the hill brow the stone angel used to stand i wonder if she stands there yet hagar shipley an irascible independent nonagenarian has lived a quiet life full of rage as she approaches her death she retreats from the squabbling of her son and his wife to reflect on her past her ill advised marriage her two sons the harshness of farm life on the prairie her own failures and the betrayals and failures of others

margaret laurence is justly famous for her manawaka cycle of canadian novels but her work extends from canada to africa and includes poetry and prose children s and adult

literature memoir and travel writing

over the past forty years canadian literature has found its way to the silver screen with increasing regularity beginning with the adaptation of margaret laurence s *a jest of god* to the hollywood film *rachel rachel* in 1966 canadian writing would appear to have found a doubly successful life for itself at the movies from the critically acclaimed *kamouraska* and the apprenticeship of *duddy kravitz* in the 1970s through to the award winning *love and human remains* and the english patient in the 1990s with the more recent notoriety surrounding the oscar nominated *away from her* and the screen appearances of the stone angel and fugitive pieces this seems like an appropriate time for a collection of essays to reflect on the intersection between literary publication in canada and its various screen transformations this volume discusses and debates several double edged issues the extent to which the literary artefact extends its artfulness to the film artefact the degree to which literary communities stand to gain or lose in contact with film communities and perhaps most of all the measure by which a viable relation between fiction and film can be said to exist in canada and where that double life precisely manifests itself if at all this book is published in english

although at times painfully insecure about her creative ability and achievement margaret laurence nevertheless remained fiercely loyal to her artistic vision an archetypal vision of loss exile and redemption that sought comprehensive expression in the epic mode that shapes the bible dante s *divine comedy* milton s *paradise lost* and ultimately the manawaka world of *hagar shipley* *rachel cameron* *stacey macaindra* and *morag gunn* paul comeau traces the development of margaret laurence s epic voice from its tentative beginnings in her african fiction to its culmination in the epic manawaka cycle a dantesque journey through an infernal state of self destructive pride out of a purgatorial paralysis of self doubt and on to a kind of paradisaal fulfillment in self knowledge laurence discovered in epic a fitting mode at once to requite her debt to the ancestors and to break free of their influence to portray the world through the sight of her own eyes in so doing she became the enduring epic voice of a country and a generation

susan s efforts to become a saint after receiving a message from a stone angel on a tombstone are aided by her loyal east indian friend rab

in a postmodern and postcolonial age how do we approach the writing of margaret laurence challenging territory demands of the reader a re evaluation of the basic assumptions that underlie their understanding of laurence s life and writing by addressing the full range of her writing laurence is presented as canadian colonial and postcolonial subject as feminist humanist and political active individual and as essayist translator journalist memoir writer and fiction writer the essays stake out a critical territory as well as offer a challenge to territory previously mapped by the criticism in

addition to charting critical space never before traced

the essays collected in this volume offer a range of different approaches to the significance of the work of margaret laurence historical feminist descriptive and thematic in which critics from europe america and canada offer assessments of this 20th century novelist

this magnum opus a masterpiece of world literature from classical to present era is a seminal work that encapsulates the vast expanse of literary theory and criticism traversing the realms of american australian and indian literature this comprehensive tome delves into the complexities of colonial and post colonial literatures while also exploring the ancient and new literatures in english furthermore it ventures into the domain of comparative literature offering a nuanced understanding of the diverse literary traditions that have shaped the world s cultural heritage a distinctive feature of this book is its focus on contemporary indian literature in english translation providing a platform for the voices of indian writers to be heard globally additionally it examines the significance of english studies in india highlighting the impact of linguistic and cultural diversity on literary expression by weaving together these disparate threads this masterpiece presents a rich tapestry of world literature serving as an invaluable resource for scholars students and literature enthusiasts alike

a study guide for margaret laurence s the stone angel excerpted from gale s acclaimed novels for students this concise study guide includes plot summary character analysis author biography study questions historical context suggestions for further reading and much more for any literature project trust novels for students for all of your research needs

paine s years of study and reflection on the role of religion in society culminated with this his final work an attack on revealed religion from the deist point of view embodied by paine s credo i believe in one god and no more its critical and objective examination of old and new testaments cites numerous contradictions

some believe bedford maine is cursed its bloody past endless rain and the decay of its downtown portend a hopeless future with the death of its paper mill bedford s unemployed residents soon find themselves with far too much time to dwell on thoughts of susan marley once the local beauty she s now the local whore silently prowling the muddy streets she watches eerily from the shadows waiting for something and haunting the sleep of everyone in town with monstrous visions of violence and horror those who are able will leave bedford before the darkness fully ascends but those who are trapped here from susan marley s long suffering mother and younger sister to her guilt ridden alcoholic ex lover to the destitute and faithless with nowhere else to go will soon know

the fullest and most terrible meaning of nightmare

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