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## **Various aspects of the French Lieutenant's Woman by John Fowles**

**Ramen Goswami**

Scholar , Magadh University, Bodh Gaya, India  
Email: [eros.ramen2012@gmail.com](mailto:eros.ramen2012@gmail.com)

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### **ABSTRACT:**

The French Lieutenant's lady, The most commercially victorious of Fowles' novels, was printed in 1969. It resembles a Victorian novel in structure and detail, whereas pushing the standard boundaries of narrative in an exceedingly} very trendy manner. Winner of many awards and created into a well-received film stellar Streep within the theatrical role, it's the book that today's casual readers appear to most accompany Fowles. This novel relies on the nineteenth-century romantic or gothic novel that deals with the foremost favorite themes of Fowles, together with existentialist philosophy and sexual repression.

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**Keywords:** treed, freedom, Persuasion, inferiors, existentialist philosophy

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### **Irony within the novel**

Irony runs through this text because the verbalise sets up Charles, as an example, as superior at school, however is clearly less superior in intelligence and acuity in his understanding of wife. Irony is usually used, then, to undermine pretentiousness and to question the received values of the Victorian era. The central irony that's gift during this tremendous novel is expounded to freedom and UN agency possesses it and UN agency doesn't. Because the novel progresses, Charles, UN agency apparently looks to own everything in society a person may want for, involves realise however truly he's terribly affected and treed by society and its restraints. Ironically, Sarah, the figure UN agency is shunned by society and looks to lack freedom, becomes a logo of the entire and total freedom that he craves and wishes to own for himself.

The central irony of this novel so relates to the method during which Charles, the novel's protagonist, moves from a grip of feeling himself to relish freedom solely to grasp that he suffers from its profound lack. Note however he identifies himself as a "brilliant man trapped; a Lord George Gordon Byron tamed." this can be in the midst of his growing getting even that wife, the character UN agency is detested and shunned by society, truly possesses the proper freedom he thus urgently craves. Moving from being proud of his ton, he realises that his ton solely represents a "fixed voyage to a renowned place." wife is in a position to fire up inside him associate intense need for the unknown, for the proper freedom embodied in her life, that may be a life lived free from the constraints of society.

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### **Lady reinterpreted within the French Lieutenant's Woman**

The figure of the fallen lady is clearly captured within the figure of wife Woodruff, is remodelled because the novel progresses and each Charles and therefore the reader attempt to establish the identity of wife and UN agency she truly is. What's thus fascinating regarding her character is that the method she is shrouded by mystery. The reader, and Charles, isn't totally tuned in to her full identity and story, and it's solely attainable to do and piece, jigsaw-like, the assorted parts of her character along that are given within the novel. Sarahab is given because the ancient fallen woman UN agency is associate outcast from society due to her relationship with the French lieutenant named within the title. However, because the novel progresses, she becomes associated not with shame associated being an outcast, however freedom and a resistance to living one's life in accordance with the role given to at least one by society. Note what she represents to Charles: wife involves symbolize freedom from society's restrictions, and this can be one thing that Charles himself involves establish with greatly. Sarah is employed to reinterpret the role of the fallen woman through presenting her not as a personality UN agency is treed in this role however as a personality UN agency refuses to just accept the role that society presents her with. Sarah, through her determination to measure her own life and to induce what she desires, presents herself as associate sceptre individual instead of a disempowered figure that is historically the method that fallen ladies are perceived.

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### **Purpose of read within the novel**

The point of read of this postmodernist novel may be a terribly fascinating space of debate. On the one hand, there are parts of the all-knowing verbalize within the purpose of read in this the verbalize is unquestionably external to the action and looking out in at what's evolution. However, at identical time, there are areas wherever the standard all-knowing purpose of read isn't correct once puzzling over the narration of this book. One reason

for this can be the method that the verbalize perpetually intrudes into the action, distinguishing himself because the author and lightness bound facts regarding the assembly of this text, like once he refers to Austen's use of the Cobb in Persuasion and conjointly describing a sculptor sculpture, that was engraved a few years when the time of the novel. while the purpose of read will be thought-about to be person all-knowing in some ways in which, the habit of the author of intrusive his own thoughts and opinions into the narrative, indicated together with his regard to the word "we" and "our," indicates that the author may be a character in his title, commenting upon the action and drawing the reader's attention to bound aspects of the story. Additionally, it's problematic to explain the purpose of view person all-knowing, because the author deliberately keeps bound characters from being explained and explored, the foremost obvious example being wife.

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### **Category distinction, that prevailed in Victorian European country**

The demanding demarcation between categories - and sexes - in Victorian European country is one in every of this novel's central themes and is scrutinized and deconstructed perpetually. Charles, UN agency is one in every of the most protagonists, is forged as a gentleman and is deemed by society (and typically by himself) to be superior to his servants, his fiancée, Ernestina, and Sarah. he's stratified higher because of the possibility of birth associated simply misses out on reaching nobility once his uncle marries and produces an heir. every of the characters is shown to remember of the rigid category distinctions and therefore the narrative uses this theme to undermine the naturalization of those barriers. Mary, the maid servant of kinswoman Tranter is given as alluring and overtly sexual. However kinswoman Tranter believes that mother is higher than reproach and permits her to be what she is due to her rank joined of the lower categories. Charles is characteristically less intelligent than his supposed inferiors guided missile and wife. He Blanche at the thought of operating in commerce for his future father as this can be considered being below him by agreement during this class-bound society. Each the category system and social organisation confine wife. Though her education moves her up the social ladder faraway from her father UN agency was a farmer, this serves to go away her within the limbo world of being fit the role of solely instructor or companion. The society she is born into effectively marginalizes her twice: for being a lady and for being born into the operating categories.

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### **Convention as being shown in 'The French Lieutenant's Woman'**

The French Lieutenant's lady uses associate overtly twentieth-century perspective to critique this illustration of Victorian European country wherever duty and conformity take precedence over kindness and honesty. The assumption that one ought to adhere to convention is place into question by the hypocrisy of the many of the most characters. except for wife, UN agency is pictured as trying to measure by her own codes of behavior instead of society's, others, like Charles, Mrs. Poulteney and Ernestina, are additional involved regarding however they seem to the skin world than in functioning on their wishes. The sense of duty, that in some live is shown to be admirable, has become twisted as duty becomes additional valued than the Christian attribute that informs it.

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### **Loss of religion in authority in 'The French Lieutenant's Woman'**

As though to undermine the sturdy thematic concern that exposes the adherence to conformity during this delineate society, there's a parallel theme that queries authority. this can be caused in a very vary of little ways in which, from guided missile disobeying his leader Charles, to the depiction of Charles's growing interest in theory of evolution. The preference for organic process theories over ism implies a questioning of the authority of the Bible. Sarah's call to be associate outcast, instead of another instructor UN agency is aware of her place, conjointly exemplifies this challenge to dominant thinking as will the insertion of the author in what perceived to be a realist text. Any to the current, the employment of 2 endings conjointly undermines authority because the tradition of closure is razed. The authority of the writer is invoked by his look within the novel; however this role of God is at the same time undermined as he refuses to determine the ending. The readers' are sceptred as they're left to decide on the one they like. The novelist's toss of the coin to determine that ending comes initial is associate ostensible suggests that of showing that this can be a piece of fiction and therefore the ending or endings are whimsical.

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### **The relationships between Charles and Ernestina and Charles and wife.**

The engagement and imminent wedding of Charles and Ernestina dominates the novel and Ernestina's thoughts. The author presents the wooing between Charles and Ernestina as a man-made relation. Their wooing is being given because the results of social and economic influences that directs them to marry. Notions of duty, honourableness and, to some extent, love, influence their relationship. It's a standard arrangement till Charles decides to breach the trust between them. His interest in a very and feelings for wife ar sure up in a additional recognizably twentieth-century understanding of attraction. With Sarah's refusal to abide by convention, Charles is drawn into thinking of girls and his own position with additional self-reflection than he has antecedent had to. Wife is in a position to fire up inside him associate intense need for the unknown, for the proper freedom embodied in her life. Ernestina involves represent the Victorian era and wife is that the new lady of the forthcoming next century.

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### **The characterization of Mrs. Poulteney and what she represents.**

Mrs. Poulteney is that the arch villain of the novel and is delineated as almost like a Gestapo agent. She is while not mercy in her treatment of her staff and her cruelty is bolstered by the conventions of her society. This can be as a result of these conventions adheres to strict category hierarchies and a insincere understanding of Christian values. This can be most clearly exposed in her need to 'buy' a positive judgment from God once she reaches the pearly gates. This payment comes once she employs Sarah as a companion; though this can be conjointly for the superficial reason of showing her like

acquaintances that she is charitable. Her character represents varieties that seem typically in Victorian novels; she is that the kind of person who the author's social criticism was oftentimes directed towards. Mrs. Poulteney is sanctimonious and quite malicious. Though she professes to be an honest and ethical Christian, she possesses few Christian virtues. Instead, she believes herself as superior to somebody like Sarah, whose sins, real or notional, haven't crooked her nature into a parody of morality. Her character is drawn from comedy and is on purpose created one-dimensional with no saving graces. She is additionally a thinkable construction as she embodies the hypocrisies of the negative aspects of the historic period.

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### **The result of the insertion of the author as a personality.**

By inserting the author as a personality in an exceedingly work of fiction, the realist narrative is deconstructed. This look of the twentieth-century Fowles during an exceedingly in a very nineteenth-century landscape has an antagonistic result on the readers because it illustrates that this can be a piece of fiction, instead of an effort to repeat life realistically. The author within the novel makes this a piece of met fiction because it becomes a unique that discussions the fiction-making method and could be a postmodernist device that ensures the readers bear in mind that this can be a fiction not a documentary.

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### **The employment of two endings and therefore the effects these might wear the readers.**

With the insertion of the author and therefore the news that he can toss a coin to make your mind up that ending comes 1st, the standard use of closure is over passed. By questioning the neat arrival of ends that is prevailing in texts of the amount once this novel is ready Fowles puts the likelihood of getting one, authoritative ending into doubt. The readers are also seen as being authorized by this selection of two totally different versions as no definitive ending is obligatory by the all-powerful author. Genre, that notoriously makes an attempt to collapse hierarchies and authority, is being invoked and place into observe. This questioning of closure may additionally mean that the readers are left stranded as they could became thus accustomed closure that it's become a naturalized belief that they must expect it. During this instance, the employment of 2 endings entails a questioning of however a unique 'should' be written. Fowles broadens the boundaries of however a unique might or might not be outlined.

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### **Think about Lyme Regis and Fossils as metaphors within the novel.**

The city Lyme Regis is employed because the central setting and involves represent provincial life. It epitomizes the twentieth-century read of the Victorian era too as during this tiny comparatively well-fixed place its denizens use gossip and rumour to regulate every other's behaviour. Sarah is ready to be the abject outcast here, instead of London or Exeter, because the ethical majority (as personified in Mrs. Poulteney) dominate the bourgeois landscape. Through Charles's amateur interest in grouping fossils, the narrative is ready to explore and demonstrate the split between science and faith. As befits his hobby, he has become progressively influenced by Darwinism and, consequently, queries the Christian religion he has been raised with. Charles, in turn, becomes a cipher for revealing doubts within the Church, God and authority. Additionally, he's conjointly compared to a fossil in Chapter forty three once he seems to possess determined finally that he can marry Ernestina and pay his life making an attempt to please her father. he's a relic from the past during this instance as he makes an attempt to evolve to the duty of meeting his obligations. If he goes through with this wedding, he will are swept on by history (and duty) and can become as dead and unmarked because the fossils he collects.

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### **The character of Dr. Grogan**

Dr. Grogan, a hearty Irish doc. he's a friendly man whom Charles finds to be a sympathetic auditor. Charles and Dr. Grogan believe that they, as enlightened rationalists, will perceive and solve Sarah's issues. though he feels compassionate Sarah Woodruff, in contrast to Charles, he cannot take her seriously. He tries to persuade Charles that she extremely is sick. He powerfully believes that Sarah is seriously disturbed, presumably on the verge of madness. His reasoning is ironic, considering the reputed severity of the ethical standards of the time. Dr. Grogan, like auntie Tranter, represents a sort of Victorian character UN agency appears a lot of understanding and fewer hampered by convention than most of the people. a part of the rationale for this can be that each of the older individuals truly belong to the generation before Victoria's, associate era somewhat less restrictive in bound respects.

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