

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Department of English

Supervisor's Recommendation

This is to certify that Mr Sanjaya Subedi with T.U. Reg. No. 9-1-48-2170-2006 has prepared his Master's thesis entitled "Parodic Intertextuality in Jean Rhys' *The Wide Sargasso Sea*" under my supervision, following the format as specified by the Research Committee of the Department of English, Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara. I, therefore, forward it to the Research Committee for final evaluation.

.....

Dr. Min Pun

Associate Professor

Department of English

Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara

Date: 2 June 2017

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Approval Sheet

The thesis entitled “Parodic Intertextuality in Jean Rhys’ *The Wide Sargasso Sea*” submitted to the Department of English Prithvi Nrarayan Campus, Pokhara by Mr. Sanjaya Subedi has been approved by the undersigned members of the Evaluation Committee.

Members of the Research Committee:

Supervisor

Expert

Head

Department of English

Prithvi Narayan Campus

Pokhara

Date: -----

Acknowledgements

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my teacher Dr. Min Pun, Associate Professor at the Department of English, Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara. This study would not have been possible without his continuous support, co-operation, kind response, and scholarly guidance. I am always grateful to Dr. Pun for sharing his valuable knowledge and skill to give a meaningful ending to this research work.

I am highly indebted to my friend, Arjun Paudel and brothers, Bholu Nath Adhikari and Udaya Subedi for their special contribution for my research work. I am equally grateful to Lecturer Hom Nath Sharma, at the Department of English, Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara, who provided guidelines and information during my research.

Date: 2 June 2017

Sanjaya Subedi

Table of Contents

Supervisor's Recommendation/i	
Approval Sheet/ ii	
Acknowledgements/ iii	
Table of Contents/i v	
Abstract/ v	
Chapter 1: Jean Rhys and Charlotte Bronte: the Authors under the Influence/ 1-9	
The Argument / 1	
The Context : Authors/ 3	
Review of Literature/ 5	
Outline of the Study/ 9	
Chapter 2: Parody, Intertextuality and the Postmodern Critics/ 10-19	
Postmodernism: The Concept/ 11	
Intertextuality: Reshaping the Text/ 12	
Parody: A Critical Confrontation with the Previous Work/ 17	
Chapter 3: Rhys' <i>The Wide Sargasso Sea</i> as a Parodistic Intertext to Bronte's <i>Jane Eyre</i> / 20-36	
Intertextuality and the Text/ 21	
Parodying <i>Jane Eyre</i> / 29	
Parody of Liberating Self/ 34	
Chapter 4: Rhys' <i>The Wide Sargasso Sea</i> : From Text to Intertext/ 37-40	
Works Cited	

Abstract

This thesis entitled “Parodic Intertextuality in Jean Rhys’ *The Wide Sargasso Sea* analyzes Rhys’ text with unique characteristics as a feminist intertext to Charlotte Bronte’s *Jane Eyre* that questions the assumptions of patriarchy from a woman’s point of view. Rhys’ novel is an intertext of Bronte’s novel. The narrative in Rhys’ novel is centered on Antoinette Cosway, the Bertha Mason of Bronte’s novel and this portrayal challenges patriarchal assumptions that constructed Bertha as a marginalized and insane Creole woman in Bronte’s novel. Drawing upon Kristeva’s theory of “Intertextuality,” this study explores how Rhys shapes her text by the influence of earlier writer Bronte’s text, by inheriting different levels of intertextual strategies like in characterization, setting, symbolism and theme. Hence, this study explores how Rhys’ novel shares some intertextual similarities with Bronte’s novel *by* employing parodical strategies to a particular process of reading.