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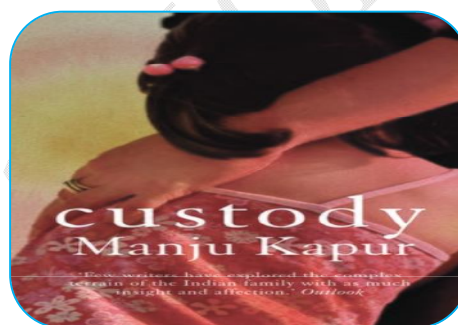
MANJU KAPUR'S *CUSTODY* : A DETAILED STUDY OF THE ABSENCE OF ATTACHMENT

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ABSTRACT:

Manju Kapur's fifth novel Custody (2011) is to a great extent set in the flourishing, upper-white collar class provinces of Delhi in the mid - 90s, against the background of the underlying flood of outside interest in India. Kapur's novel uncovers the unheard of vulnerabilities of marriage. The spouse's feeling of suffocation, the spouse's dread of forlornness and the consistent moving of the youngsters, similar to items, from one home to the next, are evoked with careful genuineness. In spite of the fact that marriage is well-trodden an area for Kapur, here her ownership of the subject is finished. Guardianship is a novel that is consistent with the general apprehension of present day marriage with its weight of independence. Authority by Manju Kapur is a phenomenal case of a broken marriage and its outcomes on kids who are played like pawns in a session of legitimate chess. The broke down family has isolated or separated from guardians where kids under the misrepresentation of legitimate rights and parental sense of self fights are transported ubetween those two people, who in the absolute in front of the rest of the competition should give them a glad, joyful and battled youth.



KEYWORDS: Disintegration, Family, Manju Kapur's *Custody*.

INTRODUCTION

Custody is a novel that is consistent with the all inclusive apprehension of present day marriage with its weight of independence. *Custody* by Manju Kapur is an incredible case of a broken marriage and its outcomes on youngsters who are played like pawns in a round of lawful chess. The crumbled family has isolated or separated from guardians where kids under the misrepresentation of lawful rights and parental self image

fights are carried between those two people, who in the absolute ahead of all comers were expected to give them an upbeat, lighthearted and fought youth. Care portrays the narrative of Raman and Shagun, a wedded couple with two youngsters, eight year old Arjun and multi year old Roohi, who delighted in a favored life. Before long Shagun meets Ashok Khanna, Raman's manager, and they promptly begin to look all starry eyed at. At the point when Raman finds their relationship,

Shagun needs to choose what she needs to do, or what she can do. She inquires Raman for a separation however he transforms into a vindictive individual. In another piece of Delhi is Ishita whose marriage breakdown since she can't have offspring of her own. She attempts to discover some fulfillment and a feeling of character in social work however she deserts it when she meets the separated Raman. Since she is attracted to him she trusts she can be cheerful as a stage

mother.

In the second 50% of the novel, the story centers around the care of the youngsters, the harsh fight in court and the cost of opportunity. Toward the start of the story we see Raman in his customary job of dad and spouse, of leader of the family who goes out to the world to battle and profit, who must be looked after when he returns home, yet in addition does not mind much for his very own significant other or kids. His expert profession is more critical than them. He is by all accounts hitched to his activity and friends. His folks could never address him. They expect that a lady's selfhood, status, decency and acknowledgment lie in wifehood what's more, parenthood. The family capacities as a creating also, duplicating unit. The spouse delivers and goes out into the general population circle and spouse offers life to kids and deals with them at home in the private circle.

In the midst of the requests of the four adults Raman, Shagun, Ashok and Ishita in this story of broken relational unions, the kids remain discreetly out of sight until the novel's second half. It is then that we start to see the shocking symptoms of the severe battle for their care, the oppression of blood and their injury, torn between two moms, two homes and two nations.

CAUSE FOR THE DETERIORATION :

The breaking down occurs in Care due to the extramarital undertaking of the parent, the in-laws treatment of a lady who can't consider and the changing child rearing situation in white collar class Indian homes. Shagun, the green-peered toward wonderful spouse of Raman, begins to look all starry eyed with his magnetic, attractive manager Ashok Khanna, who has never been infatuated and is resolved to have the lady he presently cherishes. It doesn't make a difference to him how however he approaches vanquishing Shagun's brain, body, and soul like a prepared, influential advertiser. He speaks to everything that a lady of today would discover hard to stand up to. The pace of the story picks up energy as their undertaking progresses toward becoming progressively red hot, brave and energetic. Shagun has no second thoughts about deceiving her significant other or to her very own mom. The degree of her childishness and capacity to be savage is noticeable in the decisions she makes. For instance, she abandons her children with her mother to go off for end of the week trysts with her newly discovered darling. However she persuades herself all the time that she is a given mother to her kids. She goes to all lengths to mentally condition her kids against their very own dad, realizing that this would be use to arrange her terms of separation when it is at last time. The story skirts out nearest to the general public's conventional standards also, traditions. Manju Kapur shows her characteristic dimension of specifying with small social perceptions, for example, how Shagun's mom does her best to urge her to stay reliable to her significant other and in countering Shagun undermines to totally quit trusting in her mom if this is the manner by which she is going to favor one side. It is clear that conjugal life in India is quick crumbling and being molded by remote components for example, additional conjugal issues, materialistic interests, etc.

As a parallel story, the plot swerves to inconveniences of Ishita, who is the girl of Raman's mom's companion and neighbour. Mirroring the grim marriage situation that wins in most white collar class Indian families, Ishita's issues start when she can't consider. Her relative and sister-in-law who hovered over her and went about just as they were all dear companions changed medium-term when they understand that Ishita is restoratively articulated as unfit to have kids.

The Mindset of Family :

Without being judgmental or sermonizing, Kapur passes on the regular white collar class mindset of Indian families, especially in handling circumstances like this. The well-weave story uncovers the layers of earth that are holed up behind the glad family disorder among white collar class families. A precedent: Ishita's relative has itemized discourses with the specialist to delve profound into understanding the therapeutic reason for this condition. Everybody's interest is satisfied when the specialist clears up that it is Ishita's blame and this happened on the grounds that she had gotten a sickness in youth that had harmed her framework. In Ishita's story there is not all that much yet what is obviously missing is her in-laws absence of compassion or comprehension to the young lady who could

have been viewed as girl rather than girl in-law. Furthermore, in this manner, Ishita's significant other who had announced endless love to her turns into the faithful child to his folks. The chilliness, the coldblooded lack of concern and at last the dismissal of a spouse exclusively in light of the fact that she can't hold up under a tyke is depicted in a tragic manner. Indeed, even local pets are dealt with superior to a girl in law in some Indian families. A separated, socially disengaged Ishita finds the fearlessness to volunteer and show underprivileged kids. She adores kids and they cherish her back. Bit by bit, she finds trust all the while, her own feeling of independence.

In the second endeavor Ishita weds Raman and subsequently returns to the status so inconsiderately grabbed from her, the status of wifehood and parenthood which supplies her with authenticity. Her marriage to Raman lifts her to her spouse's social position. Ishita's association to Raman enables her and gives her solidarity to battle for the family's basic focus on: the care of his kids. A few ladies like Ishita, Raman's second spouse, might be completely fulfilled being watchmen of her family. Yet, Shagun's soul, similar to that of such a significant number of other ladies, is unique. She has never been ready to direct her life. Everything has been chosen by her guardians, family and social traditions.

The Impact of Deterioration on Youngsters :

In Kapur's novel the youngsters turn into the family's material stakes. Ishita persuades her significant other to control occasions imagine lies over Roohi's disease. She practices control over the little youngster by instructing her what she needs to state in court in request to win the care of the young lady. Their legal advisor, a companion of the family does not restrict to Ishita and Raman. Their corrupt conduct without a doubt shows that the more the individuals from a standardizing man centric family limits themselves to its social interior structures to look after power over others and have control of their assets the more they transgress morals and law based laws. Increasingly thankful was the knowledge into the troublesome circumstance separate from puts the youngsters in. Through Arjun and Roohi we are indicated how an ideal youth can get failed and how the overseers inner selves and their own wants can take a device on the blameless people. The absolute most well sections were those including the children and how the grown-up's fiddling with their psyche can't just pressure them yet too leave a enduring impression that in the end make them into grown-ups with vexed feelings. Ishita can't rule the kid who is more seasoned and prepared to do recognizing her unscrupulous conduct, however she can control the young lady, Roohi, to whom she gives another name, Roopi. This new name speaks to that the tyke is hers and not Shagun's. To a specific degree the perusers feel empathy for the infertile Ishita who still experiences the memories of her past disappointments and social shunning. As she is under society's consistent supervision she needs to show to herself and to the others that she is a decent adoring mother for Roohi. Ensnared in such choking out family, her self absorbed love compels her to break whatever democratic ethical agreements set. As a victim of the norms of patriarchal normative households, Ishita turns into the worst oppressor: She never speaks to Shagun; nor does she make the effort to understand her as a mother and woman who also wants to be happy.

Roohi's custody constitutes Ishita's last chance to cure her past frustrations and be accepted as a good mother and exemplary wife among those dictate or abide by patriarchal socio- cultural norms.

The Custody of Children :

While the parents are embroiled in a legal battle for custody of the children, they do everything they can to make the children feel worse. Their son is a replica of Shagun's selfish, cruel and indifferent to anything but his own satisfaction and their daughter is a miniature of Raman, who is very loving, understanding and generous. The children find their own ways to tackle the crisis because they are confused and feel divided loyalties swarm around them, throwing them into tough, emotionally disturbing situations with their parents. And for any child, having to choose between parents is the toughest and most emotionally devastating thing to contend with. Their lives are catapulted and crushed by the ever slow, grinding wheels of the rigid legal system in India. This is when the quiet, reliable cousin Nandan steps in to help Raman who is totally clueless about how the legal system works

in India. Worst of all, he begins to realize that marriage to Shagun whom he had loved blindly had been a big mistake, one for which his children too would pay a heavy price. Who will get custody of the kids?- that becomes the question for Raman and Shagun. Their legal battle turns inevitably ugly.

Throughout the novel, a true story of modern marriage that exists around us. This is true in today's world. The book highlights the voice of the children and sheds light on their situation when parents are replaced by lawyers and lovers. It is story of marriage that disintegrates and intertwines with cruel and heart-rending consequences. Once lovers and companions, husband and wife become enemies locked in an ugly legal battle over their two children. Manju Kapur is known to write books on women centered themes takes on end of long term marriage, divorce and the subsequent custody battle. She shows how a modern house wife can think of not wanting to stay in a relationship and look for liberation and happiness outside her home and even that did not make one wants to hate her for her choices. Achieving this balance is art and Custody did that.

CONCLUSION :

Kapur's novel reveals not only of the disintegration in the family but also the life of women, their struggle for basic rights, quest for identity and survival. She portrays how women are suffering from economic and socio-cultural disadvantages in the male governed society. They have been deprived of their basic rights, their aspirations to their individuality and self-reliance. *Custody* is the riveting story of how family-love can disintegrate into an obsession to possess children, body and soul, as well as a chilling critique of the Indian judicial system. The story represents an emerging group of young, successful, educated Indians who can choose the direction of their destiny so easily no matter what the underlying moral implications are like. Kapur's narrative in *Custody* deals with the marriages that collapse, social hypocrisies and battles for children that intertwine with anguish and conflict in order to depict a worldwide reality of politics of possessiveness and unequal power relations in normative patriarchal families which is a site for constraint, oppression, violence, possessiveness and disintegration.

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