

Rethinking Craft : Colonialism, Postcolonialism & Decolonialism



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**CROSS-CULTURAL CONFLICT IN ANITA DESAI'S
BYE BYE BLACKBIRD**

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Anita Desai is a reputed Indo Anglican woman novelist. In her novels the focus is on the inner climate. They deal with the cultural displacement of the protagonists. Her protagonists are acutely aware of their nothingness in the modern set up. They feel that they are not worth anything in society. Their sense of futility is extremely appalling.

Desai's 'Bye Bye Blackbird' is a fine novel. It presents the theme of cross-cultural conflict. It is a study of human relationships. This third novel of Desai deals with the travels of Indian immigrants in England. It describes the emotional trauma and disturbances experienced by Indian immigrants in England.

The major theme of 'Bye Bye Blackbird' is alienation. All the three major characters- Dev, Sarah and Adit suffer from alienation. Dev is a young man who comes to London to study economics. He stays there with Adit and Sarah. He is not happy to see the humiliation of Indians at the hands of Britishers. Due to this he begins to suffer from alienation. Adit shows that he loves England too much. In fact, this show shows his mental agony. Actually he is suffering from his suppressed love for India. He always remained an alien. Sarah also feels alienated. As she has married an Indian, she is cut off from her English social circle



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