

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION

Exile has become the greatest issue in this thesis. Exile is predicated on the existence of, love for, and a real bond with one's native place; the universal truth of exile is not that one has lost that love or home, but that is inherent in each as an unexpected and unwelcome loss (Said 36). Both the main male character and Antoinette undergo such physical, cultural, as well as mental exile.

There is a difference between a fallen tree and a fallen human being. The tree is powerless, the life-giving sap has run away; its doom and decay will destroy it in time. An uprooted human being may be equally powerless, but he is conscious of his fate and will struggle against his disintegration as far as his strength permits. A nervous sensitiveness will remain, even in such fortunate individual as those who were able to take root in the new soil. An experience of such traumatic severity leaves physical and mental marks, which are indelible.

Antoinette's disillusionment in her relationship with her mother and husband, her lack of strong connection with Christophine and Tia, and her inability to be completely understood by either the white culture or the black culture leaves her as a woman without an identity driven into madness. Rhys' depiction of the effect of colonialism in the West Indies is a dark one. Antoinette's life is a picture of heartbreak, destruction and insanity, in which there can be no 'in betweenness'.

Rhys evokes, both dramatically and sensually, the cultural barrier between English and Jamaican communities in this book. It is an ensuing struggle of wills between Creole heiress and her dominating English husband. The struggle is as much about the conflict between two opposing 'realism', however, as about that between two incompatible personalities. And each reality is multifaceted, increasing the complexity of the struggle. To be together must follow one another in the smallest details although they need not to be like one another. This is what the main male character and Antoinette fail to do although in a way they are each other's double.

The main male character forces Antoinette to become the double of her mother. He assumes that the mother's madness must inevitably be passed on to the daughter. He also consistently attempts to impose his own view onto Antoinette: 'Reality might disconcert her, bewildered her, hurt her' (Rhys 94). This is the reason of his over protection to Antoinette. The main male character here is the outsider in an alien culture and community, and it is his ideology and perception that are at odds with the dominant world-view. And yet he is able to gain power over Antoinette herself and her entire money. His lust has driven him to do so. He has used his charm to bewitch Antoinette sexually until she cannot get over it.

The main male character, somehow, is also a victim at first and still the victim in the end. He is the victim of patriarchy created by his English society and also the one that he creates himself over Antoinette. The money that he gains from the kinship patriarchal power and his strong determined lust finally destroys himself and turns him into a villain.

Antoinette as a woman is defined as a victim of the colonial process (Mohanty 127). Furthermore, Mohanty explains that women as a group are positioned within a given structure, but there is no attempt made to trace the effect of the marriage practice in constituting women within an obviously changing network of power relation (180). Thus, women are sexually political subjects prior to entry into kinship structures.

Foucault is able to disclose the operation of power in and through the naturalized microstructures of everyday life, such as marriage and the sexual activities in it. Sexuality is one of the most practical, best manoeuvres, successful strategies to get some power. Sexuality creates certain kinship system, which is closely related to the economic system, because of its function to control and circulate the family wealth (Foucault 133). Aside from the previous function of sex, body sensation is the most important to the quality of pleasure gained in sexual intercourse in a legal marriage bond.

## **WORKS CITED**