

Revealing Corruption through Strategic Narration in Mandla Langa's Memory of Stones (2000)

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Abstract : This article demonstrates how corruption is revealed in Mandla Langa's *Memory of Stones* (2000) through the deployment of narrational strategies by applying narrative theories by Gerard Genette's *Narrative Discourse* and *Narrative Discourse Revisited*, as well as Mikhail Bakhtin's *Dialogic Imagination* to the text. This is accomplished by analysing Langa's use of extradiegetic-heterodiegetic and intradiegetic-homodiegetic narrational strategies respectively employed by the anonymous narrator and character narrator Mpanza. The narration provided by these narrators is multi-voiced in its approach to the events depicting corruption from various completing and explanatory perspectives. In addition, Langa also employs narrative techniques of narrating times such as simultaneous, subsequent, and interpolated narration to highlight corruption taking place, which is highlighted by situating the story in its presentness moments coinciding with the corruption action. As a result, by emphasising the events portraying the plight of the main characters and their struggle to resist and defeat corrupt leaders, the narration strategically reveals corruption.

Keywords : narrational strategies, narrating voice, dialogism, corruption, Gérard Genette, Mandla Langa, Mikhail Bakhtin, time(s) of the narration

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