

Bodies in Transit: The African Woman and Migration Ordeals

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Abstract : The us/other relationship between the colonizer and the colonized, which continues to inform the oppression of Africans and highlights the intersectional oppression of postcolonial African women because of the colonialization of the identity of African women, inspired this poem. It reflects 'the body' and the 'embodied' as it journeys through the constructed distance between the white feminine body and colonized bodies in the context of travel. Through vivid imagery, repetition, and powerful language, this poem analyzes the effect of otherness on African women as they struggle with their internalized otherness and a poor sense of belonging, which hinges on the politics of difference which makes it impossible to complement the sameness of another within the liminal space of transition. This poem examines the discourse on the complexities of migration for the African woman by critically examining bodies, space, mobility, and how they interact. Our focus is on their relationship and how it affects African women's place and pace when moving to and through the First World. Through literary and feminist perspectives, this study aims to represent the portrait of the African woman and to decolonize the concept of border. It seeks to address the uniqueness of the African woman's body, not as the same or different, but as distinct and wholesome to foster fairness, friendship, belonging, and equity in travel. To develop our argument and to establish our findings, we look at the dynamics of the oppression of the postcolonial African woman's body and her resistance.

Keywords : body, identity, African woman, decolonization

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