

Women: Issue of Feminism

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Louise Bogan is a successful writer of various poems such as "Women". She was born August 11, 1897, in Maine and died in 1970. She married Danile at the age of seventeen against her parents' wishes. Mary soon felt that Daniel lacked the excitement and passion she needed. Therefore, she returned to her mother's house again. Then she went Mount St. Mary's Academy, where she first learned the social complexities of her Irish middle class background. In 1908, her parents removed her from school. In 1909-10 she first began to write poetry and by 1911 she began publishing poems in magazine. Her early poems shows a strictness in rhythm. In 1931, she begins her career as poetry editor for 38 years. Through irony Bogan wrote "Women" to support the issue of feminism.

Her personal female experience is also reflected in a voice that recalls the strength and irony because in this poem she states things about women she obviously does not believe. Because she was already dealing with unstable relationships, she experienced the emotional disturbance and the loneliness necessary to survive and fight to the

modern world. Her creation of lines and words is able to establish a good emotion. "They wait, no man is friend" (3rd stanza); in this section, her poems "women" present a strong senses of humor that are able to invade into human heart easily.

"They are provident instead" (line 2) and "They use against themselves" (line 11). In these lines, Bogan is explaining women situation to the outside world because they have to compromise and have to be dominated in the men world. "They stiffen, when they should bend" (line 10) reflects another view. It means women do not know how to adjust their meaning for their betterment or they don't know how to deal their life in the human society. "To which no man is friends" (line 12) shows that Bogan also knows the importance of men in women life because she feels that the man is important for women.

The voice of Bogan poetry is visible and mature. Observing her biography and reading the poem "Women", her poetry skill came in connection with her later, painful years. "Their love ... too lax (line 15-16)." Here,

she is defining the love in the ground of its realistic meaning. Love, meaninglessness and tense, or lax, means that love is connected with her personal life. In the poet "Women," the sentence structure she uses is also a style of typical enjambment; for example: every first and third sentences of each stanza is continuing into the next line. And she is using indirect rhyme; for example: "instead" and "bread", "hear" and "clear", "bend" and "friend", "axe" and "lax", and "cry" and "by". In this poem, the title word, "Women", is replaced with "they" and "them" several times so that there is not any literary symbol; rather, Bogan is using realistic imagery. There is also some paradox; for example, "to eat dusty bread," means women are consuming very poor facilities such as they must eat poor bread and they are not being paid preferences, at all. Because women need to share good food and facilities to man, her children, brother, sister but nobody, especially do not share good things to women.

While "Women" was written early in Bogan's career, it exemplifies her strength of combining the personal with the public. In doing so, she deals with the political issue of this irony is further

heightened through her use of traditional poetic images (such as "cell of their hearts", "red winter grass", and "Snow water going down under culverts."

"Women" is one of the best and controversial poems of Bogan's. Critics argue whether she is poking fun at women and their pettiness or whether she is disguising a harsher criticism of men."

The poet attempts to tell the truth about a woman's life in our society. It tells the true about compromising situation of women and especially assigned duties to a woman, different than responsibilities given to a man. This poem serves several purposes: first, it explains the situation of women, where women's problems are intertwined by women's herself; secondly, it exposes deep feelings emerging from the same women society who knows their problem more than other (basically men). In this sense, every stanzas of this poem is much like the functioning of media, where women's thoughts are emerging right in the center of the all-human society. This poem is also helping to promote the sources of the women's literature. Therefore, her work also depicts a good example of women's literature.

In the beginning of the poet, we encounter irony thoughts dedicated to feminism, and in ending of this poem we can understand women's effort to compromise to our society. This poem refers to a study of a women psychology related to women's duties and obstacles. Naturally, this poem is also reflects the positive and negative waves of the human society pouring to the women's life. Connection between the overall poem and the real women's life is appropriately constructed. So that the poem is fully successful to explain one women's heartbeat in a realistic imagery way as if this poem is trying to appeal something to the society in a rhythmic way. Personally, Bogan also wanted to maintain a healthy mentality in the literature world.