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## Character Analysis - 'STREE' From The Play 'Sari Raat'

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### **Abstract:**

It is about a woman and a man married 7 years ago now land at an unknown place. The woman, though leading a married life, always dreams of an ideal husband. She names him Ranjan. She, however, finds solace in meeting an old man, finds him close to her choice, but much to the chagrin of her husband. The play depicts their state of mind, dotted with suspense.

**Keywords:** Play, Women, Sari Raat, Badal Sarkar, Relationships.

**Introduction:** It is highly needed for an actor to understand the character before building it. Once built, I think it is important to analyze the process as well. For this, one has to analyze the character properly for a justified performance. What I have experienced, analyzed about the character is that this character is extremely difficult but very interesting. I have written in detail about various shades of this character in this paper.

The play Saari Raat is originally written by renowned playwright Badal Sarkar and translated in Hindi by Dr. Pratibha Agrawal. As I have performed this play and played the major character of the 'woman', I have my own analysis of this particular character. To understand the character and to analyze it is always a difficult task for any actor. According to my experience, any script definitely provides only the information of every character but as an actor one has to think again and again about the life of the character which is NOT mentioned in the script.

While preparing the character of a woman from the play, I have found her as an extremely strong woman, who can express herself through her minute action also. She is married to a man who works in the government sector, married for seven years. The age gap between the couple is seven years and the recitation of table of 7 and the theory mentioned by the old man about number 7 indicate that somewhere it may be based on the 7 year itch concept or somewhere we can relate the same.

She is a working woman of age 28 living in Kolkata, since the writer has mentioned her as a working woman who does not work only for money but for herself and more important for her happiness. As the couple enters at that place she thinks the place as 'mysterious', whereas the man (husband) indicates the place as 'Godown', from this very beginning the writer has given the viewer direction of thinking about her.

She is dissatisfied with her life and is always thinking about happiness which is missing in her life. As the Story goes ahead she finds little interest in the old man because

his interest somewhere matches with her. Interest for poetry, sleepless nights, deep and intense thought processes are all various shades of her personality. She is in a dilemma about whether to be with her husband with no happiness or to leave him with no peace in her life maybe. She is joyful when she expresses her emotional world. She is talkative, brilliant, confident and beautiful. All the qualities make her superior to her husband, according to my view. She loves to explore nature which again refers to the sensitive side, the emotional connection she has with her thoughts. Her intelligence comes forward when she interrogates the old man about his real age.

During the final discussion between the old man and the woman about happiness and peace she demands for happiness and inspire she knows that happiness will ruin her peace, she chooses happiness! This shows that she believes every pure woman must be happy inner way to live happily outer way, which is missing in many marriages. We can see her strong move towards the old man and the way she denies that she has done anything wrong is just so real and pure.

Any female character of the play written in those times which strongly supports her own thoughts in spite of the truth that there will be no acceptance is itself a very strong literary value of the drama.

Her strong expression of thoughts towards husband, the conversation between the couple indicates her clarity of thoughts as how she is expecting a partner who communicates, listens who loves, not just completes his duties and just lives a very stereotypical and mechanical life.

I think the woman from this play is very much same as today's woman. Ahead of the time described and especially the character of woman has that strong emotions which are hidden in every woman but due to the societal pressure and traditional Indian marriage system women don't even realize that their happiness is completely a different concept and which is very important. There is a thin line in the script about extra marital relationships and marriage but as a story goes ahead and when we realize its depth, we understand that the woman is not interested in extra marital relationships, misleading the women in society because this whole story is based on imaginary world, between her conscious world and subconscious world, her thoughts lasts a complete night and the title goes as Saari Raat!!

**Conclusion:** Sari Raat is such a literature which may be miss interpret by many people. The two male characters used by the playwright are metaphor used for two different thoughts of a woman. In my opinion, one should not be judgemental about married women but one must take this very seriously that she has her own ideology about her happiness in her life!

**Reference:** Book (Saari Raat - Script) published by Vidya prakashan mandir, New-Delhi 110002