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The Lover of Marguerite Duras: Dolorous Story of the Formation of Subjectivity

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Article Info	Extended Abstract
<p>Article type: Research Article</p> <p>Article history: Received: 28 August 2022 Received in revised form: 07 March 2023 Accepted: 18 March 2024 Published online: Summer 2024</p> <p>Keywords: Abjection, Chora, motherhood, Julia Kristeva, Marguerite Duras, The lover.</p>	<p>Myth is a foundation of human culture and life in primitive societies, where it was considered absolute, real, sacred and repeatable truth. In the present world, the modern man considers his story as a part of the story of creation and tries to distance himself from the unholy mortal time and enter the holy time by imitating the deeds of God or a mythological hero in his rituals or retelling them in his stories in the form of symbols and mythological patterns. Among the theorists and researchers in the field of mythology, Mircea Eliade has investigated the relationship between myth and religion as well as the religious functions of myth. In his literary works, he has also tried to decipher myths and religious phenomena. Among his short stories, "A Great Man" (1945) is remarkable from this point of view. The present study carries out a content analysis of "A Great Man" based on Eliade's hermeneutic views about the relationship between religion and myth, creation myth, and mythological symbols. This reading will be helpful in better understanding Eliade's views and identifying universal currents in literary and cultural studies. Mircea Eliade sets the sacred time against the unholy time. The sacred time has structure, whereas unholy time is unstructured and disorganized. By repeating mythological acts in rituals and ceremonies, the modern man leaves the worldly historical time and enters the sacred time. Entering this time zone is similar to entering eternity, which is the prelude to re-creation, rebirth, and the return to the mythical time of the Lost Heaven. The holy matter is manifested in the holy place, which is a copy of the universe, such as the temple, which is considered the center of the world. "A Great Man" is an allegorical example in which Eliade recounts his views about the epochal time in mythological narratives. Understanding this story depends on the awareness of the multiple meanings of the symbols hidden in it. The main character leaves his home and stays in the mountain. He experiences a symbolic ascent. By abandoning historical time and the unholy place and settling in the center of the universe, he undergoes the ritual of initiation and secret learning. Upon entering the sacred and eternal time, he becomes heavenly. This entry is a way of returning to the beginning of oneself and re-creation. After his symbolic death, rebirth, and resurrection, he attains wisdom and insight.</p>

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