

# Marriage

Literature



**ASSIGN  
BUSTER**

Marriage Gregory Corso is one of the key beat poets who has effectively addressed the issue of marriage in an explicit manner. Though he may not be a cultural icon, his poems question and reconstruct several notions about masculinity. In the poem “ Marriage”, from the 1960 volume ‘ The Happy Birthday of Death’, he has addressed a very strong desire for spiritual union and love. The poet feels that marriage is meant for social confinement and construction.

In the poem, humor and sociology is blended. For instance, the poem starts with the lines “ should I get married? Should I be good? /astound the girl next door with my velvet and suit and faustus hood?”(Corso 61). Furthermore, the poem struggles to unravel the notion that through marriage, some set of behavior is brought out and some attachments which are uniform as opposed to the revelatory and exploratory in terms of selfhood.

Furthermore, marriage is depicted as disillusionment in many family set up. That is, the married have found it difficult to live harmoniously. Through the unique society of the poet, marriage has been faced with many conflicts. This is fostered by the uniqueness and individuality of people in his generation. In the poem, the poet explores the courtship procedure and the forms of matrimonial state. He alludes to the existence of a class society. He criticizes the popular culture as it has many stereotypes about marriage. The poet is forced to wait for 2, 000 years to find a woman who can incorporate his culture in terms of intellectual, interpersonal relationship and satisfy him sexually (Corso 61). Thus, the poet is against the conventional marriage.

In another poem, “ Dady” by Sylvia Plath, is a personal poem that deals with a relationship between a father and his daughter. This is an example of allegory of final rebellion and female submission in a patriarchal world. The <https://assignbuster.com/marriage/>

poem blames marriage for imperialism and wars in the modern world. This is because; most women have been brutally treated and marginalized in the families.

The poem shows the real power of patriarchy which makes women internalize their internal ideologies. Thus, women deviate from the normal natural order in the world. The poet refers to this as sado-masochistic images. “ The boot in the face/and a love of the rack and the screw” (Plath 121). The poem constructs that women are responsible for their submission. Despite the true picture of women, the poet critically uses this as a tool to criticize this act.

In marriage, women are constructed just like children. “ You stand at the blackboard, daddy”. Thus, men have the responsibility of instructing them as they are depicted as all knowing. Men are omniscient and rational while women are emotional and fragile “ bit my pretty re heart in two”, and they may attempt suicide when they face any loss. However, the persona feels that these relationships are unjust and acknowledges that the figure of teacher-father is evil. Thus, he merges the father to the teacher and compares them to a vampire. “ The vampire who said he was you/and drank my blood for a year” (Plath 122). Therefore, the men in this poem should be killed ritually to allow the female some freedom.

Therefore, marriage is vital in any society despite the various criticisms brought out about it. There are several themes that are brought out in marriage like brutality and submission.

#### Works Cited

Corso, Gregory. *The Happy Birthday of Death*. New York: New Directions,

1960. Print.

Plath, Sylvia. *The Collected Poems*. New York: Harper Perennial, 1981. Print.