Song of solomon argumentative



Song of solomon argumentative – Paper Example

The book, Song of Solomon, is a story about a hero – a black(African) man called Milkman Dead. The story talks about how Milkman discovered the history of his family, and his upbringing. In fact, Milkman's and his family's history reflect on the situation of all black people living in that society. " Flying" is an important facto in the story. The author, Toni Morrison, who is a black woman, explains many different styles of flying of different persons such as Milkman's grandfather, his father, his aunt, and his friend(s?). Black people view the " flying" as a dream.

They all want to fly. However, flying has different meanings to different people. The story began with a black man called Robert Smith jumping down the roof of a hospital. However, the author used a wonderful word " flying" instead of " jump". Robert Smith also saw death as flying since " Two days before the event was to take place he tacked a note on the door of his little yellow house: At 3: 00 p. m. on Wednesday the 18th of February, 1931, I will take off from Mercy and fly away on my own wings. Please forgive me. I love you all" (Morrison 3).

In fact, this " flying" meant death, but it also meant " escape" in this part. Black people did not want to face and deal with racial discrimination. According to " Song of Solomon", Robert Smith was a member of the group " Seven Days". " Seven Days" represents the days of a week. There were seven black men members on duty each day. Whenever there were some cases happened to a black man, woman, boy, or girl, that he/she was killed by a white person, " Seven Days" would kill a white person if the crime offender did not receive a reasonable punishment.

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The purpose of the action was to even out the numbers of people between the two races. Since Robert Smith could not kill innocent white people, he chose to fly (Morrison 154-156). In fact, he chose to kill himself so as to escape from the pressure of killing people. He did not want to kill any more people because he found that he could not change anything toward racial discrimination in the society even though he killed more people. He did not want to go on living as a killer since he would be no different to the white murderers who killed black people.

Milkman's father, Macon Dead II, was a black man who was "Flying" in the material. He was a rich man and he married the richest black doctor's daughter in a city of North Carolina. Even though he was a black man, he had the thinking and personality of a white man because he wanted to live like a white man and be in charge of the world as he did not want somebody to control his life. He tried to fly away from his racial roots – black people, poor black people, and the black slaves. He wanted to show that he was different from the black people, and he would do something to show the differences.

For example, "These ride that the family took on Sunday afternoons had become rituals and much too important for Macon to enjoy. For him it was a way to satisfy himself that he was indeed a successful man" (Morrison 31). He never stopped catching the rich in his life, such as he asked his son to steal his sister's gold. He said that, " Macon, get it and you can have half of it; go wherever you want. Get it. For both of us. Please get it, son. Get the gold"(Morrison 173). Milkman's friend Guitar Bains was a black man who lived in the bottom class of the society.

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He had a very different life comparing to Milkman's since he was a poor black man. His flying was shown as... He could not use the money or authority to change the world of black people, but he chose to join the " Seven Days" group to change the black people's world. He told Milkman that he joined " Seven Days" because he wanted to do something to help the black people. He tried to change the black people and their lives, " I told you. Numbers. Balance. Ratio. And the earth, the land" (Morrison 158), and " The earth is soggy with black people's blood. And before us Indian blood.

Nothing can cure them, and if it keeps on there won't be any of us left and there won't be any land for those who are left. So the numbers have to remain static" (Morrison 158). Milkman Dead III was a black man grew up in a rich family. His " flying" represented " freedom" as he could get what he really wanted. His upbringing environment made him lost interest in everything since he did not have any plan to live in this world. His only goal was to follow his father's lifestyle. He knew what he needed in the process of finding his family's history.

At the beginning, he disliked his family name, but he was glad to have his family name in the end. He learned about his family history through listening to songs and stories from Susan Ryan. His great-grandfather was a black man called Solomon. He could fly, and he brought his 21st son, Jack. However, he lost his son on the way home and left his wife on the ground while he was flying by himself. He flew back to Africa – the origins of black people. His son Jack married with an Indian woman and gave birth to Milkman's father, Macon Dead. This story describes the life of black people in America. They always dreamed of they could fly since they wanted to escape from the slavery system. At the end of the book, Toni Morrison said that, " for now he knew what Shalimar knew: If you surrendered to the air, you could ride it" (Morrison 337). It reflects that the author wants to return to the human's original purity. She uses Milkman's final " flying" to describe the flying of human souls. That is a free, with no restriction, flying.