

**A COMPARATIVE FEMINIST STUDY ON SELECTED PHILIPPINE LOVE STORIES
FROM 20TH TO 21ST CENTURY**

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An Undergraduate Thesis Presented to the Faculty of the Department of
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ABSTRACT

GAPUZ, LOVLEY DAWN T. Bachelor of Arts in Language and Literature, Department of English and Humanities, College of Arts and Sciences, Central Luzon State University, Science City of Muñoz, Nueva Ecija, Philippines. May 2017. **A COMPARATIVE FEMINIST STUDY ON SELECTED PHILIPPINE LOVE STORIES FROM 20TH TO 21ST CENTURY**

Adviser: SHARINA CARLA S. MERCULIO

The study sought to the significant women character portrayals among six slected love stories using Carol Gilligan's concept of Cultural Feminism focusing on their female essence, female nature, and female culture. The selected love stories from 20th century are Small Key by Paz Latorena, Midsummer by Manuel E. Arguilla, and Tanabata's Wife by Sinai Hamada, and the love stories The Dust Monster by Carl Javier, Love in the Cornhusks by Aida Rivera and A Normal Life by Reine Arcache Melvin are gathered from the 21st century.

Results showed that,

- (1) Women have varying personalities they did not choose but are biologically essential to them such as being caring, attractive, graceful, conservative, infertile, grateful, liberated, wife, mother, youth, homemaker, hardworking, traditional, enduring, and understanding.
- (2) That women are mostly characterized in love stories as homemaker, caring, attractive, wife, mother, and hardworking.
- (3) Graceful, conservative, youth/young, traditional, and enduring are the characteristics found on the love stories under 20th century that are not found on the love stories under 21st century;

- (4) However, Reve portrayed infertility and understanding, Tinay portrayed gratefulness, and the unnamed character portrayed as liberated which are the characteristics found on the love stories that are under 21st century and are not found on the selected 20th century love stories.
- (5) Women has recurring characteristics that either fall to be their celebration of their female essence, female nature or female culture.
- (6) Women's roles in each love stories contributed to what kind of women they are in terms of Carol Gilligan's concept of Cultural Feminism. Moreover, it implies knowledge on how women essentially, naturally, and culturally celebrate their femininity that clears the idea of discrimination and oppression.

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