

Available online at <http://www.ijims.com>

ISSN: 2348 – 0343

How long a female has to run to achieve her dreams.- questioning the feminism in the film “How old are you”

Nusaiba. P

Palekkodan House, Mangattupulam, Kodur. P O ,Malappuram, Kerala, India

Abstract

Roshan Andrews in his film ‘How old are you’ takes as long on woman’s quest to unearth her long buried identity Nirupama Rajeev is an upper division clerk in the revenue department. Her life comes to a standstill when she becomes a stumbling block in the dreams her family in migrating to Ireland .she left alone, from here onwards she dreams and runs to have it fulfilled This paper tries to analyses a woman’s struggle to own a dream and hurdles that she has to face in a patriarchial family relationship in her venture to reach the goal

Keywords: identity, stumbling blocks, dreams, patriarchial

Introduction

‘The How old are you’ written by Bobby and Sanjay two of Kerala’s highest paid scriptwriters directed by Roshan Andrews the come back vehicle of Manju Warriar after 14 years gap tells the story of a women who faces a personal crisis. Nirupama Rajeev an UD clerk in the revenue department finds herself face is face with almost every situation than an average Malayali women of her age goes approaching from middle age of forty her inability to rise up to her daughters expectations and the discomfiture of her husband being mistaken for her younger brother. The film tries to bring out a women’s quest to unearth her long buried identity ‘who puts the expiry date on women’s dream?’ it is one of the pertinent questions that ‘how old are you’ asks Nirupama an old firebrand during her college days now spends a mundane life in between office and home with nothing exceptional to do than to being her household chores she tries hard to becomes A good mother and wife to her school going girl child and her husband Rajeev Narayan (Kunchakko Boban) an announcer with AIR The movie opens with an interview of an Irish firm which Nirupama fails because she has just turned over age at 36 her life comes to a stumbling block in her husband Rajeev dream of migrating to Ireland with lachu, (amritha anil) their daughter.

The regular boring routine coupled with the dejection that she faces from her husband and child wounds her identity but she stay with them for the well being of her family. She is pictured as an ignorant lazy character in the beginning of the film as late comer who usually committing blunders in her ten years clerical experience now faces the threat of expulsion from the office superintend, An huge pile of files has been dumped on her table covering almost her face from others she becomes a butt of joke in front of others for her ignorance’s. She tries to cover it but fails pathetically she repeatedly says to her daughter that once she got high scores in her academic records and her autograph lines says that she was a fire brand in her early days What brought this easy revolutionary heroine into an idle home make and clerk is a matter of questions .Now she is not concerned about her surroundings and world than lachu’s school fee, market rate of the vegetable and so But Rajeev always hopes for a better life with better living conditions including a ‘better life partner’ who does not make him much boring He with lachu always blames her for not having a dream of her own They are unaware that she has sacrificed her dream for their well being She is entitled as boring wife and mother by them her mother in law’s role played by Kalarajini also duplicates Nirupama’s attitude of life ,with committing blunders in silly matters and much

consciously including in progress of TV serials Though Nirupama appears to be idle and rude in the office ,she is very much lovable and caring in her family atmosphere The constant blames from the part of her family made her less confident She is not aware of anything else that comes beyond her family she is not aware of the fact that honourable Indian President is visiting Lachu's school She confined herself in the familial bonds. One day Nirupama gets an invitation from the President of India for a breakfast meeting as her daughter impressed him during an interaction, though Lachu is reluctant to disclose the question that belong to her mother. Nirupama gets maximum media coverage and starts to enjoy it but faints in front of the President, which brought a lot of humiliation and jokes from all around and in social networking sites the rest of the film is devoted to the resurrection of Nirupama almost in a fault manner the face book comments and ridicule added fuel to fire in her family life .Rajiv and Lachu moves to Freeland .or rather escapes from Nirupama with the intention of Rajeev that he don't want Lachu to be Nirupama .Her familial affections in departing her daughter didn't succeed . Now Nirupama is left with her own time and space .Susan David (Kaniha) her college mate tries to convince Nirupama's revolutionary college days, opposing unjustified strikes and protesting to get better amenities .An accidental opportunity came in the form of order for fresh organic vegetables in her terrace for a marriage feast from a renounced business man (Deven) made her to locate her dream with a group of so Called "dreamless" women. She plans her dream of planting organic vegetation on the terrace .her passion for her new found dreams plays a significant role in all her activities .her new revolution proceeds with the applause of minister in her excellent presentation on the harm of pesticide and need of organic vegetables . Rajeev's surprise visit to take her from Ireland brings the fire and fury in her .that has been buried inside her. She is on the brim of her passion and her goal is within the reach. She does not want to replace her passion for the sake of a "cook in need" at Ireland. she rejects the Ireland offer for her daughter, to answer that concealed question "who put an expiry date of a woman's dream?" .the man in the patriarchal society, rules both home and society .seals women's dream with red band Only few if able to break it and fulfill their dreams .She is destined to act as a scaffold in building the aims and dreams of her family, here she tries to postpone or kill her dream with a call from her daughter for assistance. Things changed dramatically when her project with or vision and passion got a countrywide approval she meets The president For the second time as an answer to that particular question that she was once unwar of .The film ends with the happy reunion of the family with the a successful wife the and mother .She proclaims that age is not a matter in the way of success .The viewers were in a confusion ,whether her reunion with the family is a success or her new appointment as a brand Ambassador of her dream project for countrywide organic vegetation from The Indian President. Each and every success of a female is entitled her back to her family even though she attains it without of or fighting against it. The film might not get this much applause if it doesn't end in this way .Nirupama starts from her family and at last reaches back to it titled with "happily settled" thus the film is listed into a traditional one with new coloured feminist labels , such as old wain in a new bottle We too expects such fine endings .Rajeev's character stands stable with his own complaints that his wise is not changing The adjustments and changes should be supposed or aught to be from the part of wife .she should change her dreams and aspirations for the sake of husband and family

Conclusion

The film presents an excellent, stunning acting from the part of Manju Warriar and Kunchakko Bobben assisted by the magnificent performance by other co-artists.

Reference

1. En.wikipedia.org/wiki/how old are you
2. www.wikipedia.com