

The Quest for Self-Identity Crisis in Bharathi Mukherjee's 'The Tiger's Daughter'

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Bharathi Mukherjee's *The Tiger's Daughter* intricately examines the theme of identity crisis within the context of immigration and cultural dislocation. This article delves into the complexities of the protagonist Dimple's journey as she navigates the tension between her Indian heritage and her life in America. By employing a feminist lens, it explores the psychological ramifications of cultural alienation, the negotiation of multiple identities, and the impact of societal expectations on the individual psyche. Ultimately, this study positions Mukherjee's work as a vital exploration of the contemporary immigrant experience, highlighting the enduring struggles for self-identification in an increasingly globalized world.

Dimple's journey embodies the challenges faced by immigrants as they grapple with the loss of cultural anchors and the pressure to conform to new societal norms. Through a close reading of the text, this analysis examines how Mukherjee employs rich symbolism and vivid imagery to depict Dimple's internal conflicts, revealing the impact of societal expectations, gender roles, and familial obligations on her quest for self-discovery.

The paper argues that Mukherjee's portrayal of identity crisis transcends personal struggles, reflecting broader societal issues related to diaspora and cultural hybridity. By engaging with themes of alienation, belonging, and the negotiation of multiple identities, this study positions *The Tiger's Daughter* as a critical text in understanding the psychological and emotional ramifications of living between cultures.

Ultimately, this presentation aims to illuminate the ongoing relevance of Mukherjee's work in contemporary discussions on identity, providing insights into the multifaceted experiences of individuals grappling with their place in an ever-changing world.

Keywords: Cultural Dislocation - Quest for Self-Identity - Cultural Heritage -Multiculturalism.