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### Relationships in Margaret Atwood's the Edible Woman

\*<sup>1</sup>Juhi Birla<sup>1</sup>Assistant Professor, Department of English, KMGPG College, Badalpur, Uttar Pradesh, India.

#### Abstract

Margaret Atwood explores radical realities in the relationships in her poetry and Novels. She depicts numerous colors of the life of her characters, in the relationship between men and women, and significant degree her insights into power patterns are shaped by an awareness of how people are competent by their society from childhood to hold one set of attitudes toward and another toward men. Margaret Atwood's characters men and women and their relationships reveal how this double standard has destructive consequences for both sexes, among them overpowering, denial and eventually atrophy of feeling, resulting in relationships governed not by love but by elusive power games which are characterized by insensitivity and ruthlessness and in which men hold the advantage.

Prize winner a versatile writer Margaret Atwood shows in her novel *The Edible Woman*, the clear picture of various real colors of social and political life. Where the protagonist of the novel Marian Mac Alpin conflicts g with her relations.

**Keywords:** Relationship, victim, consumerism

#### Introduction

Relationship is most important aspect of Atwood's novels. Her woman characters deals various relationships in her novels. Her woman character is so victim of society and Atwood deals then in vary different way. The relationship with friends, relationship with society, relationship with parents, and most importantly relationship of woman to another woman relationship depicts in her novels. She also deals relationship of women with food and eating.

Atwood shows the various relationships in her novels. Atwood woman character not only shows their relationship with their parents, friends and Man-woman relationship but also shows their relationship with their food habits. Atwood shows her woman character so liberal some times its sums real. In her novels she shows ups and downs of their relationships.

Margaret Atwood's first novel *The Edible Woman* (1969), is about a woman and their relationships to men, to society, and to food and eating. It is through food and eating that Atwood discusses a young woman's rebellion against of the novel Marian Mac-Alpin is a modern young smart educated girl and being modern she so frank with her thought and mind. Marian works in a company called Seymour Survey. Her relationship with Peter was no so good. Marian has a steady friendship with him. They see each other often and she sticks to him in spite of several ups and downs in their relationship. Marian lives in a double life, the were interesting of which is her psychic. Before the engagement her relationship with peter was so-so but after the engagement her relations with peter was not good. She feels bounds and pester also think Marian a

sensible girl, who has independence and commonsense, but is not the other king of girl who would not to take over his life. Marian something has disturbing feeling that Peter (pends) behaves to be aggressive and tries to manipulate her, once he had driven her to make love on the bedrooms floor, at another time a scratchy blanket in a filled, and much later in bath Tub. Bathtub incident disturbs her a great deal, almost precipitation another identity crisis. Reflecting on herself in Bath Tub, she thinks:

"He had intended it as an expression of her personality, did he really think, of Marian as a lavatory fixture." (EW20).

She thinks that whatever Peter did not only to see the expression of the personality. And when he was doing so he was not thinking about the Marian all these things disturb her. Per not merely proposes to her, he even explains to her the reasons for marrying her. First, Peter thought that he was the right age of worry; second, he did not want to pass off as queer by continuing to be a bachelor, third and more importantly, Marian fitted perfectly into his image of what a woman she be like Marian he says.

"I know I can always depend on you. Most women are pretty scatterbrained but you are such sensible girls you may not have known this but I we always thought that's the first thing to look for when it looms to choosing a wife" (EW120). Marian knows that marrying Peter for her, thus implies having someone who would always make decisions for her.

Marian's relationship with her parents and indeed depicts Marian as free from family stricture for her family no longer seems' to belong to her. It nevertheless dramatizes the dangers of an extended symbiotic mother-daughter bound. It does this

in the displaced, peripheral drama of tyrannical landlady and her creations; infantilized daughter mother and who wears a hair-ribbon.

Marian's relationship with Peter, she deliberately starts Cultivating Duncan. She began to see that with both of them she was being "what they called 'used' but she didn't at all mind being used, as long as she knew what for: "She like these things to take place on as conscious a level as possible" (EW 183). She also understands that with Peter she had to exert himself, while Duncan was not demanding. Besides, with Duncan she could live in the present without being encumbered by past or future, with Peter she had been "waiting for an event in the future that had event in the future that had been determined by an event in the Past" (EW184)

The mounting awareness of her uncertain relationship with Peter is accompanied by a change in Marian's metabolism. She finds it difficult to eat things which she enjoyed earlier, in fact, the list of the things she could possibly eat goes on diminishing day after day.

Ainsley's relationship with Len slank the traditional male-female role assumptions. Ainsley wants to become a mother to fulfill her femininity that's why she decides to make relationship with Len Slank. Len Slank offers a brilliant study of the psychology of a professional Len fears pursuit, and therefore pursues:

"You have get to hit and run get then before they get you and then get out" (EW66). Len's sexual affairs are brief not merrily from fear of involvement, but more importantly from his distaste for the women he has, in his own world, 'Corrupted'. Len searches endlessly for "innocence" (sexual inexperience), which he immediately destroys. His attitude can be formularized:

You are innocent; therefore, I am attracted to you, I am attracted to you there for I wish to seduce you. I have seduced you; therefore, I shall leave you. And the process begins again.

This kind of relationship Len Slank makes with the girls.

Marian's ex-class-mate Clare's relationship with her husband is happy. Her husband Joe Bates met her in College first year and Clara falls in e with Joe Bates and got marriage in second year and of her college. After getting marriage she has got pregnant and she feels very happy. Her happiness is to getting

## Conclusion

As the story progresses, Marian's relationship with both Peter and Duncan becomes increasingly complicated. The novel delves into Marian's internal struggle, as she grapples with her sense of self and attempts to navigate the conflicting pressures placed upon her. Ultimately, Marian's journey in "The Edible Woman" is a critique of societal expectations and an exploration of individual identity. Overall, the relationships in "The Edible Woman" serve as a vehicle to explore themes of identity, conformity, and the struggle for personal autonomy in the face of societal pressures.

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