

## ABSTRACT

A Study of the New World Plantation Power and Knowledge Dynamics in Toni Morrison's Song of Solomon, Tar Baby and Beloved.

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This study examines the centrality of the New World slave plantation and its existing power and knowledge dynamics in the lives of the characters in Toni Morrison's Song of Solomon, Tar Baby and Beloved. It reveals that some of the characters perpetuate the power and knowledge dynamics on the plantation while others resist and subvert those dynamics.

New Historicist, Womanist/Black Feminist and Postcolonial readings have been employed in this paper. Michel Foucault's theories of power and knowledge and power and resistance have also been utilized. These theories are explicated in the introduction and they are useful in discussing the psyches of the characters and in exploring the effect of the plantation on their relationships. Historical and sociological texts that explore the plantation, essays on Womanism and Black Feminism, essays on Post colonialism and New Historicism and Michel Foucault's texts and essays have been consulted in this study.

The Chapters focus on the relationships between the characters and reveal how these relationships are affected by the characters' attitudes towards the power dynamics that existed on the plantation.

The study reveals that the plantation survives in the psyches and institutions of Morrison's New World characters, but the nature of the survival depends on the peculiar methods used by the characters to deal with the plantation's presence.

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Natasha Mathison; New World Plantation; Power and Knowledge; Michel Foucault; Womanism.	
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