

ABSTRACT

JULIO CORTÁZAR - NOVEL PERSPECTIVES ON REALITY

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Julio Cortázar's work crosses language and other cultural barriers and enjoys wide readership throughout Latin America, North America, the Caribbean and Europe primarily because his books deal with the most common denominator: reality. His perception of reality and the realism which is the orienting principle in his writing serve as inspiration, guide and unifying factor in his novels.

The desire to create an analogous reality translates into a search for authenticity which underlies his revolutionary perception of the following basic elements: literature in general and the novel in particular; style, language, structure, narrative technique and characterization; themes and scope; the game and humour; reader participation.

An analysis of Cortázar's four novels reveals a sense of development and unity of purpose from his first full-length novel, Los premios, through to his last, Libro de Manuel, with each one focusing on a different perspective on reality with a view to achieving the author's stated aim of "enriching the notion of reality by all means possible".