

THE POSTCOLONIAL NATIVE AMERICAN AND ESCAPISM IN N. SCOTT MOMADAY'S *HOUSE MADE OF DAWN*



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ABSTRACT

Post Colonialism has for long left out the plagues of aboriginal people in Australia, and even America. Its focus has been on Africa and other ex-colonies without settlers. Momaday, however, reveals the destructive factors of colonialism and cultural juxtaposition in the lives of the Native Americans. Lost between the indigenous culture and Eurocentricity, Native Americans struggle to find a place in the American society. Whereas some hold on firmly to their roots, others are cut in between and this places them in a neurotic state. House Made of Dawn unveils how escapism has become a solution to many Native American who are caught up in this state of neurosis. The solid characters are those without a complex and an identity crisis. As the opposite group struggles to blend in both cultures, they destroy themselves in the escapist shut cut processes they attempt. We thereby explore postcolonial notions like double, consciousness, self-hate, unhomeliness and others to see how, intoxication, sex, and violence have become escapist methods for postcolonial Native Americans.