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MAYA ANGELOU AND HER AUTOBIOGRAPHIES : AN OVERVIEW



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ABSTRACT

Autobiography is a way of self-expression among the African Americans. Autobiography served the problem of African Americans to bring them out from the hidden world. It is considered as a tribune for many African American writers to express their bitter experiences to the world. The women autobiographies have explored the pains and sufferings while struggling for identity and assimilation. Their images were preconceived, so that autobiography makes able them to create their own identity. Since the past women were considered as inferior, but the autobiographical writing permits

them to ponder deeply on their life stories and to eliminate the negative picture and create a positive self-identity. Being a writer, woman and Black, Maya Angelou has proved that women have ability to write work of art with pure creative energy. Angelou introduced a world of humiliation, violation, displacement and loss through her writings.. Her displacement, which was an integral part of African American life, has intricately related to her quest for identity.

KEYWORDS

Identity, Race, Gender, Discrimination, African-American