

A critical Evaluation of The Love Song of

J. Alfred Prufrock: - The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock is a satirical poem, composed by T.S. Eliot, one of the greatest critics and modern poets. He spends much of time in the poem thinking what to him is a daring work. He affords to talk to women at a social event. He is not the hero of romance. The urban setting of the poem is itself also the object of satire. The setting of the present poem is urban. When the evening starts, it is not motivating, like a patient etherized on the table. The streets through which the two will pass is full of cheap, sordid hotels and filthy restaurants. The 20th century city does not appear to be a place of dreams.

The narration of the social event suggests something shallow and superficial. The only detailed descriptions given are the women's naked arms and long dresses, talk of Michelangelo and refreshments. We minutely observe that Prufrock is ambiguously acquainted with the contrast between the superficial world he is about to enter and bleak urban landscape outside. People have the leisure for hearing the superficial talk of Prufrock.

In the Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock, Eliot offers readers a vivid portraiture of a middle aged man, named J. Alfred Prufrock. He is participating in several social events



of England. We observe that his companion is invisible. He asks his companion a question, 'what is it?' we contemplate it seriously and come to a conclusion that he is asking a woman to marry him. Prefrock is anxious, self-vigilant and indecisive person. He is excessively worried to think that the women are muttering behind his back about his hair. He doesn't ^{consider} compare himself significant enough to be compared with Hamlet. Prefrock says, 'No! I am not Prince Hamlet.'

Alfred Prefrock dreams of exempting and escaping himself from the suffocating social surroundings of the world where he resides. He does not want to attend tea parties. It is his wish that he had been born a perfectly different species, a crab or pair of ragged claws that wanders the ocean bed. At the end of the poem Prefrock hears the song. The title of the poem, 'The Love Song of J. Alfred Prefrock' is one about love. The message is one of Prefrock's

frustration in society.



Prufrock's disagreement and despair with his surroundings is described by later stanzas and images. For illustration, 'yellow fog' makes the readers realize dirty and 'time to murder and create' builds an extremely uninviting image and situation. In my view, this poem is humorous, despite the bleak nature. The lines such as 'shall I part my hair behind? Do I dare to eat a peach?' have a bitter melodious tone. Prufrock regrets at wasting life away and getting old day by day. He ends up weary on a beach, alone and an old man. Eliot creates a terribly sad and reflective tone on Prufrock's hearing the mermaids singing. He says, 'I do not think they will sing to me.'

It can be concluded that Prufrock's sadness is something that all human beings can narrate. We all find such moments in our lives where we miss out on pursuing our desires and dreams due to fear of rejection from individuals or society. The last message of the Song of J. Alfred Prufrock is about the significance of living at present, and making the most of our lives on earth.