

Is Perfect Love Possible? –Franca’s Agony in *The Message to the Planet*–

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Abstract

In *The Message to the Planet*, we see how fantasy ails people and drives them toward insanity. Jack, Franca’s artist husband, justifies his view that every man needs two women, a quiet home-maker and a thrilling nymph. Franca suffers deeply from her husband’s illusion about perfect love, ‘two women under one roof.’ Hidden under her angelic forgiveness and perfect self-control, she feels violent anger with desire for revenge. Getting out of her domestic situation and seeing the situation from a different angle with the help of Maisie who comes from a totally different world, Franca recovers self-respect. Finally she gets her husband back from his mistress Alison. Recovered from madness, Franca can show her true feeling to her husband. Jack also can reach a new stage in painting through crisis and so can successfully paint the raising of Lazarus.
