Humanities(Language and Literature)

Jackson's Dilemma is Iris Murdoch's "Tempest"

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Abstract

Iris Murdoch tells us that she does not usually write from live models. However, in her last novel, Jackson's Dilemma, Murdoch's private life does echo here and there. Especially Benet, a central character in Jackson's Dilemma has many similarities to Murdoch herself. When we see Benet's remorse and Ionliness, we see Murdoch's remorse and Ioneliness in her old age. Jackson is described as a person who has the nature of Christ and Hindu gods. How Murdoch comes to terms with Christianity which she used to criticize will be clarified by examining how Benet accepts Jackson and how Mildred makes up her mind to become a priest. We see that Murdoch finds hope and a future in children when we examine her descriptions of Bran who straightens out the situation just as Prospero in The Tempest finds hope for the future in his daughter and her beloved.