

OYA: THE WOMANIST IN LEKAN BALOGUN'S OYA

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ABSTRACT

This paper offers a womanist analysis of the character, Oya in Lekan Balogun's play of the same title. In the play, Lekan Balogun is being consistent with his penchant for the exploration of Yoruba myths, legends and mythical figures in his works. Oya, the legendary heroine of the Yoruba people is mythically referenced to be full of woman passion, vanity, emotions, weaknesses and strengths. This, also, is Lekan Balogun's portrayal in this play. By so doing, is Balogun implying that Oya, as a human would have been a womanist? This is the overriding question this paper seeks to answer using Womanism as a theoretical framework.