

**SHAUN TAN'S *THE ARRIVAL* (2006): A VISUAL POSTCOLONIAL STUDY  
OF 'MIGRANT'S EXPERIENCE'**

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**ABSTRACT**

The present study aims to trace the signs of 'hybridity' in *The Arrival* (2006) by Shaun and to establish it as visual postcolonial narrative within the domain of migration literature. The study is designed to answer these questions 'What is the 'hybrid' identity?' 'What is the relation between multiculturalism and postcolonial studies?' 'Is the migrant's arrival accepted or not?' To answer these questions, the researcher adopts an *analytical/theoretical* approach to present a unique examination of global mobility within the 'rhetoric of hybridity' illustrated visually in a *surrealist* picturebook to universalize the '*migrant's experience*'. To the best of the researcher's knowledge, *The Arrival* has only been studied as a vivid example of multicultural literature in Australian Middle Schools to highlight diversity issues as race and ethnicity. The researcher's starting point is that postcolonial theories can underscore 'transcultural' approach that can surpass the binary opposition of center/periphery power relations and Homi Bhabha's the 'Third Space' is the central theoretical concept that lays the basis for much of this study. The findings of this study will hopefully contribute to the body of the knowledge in postcolonial studies within discourses of migration and multiculturalism.

**KEYWORDS:** Surrealist Visuals - Post-colonialism – Hybridity - 'Third Space'