

BRAHMA THE ENLIGHTENED MONAD - A STUDY OF

A.K. RAMANUJAM'S "A RIVER"

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ABSTRACT

All natural forces are personified as divinities. The primary foundations of life and consciousness, water signifies life without end, is medicinal, and imbued with sanctity and divine powers, thus bathing absolves, ensuring purity and salvation. Lord Vishnu is said to ride on waters on his vehicle the Adishesha, the king of snakes which is the couch of Narayana, a form of Vishnu as he lies on water. Ganga has the water of immortality. The purpose of the study is to establish how the process of reconciling the opposites leads to enlightenment in A River. By interweaving the symbolisms of water, crocodiles, buffaloes, pregnant woman and cows etc.; A.K. Ramanujam seeks to establish the underlying unity of contrariety of principles. By reconciling the opposites, humans can achieve enlightenment.

KEYWORDS: *Reconciling the Opposites, Enlightenment, Unity of Contrariety of Principles*

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