

Love and Loss in Jeffrey Archer's Select Works

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Abstract:

Jeffrey Archer is an English novelist who had also worked as a politician. He was born in London, England. Jeffrey Archer was also a short story writer and a playwright. His works come under the genres of thriller and drama. In a thriller, elements of suspense, anxiety and anticipation exist. This paper studies some of the author's critically acclaimed works.

Key Words: Jeffrey Archer, *Kane and Abel*, *The Clifton Chronicles*.

I. Introduction

Jeffrey Archer is an English novelist who had also worked as a politician. He was born in London, England. Jeffrey Archer was also a short story writer and a playwright. His works come under the genres of thriller and drama. In a thriller, elements of suspense, anxiety and anticipation exist. He was a Member of Parliament from Mississippi previously from 1969 to 1974. Archer has been extremely successful as a novelist. He had gone through severe financial difficulties in the past. He is very famous for his novels namely *Kane and Abel* and *Only Time Will Tell*.

II. *Kane and Abel*

Kane and Abel is a bestselling book, published in 1979. It is a novel written by Jeffrey Archer. The novel describes the lives of two men who are brought up in contrasting worlds. The only thing they have in common is their date of birth, i.e., both of them were born on April 18, 1906. William Kane hails from a wealthy and powerful family. He was educated at an Ivy League College and is heir to a Boston Elite family. Abel Rosnovski is a Polish man who was born in utter poverty, and later migrates to the United States of America. William's father was a successful banker, and he decides to follow in his father's footsteps.

Richard had passed away when the Titanic sank, and thus William is now the heir to the Kane & Cabot Bank. William's mother had married Henry Osborne, who is interested only in women and gambling, and unlike him, William is a disciplined man. Abel was born in a forest and possesses a high level of intelligence. He is raised in a trapper family. He later learns that the Baron is his father. Abel also witnesses the cruel death of his sister. The Polish Consulate helps him and he migrates to America. He starts out as a waiter and studies economics and then becomes successful. Love and loss are the main themes of the novel.

III. *Only Time Will Tell*

The Clifton Chronicles is a book series by Jeffrey Archer. It consists of a total of seven novels. *Only Time Will Tell* is the first novel of the series, and the protagonist of the novel is Harry Clifton. The novel is set between the end of the first World War and the start of the Second World War. The setting of the novel is Bristol, England. Harry's father and uncle have worked on the docks. Hence, Harry is to follow in their footsteps. Harry's mother is a waitress named Maisie, who works extremely hard and saves money to enable Harry to school and have a better life than her.

Characters that help Harry include Miss Monday (a choir mistress), Mr. Holcombe (his schoolteacher) and Old Jack Tar (a loner and a war hero). Harry believes that Arthur Clifton is his father and that he died during the war. Harry's friend is Giles Barrington. Giles Barrington's father owns the shipping company where

Harry's uncle and father had worked. His mother is depicted encountering multiple tragic circumstances. Giles's father, Hugo Wellington creates problems for Harry. However, Harry falls in love with Hugo's daughter, Emma. Love and loss for the main themes of the novel.

REFERENCES:

1. Archer, Jeffrey. *Kane and Abel*. HarperCollins, 1997.
2. *Only Time Will Tell*. Pan Books, 2023.