

Preface

Almost two decades have passed since Isabel Allende wrote her first novel, *The House of the Spirits*. Since that time, her literary and personal odyssey has affected innumerable readers; more than fifteen million copies of her books have been sold throughout the world. It has been suggested that she is not only best selling Latin American woman writer, but also one of the most successful writers of serious fiction. There is no doubt that her contribution to the contemporary literature far surpasses national boundaries and has broad universal significance. There is indeed, something most magical about Allende's ability to create in novels, short stories and works of nonfiction a literary world that becomes powerfully alive and real for many readers. Her magic is conveyed from the first sentence of her books where she invites the readers into the world of suggestive possibilities that become delightful and powerful as the work unfolds. Her fiction is about the raw material that life is made of- love, hatred, despair hope, political commitment, social change, daring and adventure. It never avoids difficult issues of dominance and oppression but configures them in such a way that her readers are ultimately empowered from the experience of reading her work.

The way toward reading and translating Allende has represented various enjoyments and difficulties. Allende doesn't make statements of regret for being women's activist and for injecting her books with a women's activist motivation. This thesis examines her books with human instinct and society. This approach illuminates a significant part of the exchange of such an angle as sexuality, sex issues, military offenses, socio-political issues, love, compassion, voice like artistic sorts. Allende's fiction consistently consolidates assorted types as the chronicled novel, picaresque novel, bildungsroman or the novel of development, tribute fiction, recorded sentiment and the experience story making in the process a hybrid genre. Therefore investigation of her fiction likewise expects regard for this specific account mix and its connection to the ideological substance of her written work. Allende is an extensive researcher from her first novel to the last one. Her plots are enriched with solid historical data and sociological insights. These are products of her careful investigation. Allende converts literary critics into sociologists, historians, cultural critics. Her topics are as diverse as Chilean history of nineteenth and twentieth century. The Guerrilla movement in Venezuela, the Vietnam war, Latin American Pop culture, California Gold Rush, and creation of myths from an essential part of her novels. This proposal consistently analyzes the Allende mixes these assorted themes into her story world hence, features the

predicament of ordinary citizens in a few sections of the world and separating the hindrances with diverse orders. This thesis incorporates chapter on research topic and life history of Allende. Other chapters examines various novels besides the history of Spain and Chile. The books analysed are as: *The House Of The Spirits*, *Eva Luna*, *Daughter Of Fortune*, *Forest In Pygmies*, *Island Beneath the Sea*, *Of Love and Shadows* and a painful memoir named *Paula*. Following issues are featured in the parts, for example, military fascism, gender issues, racial prejudice, violence, sex, hypocrisy, religion love, compassion and magic realism.

I hope that this thesis contributes in understanding the complex, genuine, amusing, and attentive author whose worries are general and whose account style joins an accentuation on the rich plots of nineteenth and twentieth century's fiction. Advance I hope this investigation would enrich the readers experience of going into the story world of Spain and Chile.