



## RUNNING' AS A ESCAPING FACTOR IN ALAN SILLITOE'S "LONELINESS OF LONG DISTANCE RUNNER"

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### ABSTRACT

*Alan Sillitoe was Angry Young Men was a major contemporary post modern British writer. In the year 1959 he won Hawthorn den prize for "The loneliness of long distance runner". He has published children stories, novels, short stories and several volumes of poetry. He hailing from working class family observed the depth of suffering of working class life. His main concern in his fictions is to share certain rebellious and critical attitudes towards the society. Scholars of working class literature are uncovering new and forgotten books and exploring the common qualities that define working class literature as a genre. Rebecca Harding Davis's "Life in the iron mills" may be the most commonly studied example in the empathy workers. My paper glances on the Short story "Loneliness of Long Distance Runner" is a story of a teenager boy Smith who makes running as his freedom and clarity to escape from the class society in Britain. Sillitoe has used "Running" as a metaphor to give us the different aspects of working class life. The life of working class poor people has been never considered as a bed of roses but the bed of thorns. This attitude is because of class divisions in the society. The present story strongly depicts through the character Smith that even the working class people have integrity to face the challenges and spirit of Independence to live by their choice but, not as a slave to the higher authority. Running here is used as a metaphor like escaping, isolation, anger, rebel against class society. Attempt has been made to depict how the working class people struggle to show their rebellious nature through action in different ways like drudgery, sports etc. The upliftment of this condition by inspiring them to embrace the possibilities of social change in the society. Alan Sillitoe has lived for the working class people and strongly enlighten the present society to open their eyes towards the development of working class life.*

**Key Words:** Courage, Integrity, commodity, Clarity, Isolation, Independence.

*The Loneliness of Long Distance Runner* is a short story by Alan Sillitoe published in 1959. The story focuses on the Smith, a poor Nottingham teenager from a dismal home in a working class area. Smith has bleak prospects in life and he also has the interest beyond petty crime. The boy turns to long-distance running as a method of both an emotional, and a physical escape from the system of the society.

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