

# LORCA'S *BLOOD WEDDING*: A MANIFESTATION OF SPANISH FOLKLORE

Saeed Yazdani <sup>1\*</sup>

Mohammadreza Shahbazi <sup>2</sup>

Mozdeh Ghazi <sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of English Literature, Bushehr Branch, Islamic Azad University, Bushehr, IRAN,  
[yazdanisaeeds@yahoo.com](mailto:yazdanisaeeds@yahoo.com)

\*Corresponding author

<sup>2</sup>Department of Dramatic Literature, Bushehr Branch, Islamic Azad University, Bushehr, IRAN,  
[Mrs3072@yahoo.com](mailto:Mrs3072@yahoo.com)

<sup>3</sup>M.A. Department of Dramatic Literature, Bushehr Branch, Islamic Azad University, Bushehr,  
IRAN  
[mozhdehghazi@yahoo.com](mailto:mozhdehghazi@yahoo.com)

## Abstract

Culture has been an important factor in the production of literary works throughout the world. The Spanish playwright Federico García Lorca maintained a lifelong interest in the music and folklore of Spain, a fascination that heavily influenced one of his most acclaimed tragedies, *Blood Wedding*. The repressive social norms of the rural town are often contrasted with the raw, emotional state of nature in which the characters desire to live. In Lorca's countryside, heritage and violence are inextricably linked. The shallow and restrictive town, then, can be seen as a response and overreaction to the chaotic, bleak fate that man faces in nature. In approaching *Blood Wedding*, we should also be aware of the many cultural influences that fed into the play, notably the dramatist's familiarity with classical, flamenco and traditional Spanish music, and with Greek tragedy. All of them combined to transform a real life event into high art. The play resonates with an incredible passionate, tragic, beautiful love. The whole idea of the inevitability of love and death, which is present at the core of the Spanish culture, beats at the heart of the play, so strongly and so intensely.

An attempt is made in this article to trace the impact of rural Spanish culture and folklore in Lorca's tragic play, *Blood Wedding*.

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