

R.K. Narayan

The Guide

THE GUIDE

reluctant
holy

The Guide
by R.K. Narayan
Raju did not transform rather the society made Raju transform

BASED BY DEV ANAND DIRECTED BY VIJAY ANAND MUSIC S. D. BURMA

Raju

As the central figure

Raju is the central figure in the novel 'The Guide'

- The whole theme revolves round him
- He dominates from the beginning to the end of this novel
- He is the only source of all incidents and events in it
- He appears before us in various forms as- a railway guide, Railway Raju, a hermit, a lover, a fraud and a criminal
- The novelist has named this novel after him, it is Raju who is the guide



Raju as a complex character:

- He is dynamic, intelligent and shrewd
- He is also craftiness, dishonesty and credulity of Margayya
- He is the flashy bombast of Mr. Sampath, the adventurousness of Mail
- He is the romantic excess of Sitaram and the mystical learning of Chandran



Raju As A Guide:

- He gets great fame as a guide
- He becomes popular as Railway Raju because the tourists are impressed by him
- He is a guide with spiritual touch
- Everything in Raju's life takes place by chance cause in the beginning Raju acts as a tourist guide and then he becomes guide of Rosie
- He at last becomes Swami who guides the villagers

In this way Raju has always been a guide.

Raju as a lover:

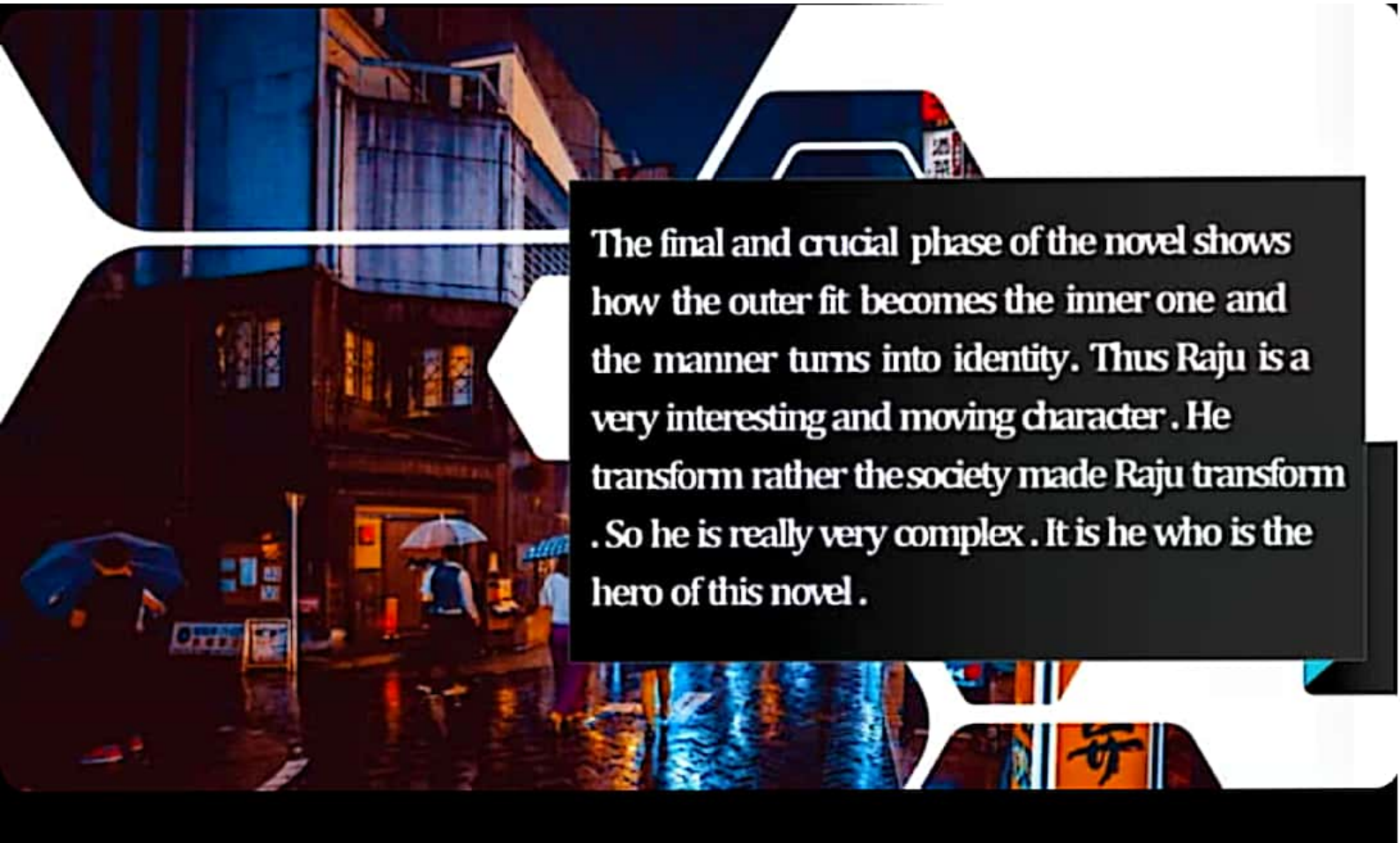
- Raju is a great lover in the novel
- He at once falls in love with Rosie when he first sees her at Malgudi railway station
- He at once agrees to fulfil her desire to see the dance of king cobra
- He always try to wins her heart as a bold and sincere lover
- Raju gives her shelter against his mother when Rosie's husband turns her out of the house
- He sets Rosie as a great dancer

Raju as a prisoner:

- He proves himself as a model prisoner
- He developed good relations with the other prisoners
- His high-sounding talk gave him the title of Ustad
- He would impress even the dangerous criminals who listened to him with great respect
- He also impressed the jail superintendent who employed him his personal servant

Raju as a Swami:

- His role as a swami is very dramatic
- He decides to play the role of a Swami after listening to the remark of the barber because he has no arrangement of food and lodging after coming out of jail
- He gets recognition and popularity as a swami by chance
- He went all well for some years with his main problem of food and shelter
- He compelled to perform fast by the circumstances
- Raju grows weak and at last he sinks in the river due to his fast



The final and crucial phase of the novel shows how the outer fit becomes the inner one and the manner turns into identity. Thus Raju is a very interesting and moving character . He transform rather the society made Raju transform . So he is really very complex . It is he who is the hero of this novel .