



**CHRISTIANITY AND PANTHEISM IN ALICE WALKER'S THE COLOR PURPLE**

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**ABSTRACT**

Alice Malsenior Walker, born (February 9, 1944) in Eatonton, Georgia is the youngest of eight children to sharecroppers, Willie Lee Walker and Minnie Lou Tallulah Grant. After an early day's misfortune which blinded her in one eye, she went on to become valedictorian of her neighboring school, and attended Spellman College and Sarah Lawrence College on scholarship. Alice Walker volunteered in the voter registration drives of the 1960s in Georgia, and went to job after college in the Welfare Department in New York City. She was married in 1967, and unfortunately divorced in 1976. Her first volume of poems published in 1968 and her earliest novel was published just after her daughter's birth in 1970. Her poems, novels and short stories dealt with the themes of troubled relationships, violence, rape, multi-generational perspectives, isolation, sexism and racism etc. About the themes and issues Gilbert and Susan say:

“Not only does Walker portray the impact of racism on the relationships between black men and women and the importance of female networks of support, she also captures the humor and the pathos of her characters' erotic entanglements” (Gilbert and Susan - 2314)