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***Yeats and Gonne: The Emotional Defeat***

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William Butler Yeats had love relationships with many women; however, few of them exerted a significant influence on his work. Maud Gonne and her predecessor Laura Armstrong were playing the roles of actress and Muse simultaneously. Armstrong influenced his drama while Gonne influenced both his drama and poetry. Both of them were promoted as a myth and a symbol, but Gonne, as the latter, overwhelmed his mythology and symbolism. As a nationalist figure, Gonne was more appropriate to hold the comprehensive symbol of a Goddess, Ireland and the female stereotype of Eternal Beauty. Some of Yeats’ poetry suggests a notion of the political defeat influenced by the long history of tragedies in Ireland and this taint seems to have a link with his relationship with Gonne as a kind of an emotional defeat. This paper tries to explore this theme in Yeats’ poetry, especially in some of his unpublished poems: ‘To a Sister of the Cross and the Rose’, ‘The Outlaw’s Bridal’, ‘A Dream of a life Before This One’ and the published poems: ‘He wishes for the Cloths of Heaven’, ‘He Wished His Beloved were Dead’, ‘A Dream of Death’, ‘Solomon and Sheba’ and others.

**Faisal Al-Doori holds a** B.Ed. and an M.A. in 2003 from the University of Tikrit. The title of his thesis was *The Omniscient Narration in Edwin Arlington Robinson's Poetry*. He has been working at Tikrit University as an assistant lecturer then a lecturer since 2003. He published papers on Dickens, Wordsworth, Fielding, Defoe, and Hardy. He won a literary prize from The Arabic Union for Writers in 2000. He is a poet, story writer, critic, journalist, and translator and is studying now for his PhD at Aberystwyth University; his topic revolving around the Eastern influence on W.B.Yeats’ poetry.