

## 中介空間：鍾芭·拉希莉《同名之人》的身分協商

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### 摘要

《同名之人》以移民經驗、文化衝擊、世代衝突作為主題，是作者拉希莉對南亞美國人的認同問題所做的反思。南亞美國人（South-Asian American）一詞暗示著一種「連字符號化」（hyphenation）的身分認同，它包含著相異於白種美國人的不同族群，但也同時隱含著以白種種族為中心的規範性，並標示著其他族裔「他者化」（othering）的身分。這篇論文主要引用巴巴「中介空間」（liminal space）的概念，探討移民們「家非家」（unhomely）的處境，並闡述其「混雜性」（hybridity）此一概念在解決當今移民認同問題的不足。論文這個部分主要引述哈德與納格利在《帝國》一書中有關「帝國的種族主義」的討論，指陳後殖民理論中差異政治的缺失，並提出「反抗的意志」和「逃亡」以作為對帝國的反叛。

關鍵字：南亞移民、連字符號化、混雜性、中介空間、帝國種族主義、拉希莉、《同名之人》

**The Liminal Space: the Negotiation of Identity in Jhumpa  
Lahiri's *The Namesake***

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**Abstract**

Jhumpa Lahiri's *The Namesake* sets its motif on the immigration experience, cultural clash and generation conflict, which reflects Lahiri's own experience of and contemplation on the identity problems of the South Asian Americans. As is implied by the category "South Asian-American," the very rhetoric of the inclusivity of "hyphenation" veils the fact that whiteness is by implication invested with normativity. According to Samir Dayal, hyphenated citizenship is in effect a sign constructed in opposition to "real and unqualified Americanness." This Americanness presents itself as the "spectral authenticity" that does not bear the mark of hyphenatedness, and thus designates a condition of the othering for many "ethnic" groups. In this essay, I will mainly draw from Homi Bhabha's conception of "liminal space" in *The Location of Culture* to explore into the "unhomely" situation of the immigrants. According to Bhabha, the liminal space the immigrants occupy is heterogeneous in its constitution and, with the constant influx of difference of the other—that is, both the "home" and the host country—the Indian immigrants is empowered to negotiate a space and identity in the American society. After applying Bhabha's theory to the novel, I will point out the shortcomings of Bhabha's notion of "hybridity" in solving the immigrant's identity problems in the contemporary world. In this final part, I will draw from Negri and Hardt's idea of "imperial racism" in their work *Empire*. Through the critique of the postcolonial politics of difference, I propose "the will to be against" and "desertion" as the way to liberation from the troubled identification that has been permeated by the imperial power.

**Keywords:** South Asian immigrants, hyphenation, hybridity, liminal space, imperial racism, Lahiri, *The Namesake*