

**Class, Ethnicity, and Representation—
Reading Carols Bulosan’s *America Is in the Heart***

Te-hsing Shan

Abstract

This 6-part paper aims to study the representational strategies and important issues in Carlos Bulosan’s *American Is in the Heart* from the perspectives of class and ethnicity. Part 1 describes the multiple roles that this Filipino American writer played; part 2 reveals that class is the very issue that links the whole novel; part 3 analyzes how class and ethnicity join to form “the colonized class segment”; part 4 investigates how the protagonist made use of the mainstream values he had internalized to fight against the injustice imposed upon the immigrant laborers by mainstream White society; part 5 highlights the protagonist’s role as a writer and intellectual; and part 6 shows how literature brings about hope and regeneration through representation.

Key Words: Carlos Bulosan, *America Is in the Heart*, Class, Ethnicity, Asian American Literature