



“A Memory for the Society”: The Art of Story-telling as a tool of Resistance in the Autobiography of Isabel Flick



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Abstract :

The confessional narrative or ‘autobiography’ has been seen as one of the key modes of Australian Aboriginal literary writing. Inherited from a strong oral tradition, the art of story-telling has become one of the greatest legacies of Australian Aboriginal women writers, and the oral transmission of history and culture became one of the many forms of resistance strategies that the Aboriginals employed against the colonising forces. It also acts as an important space to which writers often turn in their quest for reclaiming and re-creating their

lost history and cultural memory. The auto/biographical work, Isabel Flick: The Many Lives of an Extraordinary Aboriginal Woman also captures the tradition of orality and the art of story-telling so beautifully that the text in turn becomes a “memory of and for the society”.

Keywords : Aboriginal Autobiography, Isabel Flick, Memory, Resistance, Story-telling