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**ANALYSE TENNESSEE WILLIAMS' PLAYS AND ARUN JOSHI'S BOOKS
FROM AN EXISTENTIALIST PERSPECTIVE**

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ABSTRACT

Through the widespread dissemination of post-war literary and philosophical output by Sartre and his associates—particularly that of Simone de Beauvoir, Maurice Merleau-Ponty, and Albert Camus—the term "Existentialism" came to be associated with a flourishing European literary and philosophical movement in the 1940s and 1950s. Germany's Karl Jaspers, Martin Heidegger, and Martin Buber, France's Jean Wahl and Gabriel Marcel, Spain's Jose Gasset and Miguel de Unamuno, and Russia's Nicholai Berdyaev and Lev Shestov were all significant contributors to the existentialist movement. Its intellectual forefathers were the nineteenth-century philosophers Soren Kierkegaard and Friedrich Nietzsche. The intellectual movement known as "existentialism" also had a significant literary impact. Published in 1670 under the title *Pensees* (Thoughts), Blaise Pascal's unfinished works touched on numerous key themes that would come to be known as existentialism. Pascal argued that human existence would be miserable and pointless apart from God. In order to stave off boredom, people would only be able to build and conquer obstacles. The inevitable demise of the human race renders these accomplishments moot. Pascal, Kierkegaard, and Nietzsche all shared an interest in the individual's internal struggle against the meaninglessness of life and the employment of diversions to stave off boredom. In this expanded version of his Existentialism, German philosopher Martin Heidegger (1889-1976) acknowledges that human life has the essence of thrones, or that man is "thrown" into circumstances over which he has no control. His options change depending on factors like his race, chronological position, surroundings, natural endowments, and so on, but they are always present. He doesn't remember his past or his future. This leads to anxiety, known as *Angst*, in which a person is vividly aware of a conflict both external and internal and has a strong desire to get away from it.