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Landscapes are complex, multimodal mediums which have the ability to skillfully enhance the human experience and furthermore have a profound impact on an individual's identity. Alain de Botton's The Art of Travel is a non-fiction creative multimodal text which profoundly offers philosophical discourse and anecdotal musings in which impact an individual in diverse ways and resonates with their identity, through exploring the innate need to travel and experience landscapes. It is through this five part essay style structure, with the aid of several diverse voices such as Flaubert, Wordsworth and Ruskin that the experience of a landscape ~~may~~ is diverse and the degree of impact it has on an individual. Correspondingly, Dorothea Mackellar's poem My Country written in 1908 explores the maternal impact landscapes have on individuals and how it shapes their identity, and thus embeds itself in the human mind. An analysis of both texts ^{inherently} ~~portray~~ portray how landscapes can offer diverse experiences, but also incline to one's identity.

The representation of promotional landscapes in the promotional form creates dichotomy between what is represented and the reality of what is experienced. Alain de Botton profoundly explores this through; "The brochures had darkly intimated how easily their readers ^{might} ~~would~~

be turned to prey by photographs, (clear skies and white beaches." This highlights how promotional forms of landscapes offer a temporary relief to the ordinariness of everyday life although disappoints individuals when the reality of what they experience is not what they 'anticipated'. Thus proving that majority of the human identity is subject to exploitation and manipulation as a result of ~~the~~ desire to escape from reality and experience landscapes in the quest for happiness. This adverse opinion of de Botton is reinforced through "a problem with this profusion of image was that they made it strangely harder to see the Barbados I had come to find" when he took a trip to Barbados. The italicised 'see' emphasises the degree of verisimilitude that landscapes can offer and thus ~~the~~ manipulate the human mind. Additionally, ~~as~~ as a result of this, de Botton's optimistic quest to 'find' foreshadowed that what he found failed to satisfy.² Contrastingly, Dorothea Mackellar in My Country depicts a realistic and genuine representation of the rural landscape of Australia, ^{as opposed to} ~~being incoherently~~ ~~as~~ what is mentioned in de Botton's text. ~~that a false, misleading representation of land.~~ For example she states "I love a sunburnt country, ... of droughts and flooding rains... her beauty and her terror." Where through the use of first

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person pronoun and personification of the Australian rural landscape, the genuine aspects and temperamental elements are explored in order to impress the land.

This inherently ensures that no reader "had been greatly disappointed" as "nothing was as I had imagined" according to de Botton. Therefore promotional representations of a landscape results in ~~dis~~distressing the individual, as opposed to Dorothea Mackellar who finds her true identity with the landscape.

Furthermore, the diverse representations of a landscape through travel to the exotic ^{profoundly} impacts an individual's identity, personality and quest for self. Alain de Botton explores this through the skillful use of Flaubert who found Egypt, the Orient, as exotic because it introduced to him new cultures and customs, in which he believed to accord to his identity. For example he states "What Flaubert loved in Egypt could be traced back to the central facets of his personality. Egypt lent support to the ideas and commitments ^{of his identity} ~~that~~ his homeland had little sympathy." Thus establishing that ^{the experience of} landscapes influences one's* identity as it allows them and invites them to honour more deeply themselves and the world around them. Furthermore



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he states "What we find exotic abroad may be what we ~~crave~~ hunger for in vain at home." Where the imagery of 'hunger' suggests a crave and innate need to experience exotic landscapes as they accord to an individual's identity. This is reinforced in "We may value foreign elements because they seem to accord more faithfully to our ~~common~~ identity than anything the homeland could provide." Thus creating a paradox between the home and abroad which is concluded with "It is not ~~at~~ ^{necessarily at} home that we are our true selves. The furniture suggests that we cannot change because it does not. We are tethered by the domestic setting which shows who we are in ordinary lives, but may not be who we essentially are." Therefore the metaphor bright and irony highlights that the experience of ~~landscapes~~ foreign landscapes resides with our identity and results in self-growth. Correspondingly, in My Country Dorothea Mackellar adopts a maternal relationship with her homeland as one misses it while living in London. This is enforced through "I love a sun-burnt country", "I love her far ~~new~~ horizons, I love her jewel sea", "Come of my heart-my Country!" where personification and personal pronoun of 'her' and 'she' as well as repetition stress the inextricable relationship that she has with

the land and how it is not lifeless. Thus both de Botton and Mackellar ~~exp~~ greatly explore through their texts how a landscape can have a profound influence on one's identity. Which is further explored through Mackellar, "I know but cannot share it my love is otherwise" as she stresses an escape from the British landscape as it does not accord to her identity as Australia's rural landscape does.

Furthermore, a representation of landscapes ~~for~~ allow individuals to deeply experience the world around them and thus allow them to enhance their lives and appreciate the world around them, therefore changing their identity. For ~~ex~~ example de Botton uses the intertextual voice of Wordsworth through his 'Prelude' and adopts early 19th Century Romanticism in order to escape from the city and travel to the countryside as it impacts the individual state of mind, enhancing wellbeing. For example he states; "Wordsworth found instances of their sanity, purity and permanence. Flowers for example, were the models of humility and meekness." This use of personification stresses how landscapes can

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have a transformative healing power which allows individuals to "restore health to their bodies but more importantly harmony to their souls" and thus appreciate their world and themselves, therefore new landscapes profoundly change our identity. ~~Furthermore~~ Similarly, Dorothea Mackellar explores this through her use of alliteration through "For Flood, Fire and Famine / She pays us back threefold" which skillfully explores how the landscape has the ability to heal, transform and provide for its inhabitants, and thus allow them to view life positively, despite the natural occurrence. Therefore travel to the countryside and representation of beautiful landscape offers diverse experiences and profoundly influences an individual's identity by changing it and allowing them to appreciate the world around them.

In conclusion, both The Art of Travel and My Country inherently express how diverse landscapes representations, such as promotional, exotic and the countryside can have varied impacts on the individual but also profoundly and significantly influence their identity to either enhance or be reawakened.

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