



DESCRIPTION OF FEMALE CHARACTERS IN CHARLOTTE BRONTE'S LITERARY STYLE.

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Annotation: This article outlines Bronte's ambiguous depiction of female characters, ideology and stereotype, as well as her attempt to create a counter culture of female empowerment.

Key words: great influence, gender, contribute, feminine, create, portray, female novelist, depiction, patriarchal ideology.

Women writers of English literature had a great influence upon the development of world literature. English novelists the Bronte sisters left great artistic heritage in literature. Charlotte Bronte was one of the most significant and great English novelists.

Charlotte Bronte's novel has inspired and initiated the creation of numerous texts, films and plays. Written some 160 years ago, it has never ceased to attract readers and to nourish the imagination of authors.

Charlotte Bronte has written of lonely, repressed womanhood with a passion and intensity unsurpassed in English fiction, even among the outspoken fiction of our own day. Until she began to write, no woman had dared to write of life from the woman's point of view, as Fielding had done from the man's.

“Villette”, deals with the life of a woman who is obscure, plain, poor and an orphan. The story is seen through her eyes, and it shows her efforts to achieve independence and love. Lucy Snowe has not Jane's passion, certainty, decision, and ability to live for the present moment. The most striking development in “Villette” lies in the character of Lucy, whose constant and speculative inner monologue upon the nature and variety of the human condition products a novel of inquiry and analysis rather than of certainty and demonstration. Nor does Lucy need to be involved in exciting melodrama to bring out her sterling qualities. The most ordinary events of life are sufficient to test and develop her character.



The story of “Villette” follows Lucy's development from girlhood to maturity, tracing the path in life that is preordained for her, and revealing her efforts to come to terms with her fate. Also, Lucy's development from coldness and timidity, in the face of her own nature and the world, to love and a willingness to accept life's experience is the central concern of the novel.

The most significant feeling in “Villette” is the return to the assurance of God's will being at work, however inexplicably; to the acceptance of one's lot in life without bitterness, without too much hope of heavenly reward, but with calmness and the determination to make the most of what it given.

Charlotte Bronte always writes earnestly, and in “*Villette*” she is peremptorily honest. In it she shows no mercy for any of the engaging ruses and artifices of life: with her it is something too real, earnest, and even tragic, to be wantonly trifled with or foolishly disguised. To describe her extreme characters, Charlotte Bronte makes use of the most extremeness images. The fourteen-year-old schoolgirls who were Lucy Snow's pupil had “*eyes full of an insolent light and brows hard and unblushing as marble*”: Madame Beck was so cold-hearted that “*not the agony in Gethsemane nor the death on Calvary could have wrung from her eyes on tear.*” Nor do such images, though they refer to schoolgirls and governesses, strike us as out of place. On the contrary, they seem the only mode of expression adequate to describe governesses or schoolgirls or anyone else, in the world into which we have been transported by Charlotte Bronte's furious imagination.

It is true that we never see Charlotte Bronte's female character in the round as we see Tolstoy's or Jane Austen's, but only as they happen to cross her line of vision. Still, it is possible to see a man vividly in one line of vision; and, if it is Lucy Snowe's or Jane's, very vividly indeed. Not Henry James himself can convey the impact of a personality more forcibly than Charlotte Bronte at her best. We may know little of Madame Beck's inner life (*Villette*), her character may be insufficiently diagnosed: but as well as if she were before us in the flesh, we see her squat, respectable figure, her dull penetrating eye, her heavy powerful.

Charlotte Bronte's imagination shows itself in her settings as much as in her characters. As clearly as we see Madame Beck we see the lights of movements; we hear her level tones, we feel the force of her will, the immovable rigor of herself control. Boue Marine “gleaming like unnumbered threatening eyes” to greet Lucy Snowe on her arrival abroad; the “yellow drizzling fog” round Lowood school is as raw in our throats as it was in Jane Eyre's.



The present article aims at exploring the image of female characters in Charlotte Bronte's "Villette". It also tries to cast new light on Charlotte Bronte's reputation quality of writing which are necessary at the outset.

"Villette" is very clever novel. Indeed it is a book of decided power. The thought are true, sound, and original; and the style. Although by no means a fine style, it has the capital point of all great styles in being personal. Charlotte, Like Lucy, lost her mother when she was very young; she had been both teacher and governess.

Charlotte Bronte's novels, Jane Eyre and "Villette" offer an interesting comparison. In Jane Eyre Jane discovers passion and fears it; in "Villette" Lucy knows its power and despairs of sharing it. Even the prose of the two novels is strikingly contrasted.

In conclusion, the image of female characters is explored very well in Charlotte Bronte's Villette. "Villette" is a novel about a writer writing a novel; as Lucy observes and describes others, so, with increasing perception, she observes and describes herself. Her whole story is a voyage of self- discovery. "Villette" sounds like a bitter complaint against the destiny of the female characters.

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