

Female Characters of Fantasy in George Raymond Richard Martin's A Game of Thrones

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Abstract

Fantasy is fiction about bizarre and impossible to which female characters were connected through this work. A Game of Thrones is an epic fantasy novel, under the series. A Song of Ice and Fire. This fantasy novel involves psychological and archetypal personal features to create the middle age's culture. A good number of female characters were presented who were not just an accessory but an engaging, powerful and successful person belonging to various age groups. Fantasy in this novel develops along with the heroines. Martin's heroines can be considered as feminists, they were not limited to the stereotypical gender roles. The female protagonists of the series are generally aristocratic women who have to abide the rules which are enforced on them. Women navigate societal expectations in diverse ways, with some conforming, others openly resisting, and a third group employing more subtle, devious methods to oppose prevailing norms. All the women are oppressed, they have to struggle and are limited by the boundaries set by the society typical for many a book of the fantasy genre. They all are affected by the patriarchal society they live in. Martin tries to overcome all these with some female characters with different aspects but believably strong.

Keywords: Fantasy, Feminist, Protagonist, Stereotype.

About Author

George Raymond Richard Martin, is also known as George R. R. Martin, is a prominent American author celebrated for his contributions to the fantasy genre. With his epic series "A Song of Ice and Fire," Martin has captivated audiences worldwide with his intricate world-building, morally complex characters, and gripping narratives. "A Game of Thrones," the first book in the series, introduces readers to the richly detailed world of Westeros, where noble houses vie for power amidst treachery, warfare, and political intrigue.

In "A Game of Thrones" by George R. R. Martin, the female characters play significant roles in shaping the political landscape and narrative trajectory of the story. Set in the fictional continent of Westeros, the novel follows various noble families as they vie for power, with women navigating the complexities of a patriarchal society while asserting their agency and influence. Daenerys, often referred to as Dany, is the exiled princess of House Targaryen, who fled Westeros following the overthrow of her family's dynasty. Throughout the novel, she evolves from a timid and powerless

young girl into a powerful and determined leader. Dany's journey involves marrying Khal Drogo, a Dothraki warlord, and eventually hatching three dragon eggs, symbolizing her transformation into the mother of Dragons. Her storyline highlights themes of resilience, empowerment, and the quest for identity.

Cersei, the twin sister of Jaime Lannister and wife of King Robert Baratheon, is a complex and cunning character who navigates the treacherous politics of the royal court in King's Landing. As the queen regent, Cersei manipulates events to serve her own interests and maintain her grip on power. Her actions, driven by ambition and a desire to protect her children, have far-reaching consequences for the realm. Cersei's character embodies the tensions between gender expectations and the realities of wielding authority in a patriarchal society. Arya, the youngest daughter of Eddard Stark, rejects traditional gender roles and aspires to be a warrior rather than a lady. Throughout the novel, she disguises herself as a boy to escape capture and navigates various dangers, including imprisonment and betrayal. Arya's journey is marked by her resilience, resourcefulness, and determination to seek justice for her family. Her storyline explores themes of identity, agency, and the pursuit of vengeance.

Sansa, Arya's elder sister, initially embodies the ideals of a traditional lady, aspiring to marry a prince and live a life of luxury. However, her dreams are shattered when she becomes entangled in the political machinations of King's Landing, particularly through her engagement to Prince Joffrey Baratheon. Despite facing abuse and manipulation, Sansa learns to navigate the complexities of court life and develops a keen understanding of politics and strategy. Her story examines the theme of the loss of innocence. Catelyn, the wife of Eddard Stark and mother to their children, is a formidable figure who plays a crucial role in protecting her family's interests. Throughout the novel, she demonstrates loyalty, strength, and intelligence as she navigates the dangers of Westeros politics. Catelyn's actions, including her decision to capture Tyrion Lannister in retaliation for her son's injury, have significant consequences for the Stark family and the realm as a whole. Her storyline explores themes of duty, sacrifice, and maternal love.

Through the portrayal of these female characters, George R. R. Martin challenges traditional gender norms and offers nuanced depictions of women navigating power, politics, and survival in a fantasy world. Their diverse experiences and motivations enrich the narrative of "A Game of Thrones" and contribute to its status as a seminal work of epic fantasy literature.

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