

## English Literature and Female characters

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### Introduction

Some of the best characters in literature are female. From the evil to the undeniably perfect, these are the greatest female characters from literature of all genres. This list includes the best female characters of all ages. Why do female literary characters stay with readers long after they've finished reading the novels these characters are featured in? Often, it's due to the intimacy with which readers have come to know a character. Other times, readers love female characters in literature because of the audacity of their actions. Madame Defarge (*A Tale of Two Cities*) is an example of tireless villainy. Some of the most popular female literary characters manage to embody both wholesome and defiant, becoming reflections of the complex nature of women.

For the wide range of personality traits we find in these great female characters. They may be young or old, charming or black-hearted, but they are all memorable. Whether you love them or love to hate them, all the famous fictional heroines are here in this list of the best female characters in literary history.

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Methodology would focus on library sources. Primary source materials are used appropriately, such as creative works of selected writers, which were written during the time under study. Secondary sources analyze textbook articles, publications and criticism, that overview the previous findings of the study.

### Female Characters

Elizabeth Bennet is the protagonist in the 1813 novel *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen. She is often referred to as Eliza or Lizzy by her

friends and family. Elizabeth is the second child in a family of five daughters. Though the circumstances of the time and environment put her in a marriage of convenience for economic security, Elizabeth was in love.

Elizabeth is regarded as the most admirable and endearing of Austen's heroines. She is considered one of the most beloved characters in British literature because of her complexity. Austen herself described Elizabeth as "a delightful creature as ever appeared in print."<sup>[3]</sup>

(a) Miriam and Clara in *Sons and Lovers* Miriam and Clara are the important characters in *Sons and Lovers*. Miriam is the heroine of the novel and Clara is a friend of both Miriam and Paul. Both have some points of similarity but many of contrast. They are mostly contrasting characters. However, both the characters play important roles in the novel.

(b) Ursula and Gudrun in "Women in Love" The main characters in the novel are Ursula and Gudrun. Love triangles that lurk beneath the surface: Ursula's hidden passion for Birkin, Gudrun's relationship with Gerald. What Lawrence wants to say is that while a man woman relationship is the basic condition of true maturity, it is not the only one because relationships are constantly evolving – some wither away and die, while new ones are born. *Women in Love* is a psychological study of individual characters and the unconscious drive that determines their actions. Lawrence's Hostility to Willful Women in *The Rainbow* and *Lady Chatterley's Lover* *The Rainbow* traces the story of three generations of Brangwen family descendant from a long line of small landowners who had owned Marsh Farm in Nottinghamshire. Ursula in *The Rainbow*, who seems so different in every phase of her life as she reacts to differing pressures. *Lady Chatterley's Lover* filled with scenes of intimate beauty; the moving story of Constance Chatterley tenderly explores the emotions of a lonely woman trapped in a sterile marriage and her growing love for the robust gamekeeper of her husband's estate.

Lawrence tried to show free life in his women characters, perhaps it was a desperate struggle with his own feelings about the materiality of life that led to the long series of attempts in his fiction to break women's wills. Lawrence's solution to the problem of breaking a woman's will or getting her to acquiesce of her own free will is this: "if you wait long enough, life will do it for you." And so he creates a heroine whose has been worn down by life's attritions.

In Shakespeare's tragedies and his plays in general, there are several types of female characters. They influence other characters, but are also often underestimated. Women in Shakespearean plays have always had important roles, sometimes the leading role. Whether they are there to change the story or stabilize it, they are there for a reason. Some women are stronger than others, and their effect on the play is different for each one. They often surpass the male heroes.

1. This study carries out the study of women characters in the selected novels so as to discover facts in use and their appropriateness to fulfil the needs of research.
2. It attempts to evaluate and to criticize in each selected novels in wider consideration through content analysis.
3. It concentrates on selected novels
5. It intends to look at the element of women power; the researcher ensures that there are sufficient women characters in the chosen novels in order to meet the purpose of the study. Moreover, Lawrence normally constructs his novels with a limited number of characters, thus the researcher ensured that the selected novels included women characters. It is also crucial to understand that this study concentrates specifically on women characters

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