

Feminist Trends of Charlotte Bronte's *Jane Eyre*¹

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ABSTRACT

The 19th century is one in every of the maximum critical length in British history, it's been a century of modifications for girls, Follow the 20th century through doing so. Throughout the 19th and 20th centuries, The improvement of literature in addition to society and the placement of girls in terms of it men. However, it turned into the suffrage motion that began out this revolution equality among guy and female. The feminist motion advanced as a motion Significantly over the centuries, the phrase feminist can nevertheless be known as it's far The bad that means of a few girls in Britain has because started to combat for his or her rights and independence At the start of the 19th century the aim turned into to have the identical possibility for education, Occupation and existence as men. The idea of unbiased girls has changed Through the centuries also, from a female who turned into supposed to be a spouse and mother, And the keeper of the house, extra precisely, as Martin Luther claimed: "Women must Staying at home, sitting, retaining the house, having children, elevating children. female, or in The least of that's to be a gentle, polite, and joyful accomplice in existence and honor Home décor has a tendency to be delicate, so it's far in particular creativity, To deliver delivery and be pleasure, pleasure and comfort for his or her husbands, " for a female Who does not even want a person to locate her happiness and may be her vocation Jane Eyre by using Charlotte Bronte the Genre of this novel is Gothic Bildungsroman Romance The novel that touches on many features and aspects of existence such as humor, romance and even mystery, which makes this novel unique and one of a kind even after its booklet over many decades This basic novel is one of Charlotte Bronte's pleasant books that follows the stunning ride of its heroine, Jane Eyre, who lives a hard existence in the home of Aunt Reed. Despite all that, she stands out with strength, integrity and excessive spirits. The story then continues with her assumption of the role of nanny, accompanied by way of falling in love with Mr. Rochester. This is observed by a collection of twists and turns, which hold readers hooked on this traditional story.

In this research, I will talk about Feminist Trends of Virginia Woolf's Jane Eyre, with a brief introduction to Feminism in English Literature and its development. Then, in the first chapter of this research, I will address the Feminist Trends of Virginia Woolf's Jane Eyre in general, and then to the life of the writer Jane Eyre. The second chapter will be A detailed and accurate discussion of the Feminist Trends of Virginia Woolf's Jane Eyre After that I will discuss the conclusion about what I have obtained from important and valuable information about this research and at the end of the research there will be the sources of the research.

CHAPTER ONE

FEMINISM

Feminism is a social, political and economic movement. Feminism is about changing the way people view male and female rights (mainly female), and campaigning for equal rights. A person who follows feminism is called a feminist, and the feminist movement began in the eighteenth century with the Age of Enlightenment. The debate over gender differences has led to a discussion of equality. (Halířová•Martina..2016 ,7)

The word "feminism" comes from the French word "féminisme". This medical term has been used to describe male women or men who have feminine traits. When it became popular in the USA, it was used to refer to groups of women who "emphasized the uniqueness of women, the mystical experience of motherhood and the special purity of women." Feminism began with the idea that human rights should be given to women. Some philosophers put forward

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this idea in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries such as Mary Wollstonecraft and John Stuart Mill. Later feminists also argued in the early 20th century that women should be allowed to vote in a democracy. (Ibid)

Many women felt very strongly that they should be allowed to vote and there were many protests. These women were called suffragettes. This is because they were fighting for universal suffrage which means that everyone is able to vote. The suffrage movement organized many protests for their rights. Some women even committed suicide to show how wrong they were in not being able to participate in politics, after women gained the right to vote. The feminist movement worked to make the whole of society more equal for women. Not all female politicians have been welcomed by feminists, vivid examples being Margaret Thatcher, Sarah Palin, and Michelle Bachmann. (Ibid)

1.2 Life and Career Of Charlotte Brontë`

Charlotte Brontë used to be born on 21 April 1816 in Market Street, Thornton, west of Bradford in the West Riding of Yorkshire, the third of the six teenagers of Maria (née Branwell) and Patrick Brontë (formerly surnamed Brunty), an Irish Anglican clergyman. In 1820 her family moved a few miles to the village of Haworth, the place her father had been appointed perpetual curate of St Michael and All Angels Church. Maria died of most cancers on 15 September 1821, leaving 5 daughters, Maria, Elizabeth, Charlotte, Emily and Anne, and a son, Branwell, to be taken care of by using her sister, Elizabeth Branwell. In August 1824, Patrick sent Charlotte, Emily, Maria, and Elizabeth to the Clergy Daughters' School at Cowan Bridge in Lancashire. Charlotte maintained that the school's negative conditions permanently affected her health and physical development, and hastened the deaths of Maria (born 1814) and Elizabeth (born 1815), who each died of tuberculosis in June 1825. After the deaths of his older daughters, Patrick removed Charlotte and Emily from the school. (ibid)

Charlotte used the college as the foundation for Lowood School in Jane Eyre.

At domestic in Haworth Parsonage, Brontë acted as "the motherly friend and guardian of her younger sisters". (Cousin, John .1910)

Do you think I am an automaton?—a machine without feelings? and can bear to have my morsel of bread snatched from my lips, and my drop of living water dashed from my cup? Do you think, because I am poor, obscure, plain, and little, I am soulless and heartless? You think wrong!—I have as much soul as you,—and full as much heart! And if God had gifted me with some beauty and much wealth, I should have made it as hard for you to leave me, as it is now for me to leave you. I am not talking to you now through the medium of custom, conventionalities, nor even of mortal flesh;—it is my spirit that addresses your spirit; just as if both had passed through the grave, and we stood at God's feet, equal,—as we are! (Charlotte Brontë: Jane Eyre)

Charlotte, in personal letters, called Glass Town "her 'world below', a private break out where she may want to act out her needs and more than one identities. Charlotte's "predilection for romantic settings, passionate relationships, and high society is at odds with Branwell's obsession with battles and politics and her young sisters' homely North Country realism, none the much less at this stage there is still a feel of the writings as a household enterprise". (Thomson, Patricia. 1989)

However, from 1831 onwards, Emily and Anne 'seceded' from the Glass Town Confederacy to create a 'spin-off' called Gondal, which covered many of their poems. (Maye, Brian. "Understanding Emily Brontë: 'Stronger than a man, easier than a child'". After 1831, Charlotte and Branwell concentrated on an evolution of the Glass Town Confederacy called Angria. (ibid) wrote "both Charlotte and Branwell ensured the consistency of their imaginary world. When Branwell exuberantly kills off necessary characters in his manuscripts, Charlotte comes to the rescue and, in effect, resurrects them for the subsequent memories [...]; and when Branwell will become bored with his inventions, such as the Glass Town magazine he edits, Charlotte takes over his initiative and continues the book going for countless extra years". (Alexander, Christine .4 July 2018)

The sagas the siblings created have been episodic and elaborate, and they exist in incomplete manuscripts, some of which have been posted as juvenilia. They furnished them with an obsessive hobby for the duration of childhood and early adolescence, which prepared them for literary vocations in adulthood. Between 1831 and 1832, Brontë continued her schooling at Roe Head in Mirfield, where she met her lifelong pals and correspondents Ellen Nussey and Mary Taylor. (Ibid)

Women are supposed to be very calm generally: but women feel just as men feel; they need exercise for their faculties, and a field for their efforts, as much as their brothers do; they suffer from too rigid a restraint, to absolute a stagnation, precisely as men would suffer; and it is narrow-minded in their more privileged fellow-creatures to say that they ought to confine themselves to making puddings and knitting stockings, to playing on the piano and embroidering bags. It is thoughtless to condemn them, or laugh at them, if they seek to do more or learn more than custom has pronounced necessary for their Sex(Charlotte Bronte«Jane Eyre)

In 1833 she wrote a novella, *The Green Dwarf*, using the name Wellesley. Around about 1833, her stories shifted from tales of the supernatural to greater sensible stories. In May 1846 Charlotte, Emily, and Anne self-financed the ebook of a joint collection of poems under their assumed names Currer, Ellis and Acton Bell. The pseudonyms veiled the sisters' intercourse whilst retaining their initials; thus Charlotte used to be Currer Bell. "Bell" was once the middle identify of Haworth's curate, Arthur Bell Nicholls whom Charlotte later married, and "Currer" was the surname of Frances Mary Richardson Currer who had funded their faculty (and maybe their father).(Lee,Colin.2004)

Of the selection to use noms de plume, Charlotte wrote:

Averse to personal publicity, we veiled our very own names beneath those of Currer, Ellis and Acton Bell; the ambiguous preference being dictated through a sort of conscientious scruple at assuming Christian names positively masculine, while we did not like to declare ourselves women, because – besides at that time suspecting that our mode of writing and wondering was no longer what is known as "feminine" – we had a indistinct affect that authoresses are in charge to be seemed on with prejudice; we had noticed how critics now and again use for their chastisement the weapon of personality, and for their reward, a flattery, which is not actual praise.(Biographical Notice of Ellis And Acton Bell", from the preface to the 1910 edition of *Wuthering Heights*.)

Although only two copies of the series of poems have been sold, the sisters persevered writing for book and started out their first novels, persevering with to use their noms de plume when sending manuscripts to attainable publishers . Her best works was :

JaneEyre, Shirley, Villette, Emma,The Professor,The Green Dwarf, Tales of Angria ,Tales of the Islanders , The Letters of Charlotte Bronte, The Complete Novels of Charlotte and Emily Brontë: Jane Eyre, *Wuthering Heights*, Shirley, Villette, the Professor

"I do not think, sir, you have a right to command me, merely because you are older than I, or because you have seen more of the world than I have; your claim to superiority depends on the use you have made of your time and experience."

(Charlotte Bronte«Jane Eyre)

CHAPTER TWO

Definition of feminism

The word feminism comes from French word *féminisme* and according to the Cambridge on-line dictionary feminism is "the faith that women ought to be allowed the same rights, power, and opportunities as guys and be handled in the same way, or the set of activities meant to gain this state." The time period 'feminism' itself is used to describe a cultural, political or financial movement aiming for equal rights for each women and men. Nonetheless, the phrases 'feminism' and 'feminist' did no longer attain widespread which means use till the 1970s when they commenced to be used in the public parlance more frequently. The feminist movement includes sociological and political theories regarding with gender difference issues. (Cambridge Dictionaries Online, 2016)

The motion has been right here for many decades, and British ladies have commenced to combat in opposition to the oppression at some point of mid 1850s when the first feminists started to advocate their ideas about inequality and when the first suffragette motion emerged, when you consider that then ladies have commenced working on accomplishing their desires to have the same rights and to have the identical position in society as men have. The feminist framework also shows how troubles are defined and the types of questions to be asked. For example, according to definition in *Theoretical Perspectives on Gender and Development* written by means of Jane L. Parpart et al inequality results from "the want to establish unequal incentives to inspire **2.2 The Waves Of Feminism**

Feminists and students have divided the motion into three separate waves and each of the waves is good sized for the movement in undertaking precise goals. The first wave refers essentially to the women's suffrage action in the nineteenth and early 20th centuries in the United Kingdom and in the United States, focusing on woman gaining the proper to vote. Originally, the first wave focused on the merchandising of equality and property rights for ladies and the opposition to chattel marriage and ownership of married ladies and their young adults thru their husbands. As Margaret Waters claims in her book referred to as *Feminism: A Very Short Introduction*, "for a married woman, her domestic becomes a prison-house. The residence itself, as exact as the total element in it, belongs to the husband, and of all fixtures the most abject is his breeding machine, the wife. Married women are in actuality slaves, their situation no higher than that of Negroes in the West Indies. (Halířová, Martina .2016)

Women at that time have been treated no higher like servants with occasionally any rights and possession. Marion Reid in her essay *A Plea for Women*, which has been described as the most thorough and incredible announcement via a girl for the reason that Wollstonecraft's *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*, argues "if women's rights are now no longer the equal as those of man, what are they? (Halířová·Martina..2016)

" in one sense, she admits, "woman was once made for man, but in another and higher she was once moreover made for herself. (Ibid)

Reid focuses on reasons why women must now no longer be restrained solely through domesticity and that taking care of household and children be in interest of both, the spouse as properly as the husband. the most talented people to do the most vital jobs successfully in society, other definition from the same book additionally says that the inequality consequences from "the practice of providing differential rewards to keep a less effective working classification fragmented through gender and race .(Jane L. Parpart et al, 2016)

Many female writers and feminists argued that what they wished was once as soon as recognition of what female need to fulfil their achievable and their very own natures and no longer only equality. Virginia Woolf, in likely the most exquisite pages of *A Room of One's Own*, states her argument about how women's talents have been wasted. Walters supports Woolf's argument and comments on it: "She contemplates a number of considerably talented girls from the past, from the Duchess of Newcastle to George Eliot and Charlotte Brontë – who have been disadvantaged of experience, intercourse and ride and that is the reason they by means of no means wrote quite as powerfully and generously as they would perhaps have. Woolf additionally reasoned that a girl need cash and a room of her very own to be capable to write. (Ibid)

Nevertheless, it used to be not sooner than in the 2d half of the nineteenth century when organized campaigns, golf equipment and movements for women's rights emerged in order to improve lady situation in terms of education, opportunities to work outdoor their households, reform in legal guidelines affecting married women and, for the first time, for the proper to vote. One of the first girl organizations was referred to as the Ladies of Langham Palace, the name comes from their assembly place, and the motion was led by way of Barbara Leigh Smith. The group initiated many campaigns round problems that had already been absolutely defined, for instance "women's pressing want for higher training and for elevated possibilities of employment, as well as the enchantments of the legal function of married women." In her pamphlets Leigh Smith also discussed the hassle of marriage settlements, due to the fact to that time girl would lose all her property as soon as she bought married. The activism targeted specifically on gaining political power, specially the right of women's suffrage in the direction of the very give up of the 19th century. In Britain the Suffragettes and, possibly extra effectively, the Suffragists campaigned for the women's vote. (ibid)

The suffrage was seen important no longer only as an acceptance of women in society but also for improving women's lives. Throughout the stop of the nineteenth century there had been many attempts to omit suffrage for women, though the parliament in no way handed it arguing if women had much impact in Parliament, it would lead, as Walters suggests, to "hasty alliances with scheming neighbours, greater category cries, permissive legislation, domestic perplexities and sentimental grievances. Even even though suffragettes did not gain many victories for the duration of the quit of the nineteenth and the commencing of the twentieth centuries they remained persistent. The biggest figures of British suffragettes were the Pankhurst family, Emily Davison or Emily Davies. Emily Davies contributed to female education, she believed women need to get the identical education as men, and she managed to form a committee to further the potentialities of female taking the University Local Examinations, which used to be established in late 1850s. (Ibid)

In 1878 Queen's and Bedford Colleges started awarding degrees to women, and 30 years later female at Oxford also grew to be full contributors of the universities. The Pankhurst family performed a primary position in the

suffragette movement, the leader of British suffragettes, Emmeline Pankhurst, was very politically radical and she is regarded to be one of the most influential female in the British history. Also, the Pankhursts established the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU). (Halířová·Martina..2016)

Laws and principles are not for the times when there is no temptation: they are for such moments as this, when body and soul rise in mutiny against their rigour; stringent are they; inviolate they shall be. If at my individual convenience I might break them, what would be their worth?"

(Charlotte Bronte·Jane Eyre)

The WSPU effectively and most radically fought for the vote and as Christabel Pankhurst once remarked: "It is unendurable to assume of every other era of female wasting their lives for the vote. We have to no longer lose any greater time. We have to act. Even though, initially, the WSPU was intended to be only a family business enterprise the shift of the group was gradual, from frightening the politicians to mass marches and demonstrations in Hyde Park. Finally, in 1918 the Representation of the People Act used to be exceeded granting the vote to women over the age of 30 who owned houses, and in 1928 the proper used to be extended to all women over the age of 21.17 Women could subsequently sit in the parliament after the World War I, although not many of them have been elected, as late as in 1840s there were solely 12 of them. However, female had been actively serving on faculty boards and other neighborhood our bodies considering the 1870s, and their numbers extended after the war. (Kristin Olsen, 2016.)

The second wave of feminism emerged after the World War II and can be described as the women's liberation movement, which targeted on gaining criminal and social equality for women, and most importantly on ending discrimination. This period was also understood as a continuation of the first wave of feminism, in fact, the time period 'first wave' was coined after the second wave emerged. Since the second wave had slightly different goal it needed a new term. (History and Theory of Feminism, 2016)

Night was come, and her planets were risen: a safe, still night: too serene for the companionship of fear. We know that God is everywhere; but certainly we feel His presence most when His works are on the grandest scale spread before us; and it is in the unclouded night-sky, where His worlds wheel their silent course, that we read clearest His infinitude, His omnipotence, His omnipresence." (Charlotte Bronte·Jane Eyre)

Second wave feminists saw women's cultural and political inequalities as "inextricably linked and prompted women to understand aspects of their non-public lives as deeply politicized and as reflecting sexist power structures. One of the most influential feminists of the early twentieth century used to be Simone de Beauvoir, who is also the writer of *The Second Sex* and of the very famous statement "one is now not born, but as an alternative becomes, a woman."19 De Beauvoir distinguishes sex from gender and suggests that gender is "an aspect of identity regularly acquired. (History and Theory of Feminism, 2016)

She states that gender is the cultural meaning and form that body acquires, the variable modes of that body's acculturation."20 Women nonetheless tried to speak higher social role in society and the feminist actions of this period described its needs for equal schooling opportunity and equal pay, as nicely as free contraception and abortion if needed. (History and Theory of Feminism, 2016)

The big difference from the first wave motion used to be that the businesses had been now a good deal smaller, and the ladies were focusing on discussing specific issues, sharing their experiences and discovering what they have in common as women. Not solely the matters listed above have been topics of discussion, rape performed additionally sizable position in the 2d wave feminism, and even today. (History and Theory of Feminism, 2016)

The third wave feminism or every now and then also referred to as the post-feminism starts off evolved in the Nineties and continues up to present. Post-feminism refers to the perceived screw ups of the 2d wave feminism and it continues in fighting for the identical beliefs as in the previous waves. However, the movement's focus has barely shifted; it is less targeted on political strategies and on laws but more on the person self. Also, the feminists are greater diverse now, the first and the 2d wave feminists were frequently Westers, middle-class, white women, whereas the 0.33 wave feminists are female from specific (Our Mission, 2016) ethnicities, colours, religions and social backgrounds. Since Nineteen Nineties female are greater identified in society and now not solely in the United Kingdom but additionally in different international locations all over the world. In Britain women have the identical opportunities for training and can have the same occupations as men and most importantly their opinions are valued and respected. Over the various many years the feminist movement has helped girls to stand for their very own and to be acknowledged. However, feminism nowadays can't be without difficulty described anymore, it is not as seen as it used to be at some point of the first wave, and some girls do not desire to be associated with feminism as they

nonetheless become aware of it as a rigid and out of date movement. Nonetheless. (Emma Watson, 2014) in September 2014 United Nations launched a new campaign called HeForShe whose Women Global Goodwill Ambassador grew to become a British actress Emma Watson. Not solely is Watson widely regarded persona however she actively participates in the marketing campaign and her speeches at the conferences have drawn attention of many. The HeForShe campaign targets for gender equality, which "is now not solely women problem however rather human rights issue. (Ibid)

As Watson herself cited at one of the HeForShe conferences: "How can we impact exchange in the world when solely half of it is invited or feel welcome to take part in the conversation? One of the desires of the marketing campaign is also to trap guys and boys to suggest for their own rights, now not only women, which is very necessary because the campaign aims to make men cozy to call themselves feminist as well. Even though, the campaign is being criticized as for being run via women exclusively, the publicity that used to be drawn on the feminist trouble is gradual once more which is a good sign, hitherto there is no use in the world the place female are absolutely equal to men. (Ibid)

I can live alone, if self-respect, and circumstances require me so to do. I need not sell my soul to buy bliss. I have an inward treasure born with me, which can keep me alive if all extraneous delights should be withheld, or offered only at a price I cannot afford to give.
(Charlotte Bronte, Jane Eyre)

CONCLUSION

In this research, I have talked about the novel in general and the type of novel, then after that I touched on feminism in a superficial way and the writer's private and professional life and what conditions she went through with the addition of quotes from the novel, and then after that I touched on explaining the issue of feminism in detail where the word feminism came from and what are its movements

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