

Tribhuvan University

Female Boldness in Jane Austen's *Northanger Abbey*

A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Ratna Rajyalaxmi Campus, Tribhuvan University, in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in English

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Ratna Rajyalaxmi Campus

2017

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the thesis/ research/ term paper entitled,
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Letter of Approval

This thesis entitled "Female Boldness in Jane Austen's *Northanger Abbey*" submitted to the Department of English, Ratna Rajyalaxmi Campus, by Prakash Pandey has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee:

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Acknowledgements

I express my sincere gratitude to my thesis supervisor, Janak Paudyal , Faculty guidance and supervisor Ratna Rajyalaxmi Campus, Tribhuvan University, for his crucial role in the accomplishment of the thesis. It is due to his constant support, supervision and guidance that I have been able to successfully complete this thesis. Similarly, I am grateful to Pradip Sharma, Head, Department of English, for his kind co-operation.

My sincere gratitude also goes to my wife, Devi Ghaire who gave her heart and soul to support and encourage me to take the degree. Without their support, I would have hardly been able to complete my master's degree. So their contribution will remain in my memory forever. I would also like to thank my friends who directly and indirectly helped me to accomplish this task.

I am thankful to various libraries, mainly the TU Central Library, American Library, British Council as well as the English Department, RR Campus, for providing valuable information and co-operation to bring out this thesis in present shape.

August 2017

Prakash Pandey

Abstract

This research work studies Jane Austen's novel, *Northanger Abbey* from the feminist perspective. In all societies, however, some individuals do not identify with some of the aspects of gender that are assigned to their biological sex. In most societies, there exists a gender binary, a social dichotomy that enforces conformance to the ideals of masculinity and femininity in all aspects of sex and gender: biological sex, gender consciousness, and gender expression. Some societies have third gender categories that can be used as a basis for a gender consciousness by people who are uncomfortable with the gender that is usually associated with their sex; in other societies, membership of any of the gender categories is open to people regardless of their sex.

The novel, *Northanger Abbey* is also no exception because the character Catherine Morland, visits and revisits her mouthpiece characteristic. The then time should be taken into consideration very well. Ending of eighteenth century and beginning of nineteenth century was that period of time, where women's roles and actions were confined within four walls of a room. As matchmaking is generally used to deal by males, the character of Catherine reflects some feminist elements. While independence as the feminist elements is reflected in Catherine determination in making judgments on her own. She decides to stay single and faces every obstacle boldly. Unlike the other women of the nineteenth century, Catherine does not follow what the males tell her to do; instead she dares to question everything that her male counterparts say. Catherine independently makes decisions of her own and takes responsibilities of those decisions as well. The feminist elements of independence have helped not only Catherine herself to be mature and responsible person, but the independence will make her a better person eventually.

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Chapter I: Introduction about Female Identity

The belief that men are superior to women has been used to justify and maintain the male monopoly of positions of economic, political and social power, in other words, to keep women powerless by denying them from the educational and occupational means of acquiring economic, political, and inferior position long occupied, it is a patriarchal assumption, rather than a fact. It's clear, from the very starting of human civilization women were considered as inferior, second class and still women are thought to be an object to fulfill men's aspirations and anticipations, to serve them physically, sexually and mentally. Due to identity consciousness, female feels massive domination in patriarchal society. Feminist entirely deals with women's feelings, ideas attitudes experiences problems and thoughts. Feminism is considered to be both an intellectual and political movement and uproar that try to guarantee justice for women and all kinds of discrimination and uneven treatment done to them, especially by male. Feminist assumes that from very beginning of human civilization, society's treatment towards women have been wrong. Both law and theology had ordered their subjugation. They were restricted to have property in their own names, engage in business, or control the disposal of their children. They are taken to be as second sex, inferior, passive, weak, a body especially designed to engineer the domestic life only. Walker writes: "even great philosophers like Aristotle and Saint Thomas Aquinas devalued and demoralized women's status, intellectual efforts and potentialities (295)". Not this much only what we examine in patriarchal society, women are sexually exploited. In heterosexuality, men occupy the first or upper position. Social perception has been made as when women have physical relationship with the men, it is considered that they are surrendering themselves to the dominace of men. So, men have glorified and made bigger in terms of sex, Thus,

identity consciousness is undoubtedly great for women because it meant less repression and oppression, equality and more possibilities in life. However, it may also have exacerbated women's identity crisis by adding more distinctiveness. According to Erik, identity crisis is caused by the loss of "a sense of personal sameness and historical continuity" (17). In terms of individuals in the group of women, although the liberation they enjoyed in the post-war era brought them more possibilities in life, it also meant that they faced various kinds of predicament in which their original roles were challenged, and this led to uncertainty about their identity. Liberation does not necessarily mean freedom for women. If women don't

Men have got controlled the conceptual area and determined social values and structures of most of the institutions. Quite clearly seen that male has power of naming, defining and exploring. A woman is considered from masculine perspectives. They have been told in such a way that their happiness lies in giving up everything to male service. It means their dedication and service to their home and to their husband is only their prime duty.. Regarding the sexual power of male over female, Freedman says:

Sexuality, then, is a form of power. Gender as socially constructed embodies it, not the reverse. Women and men are divided by gender made into the sexes, as we know them, by the social requirements of heterosexuality, which institutionalize male sexual dominance and female sexual submission. If this is true, sexuality is linchpin of gender inequality. (60)

Identity and Belief System

Language, sexuality, religious beliefs, ethnicity, aesthetics and even food. The divisions between cultures can be very fine in some parts of the world, especially

places such as Canada or the United States, where the population is ethnically diverse and social unity is based primarily on common social values and beliefs. Macaulay argues that

gives individuals a greater sense of shared citizenship. When considering practical association in international society, states may share an inherent part of their 'make up' that gives common ground and an alternative means of identifying with each other. Nations provide the framework for culture identities called external cultural reality, which influences the unique internal cultural realities of the individuals within the nation. (23)

Almost everywhere people say that this crisis is caused by Globalization, a concept responsible for the experience of migrancy, altering relations between Western and other cultures and the sense of identity of the individuals whose lives have taken them across the borders between so-called the first world, the second worlds, and the third worlds, or across in effect, pre-modern and postmodern societies. The globalization in its long run has caused the interfusing of identities in the hybridity of cultural identities. The expression of culture is inextricably bound up with the notion of identity. People express their identity: they question it if they find the difficulty of belonging; they even seek their relation to the source culture; and thereby try to establish their identity. Identity as such has been a topical issue in the study of culture, and the scholars. So, Sen says "the concept of identity is vent and lay out for crisis that haphazardly make people status quo with ever ending stagnant" (109). This notion of hybridity suggests that it has the relation to racial and 'ethnic' identities. Moreover, these identities are not pure but are the product of mixing, fusion, and realization, following the mixing and movements of cultures. Specifically

from the slave trade to mass media, there lies the great shape of modern identities. The result is the fusion or hybridity of identities, which cannot be taken as the product of ‘assimilation’ of one culture or cultural tradition by another, but the production of something new. It becomes clear that identities are fluid, and are both consciously and unconsciously delimited. Any numbers of factors are likely to be under negotiation in either cases; whether of religion, nation, language, political ideology or cultural expression.. Lutel believes that cultural identity exists only in representation. She argues:

Identity is not as transparent or unproblematic as we think. Perhaps instead of thinking of identity as an already accomplished fact, which the cultural practices then represent, we should think, instead, of identity as a ‘production’ which is never complete, always in process, and always constituted within, not outside representation. This view problematizes the very authority and authenticity to which the terms cultural identity lays claim. (110)

Thus, This is, in fact, true to the female whose cultural identity played a critical role in all patriarchal society which have so profoundly reshaped their world. It continues to be a very powerful and creative force in emergent forms of representation amongst hither to marginalized peoples.

Issue about Social Aspect

As social beings there should be reciprocal relationship between the sexes, which has become the immediate demand of feminists today. Gender Consciousness does not refer to the placing of a person into one of the categories male or female; but without including the concept of interaction with society at large the term has no meaning. The whole thesis as it discusses Austin’s life and works, an overview of

Victorian novel and a critical analysis of the novel *Northanger Abbey*. Basically, it examines the title character Catherine's search for sense of equality and independence, which she does by challenging Victorian social norms and values. The novel, *Northanger Abbey* is also no exception because the character Catherine Morland, visits and revisits her mouthpiece characteristic. The then time should be taken into consideration very well. Ending of eighteenth century and beginning of nineteenth century was that period of time, where women's roles and actions were confined within four walls of a room. As matchmaking is generally used to deal by males, the character of Catherine reflects some feminist elements. While independence as the feminist elements is reflected in Catherine determination in making judgments on her own. She decides to stay single and faces every obstacle boldly. Unlike the other women of the nineteenth century, Catherine does not follow what the males tell her to do; instead she dares to question everything that her male counterparts say. Catherine independently makes decisions of her own and takes responsibilities of those decisions as well. The feminist elements of independence have helped not only Catherine herself to be mature and responsible person, but the independence will make her a better person eventually.

Females today are striving and aspiring to get their consciousness and self-esteem. But it cannot be a mere phantasm either, as Mira Sen says: "gender identities are the points of identification, the unstable points of identification of suture, which are made, within the discourses of history and culture"(3). Breaking the silence of women in the patriarchal ideology is Feminism. It is a part of women's movement which is an aggressive conscious feeling of women who begin to reject their own passively. The basic point is that "Western civilization is purposively patriarchal (ruled by the father) that is, it is male and conducted in such a way as to subordinate

women to men in all cultural domains: familial religious, political, economic, social, legal and artistic” (Abrams 94). Michele Zimbist Rosaldo, a well known scholar in her book *Woman, Culture and Society*, says, “a female infant is victimized by the concept of to be a mother in future where her brothers are left to be restless to seek out horizontal ties with peers which help them latter ‘to be a man’ and be a sufficient” (25). In association with Feminist criticism, Toril Moi says, “Feminist criticism then is a specific kind of political discourse.

A critical and theoretical practice committed to the sexism not simply a concern for gender in literature” (204). Likewise, another female critic Elaine Showalter states: "Feminist criticism has demanded not just the recognition of women's writing, but a radical rethinking of the conceptual of literary study" (181). Sen emphasis quoted above throws a light to the spectrum of the dynamics of gender consciousness. His idea that consciousness is “always constructed through memory, fantasy, narrative and myth” can be taken as his great contribution to the thinking that there is the relation existing between cultural consciousness and expression. Gender consciousness is a person's private sense and subjective experience of their own gender. This is generally described as one's private sense of being a man or a woman, consisting primarily of the acceptance of membership into a category of people: male or female. All societies have a set of gender categories that can serve as the basis of the formation of a social consciousness in relation to other members of society. In most societies, there is a basic division between gender attributes assigned to males and females.

Acey comes to conclude the fact that gender consciousness is not fixed essence at all but just lying unchanged outside history and culture that is constructed by male. So, this is the case of many feminist subjects in the world. They have been

trying to recreate themselves to establish their consciousness through varying ways of expression. They are narrating the stories of their self-torture and self-actualization in the world of cultural confusions.

The novelist expounds a character's views in terms obviously appropriate to his or her way of thinking but keeps to the sequence of tense belonging to indirect speech. Likewise, Dr. S. Sen in his book *A Critical Evaluation*, has also admired Jane Austen's creativity as follows: Another critic named Alice Walker tags "*Northanger Abbey* as a realistic novel"(49). According to him: *Northanger Abbey* is excellent, there is no story whatever and the heroine is no better than other people; but the characters are all so true to life and the style so piquant that it does not require the adventitious aids of mystery and adventure. It becomes clear that though the text has been analyzed through various perspectives, the feminism has not been applied yet. There exists a strong need to carry out research on this play from a new perspective. Without a proper study on this issue, the meaning of the text will remain incomplete. Having taken this fact into account, I propose to carry out research via feminism.

In a nutshell, *Northanger Abbey* has all of the ingredients of a Jane Austen novel; wit, warmth, irony, great laughable humour and dazzling characterizations and a microscopic reading.

Chapter II: Feminism

Feministic Approach

Male domination can be heavily seen in many cultural systems of the world. It is very easy for males in male dominated societies to keep females under pressure and to take negative benefit due to their dominated position. This pressure and negative benefit can be of any kind. Negative results of unbalanced male/female domination appear significantly in a society when a young generation gets married and starts new life with his/her marriage partner. It was a challenge for all women to withstand against such patriarchal society. The Feminist movement is also known as the Women's Movement or Women's liberation which refers to a series of campaigns for reforms on issues such as reproductive, domestic violence, maternity leave, equal pay, women's suffrage, sexual harassment and sexual violence. The movement's priorities vary among nations and communities and range from opposition to female genital cutting in one country or the glass ceiling in another. The sole concern of feminism was with the question how men socially and physically dominate women. Virginia Woolf in her book *A Room of One's Own* says, "Women are simultaneously victims of themselves as well as victims of men and are upholders of society by acting as mirrors to men" (4). She was quite clear regarding the fact that women had faced social and economic obstacles to their objectives. She demanded her own space and area where she could do everything freely.

Another feminist principle, eliminating gender stratification, proposes that laws and cultural norms that limit the income, educational, and job opportunities for women should be opposed. A woman is held to represent the 'otherness' of man, his negative. Feminist how race, class, ethnicity, sexuality, nationality, and age intersect

with gender theorists also question the differences between women, including. Dr. Samira Luitel says:

Women as bearer and reader of children mostly worked inside household and were kept away from his inventions. Her outside activities was constrained die to her physical nature and also man's reluctance to involve her in his private business. With the advancement agricultural and small scale industries, woman was still limited to her own housestead. (13)

Thus, denied the freedom to act and choose on their own, women remained solely inside the field of vision, mere illusion to be dreamt and cherished. A woman is a woman, and a woman she must remain but not a 'man's shadow-self', 'an appendage', 'an auxiliary' and the 'unwanted and neglected other'. The model claims that the sex of a person is the physical body that the individual is born with, strictly existing within a male/female dichotomy giving importance to the genitals and the chromosomes which make the organism male or female. The standard model defines gender as a social understanding/ideology that defines what behaviors, actions, and appearances are proper for males and females living in society. Feminist theory, or feminism, is support of equality for women and men. The importance of men and their superiority has been a part and parcel of social mores for generations in many societies. Women had always been the less important individuals. When a woman lives in a male dominated society obviously she undergoes many hardships. It is a wretched condition of women in our society when she has no husband in her life she is not worthy of respect. Society finds faults with anyone who does not adhere to its laws, in other words, they are the transgressors of society. In a male dominated society and under male chauvinism a woman's role is hence viewed through a magnifying glass,

and she is always watched by others, especially if she does not follow the rules established by the males. As male chauvinism refuses to recognize woman as competitor in domains of society, in this situation, a woman is not born but made by the society. As Beauvoir writes:

One is not born, but rather becomes a woman. No biological, psychological or economic fate determine the figure that the human female presents in society; it is civilization as a whole that produces this creature, intermediate between male and eunuch, which is described as feminine that male behaves as a matter of fantasy and led toward female self consciousness fragile lacking. (25)

Females have to bear negative qualities like witch , siren and so on. So, due to males' nature of defining females, they have to limit in household activities of nursing , caring . washing and so on. As Simone de Beauvoir finds "man represents both the positive and the neutral, as is indicated by the common use of man to designate human beings in general; whereas woman represents only the negative, defined criteria, without reciprocity" (9).

Male Misjudgement Upon Female

With savage selfishness he treats woman as an object that provides physical enjoyment, social companionship and domestic comfort. Man has subjugated woman to his will, used her as means to promote his selfish gratification, to minister to his sensual pleasure, to be instrumental in promoting his comfort; but never has he desired to elevate her to that rank she was created to fill. He has done all he could do to debase and enslave her mind. A woman is never regarded as an autonomous being since she has always been assigned a subordinate and relative position in our society. It is an appalling condition of women that they cannot live without men in our social

set-up. As they are considered to be physically weak, and to go ahead in the society, they need protection from males. This is the root cause of females' apathy in our society. We find references to this aspect of social life, where husbands dominate their wives, and make them the worst sufferer in the novels. The fundamental humanistic values which bind a man and woman into the bond of togetherness the fidelity and companionship are away in the male-dominated society where gender inequality is disseminated in each nook and corner.

Man can think of himself without woman. She can not think of herself without man. And she is simply what man decrees she appears essentially to the male as a sexual being. For him she is sex absolute sex, no less. She is defined and differentiated with reference to man and not he with reference to her; she is the incidental the inessential as opposed to the essential. (10)

When human beings thought the need of fixed settlement and a house then only the concept of family and protection of children were given importance. When they entered in to agricultural period, they realized the need of children, family and community by which they could yield more and more support each other in various ways. The female autonomy within the household was also gradually taken away with the establishment of modern industries mostly based on patriarchal values. The role of women was seen most important as mother and caretaker than the manager of household. Men With the development of civilization thus, enslaved women as it advanced. This example “applies most prominently in the industrialized societies than the small preliterate society” (Luitel, 13).

Thus, in the due course of time in order to fulfill their vested interests males began to subordinate females for which, according to feminists, there are several

factors such as economic, farming force and violence and others. Yet feminists believe that non- gender societies are possible. They strongly pose the argument about the existence of non- gender societies. Paul insists “they have existed and will exist again”(9).

Gender Practices

The history of the creation of male and female is explained as necessary to continue the human species. But the evolutionist theorists explain in terms of Darwin’s theory of origin of the species. They explain societies and cultures as developed form of the primitive to modern stage- from hunting and gathering to the modern industrialized societies. This explanation does not provide a satisfactory reason for gender construction. Taking examples of various types of family and society still existing, it is difficult to point out specific period when, where, and how gender role segregation started. Anthropologist believes that *Adam* and *Eve* would have done same type of work when there was no gender role assignment. Initially “it was believed that it was the physical appearance and strength that distinguished between male and female and the strength of masculinity was the cause to control over women. But Simone de Beauvoir’s *The Second Sex* disclosed the myth and reality of the universal understanding of masculinity / femininity depicted mostly by male sociologists\ Anthropologists. She argues in her ground breaking book that in the pastoral and nomadic period men and women had same work, mostly hunting, gathering and fishing. Both of them had no desire of children, as they were burden for both to carry babies while moving around and no specific place to protect from wild animals. Then most of the children were either killed or left to survive on their own. Only those who were strong survived. Beauvoir believes that in the beginning of the agricultural period women had a very high position because of the of human resource

to work in the field and she was seen as miracle of reproduction. Children were given mother's name\ title. Mother had more power and rights; she could mate with anybody and bore all the responsibilities of the children. Later on, men's nature to take risk and show physical strength began to conquer individuals and groups. Because of this nature of risk taking he conquered nature, started constructing and innovating new tools and technologies. With savage selfishness he treats woman as an object that provides physical enjoyment, social companionship and domestic comfort.

Some traits are obviously innate (for example, reproductive organs), others obviously environmental (for example, given names), while for others the relationship is either multi-cause or unknown. It is a distinction of biological and/or physiological characteristics typically associated with either males or females of a species in general. In the study of humans, socio-political issues arise in classifying whether a sex difference results from the biology of gender. This article focuses on quantitative differences which are based on a gradient and involve different averages. For example, men are taller than women on average, but an individual woman may be taller than an individual man. The existence of a gender difference does not necessarily identify whether the trait is due to nature or environment. Daniel Dennett says "modern humans have inherited natural traits that were adaptive in a prehistoric environment; including traits that had different advantages for males versus females" (110). Evolutionary theory of sex considers gender differences as a result of distinct specialization of the sexes, performing relationship with preceding generations and with the environment. Theory explains ethological and psychological sexual dimorphism, more efficient "education" or "training" of females during the course of

ontogenetic adaptation as well as greater conformism of females well known to psychologists.

These are not all mutually exclusive theories: it is possible that gender differences are partially innate but are then reinforced and exaggerated by the environment. Some feminists see gender differences as caused by patriarchy or discrimination, although difference feminism argues for an acceptance of gender differences.

Chapter III: Female Boldness in Jane Austen's *Northanger Abbey*

Austen makes Catherine full with the words like handsome, clever and rich. Her physique is perfect more than that she is perfect by her action and leadership. Catherine apologizes to Eleanor and Henry, and plans are made for another walk. John, Isabella, and James again intervene, pressuring Catherine into another outing. Catherine firmly refuses this time and joins Eleanor and Henry in a walk around Beechen Cliff. They discuss novels, and Catherine is delighted to find that Henry and Eleanor love books as much as she does. Catherine returns home to discover that James and Isabella have become engaged. She briefly meets with John, who is leaving Bath for several weeks.

Feminist theory was already hinted by Jane Austen in several years ago which was her genius and the product of intellectual cerebrum. Jane Austen is best known for her wonderful skills of presenting women in the novels or her all novels have been forwarded by the lady characters. The feminism that we are discussing today was already initiated by the Jane Austen. Those ladies writers of that time could not revolt against patriarchy and male domination as today's ladies are doing. But they were seeking some means and medium through which they could ease their suffocation of male chauvinism. Literature became their best way to express.

When *Northanger Abbey* was written, feminism had not been popular and women had innocently accepted their roles as Feminine. Walking out of the roles of domesticity would be crime. Any lady coming out of the four walls of a house and daring to do the social works or like that she was tagged as "over smart" or "morally corrupt". To be a lady writer in the midst of such atmosphere was nothing than walking on the edge of blade. But who could stop Austen from producing the novels which were later proved to be philosophy of feminism.

Those who had an intense insight took *Northanger Abbey* as manifesto of Feminism. *Northanger Abbey*, for many readers, is both delightful and didactic. She chooses to reveal her vision through the mode of social comedy in very small setting, but the depth and precision of observation make that vision universal. Austen deals with the sophisticated social life for it, she selects her family circle to show the weakness of society. In this concern, Elizabeth Drew praises her as, “she is much more penetrating psychologist and a much more finished and subtle artist” (109).

The protagonist of *Northanger Abbey*. Catherine is seventeen years old, and has spent all her life in her family's modest home in the rural area of Fullerton. While Catherine has read many novels (particularly Gothic novels), she is very inexperienced at reading people. Her naiveté about the world and about the motivations and character of the people she meets is an endless source of confusion and frustration for her. Nonetheless, Catherine is very intelligent and learns from her mistakes, and can also be witty. Her strongest attributes are her integrity and caring nature. Her nature shows the following lines: "Catherine 's writing by every post,nor exacted her promise of transmitting the character of every new acquaintance,nor a details of every interesting conversation that Bath might produce . Eveything indeed relative to this important journey was done (8)".

Literature is said to be the mirror of a society. What happens in society that is reflected in the work of literature. While analyzing *Northanger Abbey* , it is necessary to be contextual and along with it, there should be venture the concept of female consciousness againt male domination , which had made female inferior and harbour the pang of domination as a docile manner. Austen made great samaritan to explore nineteen century female identity. The novel, *Northanger Abbey* is also no exception because the character Catherine Morland, visits and revisits her mouthpiece

characteristic. The then time should be taken into consideration very well. Ending of eighteenth century and beginning of nineteenth century was that period of time, where women's roles and actions were confined within four walls of a room. They were submissive and their status was always determined by what kind of husband they get. That mean to say they were not considered as significant beings. Such their state of limbo , pathos , domination and oppression make them to seek their identity and enable them to challenge male canonical world.

Conservative Male World

Catherine seems to be class consciouness and little bit conservative to the modern readers but the time period when *Northanger Abbey* was written, marriage was one of the best way to introduce them in the society. The lady like Catherine would be considering as the luckiest one who keeps an ability of choose a husband. Since eighteenth century women were limited of their parents for the marriage. The parents were in haunt of good husband with good home. In such condition, love would be totally ignored and neglected. as Mrs. Allen described by Austen:

Here ,Catherine , who was much less gratified y his admiration than by General Tinley's was not sorry to be called away by Mr Allen .
Thorpe , however , would see her to her chair, and till she entered it, continued the same kind of delicate flattry , in spite of her entreating him to have done (68).

Just when Catherine and Isabella have settled into a close friendship, they are met with the arrival of James Morland, Catherine's brother, and John Thorpe, Isabella's brother. James and John are friends at Oxford University. Isabella wastes no time in flirting with James, and soon it is obvious to everyone except Catherine that James and Isabella are in love. Taking a cue from James, John tries to woo Catherine,

asking her to be his dance partner. But at a ball, Catherine sees Henry Tilney again and is more interested in Henry than in John. John's bragging and his arrogant nature put off Catherine. Soon all of Isabella's time is taken up with James. Without Isabella to spend her time with and saddled with the unpleasant John Thorpe, Catherine decides to become friends with Eleanor Tilney, Henry's sister. Eleanor quickly sees that Catherine has feelings for Henry, but does not say anything. After rain seems to wash out her plans for a walk with Henry and Eleanor, Catherine is pressured by James and Isabella into riding with John, much to her dismay. On the way, she spots Henry and Eleanor walking toward her house for the planned walk. John refuses to stop, angering Catherine. Austen Mentions:

They passed briskly down Pulteney Street, and through Laura Place , without the exchange of many words. Thorpe talke to his horse , and she meditated, by turns, on broken promises and broken arches, phaetons and false hangings (60).

Eleanor invites Catherine to visit the Tilney home in Northanger Abbey. The invitation is seconded by Eleanor's father, General Tilney. Catherine eagerly accepts the invitation, delighted at the prospect of visiting a real abbey and at seeing more of Henry. Before Catherine leaves, Isabella tells her that John is planning to propose to Catherine. Catherine tells Isabella to write him and tell him, with her apologies, that he is mistaken. Frederick appears and flirts with Isabella, who returns his attentions. Dismayed by this behavior, Catherine asks Henry to convince Frederick to leave Isabella alone. Henry refuses, knowing that Isabella is at least as guilty as the captain, but he tells Catherine that Frederick will probably leave Bath with his regiment soon anyway. Catherine thought is mentioned as

The two dances were scarcely concluded before Catherine found her arm gently seized by her faithful Isabella, who in great spirits exclaimed – ‘At last I have got you. My dearest creature, I have been looking for you this hour. (36)

Thus, her confidence of becoming single is quite solid. Catherine seeks a kind of equality between male and female. Catherine leaves with the Tilneys for Northanger Abbey. On the way, Catherine tells Henry how she imagines the Abbey to resemble the haunted ruins of the Gothic novels she loves. Henry, amused, responds by giving a hypothetical account of her first night at the Abbey, complete with mysterious chests, violent storms, and secret passages. Northanger Abbey turns out to be quite dull, having been fixed up by General Tilney. Due to her overactive imagination, Catherine entertains all sorts of frightening ideas about the place, each of which is thwarted.

Female and Patriarchal Society

However, Catherine's good impression of Henry Tilney does not last for a long time. Austen comments, “Catherine’s very good opinion of George was little shaken the following day, by hearing that he was gone off to London, merely to his hair cut” (216). She concludes that he only cares about pleasing her and that he does not seem to care about others' feelings. Although Isabella cannot be called a villain, she causes many problems over the course of the novel. Isabella manages to weasel a marriage proposal out of James, but when she discovers that he is not as rich as she assumed, she begins flirting with Frederick Tilney. Isabella can be seen as a gold-digger interested only in money, as an attractive girl who cannot refuse the attention of a young man, particularly a wealthy or well-known one, or as someone who simply can't figure out what she wants. But most modern interpretations of Isabella analyze

her as one of Austen's ironic caricatures, an exaggeration of the emphasis on wealth and position that often preoccupied high society. Let us examine the following lines:

Catherine to doubt her own judgement than Henry's ,she was very soon obliged to give him credit for being right , however disagreeable to her his going . But the inexplicability of the General 's conduct dwelt much on her thoughts. (154)

Catherine hates that type of guy who is not accountable towards his family.

Here, She thinks that a man with his youth and his resources should have made the visit to his own father even before he is asked to. Catherine assumes that his absence is his proof of his negligence towards his father and it shows that he is basically not a good character. She wants Henry to act like a real male. When Catherine learns a secret engagement to Jane Fairfax, she was hurt. She herself was directed towards him as both of them were physically good looking, they share the same age, and they have many similarities in character. More importantly, they share the position in the society they were both socially respectable and rich.

For her, an ideal marriage is an amalgam of happily married and well married. That means if a woman got happiness personally, socially and financially, that is the best marriage. This situation was not in reality but Austen's imagination paved a way where women could walk, freely and independently. For instance, a strange bureau in Catherine's room turns out to contain nothing more mysterious than receipts.

Catherine becomes intrigued by the death of Eleanor and Henry's mother years earlier. Her mind full of Gothic plots, Catherine suspects that General Tilney of murdering his wife. Catherine sneaks into the mother's old chamber and discovers nothing. She is caught by Henry, who guesses her thoughts and scolds her. Mortified and ashamed, Catherine quickly resumes her good behavior. As the given show her character:

Catherine was all eager delight her eyes were here, there, everywhere, as they approached its fine and striking environs, and afterwards drove through those streets which conducted them to the hotel. She was come to be happy, and she felt happy already. (12)

With all these reasons, Catherine believed that Henry and she will be an ideal couple. She was betrayed. Henry convinces her by showing his interest. Henry for patronizing Catherine, for telling her how to see the world and mocking her naiveté. This criticism is partially accurate. Henry is often amused by Catherine's naïve nature, and playfully guides her to a better understanding, as can be seen during their walk around Beechen Cliff and on the ride to Northanger Abbey. But his behavior, especially when compared to that of the boorish John Thorpe, is always gentle and caring. He adores his sister, Eleanor, and loves his father, although he often disagrees with him.

Male as an Antagonist

General Tilney comes the closest of any character to being an antagonist in *Northanger Abbey*, though that term is too strong to describe his role. When Catherine suspects Tilney of murdering his wife, she perceives him as a villain. In fact, the General's true crimes consist of being too concerned with wealth and finery, and perhaps of robbing Catherine of her imaginative vision of a real Gothic abbey. Tilney is not a storybook villain, or even a villain from a Gothic novel. He is realistic man, a wealth-obsessed real estate developer who gets in the way of his children's happiness. Like John Thorpe, he is given to boasting and preoccupied with himself when he is not meddling in his children's lives.

Her sense of responsibility is unique. Catherine handles every matter successfully despite coming near to mistake. She thinks twice before she steps into an

action. Whenever she guides to Henry she also learns the lesson of life. Catherine can really enter the world of adulthood, she needs to improve her ability to read people as well as novels. Throughout *Northanger Abbey*, Catherine finds herself unable to "read between the lines." She does not notice the obvious romance developing between James and Isabella, she does not understand why Frederick Tilney gets involved, she has no idea why the General is so kind to her. All of these behaviors and motivations are clear to the reader and to the characters surrounding Catherine. When Catherine finally tries to do some of her own analysis, she gets her perceptions mixed up with those encouraged by her novel-reading: she recognizes General Tilney's grumpiness and the tyrannical control he tries to exert over his children, but she attributes his attitude to the grisly murder of his wife.

Catherine Morland is a fairly unremarkable seventeen-year-old living in a small village, Fullerton, with her nine siblings and her parents. Fortunately for Catherine, this boring state of affairs only lasts one chapter. The Allens, a well-off childless couple, invite Catherine to visit tourist hot-spot Bath (a resort town in England) with them. Catherine is thrilled to get out of her dull town. But Catherine's views of life outside of her small town are highly colored by the romantic Gothic novels she reads, as well her own inexperience and naiveté. This leads to a lot of comedic mishaps during her time away from home.

While in Bath, Catherine meets and befriends two families: the scheming Thorpes and the wealthy, educated Tilneys. She first meets the charming and witty Henry Tilney at a ball and quickly develops a huge crush on him. Luckily, Catherine also befriends Isabella Thorpe, so she has someone with whom to discuss her crush. Isabella and Catherine bond quickly and go on a spree of reading Gothic novels, gossiping, and attending balls.

Catherine did not hear enough of this speech to understand or be pained by it ; and other subjects being studiously brought forward and supported by Henry ,at the same time that a tray full of refreshments was introduced by his servant, the General was shortly restored to his complacency ,and Catherine to all her usual ease of spirits (156).

Isabella is also in love with Catherine's older brother James. And James is good friends with Isabella's older brother, John. So, naturally, the Thorpes decide that Catherine is the perfect match for John. They can all double date. John is, unfortunately (and hilariously), rude and overbearing. The Thorpe siblings spend their time manipulating both James and Catherine in order to ensure advantageous marriages for themselves. While the Morlands are certainly not rich, they do have more money than the Thorpes. Catherine remains largely oblivious to the Thorpe's schemes and tends to assume that everyone is as honest as herself and James. This leads to a whole series of comedic mishaps where the naive Catherine continually manages to extricate herself from situations orchestrated by the Thorpes.

Despite John's ham-fisted attempts at wooing and Isabella's shrewd efforts at distraction, Catherine is still falling in love with the wealthy Henry Tilney. She also befriends his polite and quiet sister Eleanor, who is the polar opposite of the artificial Isabella. While Catherine grows closer to Henry, Isabella gets engaged to James. But, within a few days, Isabella meets the handsome Captain Tilney, Henry's older brother, and begins to flirt outrageously with him. John Thorpe's nature is revealed the lines:

Catherine listened with astonishment ; she knew not how to reconcile two such very different accounts of the same thing;for she had not been brought up to understand the propensities of a rattle,nor to know to how

many idle assertions and impudent falsehoods the excess of vanity will lead page no .(45)

Henry, Eleanor, and their father, General Tilney, decide to leave Bath and invite Catherine to visit them at their home, Northanger Abbey. While at Northanger Abbey, Catherine's love of Gothic novels and her tendency to confuse fiction with reality come back to haunt her. Catherine makes some bad assumptions after hearing of Mrs. Tilney's death, and she begins to suspect the controlling General Tilney of murder. Henry calls her out on this, and Catherine feels bad when she learns that Mrs. Tilney died of perfectly natural causes.

Suddenly, Catherine receives a letter from James stating that his engagement with Isabella has been broken off. Even more shockingly, James says that Isabella is now engaged to Captain Tilney. This turns out not to be true, as Catherine discovers when Isabella sends her a letter revealing that Captain Tilney has jilted her and left town. By now, Catherine is disgusted by Isabella's dishonorable and untrustworthy

character, and she chooses not to respond to the letter. After a month at Northanger Abbey, Catherine is mysteriously cast out of the house by General Tilney. She goes home in disgrace and has a hard time settling into her former routine. Most of all, she misses Henry and wishes that she could be in communication with him. Before too many days pass, however, Henry surprises Catherine with a visit. He asks for her hand in marriage and explains that his father acted so rudely because he was informed that Catherine was not as rich as he had supposed her to be. Catherine is glad that the mystery is cleared up, but they still have to obtain the General's permission to get married. They finally get his consent after Miss Tilney marries a landed aristocrat, raising the family's status in the country. Austen says:

Isebella , my broyher , and Mr Thrope. I declare!They are coming for me perhaps –but I shall not go –I cannot go indeed , for you know Miss Tinley may still call.’Mrs Allen agreed to it. John Thrope was soon with then , and his voice waswith them yet sooner ,foron yhe stairs he was calling out to Miss Morland to be quick.(58)

Catherine is that type of girl who turns into full responsible lady since her childhood. She worries to other more than herself. She does’t step back in her determination and ambition. She says no to “marriage” means saying no to feminine role. She is interested in all the activities which a sigle man does. Like liberty to travel, to have job, involving in social affairs and so on. These all thing are so dear to Catherine that she cannot compromise it with any cost or value. She has involved in the most delicate social custom, marriage. The role staged by the men or the matter which is the privilege of men is thoroughly enjoyed by Catherine. Actually she wants to assert her sense of equality between men and women. Women are object but women can be subject too in the case of matrimony. The general trend, where man used to become active in matrimony has been violated by Catherine.All these spirits are scattered in the following conversation between Henry and Catherine where Allemn represents the traditional perspective of married women where as Catherine backs up liberal attitude for them:

After half an hour ‘s free indulgence of grief and reflection ,Catherine felt equal to encountering her friends ;but whether she should make her distress known to them was another consideration .Perhaps ,if particularly questioned , she might just given an idea – just distantly hint at it –but nor more (148).

Jane Austen's concept of presenting women in the fictional world has helped a lot in awakening the general situation of women. Austen presented the plight and agony of the eighteenth century women. Through the character like Catherine, Jane Austen hinted women to be like her. Austen's Catherine is a courageous young girl. Her world is like the world of the third world female. Catherine is the central character not because she is richer or pretty but because of her purposeful actions towards her family and society. Catherine is keen to find out the right husband for Henry Tilney. Catherine receives a letter from her brother telling her that his engagement to Isabella has been called off. Catherine thinks that Frederick forced himself between them, but Henry convinces her that it was as much Isabella's fault as Frederick's. Catherine visits Henry's house at Woodston. The General drops hints about Catherine marrying Henry. Catherine gets another letter, this time from Isabella, telling her that Frederick has left her, and asking Catherine to apologize to James for her. Angry at being manipulated, Catherine wishes she had never known Isabella. The General leaves on a business trip, and Henry goes back to Woodston for several days. The General then returns unexpectedly and tells Eleanor to send Catherine away the next morning. Though she is very embarrassed, Eleanor has no choice but to send Catherine to her home in Fullerton. As Catherine thinks

Your brother will not mind it I know , 'said 'because I heard him say before will not he hated dancing but it was very –natured in him to think of it . I suppose he saw Isabella sitting down , and fancied she might wish for a partner ;but he is quite mistaken , for she would not dance upon any account in the world (94).

Catherine's family is irritated by the General's rudeness, but is glad to have her home. Catherine mopes around, despondent, until suddenly Henry arrives in Fullerton

and proposes to her. Henry explains that his father's behavior was due to John Thorpe. In Bath, when John thought Catherine loved him, he had told General Tilney that Catherine was from a very wealthy family. When the General ran into John much later, after Isabella had told John about Catherine's true feelings, John had angrily told the General that the Morlands were almost poor. Mortified, the General had sent Catherine away, furious that his hopes for John to make a wealthy match were to be frustrated. Henry and Catherine decide to wait until the General gives his consent to their marriage. Within a few months, Eleanor marries a very wealthy and important man, which puts the General in a good mood. Once he is told of the true nature of the Morland's financial situation, which is moderate, he gives his consent, and the novel ends with the marriage of Henry and Catherine.

At Bath, Catherine is inducted into the social world of balls and entertainments. During one of their first nights in town, Catherine attends a ball in a venue called the Lower Rooms and meets a wealthy young clergyman named Henry Tilney. Henry charms Catherine with his gentle witticisms, and she is delighted to dance with him. Catherine seeks him out the next day at another social gathering, but Henry is nowhere to be found. Instead, Catherine is introduced to Mrs. Allen's friend Mrs. Thorpe, who has three daughters near Catherine's age. The eldest of these daughters, Isabella, befriends Catherine. It turns out that their brothers, James and John, are friends from Oxford. When James and John come to Bath for a visit, Isabella reveals her fondness for James, and John attempts to court Catherine by offering her carriage rides in the countryside. During the course of their first carriage ride, Catherine notes that John spends a great deal of his time bragging, but nonetheless she agrees to dance with him when he asks her to be his dance partner.

Marriage was the highest accomplishment in eighteenth century. Married women used to get a fair treatment comparison to unmarried women. At the ball that night, Henry returns, and Catherine wishes she could dance with him instead. It turns out that Henry left Bath for a week, but now that he is back Catherine finds herself increasingly enamored of him. John's presence becomes obtrusive and even odious to her. Meanwhile, Isabella and James have dove headlong into an open courtship, and Catherine finds that the two people she loves best in Bath--her brother and her closest friend--are devoting more and more time to each other, at the exclusion of her company. Catherine decides to become friends with Henry's sister Miss Tilney in she also wants to know more about Henry. Catherine wants to leave the carriage, but John only urges the horses to go faster. Austen writes

Catherine 's heart beat quick , but her courage did not fail her . with a check flushed by hope , and an eye straining with curiosity , her fingers grasped the handled of a drawer and drew it forth . it was entirely empty .with less alarm and greater eagerness she seized a second , a third , a fourth;each was equally empty (123).

The walk is rescheduled for another day, and Catherine hopes that her friendship with the Tilneys can continue to progress. Once again, Isabella, James and John implore her to go on another carriage ride, and this time John sneaks away and tells the Tilneys that Catherine has to reschedule yet again. Catherine is visibly angry by this dishonest gesture, and she rushes over to the Tilneys' house to make amends. They accept her explanation, and the long-awaited walk is very pleasant. Austen mirrors the social phenomena of eighteenth century addressing Henry treatment.

Eighteenth century society paid importance to those ladies who were beautiful and submissive, physically. They were remarked as an “ideal wife”. The gentlemen of the Eighteenth century preferred weak, submissive, feable, beautiful and coy women, so that they can dominate them. They were fond of having authority towards them. Face was only given priority because in the next part, parties, meetings and gathering in public places were the proper places where they could demonstrate the faces of their wives full of boast telling “see, I have the beautiful wife than yours”. This made women like an object. Women, too, were satisfied getting that type of husbands who are financially sound and publically recognized. Catherine knowing all these matter is afraid of the typical condition of women in her society and losing freedom and independence.

Catherine worried about her brother Tinley. Henry's younger sister, Eleanor is a shy, quiet young woman. She shares an interest in reading with her brother, but for the most part, her reserve prevents her from having many friends. Like her brothers, Eleanor is often subject to the somewhat tyrannical behavior of her father, General Tilney. General Tilney comes the closest of any character to being an antagonist in *Northanger Abbey*, though that term is too strong to describe his role. Elaborating the correct and the right husband, Catherine is remarked as:

Thank you, Eleanor ‘-a most honourable testimony , You see, Miss Morland , the injustice of your justice of your suspicious . Here was I ,in my eagerness to get on , refusing to wait only five minutes for my sister ;breaking the promise I had made of reading it aloud ,and keeping her in suspense at amost interesting part (77).

Catherine denies the stereotype of women as the subordinate of men, and she proves that she independently makes decisions of her own and takes responsibilities

of those decisions. She decides not to marry, she gives judgments to other people, which women of her time never did. She is not exempt from making mistakes, and causing several people such as Mrs. Eleanor Tilney, Henry Tilney to be hurt, but that is unimportant. The important thing is that she dares to be equal with men and to be independent in her thinking, behaviour and activities. In this way, she learns about herself, about others, and grows to be a better woman. In addition, she is also able to persuade Henry Tilney to be independent in making decisions, and to help her become a better person.

Catherine has never been away from her family home in Fullerton for an extended period of time. Catherine's main occupation is reading Gothic novels, particularly Anne Radcliffe's *The Mysteries of Udolpho*. This leads her to imagine herself as the heroine of a Gothic murder mystery when she visits the Tilneys at Northanger Abbey. Catherine eventually realizes her mistake and repents her accusations of General Tilney, whom she believed played a part in his wife's death. Catherine matures over the course of the novel and becomes more independent and adept at assessing the true characters of those around her. Her infatuation with Henry deepens into a genuine affection, and her patience is rewarded by their marriage. Truly, Jane Austen confined herself within the four walls of her house where she has produced several brilliant characters that were ready to represent the world of female. Jane Austen did not fight physically against her patriarchal society but has slapped the so called gentleman of the eighteenth century sharply through her writings.

Meanwhile, James and Isabella become engaged during the course of their carriage ride. Catherine is happy at the pending union. James rushes off to get his parents' approval. He is successful, but he also reveals that his father can only provide them with a modest income. Isabella's expectations of a wealthy, lavish lifestyle are

dashed by this news, and her demeanor sours, though she attempts to hide it. To make matters worse for James, the dashing Captain Tilney, Henry's older brother, arrives in Bath and begins to woo Isabella. Caught between her friend and her brother, Catherine is relieved when the Tilneys invite her to escape from the hustle of Bath and visit their house in the country, Northanger Abbey. Fueled by her knowledge of Gothic novels, Catherine imagines that the historic home is host to a variety of family secrets, and her imagination is incited when she discovers that Mrs. Tilney died of a sudden illness in the house. Catherine visits Mrs. Tilney's bedroom and cannot find any evidence for wrongdoing, but nonetheless she deludes herself into thinking that General Tilney had a hand in his wife's death. Her Gothic reverie is interrupted by Henry, who corrects her mistake and tells her to stop imposing her own fictional interpretations on reality: his father would never do such a thing to his mother. Catherine repents:

Catherine , relieved for herself , felt uneasy for Isabella ; and after a moment's thought ,ask Mr Allen whether it would not be both proper and kind in her to write to Miss Thorpe , and explain the indecorum of which she must be as insensible as herself ;for she considered that Isabella might otherwise perhaps be going to Clifton the next day, in spite of what had passed (76) .

Female Socially Ruined

After this, Catherine also learns that James has called off his engagement to Isabella. Isabella had embarked on a relationship with Captain Tilney, but, unfortunately for her, Captain Tilney has no marriage plans. Isabella is socially ruined by this scandal and Catherine realizes that their friendship was a sham. Things are going well with Henry and Catherine, however. But, before their relationship can progress towards an engagement, General Tilney throws Catherine out of his house.

Catherine is confused and returns home to Fullerton. But Henry follows, explaining that his father learned that Catherine wasn't as rich as he had thought, which meant they could no longer socialize. Against his father's wishes, Henry proposes to Catherine. Eleanor, meanwhile, marries a wealthy man, and General Tilney soon gives his approval to Henry and Catherine. Henry and Catherine then marry.

Catherine She is hapless, at times a bit ridiculous, but always very kind and sweet. She is also inexperienced and naive, and young. She habitually mistakes fiction for reality, substituting the things she's read in novels for the real-world experience she lacks. Catherine's overactive imagination causes her to make a number of mistakes. Austen makes Catherine full with the words like handsome, clever and rich. Her physique is perfect more than that she is perfect by her action and leadership. The story takes place in the village of Highbury. Austen has given more importance to her lady characters and their dealings to their milieu. Catherine is an active, energetic and full of aspiration and anticipation accompanying girl. Catherine very well understands her society and the patriarchal norms and values. Jane Austen has created Catherine as a reaction against her contemporary society. Catherine has carried on that kind of role which was usually done by male in the then time. She is free; guided by her own rationale, keeps an ability to choose a potential life partner but never considers for herself. To enter into the world of matrimony was compulsory task for every Victorian lady because they were preoccupied by the concept that matrimony was the only honorable thing for a woman to do. Those only insure their future. They were always in haunt of such husbands who are financially or economically sound. Thus Victorian ladies were nothing else than mere commodities. They were always in shadow. Their reputation, qualification, skill and potentialities had no value unless

they married to a wealthy businessman, or so like that. Their identities were solely linked with the identities of their husbands and vice versa.

Face was only given priority because in the next part, parties, meetings and gathering in public places were the proper places where they could demonstrate the faces of their wives full of boast telling “see, I have the beautiful wife than yours”. This made women like an object. Women, too, were satisfied getting that type of husbands who are financially sound and publically recognized. Catherine knowing all these matter is afraid of the typical condition of women in her society and losing freedom and independence. She states the actual reason for not marrying as:

The only offence against him of which she could accuse herself ,had been such as as scarcely possible to reach his knowledge .Henry and her own heart only were privy to the shocking suspicious which she had so idly enterained ;and equally safe did she believe her secret with each .Designedly,at least page (168) .

The notion of Catherine remaining as a single is extremely contrasted with her surroundings. That society, where matrimony used to ensure one’s status and position, that society where women use to dream superior class husband in such Austen’s lady character Catherine surprises us withstanding against all patriarchal assumptions. The feminist elements of independence are reflected through Catherine’s character in her relationship with another important character, She dares to challenge Mr. General Tilney and has different opinions. Although in the end she is proven wrong, Catherine has the courage to admit her mistakes and, more importantly, to learn from her mistakes to understand her own feelings and the sense of responsibility of her action. Equality and independence as the feminist elements, which are reflected through the character of Catherine, opposes the stereotypical

characteristics of men and women in the eighteenth century. When sex stereotypes are gone, it is easier for individuals to express and to develop themselves without the pressure to conform to the expectations of their society.

Catherine doesn't not want to be dominated and oppressed. Catherine gives priority to her own experience and knowledge. She does not like to be dependent upon others. Catherine does not see the obvious flirtation between her brother James and her friend Isabella, and she does not understand what Isabella is doing by flirting with Frederick Tilney. She even desires other not to be dominated. Henry is frequently advised by Catherine about the women existence and important of women saying. Catherine has difficulty identifying people's motivations, which, as Henry points out, causes her to assume that people do things for the same unimpeachable reasons she would. Austen writes:

Little as Catherine was in the habit of judging for herself ,and unfixed as her etomal notions of what men ought to be, she could not entirely repress a doubt , while she bore with the effusions of hisendless cocceit his been altogether compeletly agreeable. It was a bold surmise, forhe was Isebella's brother (45) .

She does not wonder why the General would murder his wife. She sees him as a cardboard villain from a novel, a purely evil person who would certainly murder his wife without a second thought. Once Henry chastises her for her morbid imaginings, and shows her how illogical her suspicions were, Catherine wakes up from her fantasy and realizes how silly it was. She begins to understand that the General may be gruff and sometimes mean to his children, but he is not evil, and he is not a murderer.

Mr and Mrs Moraland surprise on being applied to by Mr Tilney, for their consent to his marrying their daughter ,was ,for a few minutes ,

considerable; it having never entered their heads to suspect an attachment on either side; but as nothing ,after all, could be more natural than Catherine 's being beloved ,they soon learnt to consider it with only the happy agitation of gratified pride (182) .

Chapter IV Conclusion: Females Vigor for Consciouness

Catherine thinks well of almost everyone, and is frequently too charitable to such people as Isabella and John Thorpe. As the novel progresses, Catherine starts trying to understand people and their motivations, although this pursuit is influenced by her overactive imagination. She attributes General Tilney's grumpiness and odd behavior to guilt over murdering his new wife. After Henry scolds her for this terrible and unfounded suspicion, Catherine comes to a new realization about the nature of people. She understands that people can be both good and bad, because real life is never as black-and-white as it is in the novels she reads. When Catherine finds out that Mrs. Tilney died of a mysterious illness nine years earlier, and that Eleanor was not there at the time of her mother's death, she feels her suspicions of General Tilney are confirmed. After that, every odd quirk of the General's makes Catherine feel certain that he has a guilty conscience. Her desire to be scared becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy. Soon, Catherine is swept up in a paranoid fantasy, and even entertains the idea that Mrs. Tilney is alive and held captive in a dungeon beneath the Abbey.

The Eighteenth century society paid importance to those ladies who were beautiful and submissive, physically. They were remarked as an "ideal wife". The gentlemen of the Eighteenth century preferred weak, submissive, feable, beautiful and coy women, so that they can dominate them. In this way, it can be concluded that much domination upon any body create terrific result. Due to massive domination upon female, feminism got its zenith popularity which contributes something positive to women in particular and the world in general. For women, feminism helps them to become aware of their significance, that they are also as worthy men as human beings. They were fond of having authority towards them. Catherine schedules a walk in the

countryside with Miss Tilney and Henry, but on the morning of their walk it is raining, and the Tilneys do not arrive exactly on time. Isabella, James, and John persuade Catherine not to wait for them any longer, and Catherine agrees to go on a carriage ride instead. As soon as they set out, Catherine sees the Tilneys walking down the street. She is angry because John lied to her about their whereabouts: he'd told her that he had seen them leave town in a carriage earlier that day.

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