Literary Annotated Bibliography Essay

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Fairy Tale Comparative Analysis Annotated Bibliography

Working Thesis In examining the story of “Little Snow White” by the brothers Grimm, the Disney movie Snow White, and the modern remake of Snow White and the Huntsman, readers and viewers see how the idea of beauty and its power or powerlessness parallels the era in which each story or film appears.


Much of this article discusses several other versions of the story of Snow White, but there are several pages dedicated to the Grimm version of “Little Snow White.” The article takes a feminist approach in looking at a duality of the angel-woman and the monster-woman and how the use of the mirror sets up a more male centered text because it makes the focus an image of stereotypical beauty. The article also discusses a notion of women and domesticity being prevalent in the nineteenth century when “Little Snow White” was written and how roles women play in this story revolve around this. I can certainly use this article to prove my point about how there is a shift in society from the 1800s on an image centered woman to today’s modern strong female. Specifically, one note from the author states, “ideas about women, which have been author(iz)ed by a male voice in the case of “Little Snow White” that voice is the mirror, the looking glass which defines the very identity of Snow White.” This illustrates a male centered notion of beauty. Another point the article makes from an outside critic is that “having named the authority of the mirror…analysis suggests that Snow White haunts our imagination also because her story silently points to the conditions of women’s socialization…” This will be used to show how the mirror is a forming factor in the need for beauty in earlier versions of the story as opposed to the more modern versions. This article is credible because it is printed in a scholarly journal, and although the print date is 1988, which is a bit dated, the context of the article looks at the work in reference to other stories written in the 1980s.
This might not work to parallel criticism with the modern movie, but it can provide solid and scholarly researched information on the earlier stories.

**Tatar, Maria. “Snow White: Beauty is Power.”** *The New Yorker, 8 June 2012,*
http://www.newyorker.com/books/page-turner/snow-white-beauty-is-power.

This credible source is an article from the renowned journal *The New Yorker* which touts articles that deal with modern issues. This is also a very timely article as it was written the year the modern movie *Snow White and the Huntsman* was produced in 2012. The article actually describes the differences in the Grimm brothers’ story “Little Snow White” and the Disney version and the modern movie of *Snow White and the Huntsman*. Each of the stories or movie is given a paragraph with analysis to go along with it. I can use this article to suggest a modern critic’s view on the change in passivity and need for beauty in the character of Snow White. One ideal sentiment from the article is that the character of Snow White has an “emphasis on the innocence and vulnerability of a young girl persecuted by her jealous stepmother…and her beauty inspires huntsman, dwarfs, and prince alike to protect her from a less fair, wicked queen.” This shows the weakness of the original Snow White. On the other hand, a note about the modern Snow White in the movie gives a totally different picture: “This Snow White becomes a ‘pure and innocent’ warrior princess, an angelic savior who channels Joan of Arc and Tolkien’s Aragorn…to save the kingdom of her late father…” This will give support to the change in character of the more modern Snow White. I can use these types of statements to show a shift in reliance on beauty and innocence to more of a self-created female power.