



## Women importance in protection and security

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### Abstract

Comparison between “Seventeenth and Eighteenth century” women characters in novel. Along that period they were lead a life in differently. But their motive is common in their protection and security. In seventeenth century, the novel Charlotte Bronte’s “Jane Eyre”. In this novel the heroine Jane Eyre wants to lead a life with Education and Security with freedom. At these same time middle of the eighteenth century, the novel Daniel Defoe’s “Moll Flanders”. Moll Flanders also wants that when her husbands were leaving. In other words the different ages gives the thoughts and minds of women character about their hard working. Jane Eyre was work hard for money and security, but Moll Flanders wants the money so she was theft and also marrying.

**Keywords:** women, protection and security, education and security

### Introduction

*Jane Eyre* was published under the name of ‘Currer Bell’. It is also autobiographical and reveals the love story of Charlotte. She gave full scope to her repressed romanticism and combined it with the Gothic romanticism of Mrs. Radcliffe. Grim old mansions, mysterious voices, ghostly laughter are introduced in his novel. It is a beautiful combination of realism and romanticism. The plot is clumsy and full of many improbabilities. It is rich in Wordsworthian attitude to nature. Like most of the novels of Defoe it is picaresque novel. In this novel the rise and fall of the heroine’s fortunes are vividly described. In her old age Moll feels the pricks of her conscience on account of her sinful amorous advances to lovers.

### Seventeenth Century

#### Jane Eyre not a Conventional Heroine

Jane Eyre, the heroine of the novel, is not a conventional heroine. She presents a new conception of heroine-vigorous, active, energetic and full of zest for life. She is not rich and beautiful, but she is small, plain and simple. She is an orphan. In the novel we observe her as a child, teacher, and governess and as a lover.

### An Unfortunate Child

Jane is a child of ten years. She is an orphan. Her father had been a poor clergy man and her mother had married him against the wishes of her friends and father. Her grandfather was so much irritated at her disobedience that he cut her off without a shilling. After one year of their marriage her father caught the typhus fever and her mother also took the infection from him and both died within a month of each other.

Jane’s uncle, Mr. Reed, brought her to his home, but soon he died and Mrs. Reed and her children began to torture her. She was not allowed to sit in the drawing –room and to read their books and to play with their toys. John Reed, her cousin, often inflicted physical tortures upon her and Mrs. Reed and the

servants of the family never favored her. Often she was locked in the red-room, in which her uncle had died.

### Lover of Books and Nature

Jane is a lover of books and nature. In the very beginning of the novel we find her reading a book and at intervals, while turning over the leaves of her book, she is studying the aspect of that winter afternoon, afar it offers a pale blank of mist and cloud; near a scene of wet lawn and storm-beat shrub, with ceaseless rain sweeping away wildly before a long and lamentable blast. Birds that are also the part of nature are dear to Jane.

When typhus-fever is spread at Logwood, Jane with the uninfected girls enjoys the beauties of the scene and season and wanders in the woods like gypsies from morning till night. Many times in the novel we find Jane lost in the beauties of nature.

### Wants Protection and Security

At Gates head Hall Jane is very much tortured and troubled. She is very much afraid of these inflictions and wants protection and security. When Mr. Lloyd, the apothecary, comes to cure her she feels protected. It is due to the lack of protection that the thought of death comes to her mind and she sees strange visions. She feels that Mr. Reed’s spirit harassed by the wrongs of his sister’s child, might quit its abode and rise before her in the chamber. She is mentally disturbed and sad at heart. At Logwood School she is happy in the protection of Miss Temple and at Thorn field Hall she wants the protection of Mr. Rochester. At the Moor-House she is happy and satisfied under the protection of her cousins and ultimately she is secured and protected by Mr. Rochester.

### Feeling of Revolt

Jane is revolutionary by nature. For some time she tolerates all the tortures and troubles that are inflicted upon her at Gates head Hall but one day it is beyond her power to endure it

anymore and she revolts against Mrs. Reed and all. At Thorn field Hall she silently revolts against Mr. Rochester. She refuses to be his mistress and secretly leaves Thorn field Hall without knowing her destiny.

### **Hard-Working**

Jane is a hard-working girl. Though in the beginning at Logwood School she has to struggle with difficulties in habituating herself to new rules and unwonted tasks, but it is through her hard work that soon she learns French and Drawing. After completing her studies, she becomes a teacher at Logwood School. Soon she becomes a governess at Thorn field Hall and afterwards she learns German and a little Hindustani.

### **Love for Rochester**

Jane's love for Rochester is true and great. At the time of the marriage she comes to know the secret of Rochester's first marriage and she refuses to be his mistress and leaves Thorn field Hall. But she never forgets him even for a moment. When St. John Rivers proposes her to marry him, she hears Rochester's voice calling 'Jane! Jane! Jane!' she at once returns to Thorn field Hall. She finds that everything it's burnt to ashes and Rochester is a blind and a cripple. Her love is so great that she accepts a blind and cripple as her husband and is very much happy with him.

### **Middle of the eighteenth century Moll's character in her early life**

Moll has been especially as a small girl, gentle, innocent, generous, virtuous, sober, modest, beautiful, accomplished, optimistic sensitive and conscientious. She has not so far inherited the vices of her mother who was a thief and a whore. Though she becomes happy to hear that she will grow to be a beautiful woman, yet she is not as yet guilty of vanity and pride. She is tall of her years and womanly. She is nimble at her needle work. She implores her nurse to let her live with her forever because she does not want to go anywhere else to work as a maid servant. She wants to become a gentle woman, even though a poor one. She says that she will do hard work to become a gentle woman.

### **Cheat and Hypocrite**

She is a cheat. Even though she has married the Lancashire gentleman yet she pretends as if she is waiting for the Bank Clark to marry him. She also cheats the Bath lover. This was indeed all a cheat. Though she has extracted fifty pounds from the Bath lover for going to Virginia, she has no intention to go there. She is a hypocrite. She wants to marry the Bank Clark but poses as if she is not interested in marrying him. She herself says that "it was necessary to play the Hypocrite".

### **Moll's Love for Money**

The greatest weakness of Moll is her excessive love for gold and silver. If a man offers her a lot of money, she gets readily prepared to let him do with her whatever he likes and as often as he likes. She is an orphan and has not seen wealth. That is why her love for wealth is excessive. We can notice this weakness in her affair with her first lover. Moll's lover has given her five guineas. On receiving this money she is not

herself.

This shows that to Moll money is more important than even love. As the least erected angel in heaven looked down on the trodden gold, Moll looks at the gold with wonder and exultation. On seeing the money she forgets that ruin is near her. But she is so fond of money that she does not care to avoid her ruin. This evidences that to Moll money is more important than her virtue. Thus we have seen that Moll regards money as more important than even love and her virtue. She has even sacrificed her virtue on the altar of wealth. Though Moll has sacrificed her virtue when she received money from her lover, yet she has done so not merely for money but also for love. She marries Robin not for money, because she marries him unwillingly. She marries the Linen- Draper not for money because she has a lot of money in her pocket. She does not mind even when the prodigal Draper spends her money as well. But she marries her brother for money, though the brother also marries her with the expectation of fortune. She marries the Lancashire gentleman for money, though the later also marries her for a rich fortune. She marries the Bank Clark because she knows that he earns a handsome salary. She contracts liaison with the Baronet solely for extracting money from her.

### **Moll as a Thief**

After the death of her fifth husband the Bank Clark, Moll is friendless and companionless, lost to the wide world. She is now forty eight, past the prime of her blooming beauty, past the age of marriage. As her husband was involved in a financial case, he did not leave much money for Moll. Moll observes utmost parsimony but she cannot live for long on whatever she has. Now she fears she may starve. She is at her wit's end. She then becomes a thief, casually committing the first theft. As she had committed sin by whoredom, adultery, incest and prostitution, she now commits crime by stealing, pick-pocketing and shop lifting.

She starts her crime career by casually lifting a bundle from a shop. But, reflecting that it may belong to a poor widow like her, she pities the imaginary widow, weeps, and cannot sleep for several nights. She then removes from a little girl a necklace. She picks up a bundle thrown by a thief. She steals a gold ring and a diamond ring from a window of a country house. She steals a silver mug from an ale house. She commits many thefts with her teacher. She removes a bundle of a lady from a house on fire. She informs the custom officers of the contraband goods and receives fifty pounds bribery amount. She commits many thefts in a man's disguise in the company of a man. This man is caught and hanged. When she goes again to remove things from another house on fire, she is bruised. She narrowly escapes being caught when a lady companion removes damask from a mercer's shop. She robs a Baronet of his costly things. She removes a bundle of cloth from a maid servant. She is caught by mistake by a mercer and gets a handsome compensation. She goes to commit theft in a beggar's disguise. She steals a parcel of cloth from a shop. She removes a gold watch from a girl's wrist. She gambles in a gambling house and manages to bring from there seventy three pounds. She goes outside London on her wicked mission and steals a few things. She has grown by now very prosperous. She has now on her about 700 pounds. She now

need not pursue her wicked trade. Even the Governess now advises her to refrain herself from pursuing the wicked trade. But she is now a hardened criminal and does not abide by the advice of the Governess. She is almost caught when she steals the silver plates from a silversmith's shop. But she does not learn any lesson from this adventure in which she is almost caught she has been pursuing the wicked trade for about five years and has not been caught. Therefore her fellow criminals, excited by jealousy and impressed by her art, have given her the notorious name of Moll Flanders. Ultimately while stealing the brocaded silk she is caught, arrested and sent to the new gate jail.

### **Conclusion**

In the portraiture of Jane, Charlotte's personality is reflected. Jane is a teacher and governess, as Charlotte in real life was. Jane's hatred of hypocrisy and sham in religion is, again, reflective of Charlotte's own. Charlotte presents in Jane a plain young girl belonging to the middle class working her way up by the sheer force of her character and personality. At seventy Molls sailed for England and settled in London. By this time her mother-like Governess had passed away. After settling his plantation business James, Moll's Lancashire husband, joined her in London. He was sixty eight. *Moll Flanders* covers a wide range of themes. It throws light on themes like money, marriage, sex, sin, crime and punishment. Let us examine these themes one by one.

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