

TITLE:

Marriage and the Position of Women in Anne Brontë's *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall* and Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre*

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ABSTRACT:

The thesis aims to explore the position of women in the Victorian era, particularly with regard to marriage, and to see how this is reflected in these two novels - *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall* by Anne Brontë and *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Brontë. The theoretical part explores the legal and social situation of women in the early nineteenth century and the practical part firstly analyses the novels separately to see how both authors reflect the realities facing women of the era. The last section of the practical part offers the overall comparison of the two chosen novels and examines differences and similarities in the central messages and in the final achievement of independence, equality and justice.

KEY WORDS:

Brontë sisters, marriage, Angel in the House, education, feminism, legal form, Victorian era, the church