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*by* P M

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#### Dracula

The Victorian era attitude towards gender roles was unequal and unfair. Women were born to serve men, which they were supposed to be pure, passive, it was believed a women role in society was to get married, fill the position of motherhood and housewife to support the working husband and they were expected to repress the sexual desire, remaining submissive and unemotional during sexual intercourse. Man were expected to be rational intelligent and dominant. However in this novel, Dracula changes women turning them into vampires exposing their true sexual desires. in this essay we will look on ways Dracula challenges beliefs of the society towards gender and sexuality.

Count Dracula is a vampire male who is from Transylvania wanting to relocate to England in order to spread the undead curse. He has the ability to turn others into vampires by biting them. Dracula mostly prey on beautiful woman. Making them to behavior differently from how they are expected to behavior during the Victorian era. The vampirism it brings out the unconscious side, sexual side in women and in men without thinking about the society or other people. we meet Jonathan who is a male lawyer about to get married to mine, he is everything that the society expect of him, his journey lead him to become Dracula prisoner at his castle, he soon learns more about Dracula and the way he behaviors which it was not normal, Jonathan met the

three brides in the castle whose behavior in a different manner women were supposed to behave. They were aggressive, dominant and unashamed embracing their own sexuality-completely different from the feminine ideal, the vampire women are portrayed as threats to the traditional Victorian male. They over power male power when they attempt to use Jonathan Harker to satisfy their predatory urges, as the brides take on the position of dominant, masculine sexual partner, while seducing Jonathan into becoming the submissive feminine figure-he "lays quiet" while a masculine hero would have been expected to defend himself. Instead he had a burning desire that the bride would kiss him "with those red lips", Jonathan unconditionally reveals his desire to be penetrated, suggesting homosexual impulses raised by the assertive females' powerful Jonathan's attraction is clearly unaccountable to him and goes against his better judgment as well as the reference to the color "red", which has connotations of both passion and danger his reasoning and level headedness break down when he is exposed to them.

Dracula came in to interrupt the birds from eating Jonathan, pushing them away, telling them they can have him when he is done with him, it shows that the vampires behave in a different way from what they expect society, Dracula once revealed to Jonathan that "sir you dwellers of the city cannot enter into the feeling of the hunter" meaning the vampires can do horrible things. Dracula give this wives the bag which inside the was a crying baby and the disappear; Jonathan is horrified how woman can treat a baby in that manner and horrified of how he was just involved in sexual triangle with wives. He is level headedness break down when he is exposed to them. Dracula continues to plan to travel to England, which is plan succeed

We get to meet other key characters of this novel which Dracula turn their life upside down , we meet Mina Murray who is Jonathan fiancé, through a series of her letters to her friend Lucy westerner .Mina is an assistant school teacher , learning journaling in order to help Jonathan with his law practice and because she enjoys being a New Woman 1890. Mina calling herself new woman because she is learning new skills to help her husband, she didn't want to help him only domestically but also in his field of work. She is worried about Jonathan since he left she had not heard from him, she had to spend time with her friend Lucy but during that time she is still deeply worried about Jonathan. her friend Lucy is from a rich family so she doesn't need to work like main does, in her letters she inform Mina about the new development in her life that she has three suitors who wants to marry her.mr Arthur Holmwood and DR john

Seward, Quince Morris. Lucy received this three wedding proposal in one day but she is not happy about it because she have to broke other two final men hearts, Lucy wishes she could take all those men as her husbands but unfortunates that not possible.

Lucy feels like a victim even before she was turned into a vampire, man view her as this pure, sweet women, maybe that the reason she his many suitors because she was this ideal woman. Man don't tell her what is happening about Dracula but in instead the hind it from her thinking she is vulnerable, which it how she view herself as well, she is depend on others. When Dracula arrives at England Lucy becoming his first victim he turns into a vampire, Lucy started having problem of sleep walking and it get worse. When Lucy was first hypnotized by Dracula mina breaks the spell by kissing, they did have sexual attraction for each other.

Dracula on his way to England he feed and killed the ship crew members, the captain was left alone until he killed him as well. Mani does see Dracula feeding on Lucy but she was not aware of what was happing and who was Dracula. Lucy became pale and weaker that when mina callings for DR Seward , try everything to help Lucy from recovering using garlic to protect her from Dracula but because men didn't share the important information on what was happening, the treated her like a baby. when she turned into a vampires she couldn't control her sexual dries, man are horrified by how Lucy changed and they says it's not her because during that time woman can't act in that way forgetting she wish she can have more husband which show that she wishes to have sexual intercourse with many men, when this men contributed the blood to save her life, the exchange of fluids desires is fulfill. She feed on babies because vampires had to feed on human in order to survive, men are the ones who kill Lucy because they couldn't control her anymore, and the innocent was gone.

In conclusion the female sexuality is represented as something horrible , both genders have desire but it's something that is repressed, Dracula brings out the fear of they desire coming out to the surface which is something that they are afraid of ,based that he is an evil creature. Man end up working together with mina to capture and kill Dracula, it a lesson when two gender work together everything can be success, as we are all human beings.( 1100 words )

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