

The Failure of Male Domination in *Brave* (2012) Movie

**Silvia Marta Wijaya¹, Anisa Dinda Noviyanti², Yogi Fajar Dermawan³,
Silvia Maharani⁴**

silviamartawijaya002@gmail.com¹, anisa.dinda.novianti@gmail.com²,
yogifajardarmawan@gmail.com³, silviamaharani1708@gmail.com⁴

Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia¹²³⁴

Abstract

Many characters in literature often represent dominating characters, have strong capacity, and always use violence to solve problems. *Brave* movie is a story of a woman who wants to break free from the normal norms. This research was intended to see the failure of many characters in showing domination. Using descriptive qualitative as the research method, this study was aimed to decode the man's failure in dominating in *Brave* movies. With the help of Hall's representation theories and Collin's masculinity theory, this research will surely show the characteristics of the topics. This research showed that the main characters showed failures in giving domination to the main characters. Through three characteristics which are care & responsibility, violence as manly, and danger as exciting, this research fulfills the representation of man's failure in domination.

Keywords: *characteristic, empowerment, feminism, gender, movie*

Introduction

Film, like prose and drama, has a storyline. Film genres are relatively easy to understand because the perspective and narrative are straightforward. Researchers can more easily express the intent conveyed by the story through audio media. Character expressions are clearly visible, conflicts are easier to understand, and the setting in terms of place and time is also clear. One challenge is providing quotations as proof of analysis, as this requires selecting harmonized dialogue texts from movie scenes. In learning literature, film media is used to facilitate students, particularly literature students, in interpreting meaning in literary works. The expressions of the characters in the film, along with sound techniques, lighting, and other characteristics, help students as literature learners describe their interpretations of literary works easily and quickly.

This study will discuss the use of film media in literature analysis, focusing on the movie *Brave*. The film tells the story of Merida, an energetic young princess seeking freedom in a patriarchal society. *Brave* movie is notable for portraying the challenges Merida faces in her quest for autonomy, demonstrating how she overcomes obstacles typically associated with male traits. *Brave* movie was chosen not only for its acclaim but also to explore the failure of male dominance in the narrative.

Masculinity is a concept where men are believed to possess certain characteristics, such as strength and protectiveness, deemed exclusive to males. It often involves the perception of men as physically and mentally stronger than women (Munroe, 2017). According to Munroe's theory, masculinity encompasses traits like care and responsibility, viewing violence as manly, and finding danger exciting. These traits collectively foster the belief that men can dominate women upon achieving these standards.

Research on masculinity, such as the study by Al Falaq and Puspita (2021) on L-men advertisements, illustrates its representation across literature, yet little addresses the failure of masculinity to dominate in works like the movie *Brave*, which this paper examines using Stuart Hall's representation theory. Feminism, as discussed by Indriyani et al. (2022), seeks equal recognition for women in all life spheres and is essential in relationships, exemplified by the protagonist of *The Girl on the Train*. Further discussions by Ramadani et al. (2021) and Natasya highlight feminism's fight against male supremacy and discrimination, seeking gender equality in various domains. Pratiwi et al. (2021) analyze the dynamic characterization in *Brave*, while Merdeka (2023) critiques the film for reinforcing stereotypes, despite its feminist intentions, by legitimizing patriarchal norms through its storyline and character portrayals.

Given the significance of these discussions, this research aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of how *Brave* challenges traditional masculine ideals and portrays the complexities of gender dynamics. By examining the film's narrative and character portrayals, the study seeks to understand contemporary representations of masculinity and femininity. This analysis is crucial for advancing our comprehension of gender roles in literature and film.

Method

The researcher uses the descriptive qualitative method in finding the representation of failed masculinity in brave movies. This method is deemed to be useful for the researcher because it helps in decoding the true explanation of an issue (Magilvy & Thomas; 2009). This research also offers huge efficiency as it uses numerous materials shared online (Bowen, 2009). Not only that, this method also means that the researchers could fabricate and synthesize the data through movies, voice records, and many more. (Afrianto & Restika). This method is also used because it makes the researcher draw a conclusion through various phenomena (Stake, 2010).Stake

This method also fits with the research as it brings benefits which bring issues about events. Therefore, the researcher believes that descriptive qualitative will be the method of the research as it will help us to reveal the man's failure in masculinity domination that is shown in the brave movie.

Findings and Discussion

In this part, the researcher shows the analysis of man's failure in showing their masculinity or domination in brave movies. There are pictures of the scenes, dialogue, and its concluding meaning. The following are the data found of how man failed to show domination in the movie.



Queen Elinor replaced King Vergus in welcoming guests from other kingdoms (Scene 1 - Minutes 18:15)

This scene in the film *Brave* where Queen Elinor gives a speech to greet the guests in place of King Fergus. During her speech, Queen Elinor aims to protect the realm and presents a powerful and cohesive picture. Her position as a prudent and accountable ruler who works to uphold the security and tranquility of her realm is reflected in this speech. In the scene, Queen Elinor shows that she is capable of performing tasks like greeting guests and giving speeches that are often performed by men. This is in line with her views on gender equality and women's power to fill roles that have historically been associated with men. Her speech has the potential to demonstrate that gender is not a barrier to leadership or wisdom—a woman can be a powerful and astute leader as well. This scene therefore conveys a message regarding shifting perceptions of gender roles in society.

King Vergus: we are here, four clans, gathered for
Queen Elinor: introduce the suitors

A pivotal scene occurs in the movie "Brave," where Queen Elinor speaks in King Fergus' place. Protecting the realm is Queen Elinor's primary objective during her speech, projecting a strong and unified image. The speech makes clear her duty as a responsible and cautious ruler committed to maintaining the safety and peace of her domain. Elinor's presentation of her abilities, including her ability to greet guests and give speeches—activities that are often performed by men—is consistent with her ardent support of gender equality. It shows her faith in women's capacity to fill traditionally male-only roles. The speech has the ability to refute the idea that a person's gender prevents them from assuming leadership or wisdom roles by highlighting the fact that women can be strong, wise leaders. As a result, this scenario sends a strong message about how society's ideas about gender roles are changing.

King Fergus begins the dialogue that follows by highlighting the power and solidarity of the four gathered clans. But Queen Elinor shows initiative by giving him the task of introducing the young men who might be her daughter's suitors. This crucial passage in the conversation emphasizes Queen Elinor's willingness to take charge in certain circumstances and her assertiveness. Queen Elinor subverts gender norms and emphasizes her active participation in choices regarding her daughter's destiny by specifically directing King Fergus to present the suitors. Queen Elinor's deed reflects the movie "Brave," which explores the idea that women can hold powerful positions and have influence in circumstances that are usually associated with men. By presenting women in leadership and decision-making roles, it goes beyond shattering preconceptions. A strong message that women can be leaders who actively direct the course of their lives is reinforced by Queen Elinor's insistence on introducing the suitors.

Essentially, by presenting Queen Elinor as a complex figure who defies social norms and promotes a more inclusive and progressive view of gender roles, this scene advances the plot of the movie. It encourages viewers to reevaluate previous views about the skills and roles of women in leadership positions, which furthers the movie's main topic. Queen Elinor's order to present the suitors in the discourse also defies the conventional wisdom that women should only play a supporting role in courtship and marriage, demonstrating her determination to be involved in her daughter's future. This instance demonstrates Queen Elinor's proactive and powerful role in determining not only the course of her realm but also the private lives of her family.

Additionally, the dynamic interaction between the two characters is shown by the difference between Queen Elinor's intervention and King Fergus's opening statement. It highlights the fact that Queen Elinor is a self-governing, agency-possessed woman who is

more than just a helpful figure. The film's larger examination of familial connections and the dismantling of gender preconceptions are aided by this dynamic portrayal. In conclusion, the action and dialogue in *Brave* highlight Queen Elinor's will to defy conventional gender stereotypes as well as her strength as a monarch. This subtle representation gives the character more depth and supports the main idea of the movie, which is to empower women to assume leadership roles in a variety of spheres of life.



Queen Elinor breaks up a fight between her husband and the kings and their guests (Scene 2 - Minutes 21:08)

In the scene where Mordru, the leader of the MacGuffin clan, confronts Queen Elinor and she plugs his ears. This scene occurs following King Fergus's murder by Mordru, who killed Elinor's father. Elinor's husband's passing had left her devastated and enraged, and she was unable to control her rage at Mordru. Mordru uses his blade to assault Elinor in this scene. After avoiding his blow, Elinor broke Mordru's neck in retaliation. Startled and in agony, Mordru dropped his sword. Then Elinor kills Mordru by slashing him with her sword.

The strength and resolve of Queen Elinor are demonstrated in this scenario, which makes it significant. She is a strong, independent, and decisive woman who won't allow anyone to harm her family. She is also willing to stop at nothing to defend her realm, as this scene demonstrates. It also modifies societal perceptions of gender equality by demonstrating that women are capable of being just as powerful leaders as men.

The gesture of Queen Elinor covering Mordru's ears in the moment where the MacGuffin clan chief meets her has a deep meaning. This passionate meeting takes place in the aftermath of Mordru's murder of King Fergus, the very deed that left Elinor furious and heartbroken because she had lost both her father and her husband. The scene becomes crucial because it shows Queen Elinor's incapacity to restrain her strong feelings, particularly when confronted with the one who committed such a heinous murder.

During this altercation, Elinor is attacked violently by Mordru, who is carrying a blade. Queen Elinor shows swift reflexes to evade Mordru's attack despite the danger. Driven by resentment and loss, Elinor sidesteps Mordru's blade and shatters his neck in a vengeful gesture. Mordru drops his weapon, stunned and in pain at this unexpected turn of events. The action culminates when Elinor uses her sword to slay Mordru, showing unchanging fortitude and putting a stop to his menace to her and her land.

This scene demonstrates Queen Elinor's incredible fortitude and perseverance. It emphasizes how strong, self-reliant, and resolute she is as a leader, zealously guarding her family and realm. Elinor dispels gender norms by putting issues into her own hands and vanquishing Mordru, demonstrating that women are more than capable of acting as strong leaders and protectors. In addition to demonstrating Queen Elinor's bravery and tenacity, this scenario helps to change how society views gender roles by reaffirming that women can be just as powerful and influential in dire circumstances as men. Queen Elinor's fight with Mordru represents her inner fortitude and resiliency in addition to showcasing her physical strength. She could have become immobilized by the emotional upheaval following her

husband's untimely death, but instead she used her sorrow to become a fierce protector of her family and territory.

The sequence marks a turning point in Queen Elinor's development as a character, showing how she went from being a bereaved widow to becoming a proactive and strong leader. She clearly asserts her agency and refuses to be a helpless victim of her circumstances by facing and conquering Mordu. Queen Elinor's portrayal gains depth from this character growth, which highlights her as a complex and strong woman. The scene subverts female stereotypes by depicting Queen Elinor as a warrior with the physical prowess and strategic insight to protect her realm, rather than only as a diplomatic or maternal figure. This representation supports the overarching premise of "Brave," namely that women may succeed in traditionally male-dominated roles and can be influential change agents.

Essentially, the encounter with Mordu represents more than just a physical conflict; it also represents Queen Elinor's bravery, resiliency, and the dismantling of social norms. Her courage as a leader and a woman is demonstrated in this moving sequence, which leaves a lasting impression on the viewer and enhances the plot of "Brave."

Merida's Domination in Archery (Scene 3 - Minutes 26:30)

Princess Merida is seen at this moment dissatisfied with the outcomes of the archery competition. Princess Merida left the audience and entered the shooting range, declaring that she intended to shoot to choose her own prince candidate. Princess Merida aimed at the first target and struck it square in the centre. She then moved to the second target and aimed at it, and the outcome was the same as the first target: she hit it square in the middle and received a perfect score. Putri Merida also received an A+ because its shots were on target. In spite of the fact that Merida is a princess and enjoys archery, she has developed into a different type of young woman from other girls her age. This narrative is about a brave woman who appears brave, quite skilled at swinging arrows and aiming at the target, earning him accolades from many. In the world of gender, males typically excel at archery, but Merida is unique because she has a personality unlike other women. This scene portrays clearly that using a bow is the act of showing violence is the only way to solve a problem for men. Even though they do it because of the customs in the movie, it even shows that it has already been done through generations. The failure in showing violence is that of Merida or the princess showing her archery skills which we can see from the dialogue below.



Merida : I am Merida, the firstborn descendant of clan dunbroch and I will be shooting for my own hand!

Queen Ellinor : What are you doing?

This part in the story of *Brave* is a major turning point in Princess Merida's development as it depicts her dissatisfaction with the results of the archery competition. Merida takes control of her destiny by announcing her plan to select her own prince candidate through her talent for archery, rather than giving in to social pressure and letting

others choose her future spouse. Merida's amazing archery prowess is on full display in this scene as she strikes the targets with ease, scoring a flawless score and even an A+. This not only demonstrates her skill with a bow but also goes against gender stereotypes because archery is typically associated with men. Merida's persona shows herself to be a fearless and accomplished young lady, in contrast to what society expects of princesses her age.

The story highlights Merida's distinctiveness in her readiness to confront gender norms. Merida challenges the stereotype that men should display violence via sports like archery by proving that women are capable of being equally as courageous and competent as men. Her audacious statement and perfect archery performance cast doubt on the idea that dominance or violence are only associated with male characters. Merida's fortitude and will to forge her own path are further highlighted by the conversation she has with Queen Elinor. Merida defies the traditional route established for princesses, and her decision to demonstrate her archery abilities becomes a potent symbol of empowerment. To sum up, this sequence in *Brave* challenges gender norms and displays Merida's extraordinary archery abilities. It also acts as a moving moment. Merida defies conventional gender norms in the film by using her courage to exhibit her violent skills through archery, highlighting her as a progressive and powerful figure.

Princess Merida's rejection of the conventional conventions that state she must wait for a suitor selected by others further demonstrates her disobedience of society's expectations. In addition to demonstrating her extraordinary archery abilities, Merida's decision to aim for her own hand also represents her freedom and independence. This defies the widely held belief that a woman's destiny should be decided by others alone, particularly when it comes to marriage.

Merida's adept use of archery contrasts with society's expectation of male dominance in similar pursuits, highlighting the movie's larger examination of gender roles. Her assertiveness challenges the standard narrative that typically associates violence and authority with male characters. This defiance reflects the failure of male domination in dictating her life's path and underscores her refusal to be constrained by traditional gender roles.

The conversation between Merida and Queen Elinor further emphasizes the conflict between custom and Merida's yearning for independence. Queen Elinor's bewilderment at Merida's audacious proclamation illustrates the generational divide between Merida's progressive outlook and conventional expectations. This clash highlights the ongoing struggle between adhering to established norms and embracing individual autonomy.

This scenario is essentially a potent reflection on gender dynamics, individuality, and shattering preconceptions. Princess Merida is a trailblazing heroine who challenges the conventional narrative of princesses in animated films. Her skill with archery becomes a symbol of her persistence and refusal to submit to societal norms. This scene greatly advances the film's theme of personal agency and empowerment by challenging viewers to reconsider and reinterpret gender norms, demonstrating the failure of traditional male domination in suppressing women's independence and potential.

Merida's Violence as Manly (Scene 4 - Minute 24:51)

Violence as manly as it definitely looks. Being violence is also a form of recognition of men being dominant in life. In masculinity, to own dominance, men or people need to own tremendous power physically to challenge the world. This part will explain the failure of men in trying to dominate through violence.



This scene showed one of the clan representatives using a bow to hit a target in rewards of getting married with Merida or the princess. The scene showed three representatives trying their best in shooting arrows. The first attempt of the representative was hitting the target but not the bullseye, the other one was also attempting to do the same but hit nearly in the eye, surprisingly the last representative hit the bullseye, showing that somehow he wins the challenge.

Princess Merida's mastery of archery contrasted with the male clan members' abortive attempts offers a provocative critique on how society views aggression, dominance, and masculinity. According to conventional wisdom, using violence is a sign of manliness and a way for males to assert their control in a variety of spheres of life.

The archery competition, which was first intended to be a show of masculine might, takes on a variety of outcomes. Even though the first two male representatives struck the targets with skill, it appears that they are not quite up to par because they were unable to complete a flawless bullseye. The symbolism here implies that perfection cannot be attained by the brute force necessary for dominance, which is frequently associated with masculinity.

It's interesting to note that the third representative's ability to strike the bullseye casts doubt on the notion that domination requires nothing more than physical power. But the picture also quietly presents the idea that a man's physical power may not always translate into total domination or control. The nuanced portrayal implies that physical strength alone should not be the only factor in true dominance and respect.

This complex examination of violence and dominance gives the story of the movie more complexity. It calls into question the widespread belief that violence equates to masculinity and draws attention to the shortcomings of such constrictive definitions. Princess Merida cast doubt on the notion that a man's worth should be determined solely by his physical attributes when she rejected the suitors based only on their archery abilities.

In conclusion, this scenario highlights issues about the demands of violence and power in society that are connected to conventional ideas of masculinity, in addition to contrasting Princess Merida's extraordinary archery abilities with the male representatives' attempts. The movie challenges audiences to reevaluate these preconceptions and advances a more complex comprehension of gender roles, power, and strength.

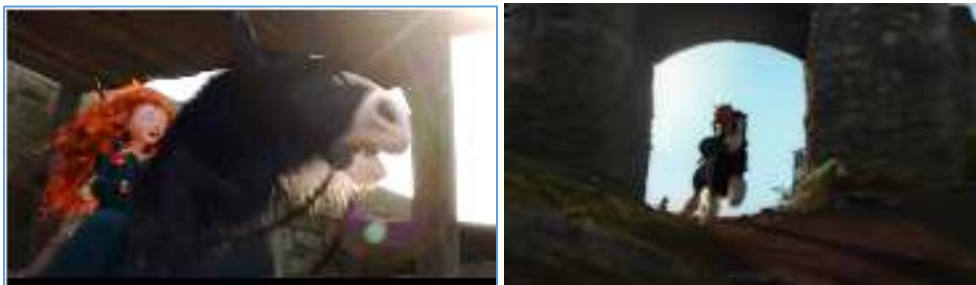
The scene also highlights the fundamental problem with linking violence to a single concept of masculinity. It casts doubt on the idea that physical prowess and strength are the only ways to gain domination, arguing instead that a more complex and nuanced definition of power is required. Princess Merida challenges strict gender stereotypes and redefines what it means to be a powerful person by rejecting the suitors based only on their ability to shoot an arrow.

Merida's perfect archery and the male representatives' differing levels of achievement contrast sharply, highlighting the drawbacks of using physical supremacy as the only indicator of value. It makes viewers consider the larger social pressures males face to live

up to a rigid definition of masculinity that frequently ignores other attributes and manifestations of strength.

Essentially, the scene promotes a more inclusive and diversified concept of strength and domination while also criticizing the conventional link between violence and manliness. It deepens the film's examination of gender roles by posing questions and challenging audience preconceptions on authority, respect, and the characteristics that actually determine a person's value. Destroying preconceptions and advancing a more equitable viewpoint are made possible by Princess Merida's insistence on forging her own path based on her abilities and preferences.

Women's Skill on Horse Riding (Scene 6 - Minutes 28:53)



In this scene, Merida left the house because she had a fight with her mother because Merida didn't want to be like her mother, namely to be a princess. Merida rode a very fast horse. Merida's skill when riding a horse is not in doubt. Even though she is a woman, she has abilities that most men have. The horse galloped toward the forest, then Merida was thrown by the horse into the middle of a circle surrounded by towering stones and arranged very neatly. It was at that moment that Merida again saw the spirit fire. And she followed the direction formed by the spirit fire.

This crucial scene in *Brave* shows Princess Merida making a risky escape because she wants to defy her mother's expectations and embrace her princesshood. Merida dispels gender prejudices related to physical prowess by showcasing her extraordinary equestrian skills while riding a very fast horse.

Merida's persona is further enhanced by the decision to show her as a proficient horseback rider, a trait typically associated with male protagonists in adventure stories. The film's main theme of questioning gender conventions is reinforced by her ability to control the horse with ease and speed. It becomes clear that Merida is capable of more than what is often expected of a princess.

The story takes an unexpected turn as Merida is flung off the horse and lands in the middle of a circle made up of perfectly placed towering stones as she rides toward the woodland. This magnificent location turns into a crucial scene when Merida reunites with the spirit fire, a mystical and symbolic aspect of the movie. As the spirit fire appears, Merida is put on a path determined by fate and connects her to the story's supernatural aspects.

Merida's bravery and openness to embracing the unknown are seen in her choice to follow the spirit fire's guidance. This sequence further establishes Merida as a heroine who challenges social norms by challenging gender norms and demonstrating her willingness to set out on a singular and life-changing adventure led by supernatural forces.

This scenario basically acts as a narrative spark, sending Merida on a journey of self-discovery and breaking gender stereotypes in the process. Her ability to ride a horse with

grace, her experience with the spirit fire, and her will to follow her own path all contribute to the film's examination of empowerment, individualism, and the dismantling of conventional gender norms.

Women's Toughness on Using Sword (Scene 7 - Minute 1:17:24)

This scene tells of a woman who is shrewd and adept at using a sharp object, namely a sword. He used his sword to save his mother who had become a bear who was about to be killed by his father. Merida did not accept that the bear was killed by her own father, she tried to fight her father and other troops by using her ability to use a sword. And what do we know? Usually dangerous weapons such as swords are mostly used by men. But Merida broke the talk. A woman like Merida is also not wrong if she can and is proficient in using sharp weapons such as swords, useful for saving and protecting herself or even other people who commit crimes. Because of that sword, he managed to save his mother.



Princess Merida faces a pivotal point in the story in this gripping sequence, as her skill with a sword comes to the forefront. Her mother, who has changed into a bear, is in grave danger from Merida's father and other soldiers as the dangerous scenario plays out. Merida chooses to act independently, displaying her cunning and swordsmanship, because she cannot tolerate the idea that her father could hurt her mother.

The decision to show Merida using a sword not only skillfully but strategically subverts female stereotypes associated with weapons. Because of strongly rooted prejudices, lethal weapons like swords are typically linked with male protagonists in stories. But Merida's persona defies these assumptions, offering a powerful and competent female lead who is skilled at defending and protecting herself with a sharp object.

The moment sends a strong message that questions the idea of gender-specific roles by demonstrating that women are capable of handling weapons that are typically associated with men, much as Merida. Merida's skill with a sword challenges the restrictions placed on women by society, while simultaneously serving to further the empowerment of her character.

The notion of agency and autonomy is emphasized by Merida's use of her sword in her confrontation with her father and the army. The image of a woman taking command of a dire circumstance challenges the notion that only men are capable of serving as defenders or proficient with weapons. Merida's valiant deed becomes a representation of shattering barriers and altering gender norms in the context of power and armament.

Essentially, this moment advances the story of *Brave* while also powerfully illustrating Merida's character's defiance of gender standards. Her skill with a sword serves as a metaphor for the larger idea that women can achieve beyond what society considers possible, enhancing the film's empowerment and individualism theme.

Merida's Effort to Solve the Problem (Scene 8)

This scene starts where the clans were having a fight in front of Merida. The clan were shouting to one another telling about the queen's existence and the continuity of the marriage proposal. In this scene, men characters show no care upon merida feelings and demand the quest to be continued. Merida refuses by saying the queen oath that there will be changes to the customs and tradition about marriage between clans. At first Merida apologizes to the clans that the mess happened because of her and she is responsible and realizes her position.



In this situation Merida is able to show her care by realizing her diplomatic position and she is also responsible for actions that happened in the past. In this scene Merida showed lots of responsibility than other male characters that only do fighting without thinking straightforwardly. This concludes that men in this scene failed to insert dominance.

The sequence illustrates the conflict between Merida's progressive views and conventional standards as the clans engage in a violent altercation in front of her. Engrossed in the intensity of the struggle, the male characters show little respect for Merida's feelings and insist on pressing on with the marriage quest regardless of her viewpoint.

Merida is a ray of duty and reason amidst the mayhem. By citing the queen's pledge, she expresses her refusal to follow conventions and traditions without question and her dedication to enacting significant change. Merida demonstrates her willingness to question the current quo for the greater good as a leader by her fearlessness in defying accepted standards.

Merida's first apology, which acknowledged her part in the developing conflict, gives her a more humble quality. The masculine characters' emphasis on asserting their power through physical confrontation stands in stark contrast to this moment of weakness. Merida's readiness to accept responsibility for the circumstance demonstrates her diplomatic and emotional intelligence.

Merida stands out in this scenario as the voice of responsibility and reason, in contrast to the male characters' impetuous and aggressive behavior. She demonstrates a strength that goes beyond physical dominance by navigating the complexity of the situation and advocating for change. The men's incapacity to see the need for a more sophisticated strategy and to think through the wider ramifications of their actions accounts for their failure to impose supremacy.

In the end, this scene advances the plot and offers a potent critique of leadership, accountability, and the constraints of conventional gender roles. Merida's actions subvert the idea that physical might is the only way to achieve supremacy, supporting the movie's overall message of empowerment and redefining gender norms.

A Woman Overcoming Great Obstacles and Subduing Powers (Scene 9 - Minutes 75:15)

In order to save Merida, Queen Elinor—who has changed into a bear—displays amazing bravery and strength in this scenario. Her triumph over Mordru proves that a person's power is determined by their courage, tenacity, and intelligence rather than their gender. This scene can be seen as a representation of how a woman can overcome great obstacles and subdue powers that are typically associated with men, even when she takes on the shape of a bear.



At this crucial juncture, Queen Elinor, having changed into a bear, displays incredible bravery and strength in her confrontation with Mordru. Her triumph over Mordru is a potent example of how a person's strength is determined by their courage, perseverance, and intelligence rather than by their gender. This scenario shows that a woman can conquer great problems, even in the shape of a bear, challenging the usual narrative that links power and triumph with masculine characters.

Beyond the specifics of the fight with Mordru, Queen Elinor's victory is symbolic of the power of women to take on and defeat forces that are typically associated with men. Her skill in handling this difficult circumstance highlights the movie's overarching theme of rejecting gender norms. It highlights the fact that real strength and leadership are not gender-specific and that, in spite of cultural expectations, women are capable of being strong, capable heroes.

Gender does not determine the value of excellent leadership or the capacity to handle challenging circumstances; this moment serves as another evidence that women may be powerful and successful heroes. It signifies a shift from the conventional story of gender roles by highlighting the idea that everyone, regardless of gender, can possess strength and knowledge. The scenario is a powerful reminder that a person's capacity to lead or manage difficult situations should not be determined by their gender. The fact that Queen Elinor succeeds in this scenario serves as another evidence that wisdom and power are traits shared by people of all genders. By challenging conventional wisdom, this portrayal helps to create a new narrative in which individuals of all genders are valued for their own talents and qualities.

Essentially, this scene in *Brave* makes a big statement about gender roles in addition to moving the plot forward. By shattering stereotypes and reiterating the idea that strength and fortitude are traits that cut beyond gender lines, Queen Elinor's victory as a bear promotes an inclusive and uplifting view of bravery and leadership.

Conclusion

The conclusion of this study states that the researcher's interpretation of the data collected is that many depictions in *Brave* allude to the inability of male characters to be in

control. However, it is also important to realize that this study offers a different perspective regarding the interactions between characters in *Brave*, which emphasizes that Merida in particular and other strong female characters are more likely to achieve successful dominance than male characters. The results of this study not only validate the failure of male characters' attempts to dominate, but also open up the potential to further analyze gender roles and representations in cinematic stories.

The researcher further argues that, based on the research conducted, there is enough data to show that Merida is the character in the movie who shows the most preference towards masculinity, which then shows how unsuccessful the male characters' attempts to dominate her are. It was also found that the male characters do not possess the macho qualities of the main character. This brings up the argument that there is evidence of the failure of male-led dominance in this particular movie.

References

- Indriyani, F., Sofyan, E., Dewi, N., & Mardewi, T. (2022). Feminisme of the Main Character in The Girl on the Train Movie. *Interaction: Jurnal Pendidikan Bahasa*, 9(1), 159-171.
- Kothari, C.R. (2004). *Research Methodology: Methods and Techniques*. New Delhi: New Age International Publishers.
- Merdeka, P. H. (2023). Representation of Feminism in Disney Brave Film: Representation Of Feminism In Disney Brave Film. *Journal of Literature Language and Academic Studies*, 2(01), 10–14. <https://doi.org/10.56855/jllans.v2i1.279>
- Munroe, M. (2001). *Understanding the Purpose and Power of Men*. Bahamas: Whitaker House.
- Natasya. (2022). Analysis of feminism in the Moxie movie. *Ulil Albab: Jurnal Ilmiah Multidisiplin*, 1(10), 3549-3558
- Pratiwi, K. R. I., Indrawan, M. I., & Putra, W. N. (2021). The study of characterization of the main character in the movie Brave. *International Journal of English Language and Literature (IJELAL)*, 2(1), 1-10.
- Ramadani, F., Munawaroh, K., & Dinata, R. P. (2021). An analysis of feminism in the movie Maleficent by Robert Stromberg. *Journal of English Language Teaching*, 5(20), 150-154.
- Sanchez, D., & King-Toler, E. 2007. Addressing disparities consultation and outreach strategies for university settings. *Consulting Psychology Journal: Practice and Research*, 59(4), 286-295.
- Stake, Robert E (ed.). (2010). *Qualitative Research: Studying How Things Work*. New York: The Guilford Press.