

# Women And Sexuality In The Novels Of Thomas Hardy

**The Ashgate Research Companion to Thomas Hardy** - Rosemarie Morgan 2016-03-23

In *The Ashgate Research Companion to Thomas Hardy*, some of the most prominent Hardy specialists working today offer an overview of Hardy scholarship and suggest new directions in Hardy studies. The contributors cover virtually every area relevant to Hardy's fiction and poetry, including philosophy, palaeontology, biography, science, film, popular culture, beliefs, gender, music, masculinity, tragedy, topography, psychology, metaphysics, illustration, bibliographical studies and contemporary response. While several collections have surveyed the Hardy landscape, no previous volume has been composed especially for scholars and advanced graduate students. This companion is specially designed to aid original research on Hardy and serve as the critical basis for Hardy studies in the new millennium. Among the features are a comprehensive bibliography that includes not only works in English but, in acknowledgment of Hardy's explosion in popularity around the world, also works in languages other than English.

*Thomas Hardy, Femininity and Dissent* - J. Thomas 1998-11-11

Drawing on aspects of Foucauldian feminist theory *Thomas Hardy, Femininity and Dissent* offers original and detailed readings of six critically under-valued novels: *Desperate Remedies*, *A Pair of Blue Eyes*, *The Hand of Ethelberta*, *A Laodicean*, *Two on a Tower* and *The Well-Beloved*, demonstrating Hardy's peculiarly modern appreciation of how individuals negotiate the forces which shape their sense of self. Tracing his interest in the evolutionary debate and the woman question this book reveals a new politically engaged rather than a grimly pessimistic Hardy.

**Thomas Hardy--myths of Sexuality** - Ruth Milberg-Kaye 1983

*Marriage in the Novels of Thomas Hardy* - Rosemary Dawson 1981

*The Cambridge Companion to Thomas Hardy* - Dale Kramer 1999-06-24  
Thomas Hardy's fiction has had a remarkably strong appeal for general readers for decades, and his poetry has been acclaimed as among the most influential of the twentieth century. His work still creates passionate advocacy and opposition. *The Cambridge Companion to Thomas Hardy* is an essential introduction to this most enigmatic of writers. These commissioned essays from an international team of contributors comprises a general overview of all Hardy's work and specific demonstrations of Hardy's ideas and literary skills. Individual essays explore Hardy's biography, aesthetics, his famous attachment to Wessex, and the impact on his work of developments in science, religion and philosophy in the late nineteenth century. Hardy's writing is also analysed against developments in contemporary critical theory and issues such as sexuality and gender. The volume also contains a detailed chronology of Hardy's life and publications, and a guide to further reading.

*Love on a Blighted Star* - Emily M. Armstrong 2017

Thomas Hardy's Wessex sets a stage for tragedy as an ultimate end to the struggles of individuals caught in social conflict at the end of the Nineteenth century. Women in Hardy's rural landscapes are caught in class and romantic struggle, for the most part leading to tragic ends. The natural world looms over these struggles, grounded in the lives and romantic endeavors of its tenants. As the laws, manners, and mores of developing society obfuscate the natural way of human life, Hardy creates Nature as a figure that observes and interacts with humanity's confusion. In the attempt to depart from natural roots, and the hesitant

transition towards urban influence, *Far from the Madding Crowd* (1874), *The Return of the Native* (1878), *The Woodlanders* (1887), and *Tess of the D'Urbervilles* (1891) explore the role of the natural world in its relation to female sexuality.

**Thomas Hardy and Paradoxes of Love** - Hillel Matthew Daleski 1997  
Emphasizing the vast changes in literary criticism that have occurred during the last thirty years, H. M. Daleski reexamines Thomas Hardy's novels in the novelist's own terms, presenting a revisionary account of his treatment of gender. He also shows that Hardy was not as sexist as is asserted in much feminist criticism and that his female characters are sympathetically portrayed as the centers of his fictional worlds. By carefully analyzing the novels, Daleski refutes the generally accepted reason for Hardy's abandonment of fiction at the height of his powers, claiming that he drove himself to a dead end in *Jude the Obscure*. The typical Hardy plot places a female protagonist in a love triangle with two male protagonists who are portrayed as polar opposites. The woman contradicting a general view of her as victim is always granted the freedom of choice of a marriage partner. She invariably makes the wrong choice, which leads to a bad marriage and disastrous sexual relationships. As this scenario is played out in most of Hardy's novels, the men are presented as distinct types, the types being depicted with rich diversity and with steadily greater psychological depth. Hardy's rendering of sexuality in both his male and his female characters is marked by its originality and profundity. In his intuitions about sexual relations, Daleski maintains Hardy was not outdone by writers such as Lawrence and Joyce. Daleski studies Hardy within his Victorian context, but he also shows that Hardy, both in his depiction of sexuality and in his technical innovations, was in advance of his time. In these respects Hardy deserves to be regarded as a forerunner of the great modernists. In *Thomas Hardy and Paradoxes of Love*, Daleski offers acute and thoughtful analyses of Hardy's major novels. Avoiding critical jargon, the author has made his book accessible to all readers with an interest in Hardy and his novels, as well as in the study of gender in English literature.

**The Sense of Sex** - Margaret R. Higonnet 1993

Gender and Discourse in Victorian Literature and Art - Antony H. Harrison 1992

This collection of original essays offers a broad and varied discussion of gender issues and treatments of sexuality in Victorian poetry, fiction, and visual arts. Featuring a representative selection of artists--poets, novelists, painters, sculptors, playwrights, and dancers--these critical analyses explore the ways in which women as artists, as subjects, and as icons function either to challenge and revise or to reify their society's gender ideologies. Enhanced by a diversity of approaches, the collection introduces revisionist readings of well-known literary works and examines interconnections between literature and the visual arts. In the first two parts, which address Victorian poetry and fiction, the readings illuminate previously unexplained features of poems and novels by such writers as Alfred Tennyson, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Matthew Arnold, Christina Rossetti, A. C. Swinburne, Gerard Manley Hopkins, Anne Brontë, Charles Dickens, George Eliot, Rudyard Kipling, Thomas Hardy, Kate Chopin, and Oscar Wilde. The third part of the collection focuses on the themes of gender conventions and subversions that occur in visual representations--paintings and cartoons, sculpture and architectural reliefs, drama, opera, and music-hall dance. Rather than presenting literature and art as self-contained, the collection advances the assumption that creative works participate in a larger ideological current of society. Thus, where relevant, the contributors reference politics, economics, science, and other modes of cultural discourse. Such an approach retrieves the historical contexts surrounding the production and reception of the poetry, fiction, and visual arts examined.

*Contrasting Sue and Arabella in Thomas Hardy's "Jude the Obscure"* - Nermin Bastug 2012-06-08

Seminar paper from the year 2009 in the subject English - Literature, Works, grade: 12, University of Marburg, course: The Pre-Modern Novel: Hardy and Conrad, language: English, abstract: Two completely different women, Susanna Bridehead and Arabella Donn, share the same man in

Thomas Hardy's Jude the Obscure. Jude's cousin Sue is a "pretty, liquid-eyed, light-footed young woman". Her mind, her education, her unconventional beliefs and especially her insistence on these beliefs impress Jude. His affection to Arabella Donn is quite different. She whom he addressed was a fine dark-eyed girl, not exactly handsome, but capable of passing as such at a little distance, despite some coarseness of skin and fibre. She had a round and prominent bosom, full lips, perfect teeth, and the rich complexion of a Cochin hen's egg. She was a complete and substantial female animal -- no more, no less. Of course, Sue and Arabella are not just contrasting in their appearance but they have oppositional ideas, beliefs and attitudes towards life. Therefore, they lead their lives under different circumstances and get different social recognition. By this example, Hardy criticizes the rigidity of certain conventions in the Victorian Age. In the following I will analyse various aspects which demonstrate the differences between the two characters, namely the two women's relation to Jude and their attitude towards sexuality, marriage, motherhood, religion and education.

**The Novels of Thomas Hardy as a Product of Nineteenth Century Social, Economic, and Cultural Change** - Birgit Plietzsch 2004

*The Stone and the Scorpion* - Judith Mitchell 1994-10-26

Sexuality and erotic desire were important components of Victorian culture, and the novels of the Victorian era reflect the sexual attitudes of the authors and culture of that period. *The Stone and the Scorpion* focuses on the interplay of erotics in the novels of Charlotte Bronte, George Eliot, and Thomas Hardy. Using several extra-literary critical approaches, particularly feminist gender-relations theory, this book determines degrees of female subjectivity and desire in these novels. At the heart of the study is the belief that the disruption of conventional male-female dualities is essential to the recasting of the erotic relationship in contemporary culture. Mitchell re-reads several well-read novels by three major Victorian authors in order to analyze their symbolic construction of gender and sexuality. As a group, the novels she discusses are a recognized part of the established literary canon; they

span the latter half of the 19th century; and they embody various forms of erotic desire. The book considers to what extent the novelists dare to invest their female characters with erotic subjectivity, and to what degree this investment changed over time.

**The Portrayal of Women in the Victorian Age. Gender in Thomas Hardy's "The Mayor of Casterbridge"** - Oliver Baum 2014-09-19  
Seminar paper from the year 2007 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Literature, grade: 3.0, University of Marburg (Institut für Anglistik und Amerikanistik), course: 10 090 00016 HS: "The English Novel: From the Beginnings to the 21st Century", language: English, abstract: This term paper focuses on the topic of gender and the investigation of Hardy's portrayal of women as it emerges from the novel. In order to prove my thesis, I will reflect in how far Hardy follows major trends of Victorian fiction in *The Mayor of Casterbridge*. Next, I will depict the Victorian ideal of women with regard to fiction and society. Finally, I will prove my claim that Hardy's ambivalent view of women, which embraces both conventional and modern ideals, is valid for *The Mayor of Casterbridge*, because it portrays women both as inferior and superior. Accordingly, I will show that Hardy's heroines deviate from the prevalent Victorian ideal of women. Therefore, I will analyse crucial aspects like Hardy's authorial point of view as well as Henchard's relationship to Susan, Lucetta, and Elizabeth-Jane, in the novel. My thesis matters because "[...] the appeal of Hardy as a novelist [...] has long been vital, increasingly so in recent years [...]". Besides, "[t]he tension [...] of Hardy's representation of women [...] makes his work one of the richest and most complex sources of feminist commentary in the realist novel". Recent criticism of Hardy focused on Marxist and feminist theories by reassessing Hardy's novels as revolutionary. This issue remains important because women have been oppressed for centuries, while Hardy's fiction contributed to the women's struggle for emancipation.

*Women and Sexuality in the Novels of Thomas Hardy* - Rosemarie Morgan 1988

Rosemarie Morgan provides a challenging reading arguing that, contrary

to the accepted critical view, Hardy's heroines do seek control over their conduct and their destinies and this reveals itself in rebellious sexuality.

**Women and Sexuality in the Novels of Thomas Hardy** - Rosemarie Morgan 1988

First published in 1988. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

Thomas Hardy A Critical Spectrum - Rama Kundu 2001

Thomas Hardy Was Equally Eminent As A Novelist And A Poet And Thus Holds A Unique Place In English Literature. More Than Seven Decades After His Death, Thomas Hardy Is Still Surprisingly Alive If Uninterrupted Critical Attention Is A Test. The Nineteen Essays Included In The Volume Thirteen On Hardy S Fiction, Five On His Poetry, And One On General Overview Cover A Broad Range Of Critical Perspective On Hardy S Fiction And Poetry, Which Include The Comparative, The Freudian, The Existentialist, The Absurdist, The Psychospacial, The Feminist, The Aesthetic-Artistic, The Historicist, The Dialectical, The Mythical, The Symbolic, Among Others. The Collection Will Be Relevant And Useful To Both Students And Scholars Of English Literature As It Brings Into Focus A Wide Spectrum Of Interesting Sidelights On, And Illuminating Analyses Of The Various Dimensions Of Hardy S Works; Some Of The Papers Are Refreshingly Original And Perceptive In Their Approach To And Treatment Of The Respective Subjects. As A Great Writer Hardy Has Remained Problematic, Demanding That His Readers Wrestle With Him. The Present Volume Claims To Have Joined That Unbroken Wrestle More Than A Century-Old With The Words And Meanings Of Hardy S Works. Contributions From The Eminent Scholars In The Field Have Enhanced The Value Of The Collection.

The Hardy Review, Vol XIX-Ii - Rosemarie Morgan 2018-01-22

Brief description of The Hardy Review The Hardy Review is a publication of The Thomas Hardy Association and the premier journal devoted to the scholarly study of Thomas Hardy. TTHA's original and highly praised Uncollected Items series (uncollected, even by Purdy), include unnoticed

newspaper printings of Hardy's poems, pirated editions of his novels, uncollected articles and original literary resources. Peer-reviewed essays submitted by world-class scholars, graduate students and lay readers alike have drawn worldwide attention, for example, Andrew Radford's "Two on a Tower" (vol IV), & "A Laodicean" (vol V), Michael Rabiger's highly controversial "Hardy and Moule" (vol XIII-ii), Richard Sylvia's dilatory "Henniker/Dillon affair" (Vol XIII-ii), Rosemarie Morgan's outstanding piece of research on "Thomas Hardy Buys a Wife" (vol VIII), Hugh Epstein's, "Vision, Substance and Literary Style in A Laodicean" (vol XIV-i), Herbert Tucker's "At the Bottom Line: How Hardy Tries Conclusions" (Vol XIV-ii), Keith Clavin's "History of Negation: Liberty and Coercion in Jude (Vol XIV-ii), and the entire collection of scholarly essays from the FATHOM conference in Istanbul (2012). More recent issues have featured the incomparable research work of Roy Winnick who has unearthed more than two dozen previously unknown allusion sources in Hardy. Past issues have also included symposia on Hardy and film, Hardy and dance, as well as papers from international Hardy conferences. The Hardy Review also publishes book reviews, selections from TTHA's Poem-of-the-Month seminar and works by acclaimed Living Poets. A new series on Hardy Abroad features historical approaches to Hardy's reception across the globe - thus far, Hardy in Israel, Hardy in India, Hardy in China, Hardy in France, Hardy in Italy, Hardy in Latvia and more.

**Student Companion to Thomas Hardy** - Rosemarie Morgan 2007

Introduces the life and work of the English author, with critiques on his major works and an analysis of his contributions to the field of world literature.

Thomas Hardy and Women - Penny Boumelha 1985

*Women and Sexuality in the Novels of Thomas Hardy* - Rosemarie Morgan 2006-04-07

First published in 1988. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

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