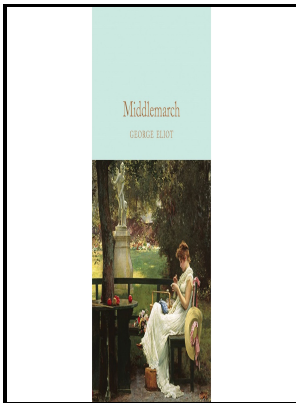


George Eliot and the conventions of popular womens fiction

P. Lang - George Eliot's women



Description: -

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Women and literature -- Great Britain -- History -- 19th century.

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English fiction -- Women authors -- History and criticism -- Theory, etc.

Popular literature -- Great Britain -- History and criticism -- Theory, etc.

Eliot, George, 1819-1880 -- Criticism and interpretation. George Eliot and the conventions of popular womens fiction

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This sort of literary comprehensiveness would become a relatively lost aesthetic soon after the death of Queen Victoria. As this happened, however, professional artists, writers and musicians began to take a serious interest in them, driven on by a desire to recover and preserve what they regarded as an ancient national cultural heritage. For example, he added, I one day said to her that I could wager and demonstrate that there were in Paris at least two inhabitants who had the same number of hairs, although I could not point out who these two men were.

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There are those in the industrious middle class: the honest workman Caleb Garth; the sanctimonious banker Nicholas Bulstrode; and the potential recruit to committed work Fred Vincy. Jane Austen's dissection of Lydia Bennet, and George Eliot's demolition of Rosamond Vincy, for example, indicate both how and why the defense of the status quo—insofar as women of the nineteenth century were concerned—was most earnestly and elaborately performed by women writers.

of George Eliot and the Conventions of Popular Women's by Susan Rowland Tush

This conflict remains a significant one for English novelists up to the present; it is a major theme for women novelists from Charlotte Brontë to Penelope Mortimer. Jansenism was then to ordinary Catholicism what Puseyism is to ordinary Church of Englandism in these days—it was a *recherché* form of piety unshared by the vulgar; and one sees at once that it must have special attractions for the *précieuse*. I am not suggesting that we read these texts ahistorically.

The 7 Most Epic Literary Writers of the Victorian Era

No wonder that her salon at Port Royal was the favorite resort of such women as Madame de la Fayette, Madame de Montausier, Madame de Longueville, and Madame de Hautefort; and of such men as Pascal, La Rochefoucauld, Nicole, and Domat.

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