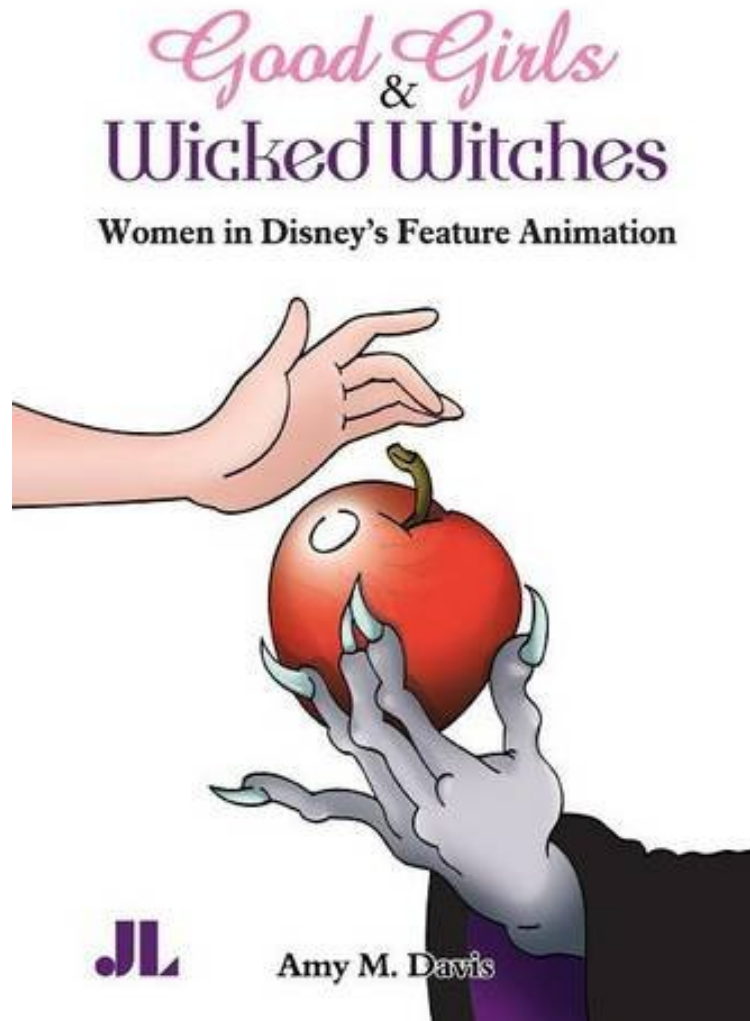


Good Girls and Wicked Witches: Women in Disney's Feature Animation

Amy M. Davis

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Amy M. Davis : Good Girls and Wicked Witches: Women in Disney's Feature Animation before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Good Girls and Wicked Witches: Women in Disney's Feature Animation:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Absolutely excellent book! I have used it numerous times for ...By Joy LAbsolutely excellent book! I have used it numerous times for projects and meetings. Wonderful analysis of

characters and character types from an educational and analytical standpoint. This author does not let bias get in the way. Highly recommended for anyone researching or interested in the feminine archetypes of Disney women!0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Melanie A. HowardA great and informative read!8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Great StartBy CustomerIt's very easy to criticize Disney's portrayals of women over the years. In fact, they do not fit with the current cultural idea of a motivated, active, and very maternal woman. Others believe that Disney is so ingrained into our popular culture it should be immune from criticism. The tone of this book feels sympathetic to Disney more so than many essays about this topic. It considers many factors that contribute to the portrayals. But it is also not entirely apologetic for these images. The book is all by one person. Her sources are cited well within the page in a way that academics can easily understand and casual readers can easily ignore. The chapters are divided by time period. The worst thing I can say about the book is that there should have been more in some places and less in others. Chapter 2 is a brief history of animation. I'm not entirely sure that the actions of other studios, especially ones that weren't making movies, is relevant to the topic. In addition, the book only talks about human characters as they appeared as main characters in animated movies. There is no discussion about the portrayals of female animals in movies like "The Lion King" or "Robin Hood," which I feel has a great diversity of female characters. I also feel that the lack of women in movies like "The Jungle Book" and "Winnie the Pooh" is worthy of discussion.

In *Good Girls and Wicked Witches*, Amy M. Davis re-examines the notion that Disney heroines are rewarded for passivity. Davis proceeds from the assumption that, in their representations of femininity, Disney films both reflected and helped shape the attitudes of the wider society, both at the time of their first release and subsequently. Analyzing the construction of (mainly human) female characters in the animated films of the Walt Disney Studio between 1937 and 2001, she attempts to establish the extent to which these characterizations were shaped by wider popular stereotypes. Davis argues that it is within the most constructed of all moving images of the female form—the heroine of the animated film—that the most telling aspects of Woman as the subject of Hollywood iconography and cultural ideas of American womanhood are to be found.

From the Publisher
American womanhood as seen through the eyes of Disney.
About the Author
Amy M. Davis is a lecturer in the School of Media and Performing Arts and a course director for Film Studies at the University of Ulster, Coleraine. She is author of several articles on the subject of Disney feature animation.