

# **Gender, Power, and Ideology in *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle***

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## **Abstract**

This paper is a literary analysis of Avi's *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle*, an award-winning novel for young adults. The novel employs the plot device of journey to engage the protagonist in a coming-of-age experience and describes the heroine's transformation. By reading the novel through the feminist and Marxist lenses, I examine the portrayal of the heroine and discuss the social structure in the novel's setting. I demonstrate that the heroine's transformation, along with her self-discovery and liberation, lays bare restrained gender roles within the patriarchal society. My analysis also exposes the way how patriarchal order operates through power and oppression.

**Keywords:** young adult literature, feminism, Marxism, journey, coming-of-age

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## 閱讀《一位女水手的自白》：性別、權力、意識形態

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### 摘 要

本論文針對《一位女水手的自白》這本備受好評的青少年小說做文本分析，本小說利用冒險故事的旅程情節安排將女主角置身於成長學習改變的經驗中，本文援用女性主義及馬克思主義的理論為基礎，檢視小說中女主角的角色刻畫以及故事中的社會結構。本文主要論點是：女主角的成長改變，以及伴隨其中的自我發現與解放，不僅凸顯父權社會中受壓抑的性別角色，也揭露了父權秩序是如何以權力及壓制遂行其意。

**關鍵詞：**青少年文學、女性主義、馬克思主義、旅程、成長

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