

“Uncaged Cage-Birds in The Storm”: Convention and Feminine Individuality in Kate Chopin’s *The Awakening* and Angela Carter’s *The Bloody Chamber*

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The universal problem of the female is their interminable quest for individuality and liberty. Amidst the subjugation of patriarchy and conventional oppression how would the female be authentic? Does this world stand a chance for her to be authentic? Therefore, this study aims at identifying the deeper dimensions of the hegemonic powers of patriarchy and contemporary societal conventions obstructing the individuality of the females degrading them into passive, docile and vulnerable creatures, manipulated by the patriarchy. This can be identified as a pressurizing, universal delinquent for the modern women. How she finds solace and liberation becomes dynamic to one another. In this undertaking, the objective of the authors is to assess the deeper fathoms of patriarchal hegemony and its’ destructive power upon females. The popular Victorian texts *The Awakening* by Kate Chopin and *The Bloody Chamber* by Angela Carter are subjected into the analysis, which contain the extreme female subjugation under the patriarchal hegemonic dominance. Marxist feminist theories of Simone de Beauvoir, Judith Butlers’ Performative Theory and the Theory of Objectification by Frederickson and Roberts are used to substantiate the discourse in the study. Thematic analysis method is used as the methodology of this qualitative study. The research results in identifying the timeless fathoms of the marginalization of the female passion, personal space and the individuality invaded by the invisible forces of patriarchy. And thus, the study evaluate how the modern woman breaks these iron bars of gender oppression of the hegemonic power and societal convention to reach the heights of individuality.

Keywords: *Feminine Individuality, Hegemony, Patriarchy, Societal Convention*