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Post Feminist Point of View by Meg Cabot in the *Princess Diaries*

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ABSTRACT

From 2000 until 2009, Meg Cabot wrote a series of young adult (YA) novels called *The Princess Diaries*. This is only one of many examples of contemporary attempts to retell what is perceived by Western society as the classic princess narrative—the tale of a beautiful princess who patiently waits for the ideal man. Critics like Sarah Rothschild and Kay Stone point out that throughout history, the ideal feminine has been associated with fictional princesses, who in turn, Princess stories are considered fascinating literary works by feminists. Rothschild observes authors like Cabot have been writing more and more YA princess stories in recent years to refute the popular perception that the princess is a submissive female character in their revisions to the story of the princess.

Keywords: Meg cabot , Feminism, The princess character, Feminism, Diaries, Diary writing, YA Fiction.

INTRODUCTION

The choice of a novel can be explained by its capacity to provide a thorough knowledge of the literary work's setting as well as the depth of the characters' thoughts and feelings through detailed descriptions of the conversation and narrations. Novels tell storylines, which are generally characterised as a succession of interconnected events. The concept of self-actualization originates from Humanistic psychology theory, particularly

from Abraham Maslow's thesis. According to Maslow (1943:375), self-actualization is the process by which a person grows towards achieving their highest aspirations for meaning in life. Maslow's idea of self-actualization must first be contextualized within his hierarchy of needs. Maslow felt that human motivation needed to be studied beyond the contemporary scope of behaviorism because the study of "motivation should be human centred rather than animal centred".

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Maslow's hierarchy of needs is made up of psychological needs, safety needs, love needs, esteem needs, and self-actualization in a pyramid from bottom to top. Each level of needs must be taken care before the next one can be taken care of, so ensuring one's physiological needs (like food and water) is a prerequisite to ensuring their safety needs (like shelter), ensuring one's safety needs is prerequisite to ensuring one's love needs, and so on.

Self-esteem is defined as a person's overall subjective emotional evaluation of his or her own worth. In more simple word, it is the feel of feeling good about yourself or feeling bad about yourself. Maslow divide self-esteem into two form, the need of respect from others in the form of self-love, self-confidence, skill or aptitude.

FEMINISM

Simply said, equality means that both genders have the same chances and rights. Although it originated primarily in the West, the belief in social, economic, and political equality is reinforced by various institutions committed rights activity on behalf of human rights. .

In 1837, the French philosopher and utopian socialist Charles Fourier credited with coining the term "Feminisme".

"Feminisme" (feminism) and "Femineste" (feminism) originally arose in France and the Netherlands in 1872, Great Britain in the Maas, and the United States in 1910.

It began in the 80s and was a hugely debated topic since the word "post" can be referred as "dead" (or) "after" feminism.

The objectives are distinct from those of manism, second wave, and third wave feminism. Post -feminism honour and declare that women are more freedom to select and express opinions, free to choose . Post – feminism emerged as 60s and feminism came to new form in the 80s .As an ideology , they desired more latent equality, arguing that home had achieved gloomy equality with men.

Author of The Aftermath of Feminism ,Angela Mc Robbie, is among the most prominent figures on Post – feminism Post – Feminism : and cultural Feminism, cultural theory, and forms author AnnBrooks .Author of Post–feminist media Culture aspect of a Sensibility, Rosalind Gill .Prominent writers during the post – feminism period Weisar , Cathrine Rottenberg , Sarah Banet–weisar, Rosalind Gill, Angela Mc Robbie, etc. began to fort.

Amelia Jones wrote a poem-feminist text that was part of the second wave in the 1980/1990. Meg Cabot is familiar with the inner workings of teenage girls. The New York Times bestselling author has published over fifty books for young readers with diverse female heroines (not counting the over two dozen works she has written for adults). While some of her works are standalone novels, others are part of well known franchises like The Mediator, The Princess Diarie and 1-800-Where She has been able to access the underlying ideas, desires, and challenges that modern-day women encounter for the past 20 years. Meg Cabot is the author of the young adult fiction series .The Princess Diaries. It also appears in the first volume's title. The epistolary series centres on adolescent Mia Thermopolis as she navigates the dual roles of ordinary adolescent life and royal prince of Genovia,

Mia the Princess Mia, the main character, already dismantles some barriers by ensuring that women are represented. Without the tiara, she could be considered a respectable role model as an independent young woman with provocative views and an unconventional family.

She was raised by her mother and never had a conversation with her father or his family. Mia was an uncomfortable kid, and her cat, Fat Louie, and Lilly Mosvcovitz were her only true pals. Mia studies well at a nearby private school, but she is a bad athlete and an outside. Visiting the Genovian embassy, where Mia is receiving private instruction from her grandmother, the Queen of Genovia, in the role of a secret princess. Profession: Should she consent to formally take her title, she will be the Princess of Genovia and the successor to the

kingdom. At the Genovian Independence Day Ball, Mia must make her announcement, and it's and making one is not simple. As Mia puts it, "Most kids hope for a car for their 16th birthday, not a country!" despite the fact that she is not quite sixteen. Her new Mustang and rock climbing are her interests. Mia earns money for her new car by working at a nearby rock climbing facility. The fact that her best friend Michael Moscovitz's older brother is prepared to fix her bike for free is helpful.

Status of Relationship: strong crush on Josh Bryant, the jock at school whose locker is next to hers. Regretfully, he barely acknowledges his girlfriend's existence. Overcoming her challenges to become the princess Genovia needs her to be. Mia will have to study politics, etiquette, and Genovian history—all of it. Since Mia is the Princess of Genovia, her character is the main subject of this sub-analysis. Before we can achieve self actualization, according to Maslow (1943:6), there are four stages in life that we must go through: the needs for self-esteem, safety, belonging, and love.

Mia frequently discusses reaching self-actualization in this book. That must be a component of my issue. At the very bottom of the self actualization tree is where I am. As is, practically beneath its roots."(49). First stage physiological needs, including those for food and air, have been met. Mia resides in a flat in Greenwich Village, New York, with her mother, an artist. Her father is a royal from a little town, and her mother is an accomplished painter. Mia has adequate money in her life because Genovia is a small European country. Mia's life was rather typical before the princess things turned her world upside down. Every day, she will meet her best friend Lilly Moscovitz at Astor Place, where they will ride the uptown 6 train to school together. She didn't want her dad's bodyguard to drop her off at school. Tina Hakim Baba, a wealthy Saudi Arabian girl whose father owns a major oil company, is the only student at Albert Einstein High School who gets dropped off by a chauffeur. Her parents tease her because they fear she will be abducted from her home between Seventy-fifth and Fifth. Even so, she

has a security who goes with her from class to class and converses with the driver on a walkie-talkie. It seems a little strange and excessive, in Min's opinion.

She doesn't want the same tragedy to happen to her, but she has to forget about the metro since her father wants to protect her because she is the sole heir to the throne. At the start of the book, Mia had a rather strained connection with her family and friends. Since Mia struggles to articulate her emotions, her mother got her a diary so she could record all of her feelings in it. Because Lilly is constantly grumbling about how awful she looks after her makeover, Mia's friendship with Lilly, her best friend, was strained. She snapped, telling Lilly to stop talking. She is sick of having her best friend constantly minimize her. Bad because Lilly keeps complaining about how bad her look is after her make over. She cracked, and tell Lilly to shut up. She is tired of her best friend putting her down all the time. Mia needs friends, and when Lilly is not there for her she tries to figure out where she belongs. In the lunch restaurant at school she looks for appropriate company.

The first step towards repairing their friendship is taken by Lilly who has matured enough to see and admit her own faults. The Princess Diaries illustrates that without a friend's guidance the protagonist is left to make her own decisions. In this case the protagonist turns out to be strong enough to reject the people who only want her company because of her status. Moreover, she is able to find true friendship elsewhere. In addition, the bonds between the protagonist and her old friend turn out to be strong, and they become friends again. The message of the story, concerning friendship, becomes clear, problems can be solved and friendship can survive crises if you admit your faults and if you can forgive. Besides, it shows that it is possible to make new 10 friends if you open your heart, but that it is important to be careful with whom you choose to be friends so that they are true friends

Mia's relationship with her mother is really good. Although there is a lot lacking in her mother's

parenting. Mia loves her anyway. She does not speak about her feelings but she shows them in different situations. For instance, although she has some problems with the fact that her mother is dating her Algebra teacher. Mr Gianini, she wants her mother to be happy and Therefore does not reveal her feelings. Mia makes the decision to handle the Situation in what could be regarded to be a Mature way. In numerous ways Mia acts as if she Is the adult one and her mother is the one who Needs to be taken care of. The family seems to eat takeaway most of the time, however when it

Cometo doing laundry or grocery shopping. Mia is the one who handles things Because she has duties, Mia grows up faster. Even if the readers are aware of every drawback of her circumstances, it is also evident that they have helped her develop into a strong and self-reliant young woman.

The younger readers understand that occasionally negative events might ultimately work to their advantage. Mia's father did not have a significant role in her upbringing or adolescence. According to her, he is a politician who resides in Genovia. She writes about his cancer diagnosis with a lack of emotion. Because of Due to his illness, he is unable to conceive. Mia doesn't write a lot about her father in her writing. She tells him she loves him, but she ends it with "I guess". It seems that their communication has decreased over time, and nothing in Mia's diary suggests that she would have preferred things to have turned out differently. She doesn't seem overjoyed when her father sees her in between the holidays, most likely because of this. She is aware that anything like this is unusual, and it really is. At this point, he claims to be a royal and tells her so. Because her parents did not inform her sooner, Mia feels deceived. According to her father, they believed they were doing her a service. Everything has changed because her father is no longer able to have children, making Mia the heir apparent to the throne. Her father maintains that they believed they were doing her a service by keeping her in the dark. As an example of an absent parent, Mia's father has undoubtedly affected her

feelings towards him; she isn't sure if she loves him or not. Moreover, he hasn't been honest with her, withholding information about a significant aspect of his life that has an impact on her as well. Adolescents who spend the most of their time with one parent can most likely identify in some way with the protagonist's feelings towards the missing parent. Because of this, Mia is not thrilled to be a princess: she only sees the bad. For example, she is vehemently opposed to her father's wish for her to relocate to Genovia. At last, he gives up and allows her to complete her education first, provided that she then Attends to her obligations as his successor. Once More likely, many people are familiar with this scenario. Teens are perceived differently depending on Too young to understand the significance of Matters, but conversely, they are believed to .insists that her status should remain unknown, She explains that people will label her as a weirdo with a bodyguard and limo if they find out about this princess thing, and even worse, if students at the school find out. And it's not what she wants. All she wants is to be a typical adolescent girl. She understands that not many people know her and that she is not popular. They never ask her out on a date or to a party. Conversely, there are moments when she would rather blend in with the background than draw attention to herself. "But when I walked in, a group of girls burst out of the bathroom laughing uncontrollably. I'd want to live on a desert island sometimes. Really. For hundreds of kilometres, with no one else in sight. Me, the sea, and the beach alone. As well as a coconut tree.0in satellite dish and a Sony PlayStation including Bandicoot, for those moments of boredom (146).When Mia gets to school and everyone knows she's a princess, she says the aforementioned quote. These two distinct quotations demonstrate how Mia views existence as a major issue in her life; while she desires to exist, she also places the blame on her circumstances.

She places the blame on the circumstances that made her a princess after first blaming her outward look. To be ready for her role as a princess, her grandma sent her to Paolo, the royal hairdresser.

Mia initially experiences anxiety and rage because they Mia's initial reaction is one of worry and anger because her hair was chopped extremely short, bleached to a very blond colour, and her finger had nails applied. She believes she has a Lana Weinberger-like appearance.

Is changing me into a different person" (104). However, Mia quickly learns to adapt to her princess teachings, and by the book's end, she has fully regained her confidence. In certain situations, she can even stand up for herself.

According to Pietrofesa (Mappiare, 2010: 73), a person's self-image is made up of a variety of self-perceptions that influence and encompass all of their values, attitudes, and beliefs in connection to their surroundings. The narrative is somewhat depressing, but in the end, she recovered her sense of self.

1 Mia's self-assurance by the book's conclusion. The story of *The Princess Diaries* begins. Mia, who is often whining about herself, believes that her unattractive appearance stops her from becoming popular. It is evident from the book that Mia gradually gains confidence in herself. By the book's finale, Mia has gained enough self-assurance to accept and even love her flaws. Mia discovers that even when everything in her life seems to be falling apart, she must remain loyal to her family, friends, and herself. Mia is bold and self-assured.

Conclusion

American girl Mia Thermopolis is insecure and needs to mature into a mature woman. The news that her father, the prince of Genovia, is telling her that she will become a true princess comes as a huge shock to Mia, which she finds hard to take. Mia's grandmother, the Genovian queen, raised her to be a mature princess. At last, Mia realised how she had reached self-actualization and that, although being a princess had first been a nightmare, it had now become a dream come true.

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