

ABSTRACT

DEWI, JOSEPHINE INTAN CANDRA. (2026). **Gender Inequality and Women's Empowerment as Depicted by the Main Character in Tom Verica's *Queen Charlotte: A Bridgerton Story***. Yogyakarta: Department of English Letters, Faculty of Letters, Universitas Sanata Dharma.

Queen Charlotte is the most influential character who possesses feminist values throughout the series. By positioning Charlotte as the central figure in the British Empire within the Bridgerton universe, this series aims to promote the discourse of gender empowerment in eliminating the issue of gender inequality. The embodiment of this issue is revealed through the character Queen Charlotte in the series.

There are three objectives in this study. The first is to describe the characteristics of Queen Charlotte in the series. The second is to find out gender inequality experienced by Queen Charlotte in the series. The last is to reveal Queen Charlotte's manifestation of women's empowerment in the series.

This study employed a library research method in analyzing the data. The primary data in this study is the television series entitled *Queen Charlotte: A Bridgerton Story*, directed by Tom Verica. The secondary data are books and journal articles that are relevant to this study. There are four theories employed in this study, including the theory of character and characterization by Boggs and Petrie (2022), theory of film elements by Bordwell, Thompson, and Smith (2020), the concept of gender equality and patriarchy, and theory of women's empowerment. In addition, feminist literary criticism is employed as the approach of this study.

This study found that there are four dominant character traits of Queen Charlotte in the series. These include intelligence, rebellious, decisive, and caring. These character traits are revealed through five methods, including through external action, internal action, reaction of the other characters, dialogue, and visual appearance. The issue of gender inequality she experienced in the series is caused by patriarchy, such as forced marriage, forced to bear children, and lack of personal freedom. Through these issues, Queen Charlotte manifested women's empowerment in various dimensions in challenging the patriarchal royal family. These empowerments include social empowerment, political empowerment, educational empowerment, and marriage empowerment. Queen Charlotte's character traits also supported and contributed to her manifestation of women's empowerment.

Keywords: Queen Charlotte, gender inequality, patriarchy, women's empowerment

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Queen Charlotte merupakan tokoh paling berpengaruh yang memiliki nilai-nilai feminis disepanjang serial ini. Dengan memosisikan Charlotte sebagai tokoh sentral dalam Kerajaan Inggris di dalam dunia Bridgerton, serial ini bertujuan untuk mempromosikan wacana pemberdayaan gender guna menghapus isu ketimpangan gender. Perwujudan dari isu ini diungkapkan melalui karakter Queen Charlotte dalam serial tersebut.

Terdapat tiga tujuan dalam penelitian ini. Pertama, untuk mendeskripsikan karakteristik Queen Charlotte dalam serial tersebut. Kedua, untuk mengetahui wujud ketimpangan gender yang dialami oleh Queen Charlotte dalam serial tersebut. Terakhir, untuk mengungkap manifestasi pemberdayaan perempuan oleh Queen Charlotte dalam serial tersebut.

Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif deskriptif dalam menganalisis data. Data primer dalam penelitian ini adalah serial berjudul *Queen Charlotte: A Bridgerton Story*, yang disutradarai oleh Tom Verica. Data sekunder berupa buku dan artikel jurnal yang relevan dengan penelitian ini. Terdapat empat teori yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini, yaitu teori karakter dan karakterisasi oleh Boggs and Petrie (2022), teori elemen film oleh Bordwell, Thompson, dan Smith (2020), konsep kesetaraan gender dan patriarki, serta teori pemberdayaan perempuan. Selain itu, kritik sastra feminis digunakan sebagai pendekatan dalam penelitian ini.

Penelitian ini menemukan bahwa terdapat empat sifat karakter dominan dari Queen Charlotte dalam serial tersebut, yaitu meliputi cerdas, pemberontak, tegas, dan peduli. Sifat-sifat karakter tersebut terungkap melalui lima metode, yakni melalui tindakan eksternal, tindakan internal, reaksi dari karakter lain, dialog, dan penampilan. Isu ketimpangan gender yang dialami Charlotte dalam serial tersebut disebabkan oleh patriarki, seperti pernikahan paksa, paksaan untuk memiliki keturunan, dan kurangnya kebebasan pribadi. Melalui isu-isu tersebut, Queen Charlotte memmanifestasikan pemberdayaan perempuan dalam berbagai dimensi untuk menentang keluarga kerajaan yang patriarkal. Pemberdayaan tersebut meliputi pemberdayaan sosial, pemberdayaan politik, pemberdayaan pendidikan, dan pemberdayaan pernikahan. Sifat-sifat karakter Queen Charlotte juga mendukung dan berkontribusi terhadap manifestasi pemberdayaan perempuannya.

Kata Kunci: Queen Charlotte, gender inequality, patriarchy, women's empowerment