This essay aims to investigate the problematic representation of femininity in Susan Coolidge’s *What Katy Did*. Nineteenth-century America, is the age when principles of “True Womanhood” prevailed and gender division was strictly upheld. The woman’s place is in the home, society asserted, and the image of the angel in the house was highly idealized, just as it was across the Atlantic. This essay considers, in particular, how female authors, such as Coolidge, enjoyed the freedom afforded them in children’s literature, but at the same time how they ironically tended to uphold the gender hierarchy which had oppressed and confined their female contemporaries. This essay therefore, examines the problematic representation of women in Coolidge’s novel as well as consider the ideological implications behind protagonist Katy’s transformation from tomboy to the “heart of the house.”

**I. Introduction**
**II. Katy, the Girl**
**III. Katy’s Models and Anti-models**
**IV. Katy, the Woman**

**Works Cited**

**Abstract**

**Keyword**

#Susan Coolidge  #What Katy Did  #Children’s literature  #problematic representation of nineteenth century women  #Femininity  #disability studies

**Reference (0)**

This essay aims to investigate the problematic representation of femininity in Susan Coolidge’s *What Katy Did*. Nineteenth-century America, is the age when principles of “True Womanhood” prevailed and gender division was strictly upheld. The woman’s place is in the home, society asserted, and the image of the angel in the house was highly idealized, just as it was across the Atlantic. This essay considers, in particular, how female authors, such as Coolidge, enjoyed the freedom afforded them in children’s literature, but at the same time how they ironically tended to uphold the gender hierarchy which had oppressed and confined their female contemporaries. This essay therefore, examines the problematic representation of women in Coolidge’s novel as well as consider the ideological implications behind protagonist Katy’s transformation from tomboy to the “heart of the house.”
A constant yellow dust in the air, Katy and Clover go to a girl's boarding school. It's a real test of character though, as they see many girls doing things that are not right or that are inappropriate. And then when Katy gets accused of doing something she didn't do, it is a real fiery trail that will show the wonderful "character she is made of."

How can you make sure you're not acting like one? Or if you're a submissive, what should you look for in a Dom? Let's consider what it truly means to be a real Dom. To start, let's focus on some of the warning signs of a bad or fake dom. If they focus more on what they are getting than what they are giving that is a huge clue. Of course the nature of a Dom can be somewhat selfish but they should always make sure that the sub is satisfied not just sexually, but emotionally and physically too. Many new Doms latch onto the idea of getting sucked whenever they want, even in the beginning of new relationships. But just like any relationship, trust needs to be earned. A fake dom may say things like, "You're not really a sub, or, "A good sub would do XYZ." I wanted to answer two questions: "How did the human heart become transformed into the iconic form we know today?" and "How long has the heart been associated with love?" Artist unknown. Broom from the Fishpool Hoard, 1400-1464, British Museum, London, England. The ancient Romans held a curious belief about the heart — that there was a vein extending from the fourth finger of the left hand directly to the heart. They called it the vena amoris. Even though this idea was based upon incorrect knowledge of the human anatomy, it persisted. In the medieval period in Salisbury, England, during the church ceremony in the liturgy, the groom was told to place a ring on the bride's fourth finger because of that vein. The book starts immediately after the conclusion of the What Katy Did at School is a sequel to What Katy Did. It was written a year later, in 1873. Like many girls, I read and enjoyed these novels about the Carr family, written by Sarah Chauncey Woolsey, using the pen name Susan Coolidge.
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