Critical Approaches From Snow White To Frozen: A Historical Perspective on the Evolution of Disney Princesses



The Disney Musical on Stage and Screen: Critical Approaches from 'Snow White' to 'Frozen'

by Julie Fain Lawrence-Edsell

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Disney princesses have been a staple of popular culture for decades, and their impact on society cannot be overstated. These films have shaped the way we think about gender, race, and empowerment, and they have played a significant role in the development of children's values and beliefs.

In this article, we will take a critical look at the evolution of Disney princesses from Snow White to Frozen. We will examine how these films have reflected and shaped societal norms and values over time, and we will discuss the ways in which they have both empowered and limited women and girls.

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (1937)

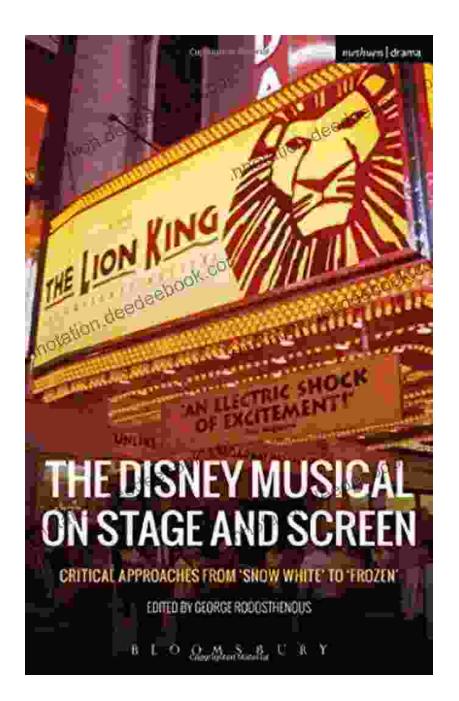


Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs was the first full-length animated film produced by Walt Disney Productions. It was a groundbreaking film in many ways, and it set the template for many of the Disney princess films that followed.

Snow White is a beautiful and kind-hearted princess who is forced to flee her home after her stepmother, the Evil Queen, becomes envious of her beauty. She seeks refuge in the forest, where she meets seven dwarfs who take her in and protect her from the Queen.

Snow White is a classic damsel in distress, and her story is one of rescue and redemption. She is a passive and helpless character who relies on the help of others to save her from danger. However, she is also a strong and determined young woman who never gives up hope, even when things seem darkest.

Cinderella (1950)

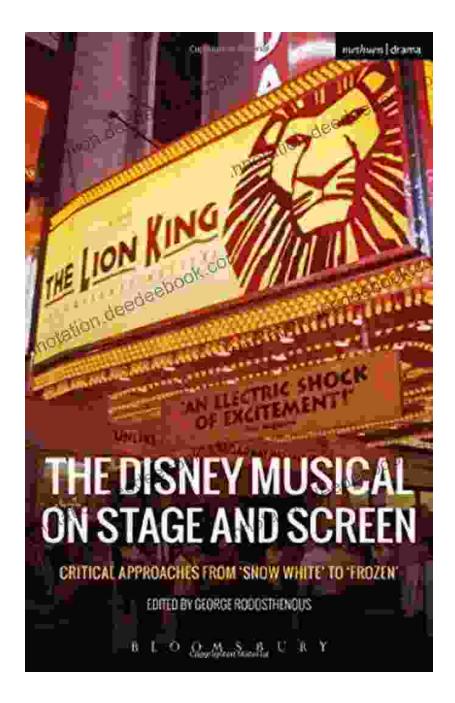


Cinderella is another classic Disney princess story. It is the tale of a young woman who is mistreated by her stepmother and stepsisters, but who eventually finds her true love and happiness.

Cinderella is a kind and gentle young woman who is always willing to help others. She is also a dreamer who believes that anything is possible if you have faith. However, she is also a passive and submissive character who often lets others walk all over her.

The story of Cinderella is a classic rags-to-riches tale, and it has been told and retold for centuries. However, the Disney version of the story is problematic in many ways. Cinderella is a passive and helpless character who relies on the help of others to save her from her situation. She is also a stereotypically feminine character who is defined by her beauty and her desire to find a husband.

Sleeping Beauty (1959)

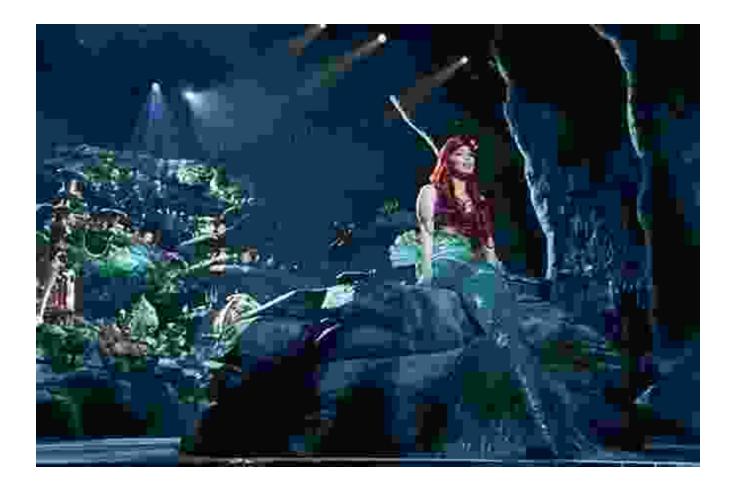


Sleeping Beauty is a classic fairy tale that has been adapted into many different films and television shows. The Disney version of the story is a beautiful and visually stunning film, but it is also one of the most problematic in terms of its portrayal of women.

Sleeping Beauty is the story of a beautiful princess who is cursed by an evil fairy to prick her finger on a spinning wheel and fall asleep for 100 years.

She can only be awakened by the kiss of a prince.

Sleeping Beauty is a passive and helpless character who is completely dependent on others to save her. She is also a stereotypically feminine character who is defined by her beauty and her desire to find a husband.



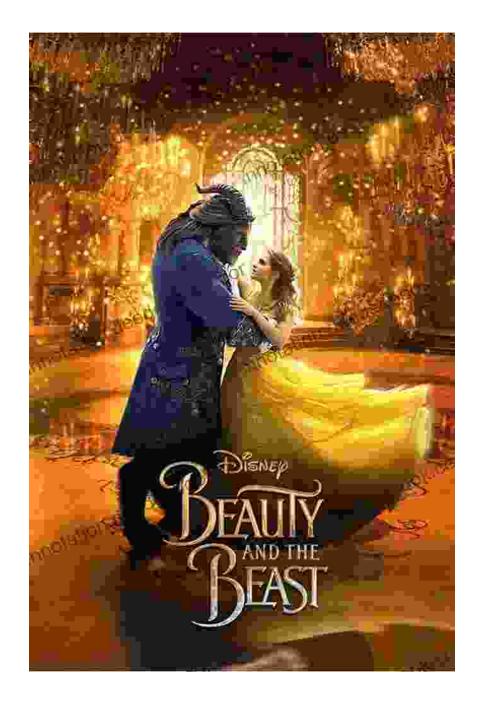
The Little Mermaid (1989)

The Little Mermaid was a groundbreaking film for Disney in many ways. It was the first Disney princess film to feature a non-white princess, and it was also the first Disney princess film to be a musical.

The Little Mermaid is the story of a young mermaid named Ariel who falls in love with a human prince. She is willing to give up her life in the sea to be

with him, but she must first defeat the evil sea witch, Ursula.

Ariel is a strong and independent young woman who is willing to fight for what she wants. She is also a compassionate and caring person who is always willing to help others. However, she is also a naive and impulsive young woman who often makes bad decisions.



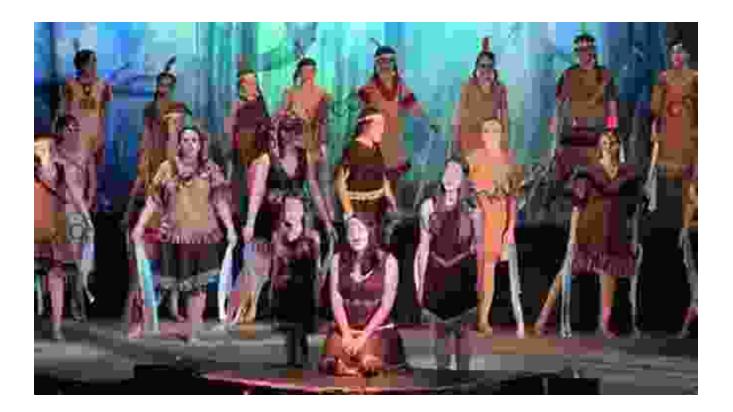
Beauty and the Beast (1991)

Beauty and the Beast is one of the most beloved Disney princess films of all time. It is a beautiful and heartwarming story about a young woman who falls in love with a beast who is actually a handsome prince under a curse.

Belle is a strong and independent young woman who is not afraid to stand up for what she believes in. She is also a kind and compassionate person who is always willing to help others. However, she is also a naive and impulsive young woman who often makes bad decisions.

The story of Beauty and the Beast is a classic tale of love and redemption. It is a story about how love can overcome all obstacles, even the most difficult ones.

Pocahontas (1995)

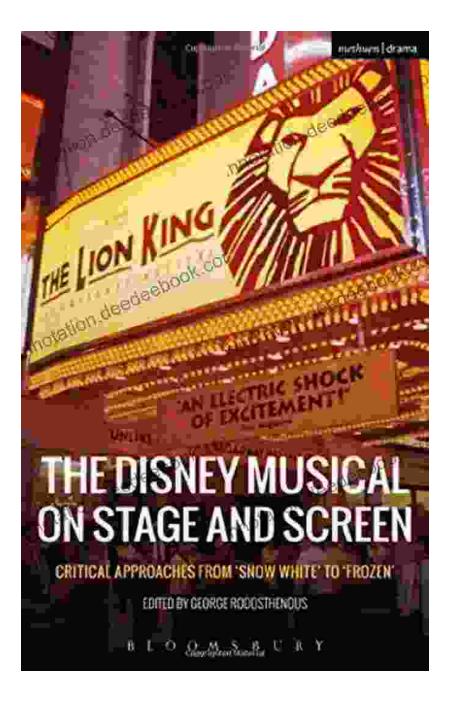


Pocahontas was a groundbreaking film for Disney in many ways. It was the first Disney princess film to feature a Native American princess, and it was also the first Disney princess film to be based on a real historical figure.

Pocahontas is the story of a young Native American woman who falls in love with an English settler. She must choose between her people and her heart, and she ultimately decides to stay with her people and fight for their land.

Pocahontas is a strong and independent young woman who is not afraid to stand up for what she believes in. She is also a kind and compassionate person who is always willing to help others. However, she is also a naive and impulsive young woman who often makes bad decisions.

Mulan (1998)



Mulan is



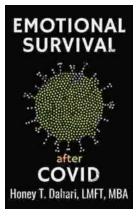
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