This annotated bibliography focuses on female characters in literature that break through the patriarchy. The women of the world unite in order to be set free of the male dominance.

If William Shakespeare would have had a sister Judith, she could not have become an artist.

The quote from the story says....

“But she [Judith] was not sent to school. She had no chance of learning grammar and logic, let alone of reading Horace and Virgil. She picked up a book now and then, one of her brother’s perhaps, and read a few pages. But then her parents came in and told her to mend the stockings or mind the stew and not moon about with books and papers.”

In this quote it describes how Judith would be expected to do chores around the house like cooking and sewing. They believe that the place of a woman belongs in the kitchen in that time period. It is the reason her parents only send her brother to school because they believed only the men have opportunity to have a career and education, that in the long run forbid her from becoming an artist.


“In the 1970s, women’s literary history began to be written and Woolf, according to these scholars, was its first author and in many ways its first subject.”

The quote explained that men were the only writers up into the 1970, they were the ones who did all the deep thinking not women. Women were not a part of history until that time when they were given the chance.

The story mentions that she cannot choose her husband,
"Soon, however, before she [Judith] was out of her teens, she was to be betrothed to the son of a neighbouring woolstapler. She cried out that marriage was hateful to her, and for that she was severely beaten by her father."

The quote explains how in Shakespeare's time women were not able to chose their husbands, their father would be the one to choose for them. Women were treated like property that could be bought in exchange for something else. They had no say regardless what they felt or if they wanted too. She would have to become a bride and a wife which meant forgetting all her hopes and dreams.


“The marriage is an essential part of the gigantic and oppressive framework of the joint family which has for so many generations kept women in subjugation.”

There was no free will for woman, they would have to obey whatever their family would say. They were oppressed by the choice that were made for them in order to keep their family well and taken care of. This is why many times their hand was exchanged for money or animals, etc.

Although her passion to act the story mentions how she...

“She [Judith] stood at the stage door; she wanted to act, she said. Men laughed in her face. The manager— a fat, loose-lipped man-guffawed. He bellowed something about poodles dancing and woman acting— no woman, he said, could possibly be an actress. He hinted— you can imagine what. She could get no training in her craft.”

The author makes a point of how the men did not even take her words or dreams into consideration because of her gender. As a result of being a female she could not have the opportunity of becoming an actor like her brother even though she had that same determination. Instead she would be mocked and a nothing but a nice laugh because that was not a place for women. Only her brother Shakespeare would be able to be an artist because of his male gender.

“Woolf aims to establish the mother as the repository of memory and as the source of poetic inspiration for women writers by locating her at the core of the creative impulse.”

Women were not able to be writers, be an artist in anything anything for a matter of fact. They were suppose to take care of the house, while the men did all the thinking. Even in Virginia’s time she felt there was still no space for women so she wrote to motivate them which motivated her.

The Jury of Her Peers shows how women are overwhelmed by their daily tasks that they don’t realize they are all going through the same oppression, but once they realize it reflects a unity and a beginning for women suffrage

A quote from the story describes how evidence was tampered with,

“Why, it looks as if she didn’t know what she was about.... Just pulling out a stitch or two that’s not sewed very good [Mrs.Hale].”

The text from the story shows how Mrs.Hale tampered with evidence, she hid that Minne may have been nervous over something. Every piece of quilt was done correctly but that piece was not that meant she was not herself.


“A "feminist classic,"7 A Jury of Her Peers raises significant questions about women's oppression in a society dominated by men, gender differences in perception, and the empowerment of women that comes from consciousness-raising and female bonding.”

This quote explains how the men could not find evidence for a motive but the woman uniting hid the evidence that would incriminate their gender. They all realized that they are being pushed down upon by men.

The quote from the text explains what Mrs. Hale felt as to being there for Minnie.
“[Mrs.Hale] I wish--I Mrs. Peters. I wish I had come over sometimes when she was here. I wish--I Had...[Mrs.Peters] But of course you were awfully busy, Mrs. Hale. Your house-- and your children”

The quote brings up how the women are running the house no the men, they are in charge of the kids, clean, and cooking. They cannot spare any time to go visit each other in a day where they are constantly doing chores. Men boss them around and they don't realize there's more to life, they don't have a chance to speak to each as women and what's going on with each household. They don't have a support system, which is why she resents not visiting her as to think it could have made a difference.


“Conversing, Minnie’s neighbor and the sheriff’s wife realize how difficult her work must have been at the bad stove, how shabby and humiliated she must have felt in her worn-out clothes, and how she must have longed for music. They appreciate how desperately she must have missed other women’s company and their social activity, friendship, warmth, conversation, and compassion.”

This quote explains how both women united in order to help Minnie, they could have built a strong case with the evidence found by the women but they brought any of it up. They hid the canary, fixed the stitching, instead of giving that insight to the men. They realized the oppression Minnie was under with an old stove, how he husband was a bad man but everyone saw him as a righteous man. They feel guilt for not realizing it early, for not speaking to her about her life was. They described how she use to love singing and was happy all the time, but all the oppression she was under had a breaking point which led to her killing her husband.

The yellow wallpaper represents a woman's confinement to the power of men when the doctors voice is one of a male which is science expected to be correct, while a woman goes for her feeling and superstitions, where they have no free will, confined between the 4 yellow walls.

A quote from the text says....

“I tried to have a real earnest reasonable talk with him the other day, and tell him how I wish he would let me go and make a visit to cousin Henry and Julia. But he said I wasn’t able to go, nor
able to stand it after I got there; and I did not make a very good case for myself, for I was crying before I had finished"

The quote explains how she as a woman got to emotional to even speak, that is how me rule women they don't believe they are stable enough to reason like them. It also mentions how she said she tried to have a real talk with meaning their talks are not actually ever real. The women always listen to the men, they have the last say in everything and they must obey.


“In short, at the turn of the century, a woman's livelihood depended on "a small gold ring," but Gilman preferred to emphasize the potential of women outside the home”

This quote explains how Gilman wrote not to emphasize the women in the kitchen cooking and cleaning but the women who could walk out her house with freedom. A woman's life does not have to depend on a man, how she was to get married and that it. Instead it goes to walking out of the house and not being trapped between walks and doing what you wish.


“There can be no doubt that the narrator dwells in the middle of Patriarchy. She is living in "ancestral halls" (9), has just given birth to a boy, is surrounded by men?her husband, her brother, and somewhere in the background, Weir Mitchell?and even the female or females in the house appear to be cardboard figures cut out by the patriarchy?first Mary, the virgin mother who "is so good with the baby”

The text explains how The Yellow Wallpaper represents a women living in a man's world where she can't read or do whatever she wants. She cannot even raise her own child because of all the emotions that she has, that she's not stable. The men are the doctors they believe she is doing better that they have the cure to whatever is going on in her head but in the end that's not the truth.