The character of Bertha in the novel, 'Jane Eyre,' as written by Charlotte Brontë, is a complex and multi-dimensional character who embodies the struggle of women in the Victorian era. Bertha, often referred to as 'the madwoman in the attic,' is presented as a victim of societal norms and expectations. Her portrayal challenges the typical representation of women in literature of that time, highlighting the restrictive nature of the gender roles imposed on women.

Jane Eyre, the protagonist, is a young woman with strong individuality and a quest for independence. Her relationship with Bertha serves as a mirror to her own experiences and the societal constraints she faces. The novel explores themes of identity, self-discovery, and the empowerment of women through education and self-reliance.

Bertha's character is developed through her interactions with other characters, particularly Jane Eyre. Her madness is portrayed as a consequence of her suppressed desires and the societal restraints that prevent her from achieving her dreams. This portrayal is significant in understanding the complexities of female roles in Victorian society and the limitations imposed on women's personal and intellectual growth.

Teaching the Literary Traditions

In the context of teaching literary traditions, 'Jane Eyre' serves as a valuable text to explore the evolution of female characters and the societal expectations of the time. The novel provides students with an opportunity to analyze the role of women in literature and the impact of societal norms on their portrayal.

The Göraness in Nineteenth-Century Britain

The Göraness is a term used to describe a group of women who were actively involved in the intellectual and cultural life of the Victorian era. They were known for their contributions to literature, art, and science, challenging the traditional roles of women in society. Their work reflects the broader societal changes occurring during the time, particularly the push for women's education and participation in public life.

The Göraness group includes figures such as Rose Howells, Mary Howitt, and Mary Anna Sherwood. Their writings and activism demonstrated the importance of women's roles in society and the potential for women to contribute meaningfully to the intellectual discourse of the time. The Göraness is significant in the history of women's rights and the development of modern femininity.
J. S. Milner

The Female Gothic

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In conclusion, Gothic literature has left a lasting impact on modern storytelling and continues to influence contemporary literature. The themes of darkness, decay, and the supernatural, along with the exploration of the human psyche, remain relevant and are often explored in modern fiction. The Gothic tradition serves as a reminder that the past is not just a distant history, but a part of our ongoing cultural heritage, shaping our understanding of the world and our place within it.
(continued)

As a result of learning and committing the feminine repulsion and comfort, I encourage students to examine whether they agree with Chafetz's ideas and values. In this way, the concept of the feminine repulsion serves as a bridge between the role of the female in the family and the role of the male in the family. The idea of the feminine repulsion is not new; it has been discussed in various contexts. However, it is important to note that the concept of the feminine repulsion is not limited to gender roles. It is a concept that can be applied to any situation where there is a need for balance and harmony. I believe that by understanding the concept of the feminine repulsion, we can create a more equitable and harmonious society.