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Society believes that women are fragile creatures that are meant to have docile dispositions and pretty faces. They are not supposed to speak their minds, show their intelligence, or question the will of a man. William Shakespeare's The Taming of the Shrew represents stereotypes about females through the portrayal of the character Bianca. Bianca is the younger sister of the female protagonist Katherine. She is highly sought after by men because she embodies Society's perfect female. She is calm, pretty, and quiet. Her character acts as a foil to that of her sister because she contradicts the "shrew"-like behavior that repels men from Katherine. None of Bianca's suitors care to become familiar with her or even to speak with her. They just see that she is desirable and immediately want to claim her for their own. This is evident when the traveling student Lucentic arrives in Padua, sees Bianca for only a moment, and decides that he is crazily in love with her. Shakespeare did not give Bianca a lot of dialogue, but he gave her enough to portray her submissive personality. When Katherine is abusing her for not telling her which suitor she liked the most, Bianca says that she does not have a preference and will spend her days abiding by her father's wishes. Bianca is but one example of the female stereotypes that exist.

Society wants men to be strong, brave, and dominant. They love vigorous activities, women, and liqueur. The Taming of the Shrew embodies these stereotypes through many of its male characters. The reader is first introduced to Sly, a poor drunkard. He is pranked by traveling nobility and made to think that he is a lord. He is not willing to believe the tale until he is introduced to his "wife". Then all he wants to do is bed her. This shows the stereotype that men only want woggen, as companions for their beds, and that they have a strong love for alcohol. The character Petruchio is another example of male stereotypes. He is tall, r

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