

Do's & Don'ts of Writing Women

This is an extra resource to go along with the original article:

[Your Guide to Writing Women](#)

- Don't make her "strong" like a man. She doesn't need to exhibit traditionally masculine traits to be "strong".
- ★ Do make her human. Start off with characterization and motivation first. Delve into backstory.

- Don't make her a victim of an outside oppressor. This reinforces the idea that your woman character is deficient.
- ★ Do make her the hero of her own story. She doesn't need a man, or anyone outside of herself to overcome.

- Don't forget to address her need for safety.
- ★ Do show how she finds that safety.

- Don't mistake a woman's capacity for service as subservience.
- ★ Do show that her femininity (but not sexuality) is what makes her strong.

- Don't forget to find a muse or someone to inspire your character.
- ★ Do use more than one person to create a composite.