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The Discrimination And Tolerance As Seen In Andrzej Sapkowski's The Witcher

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Abstract

This research explores the themes of discrimination and tolerance in The Witcher series by Andrzej Sapkowski. Employing postcolonial theories by Edward Said, Homi K. Bhabha, and Gayatri Spivak, the study analyzes how fantasy narratives reflect social realities regarding injustice and diversity. The novel presents a fictional world marked by racial tensions among humans, elves, dwarves, and other magical beings. Through character interactions and the social structures depicted in the story, readers are presented with portrayals of marginalization, stereotyping, and systems of oppression. At the same time, the novel also includes moments of tolerance that suggest the possibility of coexistence and mutual understanding. This research uses a descriptive qualitative method with a library research approach. The findings reveal that The Witcher serves not only as a reflection of social inequality but also as a critique of dominant power structures and an exploration of efforts to build tolerance within a divided society.

Keywords: Discrimination, Tolerance, Postcolonial, Social Structure

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I INTRODUCTION

Discrimination and tolerance are central issues in Andrzej Sapkowski's The Witcher. The narrative presents how humans and non-human races (elves, dwarves, witchers) are entangled in prejudice, exclusion, and social inequality. The study is significant as it demonstrates how

fantasy literature reflects real-world issues of injustice, power, and coexistence. This section provides the background, identification, limitation, formulation, and purpose of the research, adapted from the thesis.

II RESEARCH METHODS

This research uses a descriptive qualitative method. The data were collected through close reading of *The Witcher* by Andrzej Sapkowski and supported by secondary sources (books, journals, articles). The analysis employed

postcolonial theory (Said, Bhabha, Spivak) to examine discrimination and tolerance in the novel. The technique of analysis was qualitative content analysis.

III RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The findings reveal multiple forms of discrimination: verbal abuse towards witchers, marginalization of elves and dwarves, and institutionalized violence masked as scientific logic. These portrayals echo real-world colonial practices and racial hierarchies. On the other

hand, tolerance is represented through characters like Geralt of Rivia, who often bridges divides between humans and non-humans, and through moments of empathy that resist dominant prejudice. However, tolerance is fragile and often undermined by systemic power structures.

IV CONCLUSION

The Witcher portrays discrimination as a pervasive force shaping the relations between humans and non-humans, reflecting historical realities of colonization and marginalization. At the same time, the novel emphasizes the

possibility of tolerance through hybridity, empathy, and coexistence. While discrimination appears more dominant, the presence of tolerance provides a critique of oppression and an alternative vision for inclusive society.

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