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Sommario/riassunto

"If beauty is truth, is ugliness falsehood and deception? If all art need concern itself with is beauty, what need have we to explore in our literature the nature and consequences of ugliness?" In Plain and Ugly Janes, Charlotte Wright defines and explores the ramifications of a new character type in twentieth-century American literature, the "ugly woman," whose roots can be traced to the Old Maid/Spinster character of the nineteenth century. During the 1970's, stories began to appear in which the ugly woman is a figure of power-heroic not in the traditional old maid's way of quiet, passive...