

The epic poem Beowulf is a tale of warriors and monsters, epic battles and of women. When looking at the women of Beowulf, two different stereotypes emerge: the good girl and the bad girl. A good girl in that time was one who was submissive to her husband, attractive, and knew etiquette. The bad girl was not any of these and was the polar opposite: she was ugly, generally violent, and inherently evil. In Beowulf, Wealtheow is the good girl and Grendel's mother is the bad girl.