

Celie didn't fight. It addresses taboo cultural issues such as life outside the church and the desire for community, surviving sexual assault by family members, and the importance of relationships between black people and women, all of which inspire contemporary conversations. Sophia's strength and boldness shows us the most pernicious effects of strong black female stereotypes: it makes her more vulnerable to domestic unrest and civil unrest, and predicts black women to act violently as a result of abuse. At various stages of *Celie*, Walker has emphasised the fact that black women, despite their dire circumstances, can collectively speak out against the patriarchal order and achieve self-government. Shug is adamantly opposed to all repressive fabrications of gender and racial differences. Alice Walker's historical novel about black women revolves around the journeys of black women whose protagonists are not slaves or maids, but those who are silenced. Her daughter Sophia also suffered when she was wrongfully imprisoned for denying a white woman a job offer. She suffered.