Horror Film Analysis

Characters: Miriam and Sarah

This film’s focal point centers on the perspectives of two characters: Miriam Blaylock and Dr. Sarah Roberts. Miriam, as a vampire, is determined to over-power the patriarchal world order of the society in which she lives. Her act of killing her male lovers and condemning their mummified bodies to coffins is symbolic of a vampire’s lust and indignation against the patriarchal world order (Scott Web). This film portrays the height of feminism in that it advocates for completing replacing dominant patriarchal social structures with new structures, which base their systems on a wholly feminine world order. The resolve is demonstrated for the restructuring of their world, which is made manifest in sexual relationships, which is embraced at the height of the film. The two women in the film develop a close intimate relationship, which blooms parallel to that permitted by the patriarchal world order.

Matriarch (Miriam)

Essential feminists seek to create a world ruled solely by women. According to essential feminists, the discourse of sexual relationships is one of the most potent tools that patriarchal forces use to dominate women in their environment. Sex is interpreted as a weapon that places women in a state of submission so that patriarchal systems can triumph. Essential feminists estimate that conquest comes by means of heterosexual relationships. Some issues that connect to this film involve Miriam’s assertive and confident character. Miriam has acquired wealth by means of her demonstrated ego, and she uses this wealth to
control the world around her with influence and assertiveness. Sarah, on the other hand, is a representation of a measured archetypical female. She displays some sense of decorum and maturity and represents the mean between the patriarchal power and feminist extremism.

**Sarah Overtakes Miriam and the “Threat” of a Matriarchal Power**

One might argue that Miriam’s final fall represents extremism on either side of the gender divide and its impossibility. The patriarchal society suffers a great deal from Miriam’s perspectives and actions. Sarah’s seeming triumph appears to consider the importance of moderation and balance. Interestingly, the patriarchal world order appears to reemerge at the end of the film, the representation of which captures a sense of caution and awakening. This keeps society on a more moderate level, compared to a more suppressive and oppressive system. Miriam represents a transforming force that is disruptive and brings society back from its faulty assumptions. This is done through the design of a new world order that seems to accommodate the interest of everyone across the gender divide.

**Post Response**

I agree with your observation that Miriam and Sarah demonstrate confidence, assertiveness and independence. This is a positive traits. I base this position on the fact that the both women seem to remain away from the patriarchal system of suppressive and oppressive structures. This affects the lives of other women in their society. I also approve of your observation that, in this film, sexual relationships and lesbianism are used to demonstrate how these women challenge dominant positions created by patriarchy (Scott, Web). Indeed, these two women strive to create a private world that accommodates rebellion, the same type that they demonstrate against patriarchal forces. Consideration of the fact that some of the issues that affect women’s dominance and progress are founded in traditions and practices imposed by patriarchy.
Scott, Tony (Dir). *The Hunger*. Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. 1983 (Film)