

**Tribhuvan University**

**A Study of Female Heroism in Willa Cather's *O Pioneers!***

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for the Degree of Master of Arts

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## **Abstract**

The inscribed disquisition emphasizes on Willa Cather's innermost intellectual vision of an American pioneer woman who struggles a lot in order to turn a barren, drying and infertile land into a fertile and productive one. In order to do so, the protagonist, Alexandra has indeed made numerous efforts to overcome all sorts of interference and challenges. Speaking concretely, her two callous brothers, Oscar and Lou always remain as interrupting factors to block up her land plan made to upgrade the Bergson family's economic state. As Alexandra is knowledgeable and bold enough to deal with every thing and person, she ultimately gets success to accomplish the plan of her want and conscience. Similarly her focus on the land is indeed, more crucial and higher than her marital life itself. This is why she marries Carl Linstrum, the man of her need and wish when she reaches the fact that Alexandra as a female hero and the pioneer sacrifices her personal desires and happiness for the sake of her father's dead soul's satisfaction as well as the prosperity of the Bergson family. Thus her heroic deeds vitalize her bold feminist personality not only in Hanover but throughout America as well.

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