

**DAENERYS STRUGGLE IN GEORGE R.R. MARTIN'S
*A GAME OF THRONES***

THESIS



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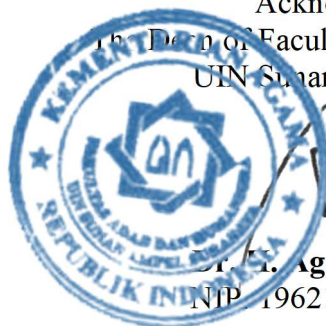


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ABSTRACT

Wardhana, S.W. 2021. *Daenerys' Struggle in George R.R. Martin's A Game of Thrones*. English Department, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Advisor: Sufi Ikrima Sa'adah, M.Hum.

Keywords: struggle, journey, leader, *khalasar*.

This study is focused on the story of Daenerys Targaryen as one of the main characters in the novel *A Game of Thrones*. The novel is a colossal story created by George R.R. Martin, who introduces many characters in his books. Despite the number of characters, the main focus of the storyline is on Daenerys Targaryen. In this case, the researcher pursues the character's journey from a clueless highborn princess to becoming a leader of a tribe. Practically, the writer expects that this study would give insight into becoming a strong independent woman. Besides, it shows Daenerys' struggle for being forced to marry by her brother and does not dare to fight until she becomes a leader and is recognized by her people. Daenerys' story is relatable to most human problems in real life, so it could encourage the readers to choose a positive way to face their problem and have the courage to take action.

The research uses a descriptive qualitative method to gain a complete explanation through the book. A descriptive study in the textual analysis was applied to analyze the character's development through *A Game of Thrones* book. Also, New Criticism is used as the method to stay focused on the storyline. The data were collected by reading the whole novel, then focusing on parts related to Daenerys Targaryen. The analysis was continued by selecting the plots that answered the statement of the problems.

As a result, the story about Daenerys Targaryen explains how to deal with great problems in life and understand some ways to become an independent and confident woman. From the statement of the problems, this study breaks down that a capable leader needs great sacrifices and be prepared to lose things people might love. In return, Daenerys becomes the first distinct *khalasar* leader in history.

ABSTRAK

Wardhana, S.W. 2021. *Perjuangan Daenerys dalam A Game of Thrones Karya George R.R. Martin*. Program Studi Sastra Inggris, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Pembimbing: Sufi Ikrima Sa'adah, M.Hum.

Kata Kunci: perjuangan, perjalanan, pemimpin, *khalasar*.

Studi ini berkonsentrasi pada cerita tentang Daenerys Targaryen sebagai salah satu pemeran utama dalam novel *A Game of Thrones*. Novel ini merupakan cerita kolosal yang diciptakan oleh George R.R. Martin dimana dia memperkenalkan karakter yang cukup banyak dalam buku-bukunya. Meski memiliki banyak karakter, alur cerita berfokus kepada Daenerys Targaryen. Dalam kasus ini, peneliti mengejar perjalanan karakter yang bermula dari putri bangsawan yang tidak tahu apa-apa, hingga menjadi pemimpin sebuah suku. Secara praktis, penulis berharap studi ini dapat memberikan masukan tentang bagaimana menjadi wanita percaya diri yang kuat. Selain itu, dapat menunjukkan perjuangan Daenerys yang dipaksa oleh saudara lelakinya untuk menikah dan tidak berani untuk menentang, hingga dia menjadi pemimpin dan diakui oleh para pengikutnya. Cerita tentang Daenerys berhubungan dengan kebanyakan masalah manusia di kehidupan nyata sehingga dapat memberikan semangat untuk pembaca agar memilih langkah yang positif dalam menghadapi masalah mereka dan memiliki keberanian untuk mengambil tindakan.

Peneliti menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif agar mendapatkan penjelasan menyeluruh melalui buku. Studi deskriptif dalam analisis tekstual diaplikasikan dalam penelitian ini untuk meneliti perkembangan karakter dalam buku *A Game of Thrones*. Demikian pula *New Criticism* digunakan sebagai salah satu metode penelitian agar tetap fokus terhadap alur cerita. Pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan membaca seluruh isi novel, lalu fokus pada bagian-bagian yang berhubungan dengan Daenerys Targaryen. Pengamatan dilanjutkan dengan memilih plot-plot yang menjawab pernyataan masalah.

Sebagai hasil, cerita tentang Daenerys Targaryen menjelaskan bagaimana menghadapi masalah dalam hidup, dan juga untuk memahami beberapa cara untuk menjadi wanita yang mandiri dan percaya diri. Dari pernyataan masalah juga menjelaskan dalam studi ini untuk menjadi pemimpin yang cakap memerlukan berbagai pengorbanan yang besar dan mempersiapkan diri untuk kehilangan hal-hal yang mungkin disayangi. Sebagai balasannya, Daenerys menjadi pemimpin *khalasar* pertama yang paling berbeda dalam sejarah.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

3.2.1. Background of the Study

In daily life, people always find their problems and struggle to find a way out. There are many kind of struggle in life, for example struggle to achieve some goal, struggle for love and also struggle for better life. Everyone can do anything to struggle something that they need. Although struggle to reach something is a very hard task, nonetheless it makes better condition. For some people, their way of solving a problem could be an unexpected journey.

Some struggle may require a journey in order to achieve the goal, such as an exiled hero have to reclaim his honor and kingdom that stolen from his family. Actually the hero is innocent and have nothing to do with the fall of his family, but he has to act in order to save his people and he must struggle hard to get that. That case not only occur in literary works, but also in a real life especially in political scope.

A journey of struggle which is occurs in a literary work, usually in an adventure fiction work. Adventure fiction is a genre of literature that features stories of adventure, such as world travel, challenging quests, voyages of discovery, and other journeys. According to Saricks (2005), a journey or quest is essential to adventure fiction because, without it, there is no adventure. In this type of genre, usually, a lead character is considered a hero.

As Campbell (1949) says that a hero is a male or a female who ventures forth from the world of common day into a region of supernatural wonder: fabulous forces are encountered. A decisive victory is won: the hero comes back from this mysterious adventure with the power to bestow boons on his fellow man. Thus, the hero must leave the world of their everyday life to undergo a journey to a special world where challenges and fears are overcome to secure a quest, which is then shared with other members of the hero's community.

A hero is often described as a male person who would carry a great mission to defend his country or prove something. Some works are often reflected in real life where not only men who could lead, but women also do. Their struggle to become a leader is also harder than men's. Often, women's struggle is underestimated. However, the outcome of their struggle could be as equal as a man or even more. Inequality is often depicted as a problem for every woman who wants to be free and does as she will.

Sometimes a novel could have multiple characters who become a lead character, such as *A Game of Thrones* by George R.R. Martin. *A Game of Thrones* is the first novel in *A Song of Ice and Fire*, a series of fantasy novels first published on August 1, 1996.

The novel is a colossal story. George R.R. Martin introduces a lot of characters in his books. Despite the number of characters, the main focus of the storyline is on Daenerys Targaryen. As a woman and the last person of her kin, Daenerys Targaryen has a bittersweet journey to reclaim her right as a rightful heir to the Iron Throne. She was born in Westeros, but she fled to Essos with her

mother and brother when her father, The Mad King, was killed in a rebellion by Robert Baratheon. Westeros is a fictional continent created by George R.R. Martin as a secondary world in his *A Song of Ice and Fire* universe. The majority of Westeros is united under the rule of a king, with each of nine regions controlled by a different major house. In contrast, Essos is a continent larger than Westeros, located in the eastern of Westeros.

In this study, the researcher is interested in analyzing Daenerys Targaryen's journey since she is the primary concern in the *A Song of Fire and Ice* book series. The researcher wants to analyze the character using New Criticism theory, focusing on the character's development. The researcher focuses on Daenerys Targaryen's struggle as one of the characters of *A Game of Thrones* novel. It was interesting to know how the character struggles to realize her and her brother's plan to take back the Iron Throne.

3.2.2. Statement of the Problems

This research focuses on Daenerys Targaryen in *A Game of Thrones* novel. Then the researcher formulates the statement of the problem below:

1. How is Daenerys Targaryen's journey to becoming a *khalasar* leader described in the novel?
2. How does Daenerys Targaryen's struggle affect her personality?

3.2.3. Significance of the Study

Theoretically, this study is expected as guidance for the readers of *A Game of Thrones* novel to provide helpful information for them to understand the

novel better. Moreover, the writer also hopes that this study can be helpful to know how New Criticism theory is used in the novel.

Practically, the writer expects that this study would give insight into becoming a strong independent woman. Besides, it shows Daenerys' struggle for being forced to marry by her brother and does not dare to fight until she becomes a leader and is recognized by her people. Daenerys' story is relatable to most human problems in real life, so it could encourage the readers to choose a positive way to face their problem and have the courage to take action.

3.2.4. Scope and Limitation

This study is basically about the analysis of the plot and character in *A Game of Thrones*. The focus is on Daenerys Targaryen's journey to becoming a *khalasar* leader and the effect of the journey on her personality. Therefore, the study applies New Criticism as a theoretical basis, focusing on the plot to analyze Daenerys Targaryen's journey and character to analyze Daenerys Targaryen's personality before, during, and after the journey.

3.2.5. Method of Study

1. Research Design

This research used a descriptive qualitative method because this research concerned with the description of the problem answered in words instead of numbers. The qualitative method is a research procedure that obtains descriptive data in a written or spoken form from the people and their behavior, which is being observed (Moleong, 2010).

2. Data and Data Source

The data in this research were taken from all the chapters of the novel, which contain the description of Daenerys' story. The data source of this research was the first issue of *A Song of Fire and Ice* novel by George R.R. Martin entitled *A Game of Thrones*, which was released on August 1st, 1996. The novel was nominated as a New York Times bestseller in January 2011 and adapted in a television serial format by HBO on April 17, 2011, produced by David Benioff and D. B. Weiss.

3. Data Collection

In collecting the data, the researcher conducted some steps. The steps are:

1. Reading the novel for a whole understanding.
2. Re-reading to focus on Daenerys Targaryen's journey and her character development.
3. Classifying the data based on the statement of the problems.

4. Data Analysis

1. Collecting and filtering the data about Daenerys Targaryen's journey to become *khalasar* leader through the plot.
2. Understanding the data about the effect of Daenerys Targaryen's journey towards her personality through character.
3. Formulating the conclusion.

CHAPTER II LITERATURE REVIEW

3.2.1. Theoretical Framework

3.2.1. New Criticism

New Criticism Theory was developed by Eliot and Richard in the late 1930s to the late 1950s. New Criticism is a theory which does not concern in context-historical, biographical, intellectual, and so on, and its interest is not in the 'misconceptions' of 'intention' or 'affect,' New Criticism concern exclusively in the 'text in itself,' with its language and organization. It does not seek a text's 'meaning' but how it 'speaks itself' (Selden, Widdowson & Brooker, 2005).

The way to use New Criticism is by close reading. It means the reader focus on the detail of the literary work to get the point. So, it is also called a closed reading theory. Close reading is the only way to know if a given author's intention or a given reader's interpretation represents the text's meaning. All the evidence is provided by the text's language, including its images, symbols, metaphors, rhyme, meter, point of view, setting, characterization, plot, and so on (Tyson, 2014: 137). Since the researcher intends to analyze Daenerys Targaryen's problem in the novel, the intrinsic element is considered helpful in answering the problem.

Intrinsic Elements are the elements that build the literary work itself. Intrinsic elements of a novel directly participate and build the story (Burgess, 2014).

3.2.2. Plot

Plot is a story that contains the sequence of events, but each incident is only connected in cause and effect, an event that caused or led to other events. Plot is an event displayed in a simple story because the author arranges those events based on causal links (Stanton 1965; Kenny, 1996).

Plot is the serial arrangement of incidents, ideas, or events. In literature, the plot encompasses all the incidents and provides aesthetic pleasure. The story of the novel progresses through various plots and conflicts. Plot is events in a story that pressure causal relationships (Foster, 1970).

Based on the explanation above, plot may be defined as a story's sequence of incidents arranged in dramatic order. One is tempted to insert the word chronological. But doing so would exclude many stories that depart from this strict ordering of events. The plot is decided by three essential elements: events, conflict, and climax.

2.1.3.1. Event

Events can be interpreted as a transition from one state to another. Concerning the development of a plot or its role in presenting a story, events can be divided into three types: functional events, links, and references (Luxemburg, 1992).

2.1.3.2. Conflict

Conflict, which is quite an important event (so, it will be functional events, major, or kernel), is an essential element in the development of the plot.

Conflict is something that dramatic, referring to the struggle between two forces are balanced and imply action and retaliation (Wellek & Warren, 1989)

2.1.3.3. Climax

Conflict and the climax are of paramount importance in the structure of the plot, both of which are the main elements of the plot in fiction. The climax is when the conflict has reached the highest level of intensity and when something inevitable happens (Stanton, 1965).

3.2.3. Characters

Klarer (1998) defines characters in a text can being rendered either as types or as individuals. A typified character in literature is dominated by one specific trait. It is referred to as a flat character, and the term round character usually denotes a persona with more complex and differentiated features. In fiction, a character may be defined as a verbal representation of a human being. Through action, speech, description, and commentary, authors portray the character worth caring about, rooting for, and even loving. However, there are also characters you may laugh at, dislike, or even hate.

Characters may be flat, minor characters, or round and major. The main character in a story is generally known as the protagonist. The character who opposes him is the antagonist. Character is revealed by how a character responds to conflict. Every story hinges on the actions undertaken by its main character or protagonist, a term drawn from ancient Greek tragedy that is more useful in fiction discussions than such misleading terms as hero or heroine. Additionally,

stories may contain an opposing character or antagonist with whom the protagonist is drawn into the conflict.

Character is people who appear in narrative prose or novel. The readers interpret it as a person with moral quality and certain tendencies, such as expressed in what they say and do (Abram, 1981). We assess them on the basics of what the author tells us about them and what they do and say. Another point to remember is that the characters are part of a broader pattern. They are members of society, and the author's distinctive view of who people relate to society will be reflected in the presentation of every character.

3.2.4. Previous Studies

A thesis written by Christanto (2018) entitled “*Daenerys Targaryen’s Rebellion Against Gender Oppression in George R.R. Martin’s A Game of Thrones*” focused on gender oppression and woman rebellion throughout Daenerys Targaryen. He found that family patriarchy and oppression towards Daenerys make her powerless and feel unloved by her brother. Eventually, Daenerys adapted to her condition and gained freedom when sold to Khal Drogo. This research shows how Daenerys, a powerless-submissive princess, became a Khaleesi and gained her freedom.

The second research was conducted by Sandqvist (2012) entitled “*Politics, Hidden Agendas and a Game of Thrones an Intersectional Analysis of Women's Sexuality in George R.R. Martin's A Game of Thrones.*” This research focused on women's hierarchy to gain a power structure in *A Game of Thrones*.

Sandqvist found that women did not possess any power unless they married a house's Lord or a King, but that does not make women strictly gain power if their husband did not allow it. A woman can enter a political power structure by influencing her husband so her voice can be heard. Like Cersei Lannister, she gained power through her son by making him a new King of Seven Kingdoms as soon as Robert Baratheon passed. This research shows that women cannot possess power unless they have men who support them.

The third research was written by Natasia (2018), a journal entitled "*Pembentukan Femme Fatale dalam Drama Serial Game of Thrones pada Tokoh Cersei Lannister.*" She found that men's oppression and restrictions make women learn and adapt, slowly absorbing violence, ambition, and strength. Cersei's rebellion can be categorized as a liberation from a system that restricts women. This research shows that Cersei used her femininity as a manipulation tool to men use her sexual organ to gain power.

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CHAPTER III

ANALYSIS

In this chapter, the researcher analyzes Daenerys Targaryen's struggle based on the data from *A Game of Thrones*. The researcher divides the analysis into two parts. The first is Daenerys Targaryen's journey to becoming a *khalasar* leader, while the second is the effect of Daenerys Targaryen's struggle towards her personality. For a better understanding, the researcher provides a bit synopsis of Daenerys' story and the map of *A Game of Thrones* world.



Figure 3.1: Map of *A Game of Thrones* World

Daenerys Stormborn of House Targaryen, or known as Daenerys Targaryen, is the daughter of King Aerys Targaryen and Queen Rhaella Targaryen and sister of Rhaegar Targaryen and Viserys Targaryen. Daenerys and her brother

Viserys are the only Targaryens who survived Robert Baratheon's rebellion. The rebellion was to overthrow King Aerys Targaryen or commonly known as The Mad King.

The rebellion caused the death of almost all of House Targaryen's members, including Daenerys's brother, Rhaegar Targaryen, who died in The Battle of Trident. Meanwhile, The Mad King was killed by his own Kingsguard, Jaime Lannister. The killing entitles Lannister as the Kingslayer. Viserys and his pregnant mother had already fled to Dragonstone with trusted knights and servants loyal to House Targaryen during the rebellion. Queen Rhaella died while giving birth to Daenerys. Since then, Daenerys was taken care of by a wet nurse. According to the novel, a wet nurse is a servant who usually nurses a baby from a highborn family. One night, Ser Willem Darry and four loyal men broke into the nursery, stole Viserys and Daenerys along with her wet nurse, and set sail under cover of darkness for the Braavosian coast's safety. He has to do that because Robert Baratheon's army was trying to breach into Dragonstone, and the army would kill the children if Ser Willem did not act immediately.

Ser Willem and the wet nurse took both Targaryen children's care in Braavos for their safety. When Ser Willem passed, a servant stole what they had and put out Viserys and Daenerys from the house. Since then, both are wandering around Essos, begging for food and shelter for their living. Because of that, Prince Viserys was called the beggar king until they met Magister Illyrio. They met him after most magisters, merchants, and archons did not want to welcome them because they heard the news that the one who sits on Iron Throne was hunting the

Targaryen. In Illyrio's manor, Daenerys and Viserys were treated as his guests, and they lived properly.

3.1. Daenerys Targaryen's Struggle to Become *Khalasar* Leader

Daenerys' journey may begin since she left Dragonstone in Westeros and sailed to Essos, but her journey begins when she is forced to marry Khal Drogo. Viserys and Illyrio arranged this marriage to build an army for Viserys to claim what belonged to his family. To Daenerys, this wedding is considered disrespectful for her House tradition.

“She had always assumed that she would wed Viserys when she came of age. For centuries the Targaryens had married brother to sister, since Aegon the Conqueror had taken his sisters to bride. The line must be kept pure, Viserys her a thousand times.” (29)

The fact that she will be someone's bride made Daenerys scared. Moreover, the man who will marry her is a stranger. She begged her brother to cancel her marriage and wanted to live the way she currently lives, but her request is a breeze for Viserys, and he has no attention to her opinion.

3.1.1. Being Khal Drogo's Wife

Khal Drogo is a famous Dothraki lord. He led a hundred thousand men under his army. Viserys knows that Khal Drogo has many troops and takes advantage of him to fulfill his desire. He believes that by giving Daenerys, Khal Drogo will give his army to Viserys and set sail to Westeros. Unfortunately, the Dothraki army never crosses any sea. The Dothraki believe that if there is something unconsumable by their horses, it means that thing is cursed and dangerous.

Daenerys as a thirteen years old girl did not know what the purpose of her brother was. She only knows that she must do what her brother says, or she will get Viserys' rage. When someone makes him angry, especially Daenerys, he says they are "waking the dragon." Viserys believes that there is a dragon spirit inside him. Therefore he uses it as a tool to make Daenerys afraid and obey. Daenerys is too scared to deny Viserys, but she sometimes does not want to do what he says, including marrying some horse lord that she did not know.

The day that Daenerys and *Khal* Drogo meet each other has finally come. She is dressed by Illyrio's slave to look like a princess. Daenerys does not know how to be a princess or be a part of a royal family. Her exile in Essos as a baby girl made her feel that she was not part of the royal family. Viserys' treatment of her also made her do not deserve to be called princess. She always considers that her brother is the proper ruler of Seven Kingdoms, knowing that Viserys lived his childhood in the realm and knows better about the Seven Kingdoms.

Daenerys wanted to run and hide, but her brother was looking at her, and if she displeased him, she knew she would wake the dragon. Anxiously, she turned and looked at the man Viserys hoped would wed her before the night was done. She cried that she did not want to be Drogo's queen. All she wanted was to go home. Viserys does not care how Daenerys feels about the wedding. He only wants Khal Drogo's army so he can take back the Seven Kingdom.

"How are we to go home, sweet sister? They took our home from us!" ... "We go home with an army, sweet sister. With Khal Drogo's army, that is how we go home. And if you must wed him and bed him for that, you will." He smiled at her. "I'd let his whole *khalasar* fuck you if need be, sweet sister, all forty thousand men, and their horses too if that was what it took to get my army. Be

grateful it is only Drogo. In time you may even learn to like him.
Now dry your eyes. (34-35)

She is just used as a tool by her brother. He despises her because he thinks that he is a king and anyone is lesser than him, even if they share the same blood. The Targaryen princess wed Khal Drogo with fear and barbaric splendor in a field beyond the walls of Pentos, for the Dothraki believed that all things of importance in a man's life must be done beneath the open sky. The Targaryen history to reclaim Seven Kingdoms may have been written from the day Daenerys wed Khal Drogo.

During her wedding, Daenerys felt very lonely as she sat amid a vast horde. The Dothraki has no common language with the Targaryen. The *Khal* knew only a few words of the Valyrian of the Free Cities and none at all of the Common Tongue of the Seven Kingdoms. Their culture is also uncommon for Daenerys. In Dothraki's way, a wedding without at least three deaths is deemed a dull affair. The good thing in her marriage is before the day is over, a dozen man has died. Her wedding must be incredibly blessed.

When the sun was low in the sky, Khal Drogo clapped his hands together, and the drums and the shouting and feasting came to a sudden halt. Drogo stood and pulled Daenerys to her feet beside him for bride gift time. After the gifts, it would be time for the first ride and the consummation of her marriage. Daenerys tried to put the thought aside, but it would not leave her. She hugged herself to try to keep from shaking.

Among all gifts given, Magister Illyrio presents an extraordinary gift to the bride. A large chest consists of piles of the finest velvets and, resting on top,

nestled in the soft cloth, three huge eggs. They were the most beautiful things she had ever seen. Each egg is different than the others, patterned in such rich colors that at first, she thought they were crusted with jewels and so large it took both of her hands to hold one. She lifted it delicately, expecting it would be made of some fine porcelain or delicate enamel or even blown glass, but it was much heavier than that as if it were all of solid stone. Dragon's eggs, Illyrio explains. Daenerys had heard tales of such eggs, but she had never seen one nor thought to see one. It is a truly magnificent gift.

And last, of all, Khal Drogo brought forth his bride's gift to her. An expectant hush rippled out from the center of the camp as he left her side, growing until it had swallowed the whole *khalasar*. When he returned, the dense press of Dothraki gift-givers parted before him, and he led the horse to her. Drogo stepped forward and put his hands on her waist. He lifted her as easily as if she were a child and set her on the thin Dothraki saddle, so much smaller than the ones she was used to. Daenerys sat there uncertain for a moment. No one had told her about this part. This horse is a part of her now because she will ride the horse until she arrives in Vaes Dothrak.

Khal Drogo commanded his bloodriders to bring forth his horse, a lean red stallion. They ride through the dark until they stop at a grassy place beside a small stream. The fear came back to her. She felt like a child once more, only thirteen and all alone, not ready for what was about to happen to her. Khal Drogo spoke no word to her, only then he speaks one word in common tongue before the *Khal* undress his wife. That night is their first night as a husband and wife.

After a splendid marriage party and feast, Daenerys and her new husband move to Vaes Dothrak along with all of Khal Drogo's *khalasar*. Daenerys' way to succession is far from reach, or maybe has not even started yet. She still feels fear for Drogo and Viserys, the misery that Daenerys' felt almost every day. The journey on horseback from Pentos brings pain to her. The first week of marriage also does not work well as expected, or maybe it is as expected by Daenerys. She cannot sleep, and every day she gains more and more pain. No one can understand her feeling, only her maid that she could talk to during bath time.

At first it had not come easy. The *khalasar* had broken camp the morning after her wedding, moving east toward Vaes Dothrak, and by the third day Dany thought she was going to die...Even the nights brought no relief. Khal Drogo ignored her when they rode, even as he had ignored her during their wedding, and spent his evenings drinking with his warriors and bloodriders, racing his prize horses, watching women dance and men die. Dany had no place in these parts of his life. She was left to sup alone, or with Ser Jorah and her brother, and afterward to cry herself to sleep. Yet every night, some time before the dawn, Drogo would come to her tent and wake her in the dark, to ride her as relentlessly as he rode his stallion (220-221).

The next day, strangely, Daenerys woke with some strange feeling; she felt stronger and like to be reborn into this world with fierce. It was as if the gods had heard her and taken pity. Even her handmaids noticed the change. A dream that occurred to her last night is called a dragon dream, where usually it was about Viserys' rage toward her. Unlike the other nights, she was literary dreamt about a dragon that burned her. She could feel her flesh sear and blacken and slough away. She could also feel her blood boil and turn to steam, and yet there was no pain. House Targaryen is known for their magical bond with dragons since their

golden age before a great volcano eruption struck Valyria, where they were originated.

As she became stronger, Daenerys could ride at the head of the *khalasar* with Drogo and his bloodriders and begin to notice the beauties of the land around her. After she had that dream, she became more confident and fearless. She starts to talk and command like a queen, Ser Jorah thought, but she prefers to be like a *Khaleesi*. Daenerys is getting used to life in Dothraki tradition as she wears cloth made by leather instead of silk; even she feels that she belongs here.

Shortly, Daenerys and her husband, along with the *khalasar*, arrive in Vaes Dothrak. Vaes Dothrak is the only city of the Dothraki people, ruled and inhabited by slaves and the *dosh khaleen*, the wives of all the *khals* who have come before. Ser Jorah, who is always close to Daenerys, tries to inform and teach the Dothraki culture to her. As time goes by, she starts to adapt to the culture. Her love growing for Khal Drogo also made her consider that the *khalasar* is also her people who need to be protected and cared for.

The *Khaleesi's* marriage with Drogo finally gives them fortune; she now bores *Khal's* child. The news of her pregnancy made her gain more respect and attention throughout Vaes Dothrak. Even more, she proclaims that the baby inside her is a boy. The *dosh khaleen* shout and yell to proclaim Daenerys' baby. The *dosh khaleen* are a ruling group within the Dothraki social hierarchy, specifically the crones who preside over the holy city of Vaes Dothrak. The *dosh khaleen* are composed of the widows of slain *khals* and serve as seers foretelling the future and interpreting omens for the Dothraki. They chanted and did rituals for her. The

ritual is to foresee the future of the baby, and the crone who does that already seen it. She is seen his face and heard the thunder of his hooves.

Trembled as if almost afraid, she asks Daenerys what shall the stallion who mounts the world called. After announcing her son's name, she left with Khal Drogo, and they heard the crone and others who stayed in the ritual pit shouting and screaming their son's name, Rhaego. That name is taken after Daenerys' brother, Rhaegar, who died bravely in battle before she was born. Later that night, the Daenerys *Khal* held a feast upon his first son.

The next day, Daenerys decided to visit Western Market after arguing with Khal Drogo that he would not speak anything about the Iron Throne and crossing the sea to Westeros. She went with her *khas*, handmaids, and Ser Jorah. In the market, she is almost poisoned by a wine-seller who is Robert Baratheon's assassin. Luckily Ser Jorah saved her. When the *Khaleesi* returns to her tent, Drogo listens to what was happened to his wife and son inside her. Drogo is silent for a moment until he decides to fulfill what his wife wishes for. He swears before the Mother of Mountains to give the Iron Throne and the Seven Kingdoms for Rhaego. He will lead his *khalasar* west to where the world ends and ride the wooden horses across the black salt water as no *khal* has done before.

Daenerys' marriage has come to a trial. Shortly after they left Vaes Dothrak, the *khalasar* raided a town, and Drogo was wounded. She wants her husband to be healed as soon as possible, but it is where things go wrong. There is a person who is called *maegi* by the Dothraki.

“*Maegi*,” grunted Haggio, fingering his *arakh*. His look was dark. Dany remembered the word from a terrifying story that Jhiqui had

told her one night by the cookfire. A *maegi* was a woman who lay with demons and practiced the blackest of sorceries, a vile thing, evil and soulless, who came to men in the dark of night and sucked life and strength from their bodies. (647).

Despite the Dothraki's hate of magical things, the Khaleesi insists on using the *maegi*'s help. In the beginning, everything went as expected. Drogo regains his strength and can ride again.

A few days after he healed, *Khal*'s condition is slowly worsened. His condition makes his *khalasar* lose their will to follow him because they will only follow the strongest one to be their leader. At this moment, Daenerys is almost losing her hope. There is one way to save her beloved husband, which is by doing a blood magic ritual. Blood magic is a form of sorcery that requires blood to perform. It is forbidden among the Dothraki. The *maegi* assure that the ritual is the only way, for Drogo's wound is far beyond medical skill. As a *Khaleesi*, she is agreed.

While the ritual is ongoing, Daenerys leaves the tent. She is witnessing the whole Dothraki watching her for what she does. She tries to explain what is going on, but one of Drogo's bloodriders is forced to stop the ritual until Daenerys stumble on him, and one of the bloodriders is trying to kill her. Her stomach is hurt, and she claims that it is time for the baby to be born. Alas, she is taken to the *maegi* while performing the blood magic.

No, Dany wanted to say, no, not that, you mustn't, but when she opened her mouth, a long wail of pain escaped, and the sweat broke over her skin. What was wrong with them, couldn't they see? Inside the tent the shapes were dancing, circling the brazier and the bloody bath, dark against the sandsilk, and some did not look human. She glimpsed the shadow of a great wolf, and another like a man wreathed in flames. (691).

When she is awake, everything changes. The *khalasar* is gone, her son dies, and her husband is not he was before. She is betrayed by the *maegi*, who told her that she would save Khal Drogo.

Daenerys found her husband lying on the ground with his eyes wide open. He is not responding to every word, he just lives, but he does not have a soul. With this condition, the *Khal* is as good as dead. Without Drogo on her side, the *khalasar* will leave her and no longer respect her except the loyal ones who have chosen to protect her.

She decided to put an end to Drogo's misery by suffocating him with a pillow. She commands her *Khas* to gather firewood to build a platform for the *Khal*. When the sun goes down, Drogo's body is carried to the pyre, and they will wait until the first star to burn his body. When the first star appears, it is a comet. Daenerys could not ask for a stronger sign. She took a torch and thrust it between the logs. It is the end of Daenerys and Drogo's marriage and the last time they see each other.

3.1.2. Gaining Power and Respect from The *Khalasar*

Daenerys Targaryen was born from a royal family, specifically a king and queen of Seven Kingdoms. According to her bloodline, she had such power and respect across the continent. Unfortunately for her, the Targaryen dynasty was over even before she was born. She had taken to exile with her brother and some loyal knights, but when they grew older, and there was no one to protect them, Viserys, as a Targaryen prince, had a superior attitude toward his sister.

Daenerys is being oppressed by her brother for years, even after being married to Khal Drogo as a *Khaleesi* does not mean living a good life. Her husband often ignores her when in bed and is also still not used to Dothraki's custom. One night, she had an extraordinary dream about a dragon that burned her alive. The next day she feels fresh, and she does not feel any pain from riding a horse. Also, she could ride alongside Khal Drogo and his bloodriders. That dream made her stronger than before, from a crybaby little girl to become a fearless *Khaleesi*. Technically, the dragon in her dream gave power to her.

Yet when she slept that night, she dreamt the dragon dream again. Viserys was not in it this time. There was only her and the dragon. Its scales were black as night, wet and slick with blood. Her blood, Dany sensed. Its eyes were pools of molten magma, and when it opened its mouth, the flame came roaring out in a hot jet. She could hear it singing to her. She opened her arms to the fire, embraced it, let it swallow her whole, let it cleanse her and temper her and scour her clean. She could feel her flesh sear and blacken and slough away, could feel her blood boil and turn to steam, and yet there was no pain. She felt strong and new and fierce. (221).

The first temptation she has to face after the dragon dream is her brother. It is when she commands the *khalasar* to stop. Viserys told her that she could not command him, for he considers himself as a king. Usually, Daenerys would cry and be afraid of his threat, but she dared to shove her brother back for the first time. Lucky for her, Ser Jorah and her *khas* arrive to help her. Ser Jorah, who laid his sword for Viserys, now turns to serve the *Khaleesi*. He saw something potential about Drogo's wife.

Daenerys' marriage, at last, gives her fortune. She now bores the *khal's* child. It could be said, Daenerys' position in the *khalasar* is most powerful just below Khal Drogo. Even that, Viserys still consider Daenerys as his subordinate.

Yet, when she prepared supper and gifts for her brother, he did not consider those as a form of honoring him. Instead, it is disrespectful for him because the *Khaleesi* sent her maid to take him for supper. Viserys tries to remind her who she is and threatens her that she will be waking the dragon. For the second time, she fought back her brother. She grabbed the first thing she touched and swung it with all her strength. A belt with a heavy bronze chain landed on her brother's face. She turns the situation, Viserys is shocked, and she tries to remind him who she is. Even Viserys is trembling when his sister turns against him.

“You are the one who forgets himself,” Dany said to him. “Didn’t you learn anything that day in the grass? Leave me now, before I summon my *khas* to drag you out. And pray that Khal Drogo does not hear of this, or he will cut open your belly and feed you your own entrails.” Viserys scrambled back to his feet. “When I come into my kingdom, you will rue this day, slut.” He walked off, holding his torn face, leaving her gifts behind him. (382).

In front of the elders, she tries to prove that she is not just an ordinary *Khaleesi*. *I am the blood of the dragon*; she convinced herself that she would not fail her husband. The *khal*'s wife must eat a wild stallion's heart which, in Dothraki's belief, the heart of a stallion would make her son strong and swift and fearless but only if the mother could eat it all. Eventually, she could complete the ritual, and that a prince was riding inside her. Daenerys has proved that she could do anything without flinching because she believes she is a Targaryen.

People praise her when the old woman proclaims that the prince shall be the stallion who mounts the world. The Dothraki's culture is closely related to horses, so when they know a prophecy of a boy who shall be the stallion who mounts the world, they would be happy to follow him. Rhaego, the name of

Khaleesi's son, is predicted to be the greatest khal and lead countless men that make his enemy tremble. Everyone is shouting for her son, even when Khal Drogo takes her away from the ritual pit.

As Daenerys entered Drogo's hall, every eye was on her, watching and commenting about her belly. She hardly understands every Dothraki's language, but she could tell that they are shouting the stallion who mounts the world. Thousands of people praise her and her son, eager for his mightiness, everyone but her brother. He is the only person who interferes with the *Khaleesi* to gain full power and respect from the Dothraki for his own stubbornness.

Finally, Daenerys can escape her brother's chain. Viserys threatens her and Khal Drogo that he demands what was he wanted. He thinks that the horse lord has bought his sister, but *Khal* never paid him with a vast army. For his threat, Drogo gives him what he wants, a crown made from thick molten gold poured into his head. Ser Jorah asks the *Khaleesi* to look away not to watch her brother die tortured, but she refuses. She wanted to see the person who always shadows her vanish from her life. By watching her brother dies, she acknowledges who her brother really was and who she is.

Ser Jorah had made his way to Dany's side. He put a hand on her shoulder. "Turn away, my princess, I beg you."

"No." She folded her arms across the swell of her belly, protectively.

At the last, Viserys looked at her. "Sister, please . . . Dany, tell them . . . make them . . . sweet sister . . ."

When the gold was half-melted and starting to run, Drogo reached into the flames, snatched out the pot. "Crown!" he roared. "Here. A crown for Cart King!" And upended the pot over the head of the man who had been her brother.

The sound Viserys Targaryen made when that hideous iron helmet covered his face was like nothing human. His feet hammered a

frantic beat against the dirt floor, slowed, stopped. Thick globs of molten gold dripped down onto his chest, setting the scarlet silk to smoldering . . . yet no drop of blood was spilled.

He was no dragon, Dany thought, curiously calm. *Fire cannot kill a dragon.* (483).

Khal Drogo indirectly frees his wife from her brother's oppression. She has become more confident with herself since that event. Alas, as a *Khaleesi*, she still must obey what her husband said. The *Khal* disagrees with her decision to cross the Narrow Sea to reclaim the Iron Throne for her. Her husband did not want to go to Westeros because the Dothraki is never crossing any sea. To them, water that a horse could not drink is foul. Daenerys is promised when her son is born, Drogo will take his *khalasar* east to plunder the lands around the Jade Sea.

They both had argued with each other until *Khal* left his wife for hunting with his bloodriders. Daenerys also goes for the western market with her *khas* and handmaids along with Ser Jorah. The market reminds her of her long-gone days in the alleys of Tyrosh and Myr when she lived in Illyrio's place. She felt like she was back at home before she was married to Dothraki's horse lord. Deeper in the market, she met a wine seller who is Robert Baratheon's assassin. The seller almost poisons the *Khaleesi* by giving her a glass of wine, luckily Ser Jorah has read a letter from Illyrio, and he concerns that someone is trying to assassinate Drogo's wife.

Once again, fear is filling her up after being a while freed from Viserys' rage. The poisoner was the first attempt; many will come to try to kill her. Robert Baratheon will do anything to banish every Targaryen from the world. Back in the tent, Drogo listens to what happened to his wife and son inside her. Drogo is silent

for a moment until he decides to fulfill what his wife wishes for. He swears to give the Iron Throne and the Seven Kingdoms and do what every *khal* has never done before, crossing the sea. Daenerys no longer feels powerless because her husband grants her wish. She is the most powerful person among the Dothraki. She could command the greatest *khal* ever.

As the *khalasar* left their hometown, Daenerys sharpened her ability to rule and command. In the middle of the journey, the Dothraki is raiding a town. It is a custom to them when raiding a town or village to kill everyone against them, enslave those who surrendered and rape the women. Apparently, she does not like those behaviors. She commands her *khas* to stop the warriors who are raping, and she claims every woman is her property and guarantees their protection. Jorah warns her that she cannot claim all of them. With pride, she reminds him that she is the most powerful woman and that no lesser man could tell her what she cannot do.

A rider complains to the *Khal* that his wife has taken his spoils, a daughter of local people who was his to mount. Drogo explains to her that if that is the way of war, the Dothraki are taking women as their slaves and doing as they please. As a woman, Daenerys wanted to make all those women safe and suggested that if the warrior still wanted to mount those women, they must take them as their wives and give them a place among the *khalasar*. A bloodrider laughs at her decision. He is comparing the Dothraki would never breed with lower race, but Daenerys reminds him that even she is married to someone not of her kin.

Qotho was ever the cruelest of the bloodriders. It was he who laughed. "Does the horse breed with the sheep?" Something in his

tone reminded her of Viserys. Dany turned on him angrily. “The dragon feeds on horse and sheep alike.” (646).

When she knows that her husband is wounded, *Khaleesi* commands a bloodrider to seek a healer. But when he is about to leave, a woman volunteers herself to heal the *khal*. The bloodrider threatens that woman for the *khal* needs no help from someone who is not equal to them. Before a knife slice her throat, Daenerys commands to stop because that woman is hers and no one should touch or harm her.

Even Daenerys is getting more confident in commanding people. She still has a soft heart, especially on women. After Drogo is healed, she acknowledges that Mirri Maz Duur also could help women with birthing. She asks her help gently when her time arrives for giving birth, she wants her to attend. She uses her power mainly to command men and uses her affection for women and her husband.

The *khalasar* continue their journey. They ride for days under the heating sun of Essos. Drogo’s wound has made him weak, and eventually, he falls from his horse. As a *Khaleesi*, Daenerys must care about her husband's condition. She commands the bloodriders to call upon the slaves and make camp. Her decision is argued, for a woman cannot command even for a *Khaleesi*. Daenerys uses fear to make those men do what she commands by threatening them if they defied her and the *khal* know, they will get into trouble.

Daenerys is losing her people’s respect for what she did to the *khal*. She asks the *maegi* to perform bloodmagic to save her husband. In Dothraki culture, magic is forbidden, and doing such a thing to their leader made her lose their trust.

She becomes helpless when the bloodriders try to stop the *maegi*, and one of them shoves her down. She feels her belly is like being stabbed as if her son has a knife in each hand. It seems like she is about to give birth, but no midwives are willing to help her because they thought she was accursed. Ser Jorah and her maids have no choice but to bring her to Mirri Maz Duur even she is in the middle of the ritual, "...Once I begin to sing, no one must enter this tent. My song will wake powers old and dark. The dead will dance here this night. No living man must look on them." (688).

Daenerys passed out for a long time since they brought her into *maegi*'s tent. During her unconsciousness, she had a dream that pictured her past life and what she wished for. In her dream, there are several phases that she is through, from her as an ordinary girl to being her greatest power. She had one objective that she must reach, a red door, where behind it she met her brother Rhaegar Targaryen, the last dragon.

On her way to the red door, there is a hallway where ghosts dressed in raiment of kings, old Targaryen kings, motivate her to reach the door. As she ran faster across the hallway, wings grew from her back, and Daenerys flew-like a dragon. When she met her brother, she lifted his helmet visor, and she saw the face within was her own. The dream seemed to foretell that she was the next dragon of Targaryen. Thus, she will have every power she needs.

Although she claimed that she was the blood of the dragon, Daenerys is still a normal human being. Her body cannot hold the creeping pain among her body for giving birth. She was awake and unconscious three times because her

body could not bear the pain, and she was too weak to speak to her maids.

Everyone in the tent is confused and worried about her because the *Khaleesi* is not as strong as usual.

When she woke for the third time, she found her arms are wrapped around a dragon's egg. She touched and rubbed the egg, and strangely her fear was gone, and she regained her strength. A memory suddenly came back to her all at once. She remembered that Drogo was healed using bloodmagic, and she was just giving birth to her son. Alas, her son did not survive, yet she had known somehow. It was from her dream that she met Rhaego, and he was consumed by fire.

Mirri Maz Duur explained why her son did not survive, and it made her realize that the *maegi* is a cruel and dangerous person. Daenerys must look stronger and tougher, if not, she will be mentally lost, and the *maegi* will overpower her. *Khaleesi* demanded to take her to her husband. She is warned that her body is not fit enough to rise from her bed, but she insists on ongoing.

Outside, the majority of the *khalasar* is gone, following the strongest warrior among them. They have lost faith in Khal Drogo because he can no longer ride a horse because of the bloodmagic performed under Daenerys' command.

The Dothraki did not believe in any magic, even if that could save their life. Her *khas* informs that half of the riders are following Jhaqo, they are not sure if the *Khaleesi* could bring justice to him, but she is very certain that she will make him plead for mercy.

She lifted her head. "And I am Daenerys Stormborn, Daenerys of House Targaryen, of the blood of Aegon the Conqueror and

Maegor the Cruel and old Valyria before them. I am the dragon's daughter, and I swear to you, these men will die screaming. Now bring me to Khal Drogo." (733).

The dragon's daughter seems unhappy with the result of bloodmagic. The price she has paid is uneven with her husband's condition. Eventually, Mirri Maz Duur did that on purpose for what the *khalasar* did to her temple. Daenerys feels betrayed after she saved the *maegi* from raping but in return, she could not see her husband until the world's end.

Her heart is broken, knowing her husband will never return as he was before. She could not even hold her tears when she wanted to make her husband respond to her, but Drogo did not feel, speak, or rise. Darkness is in her shadow. If she looks back, she loses, and she will never be strong once more. Daenerys gathers all of her strength and mental to bring her husband to the night lands. She used a cushion and pressed the cushion down across Drogo's face.

The rest of the *khalasar* is preparing to make a pyre and sacrifice a horse for Khal Drogo's funeral. When a *khal* is dead, his horse must be killed and burned together so the *khal* will ride it in the afterlife. Mirri Maz Duur warns the *Khaleesi* that bloodmagic is no game for a child, and she does not have the words to make a spell nor the wisdom to find them. She also persuades to be released so she can help do the ritual. Instead of listening, Daenerys commands her *khas* to make the *maegi* shut her mouth.

At this moment, the Targaryen princess has learned everything from what she has been through. From her brother, who always thirsts for a king position to be betrayed by someone she saved, she becomes stronger and confident to deal

with every person. The *Khaleesi* begins to show her nobility of a royal family. She is now eager to lead what is left of Drogo's *khalasar*.

Ser Jorah Mormont drew her aside as the sun was creeping toward its zenith.

"Princess . . ." he began.

"Why do you call me that?" Dany challenged him. "My brother Viserys was your king, was he not?"

"He was, my lady."

"Viserys is dead. I am his heir, the last blood of House Targaryen. Whatever was his is mine now."

"My . . . queen," Ser Jorah said, going to one knee. "My sword that was his is yours, Daenerys. And my heart as well, that never belonged to your brother (773).

Daenerys gives a speech to the remaining people that they will be her *khalasar*. She sets free all the slaves and offers them that they can leave and no one will harm them, or they can stay. Some of them choose to find their way. She turns to the three young warriors of her *khas*, gives each of them one of her bride gifts, and appoints them as *ko*, and asks for their oath. Yet there is some refusal from them because a woman cannot lead a *khalasar* or name a *ko*, it would shame them into being bloodriders to a woman, but she acts like she does not care. She also asked Ser Jorah's oath to serve as her Queensguard.

When the sun goes down, Drogo's body is carried to the pyre and greased with oil. Daenerys puts her dragon's eggs alongside her husband, ignoring the *maegi* who told her that she was mad. Tired of listening to Mirri Maz Duur, she asks her people to bind the *maegi* to the pyre. As the first star appear, the pyre is soon to be lit.

Daenerys steps into the fire when it grows bigger and reaches the top of the platform. She has sensed the truth long ago that she is the blood of the dragon,

and the fire is in her. The girl never flinches or cries aloud every time she has a bath with scalding hot water, and even fire could not harm her. Some people think that she will escort Drogo to the night lands by burning herself. Even Ser Jorah thought so. Still, some people underestimate the gift that she had.

When the fire died at last, and the ground became cool enough to walk upon, Ser Jorah Mormont found her amidst the ashes, surrounded by blackened logs and bits of glowing ember and the burnt bones of man and woman and stallion. All of her clothes have become ash, yet she is unhurt. The knight finds out that two baby dragons are suckling on her breast, one on her shoulder.

It is Ser Jorah who kneeled first and followed by the men of her *khas*. They are shouting “blood of my blood” to mean that they will protect their *Khaleesi* with all of their life. The handmaids then followed to kneel. Then, all the Dothraki are now willing to follow Daenerys forever and become hers as they had never been Drogo’s.

As she rose, Daenerys emphasized that she had become the leader of the khalasar that she inherited from her husband. All of the people who witness now believe that Daenerys has a great power to lead them. She may not be the strongest among the Dothraki by physic, but she has a great gift from her bloodline and three dragons as her children and the ultimate power and protection of House Targaryen. She deserved the power she has now for every misery and past that she had.

3.1.3. Becoming Mother of Dragons

House Targaryen is known for its ability to tame and ride dragons. They had these abilities since they occupied the city of Valyria until ruling over Westeros. The first dragons that landed on Westeros belonged to the last three Targaryen's members, who fled before a volcano eruption destroyed their homeland. The dragons were thriving along with the rise of the Targaryen population, alas most of them were died because of civil strife, and the last dragon died a few hundred years before Robert Rebellion. It was considered the extinction of dragons throughout the world.

For centuries, there is no sight of a living dragon, not until Daenerys receives three fossilized dragon eggs as her wedding gift. Many believe the eggs are only stones and ornaments. The only dragon that lived was Viserys, or he said so. The Targaryen always refer that they are the blood of dragons which refer to their ancestor who conquered Westeros.

Since her wedding with Khal Drogo, the eggs are always by her side whenever she rests in her tent. She has a feeling where those eggs are not given to her only for decoration or treasury. Every time she watches the eggs, she feels there is some bonding between her and those eggs.

“My queen, Drogo will have no use for dragon's eggs in the night lands. Better to sell them in Asshai. Sell one and we can buy a ship to take us back to the Free Cities. Sell all three and you will be a wealthy woman all your days.”

“They were not given to me to sell,” Dany told him. (776)

Daenerys recently dreams about the dragon, but it is not the first time dreaming about it and usually about her brother's cruelty. This time her dream is

literary a dragon which is the first time she had such a dream. Unexpectedly, the dream impacted real life. Whenever she wakes up after having a dragon dream, she feels stronger and wiser. Her bond with the eggs also grew stronger day by day. Every time she feels restless, she will hold and talk to her most precious gift.

“She was lying there, holding the egg, when she felt the child move within her . . . as if he were reaching out, brother to brother, blood to blood. “You are the dragon,” Dany whispered to him, “the true dragon. I know it. I know it.” And she smiled, and went to sleep dreaming of home.” (382)

Sometimes, her bond made her lose her mind and consider herself foolish for things she did to treat the eggs. She knows that dragons have been gone hundreds of years, but sometimes the *Khaleesi* put the eggs in the brazier and watch them wishing some miracle would happen. She could not imagine that the dragons lived for thousands of years, then what has left just those stones she possessed.

The time for Daenerys to give birth has come. She went unconscious before the procedure began. Her condition was very weak that made her pass out after being conscious three times. When she fully recovered, her companions explained what had happened to her baby. He was monstrous, scaled like a lizard, blind, with the stub of a tail and tiny leather wings like the wings of a bat. From the descriptions given, it is a dragon.

She was giving birth to a dragon in literal meaning, but she never knows what it looks like because she never sees it. Also, it was not a child that Daenerys would imagine. The creature that came out from her womb has died. The *maegi*

said that he was corrupted and already dead since in her belly. She acknowledged that what was happened was witchcraft done by Mirri Maz Duur.

The *Khaleesi* lost everything she wanted, her lord husband and her son, which meant ruling the world. Most of the *khalasar* also left her because the man who led them was dead. The Dothraki only follow the strongest person among them, and in their eyes, a woman is not suitable to lead a *khalasar* even she was a *khal* widow.

A huge pyre is prepared to burn Drogo's body to take him to the afterlife. The dragon's eggs are also placed beside the *khal* on top of the pyre. Daenerys starts to burn the wood, and as the fire grows bigger, she steps into the middle of the pyre. She knows that a dragon cannot be killed by fire, and she has faith in herself that she is the blood of the dragon. The fire will not harm her.

Everything that burned in the pyre turned into ashes, woods, flesh, bones, gold, and even the *maegi* tied to it. The witch that caused the death of Khal Drogo and his son could not withstand the fire. Her songs and spells could not save her. On the other hand, Daenerys survived without any scorch on her skin. Only her hair and clothes turned into ash.

The ritual that was done does not only take her husband to the afterlife and punish the witch. It turns out it is also the birth of her new children. Three dragon hatchlings are filling the world once again after thousands of years and Daenerys as their mother.

“The cream-and-gold dragon was suckling at her left breast, the green-and-bronze at the right. Her arms cradled them close. The black-and-scarlet beast was draped across her shoulders, its long sinuous neck coiled under her chin.” (780)

The *khalasar*, who witnessed the very rare event, yielded to the *Khaleesi* at that very moment. Becoming a mother of dragons is a new title for her, and she is the only person in history to use that, and she will be known for it. The Dothraki who stay are now become Daenerys' *khalasar* and will follow her until her days end.

With her three dragon children, Daenerys is considered the strongest person and capable of leading a *khalasar*. However, have great power and mighty beasts, reaching Iron Throne is still beyond her reach. People who followed her are less than half of Drogo's. The *Khaleesi* need to convince much more people and warriors to retake her father's legacy.

3.2. The Way Daenerys Targaryen's Struggle Affects Her Personality

As a thirteen years old girl, especially as a daughter of a royal house and ruler of Seven Kingdoms, Daenerys should have been in her chamber learning how to be a good queen someday. Alas, she is on another continent with her only family member and some guards trying to escape from Usurper's bounty hunters. She has been through many rough conditions since her father was dethroned and killed, and the new king is hunting down every Targaryen. Actually, she does not even know why this happens because when Robert's Rebellion occurred, she was not born yet. When she was born, she was taken by some of the guards loyal to house Targaryen to take Daenerys and her older brother to safety.

Both Targaryen children were confused with the occurrence that struck them. Viserys, older than Daenerys and has lived for several years in Westeros,

understands a bit of what happened. It makes him feel betrayed by every person who supports Robert Baratheon's rebellion. On the other hand, Daenerys was newly born when the rebellion ended. She does not know anything about the past. She knew the history only from Ser Willem and her brother. Her brother was obsessed with power and nobility.

He always considers himself a true heir of the Iron Throne, and everyone should respect and obey him, including Daenerys. As the Targaryen's last male and the last son of late King Aerys II, Viserys feels that he has the power to control the remaining Targaryen. His revenge on the Usurper also made him more ambitious to reclaim the Iron Throne for him. His ambition drove him to become power greedy, and Daenerys also gets the impact. She must obey Viserys' every word, or she will get his wrath.

He calls his wrath by waking up the dragon, and he often hurt his sister with slaps and pinch until she asks for forgiveness. This behavior makes Daenerys feel-oppressed. Even more, she never treated like how a brother treats his little sister. She always wants to fight back, refuses to do what her brother says, but she is too scared to speak up. On the other hand, she always respects Viserys' every decision.

This feeling makes her confused with her social status if she is a princess. She does not care if she is a descendant of an ancient royal family. She only wants to live with her only remaining family member peacefully. Every merchant in Essos tries to avoid them as soon as they hear that a king from across the sea put a bounty on both Targaryen children until they meet Illyrio.

3.2.1. Marrying Khal Drogo Make Daenerys a Brave Woman

Daenerys grew in Essos with her brother since they were exiled from their homeland. She never acknowledges gaining power or becoming herself because she is always under her brother's control. She only knows that she must obey for their survival and to reclaim their homeland. The princess is forced to do everything even she does not want it. She is not comfortable with her condition, and she also wishes to be herself without any interception.

After years in a strange land, she is arranged to marry a Dothraki chief to gain his army. The princess disagrees with that decision because she does not want to marry a strange person, but she cannot deny her brother's decision. During her wedding with the *khal*, the bride could only be silent because she did not understand the Dothraki language, and her brother was far below her, which made her feel lonely.

Daenerys begins to fulfill her duty as a wife later that night after the wedding. In the beginning, she is too scared, but then she trusts her husband will not harm her. Her first weeks as a *Khaleesi* is not as easy as it sounds. To become a wife of a mighty lord with a different culture, Daenerys must adapt to a new tradition. At first, she does not know how the Dothraki work, but she slowly learns through her maids and Ser Jorah.

There is a moment that changed her life from a crybaby Targaryen princess into an adult *Khaleesi*. After that event and forward, she gains her confidence and enjoys Essos from a Dothraki's point of view. She also starts to command her *khas* and some part of the *khalasar* like a true *Khaleesi*. Her

relationship with the *khal* grew stronger; moreover, she bore the *khal*'s child and made her become more confident within herself.

“Wait here,” Dany told Ser Jorah. “Tell them all to stay. Tell them I command it.” The knight smiled. Ser Jorah was not a handsome man. He had a neck and shoulders like a bull, and coarse black hair covered his arms and chest so thickly that there was none left for his head. Yet his smiles gave Dany comfort. “You are learning to talk like a queen, Daenerys.” “Not a queen,” said Dany. “A *Khaleesi*.”

Daenerys can now act as she wants without fearing being disciplined by someone else, only sometimes her brother interferes with her peace and sometimes tries to break her mental. Luckily she can control her feeling and can face her brother calmly. She has adapted how the horde's custom. The *Khaleesi* also learn how to behave like a true *khal*'s wife in front of the Dothraki.

Her character begins to be a little bit bold. She now dares to demand her husband a great request, the Iron Throne. Never before did the *Khaleesi* ask for something to the *khal*, not until she felt that she had right over her family's legacy. It is her first attempt to request something, and it is refused. It doesn't sound very pleasant, but she tries to be positive and willing to try again after her husband returns.

When Khal Drogo grants her wish, Daenerys feels special because the great khal makes his wife's request real. The *Khaleesi* now started to command some of the warriors as she wanted. Even the Dothraki believe that a woman is not suitable to command. As a very powerful and influential wife, her life is not always about glory and respect from their followers. She had a time when she was ignored, and the only certain person put their respect on her. It was her hard times,

and she could through those days. The *Khaleesi* faces a new challenge, and she must make her decisions even if she loses everything.

With her husband always encouraging her in every decision and situation, Daenerys become braver to act. She begins to decide what should be done to her husband's wound. The bloodriders deny her suggestion, but she forces them to do what she says because she feels backed up by the khal.

“We have ridden far enough today. We will camp here.”
 “Here?” Haggio looked around them. The land was brown and sere, inhospitable. “This is no camping ground.” “It is not for a woman to bid us halt,” said Qotho, “not even a *khaleesi*.” “We camp here,” Dany repeated. “Haggio, tell them Khal Drogo commanded the halt. If any ask why, say to them that my time is near and I could not continue. Cohollo, bring up the slaves, they must put up the khal’s tent at once. Qotho—” “You do not command me, *Khaleesi*,” Qotho said... “You will,” Dany said, “or when Drogo wakes, he will hear why you defied me.”

Even her actions resulted in a bad situation, she would not stop acting bravely. The *Khaleesi* continue to command and stand strong after losing her husband and her son. Most of the khalasar also leave in their leader's absence and choose the strong one to lead. Only slaves and they who are loyal to Drogo stay with the Targaryen princess, and she also proves that she is capable of leading a *khalasar* with her bravery and three dragons in her back.

3.2.2. The Way Gain Power and Respect from The *Khalasar* Make Daenerys Gain Control

Daenerys Targaryen was born from a regal family, particularly a girl from a lord and ruler of the Seven Kingdoms. Concurring to her bloodline, she unquestionably had such control and power over the continent. Shockingly for

her, the Targaryen's tradition was over indeed some time recently she was born. She had taken to the oust with her brother and a few steadfast knights, but when they developed more seasoned, and there's no one to ensure them, Viserys as a Targaryen sovereign had a prevalent state of mind toward his sister.

Even when she is married, her life is still shadowed by fear. Luckily on her wedding night, she got a glimpse of fresh air. The bride can prove that she is not an ordinary girl for her husband.

“And for the first time in hours, she forgot to be afraid. Or perhaps it was for the first time ever. The silver-grey filly moved with a smooth and silken gait, and the crowd parted for her, every eye upon them. Dany found herself moving faster than she had intended, yet somehow it was exciting rather than terrifying. The horse broke into a trot, and she smiled. Dothraki scrambled to clear a path. The slightest pressure with her legs, the lightest touch on the reins, and the filly responded. She sent it into a gallop, and now the Dothraki were hooting and laughing and shouting at her as they jumped out of her way. As she turned to ride back, a firepit loomed ahead, directly in her path. They were hemmed in on either side, with no room to stop. A daring she had never known filled Daenerys then, and she gave the filly her head. The silver horse leapt the flames as if she had wings.” (101)

Since that day, the Targaryen princess becomes fond of the Dothraki life, becoming her way of life.

As a *Khaleesi*, she is slowly gaining respect among the *khalasar*. It is started from her *khas*, who sworn to protect her at all cost. That proved when her brother tried to harm her, and the *khas* are eager to punish him by execution even though the person is their *Khaleesi's* brother.

Daenerys is not used to the experience of being guarded by her side all of the time. She thought that when she was guarded, her family would also be

guarded. Instead, the *khas* ask permission to punish her House's member.

Moreover, her ability to understand and speak the Dothraki language is below average, making her have difficulty with no interpreter.

Fortunately, there is one person who came from Westeros being a part of the *khalasar*. This man's House was one of the Targaryen's bannerman in their golden time, and now he is pledged his sword to protect both prince and princess of the last dragon. This makes the *Khaleesi* convenient to have him. She can learn the Dothraki and the history of her ancestors.

The journey to Vaes Dothrak takes weeks since they leave from the wedding ceremony. The *khalasar* spend their time in the prairie where only green grass is along the horizon. Daenerys thought she should gain more respect among the Dothraki, at least in her husband's *khalasar*. She must do an important thing that is odd in the horse tribe's custom. She asked Drogo for making out outside the tent, where the Dothraki believed that all things of importance in a man's life must be done beneath the open sky.

“Dany drew him down. When he tried to turn her over, she put a hand on his chest. “No,” she said. “This night I would look on your face.” There is no privacy in the heart of the *khalasar*. Dany felt the eyes on her as she undressed him, heard the soft voices as she did the things that Doreah had told her to do. It was nothing to her. Was she not *khaleesi*? His were the only eyes that mattered, and when she mounted him she saw something there that she had never seen before. She rode him as fiercely as ever she had ridden her silver, and when the moment of his pleasure came, Khal Drogo called out her name.” (229)

In Vaes Dothrak, Daenerys' pregnancy is announced by the crones, and the son inside her is foreseen to be a mighty *khal* that will lead the whole Dothraki

and rule the world. This ritual made everyone shout her son's name and made her husband prouder than ever. This also made her proud of her status as a *Khaleesi*. Even though her dream of going back to her homeland is delayed, it is replaced with the joy of becoming a *khal*'s wife.

The respect Daenerys gains from the Dothraki made her feel she have enough power to be confident and fearless. For the first time, the *Khaleesi* can defy and threaten her brother without a second thought. Her belief in herself as a descendant of the dragon from her followers and made her more confident. She knows that she must follow her own ways to survive and get what she wanted even if she must lose her kin.

“Ser Jorah had made his way to Dany’s side. He put a hand on her shoulder. “Turn away, my princess, I beg you.” “No.” She folded her arms across the swell of her belly, protectively. At the last, Viserys looked at her. “Sister, please . . . Dany, tell them . . . make them . . . sweet sister . . .” When the gold was half-melted and starting to run, Drogo reached into the flames, snatched out the pot. “Crown!” he roared. “Here. A crown for Cart King!” And upended the pot over the head of the man who had been her brother... He was no dragon, Dany thought, curiously calm. Fire cannot kill a dragon.” (483)

Being a *Khaleesi* does not mean all of her wishes will be granted by her husband. Sometimes the *khal* only wanted to live in his way. As the blood of the dragon, she is not easily giving up. Daenerys will try to approach and convince her husband at the right time. When her husband grants her an urge, it is a great victory for her to conquer *khal*'s heart and prove that a mighty horse lord is listening to what she says.

The recent wish which Drogo granted is to reclaim the Iron Throne for his wife. He does that because a king from across the sea hired an assassin and tried to assassinate her woman. This act is a gift for their future son, who foreseen will rule the world. Not only the Iron Throne, but the khal will also give the Seven Kingdoms, and he swears it before the sacred mountain where the stars witnesses.

Daenerys is pumped with her husband's decision. Her fear of being almost poisoned turned into joy and happiness. The *khal* engages the khalasar to cross the sea, which no khal or Dothraki has crossed before. It is an outstanding action to perform, and he did that for her wife. As a *Khaleesi*, she feels being respected and pampered by those kinds of acts.

Knowing that Drogo's wife is almost an assassination victim, the bloodriders and *Khaleesi's* guards give her more protection. This kind of extra protection is good for her, but being pampered by her lord husband also made her feel that she has the power to control the *khalasar*. As the horde left their home, she began to give orders to the men. Their respect toward her made them cannot ignore her command.

At first, she instructs not to rape the women from the spoil of war. The warriors are confused, and some disagree with her decision because it was their culture since the beginning for raping lesser women from war.

“Jorah Mormont spurred his horse closer. “Princess,” he said, “you have a gentle heart, but you do not understand. This is how it has always been. Those men have shed blood for the *khal*. Now they claim their reward.” “She is a lamb girl,” Quaro said in Dothraki. “She is nothing, *Khaleesi*. The riders do her honor. The Lamb Men lay with sheep, it is known.” (644)

One soldier is complaining to the *khal* about what his wife had done to the lamb girls. Instead of giving punishment, Drogo is defending *Khaleesi's* statement of what she was doing.

The *khal's* treatment of Daenerys made her feel invincible to every law, and everything she said will always be heard. Drogo himself also cannot refuse her decision to get healing from a *maegi*. She insists that her husband must get medical treatment immediately even the Dothraki never trust with any magic. Since that moment, *Khaleesi* begins to trust Mirri Maz Duur, the *maegi*, for her ability to treat her husband's wound and know that the *maegi* also help the birthing woman.

That one decision brought doubt amongst the *khalasar*. What she did is crucial. Moreover, Drogo's condition is getting weaker, and he is losing his consciousness. The bloodriders assume that their leader can no longer lead them and will not follow the *Khaleesi*. Daenerys commands the *khalasar* to stop and camp in the middle of nowhere, but the bloodriders do not willingly obey her command.

She realizes that her power to command is from her lord husband, and she uses his name as an intermediary to grasp bloodriders in control. With the *khal* badly injured and too weak even to ride a horse, she had no choice but to use Mirri Maz Duur's bloodmagic to save her man. Most people are against her decree because they do not believe in magic, and their tradition forbids it.

As a good wife, the *Khaleesi* will do anything as long as her husband's life can be saved. Her trust toward the *maegi* made her impatient and hurried in

decision making. The trust that was given by the *khalasar* to her also made her arrogant. She would not be dragged into another mistake if she listened to her *khas* that the bloodmagic is a forbidden ritual.

He fell to his knees before her. “*Khaleesi*”, he pleaded, “you must not do this thing. Let me kill this *maegi*.”
 “Kill her and you kill your *khal*,” Dany said.
 “This is bloodmagic,” he said. “It is forbidden.”
 “I am *Khaleesi*, and I say it is not forbidden. In Vaes Dothrak, Khal Drogo slew a stallion and I ate his heart, to give our son strength and courage. This is the same. The same.” (686 - 687)

Outside the tent where the ritual is done, she saw fear on the faces of the Dothraki. The bloodriders arrive with eunuchs to heal their leader with needle and fire. Nevertheless, they witness the *maegi* doing a ritual for the *khal*. They have no respect anymore toward Daenerys, even a bloodrider who had been kind to her spat fully in her face. People amongst the *khalasar* also lost their respect for her. Some people threw a stone at her, and some saddled horses and rode off, leaving the horde.

Most of the *khalasar* are gone with their new *khal*, leaving the elders, sick people, and some slaves. Mirri Maz Duur has betrayed Daenerys by not telling the truth about the bloodmagic. Khal Drogo is survived somehow in exchange for his son’s life. The *khal* is alive, but he has no soul inside. This is an act of humiliation toward Drogo’s wife. The *Khaleesi* faced her fate with a strong heart, and she planned to punish the *maegi* while giving her husband a proper funeral.

After she was done, the Dothraki lost their trust in Daenerys, and she tried to convince them that she would lead them from now on. She also named three warriors of her *khas* to be her bloodriders and gave them each of her bride gifts.

The warriors take the gift, but they seem confused because only a man can lead a *khalasar* or name a *ko*, but the *Khaleesi* act like she never heard their refusal.

As the first star shines in the sky, Drogo's funeral is begun. The pyre was burned as soon as they saw the star. The flames quickly reach the top where the *khal* lay with the dragon's eggs, and the *maegi* is silenced as the flames cover her. Daenerys steps into the flames to escort her husband to the afterlife and seek proof that she is the blood of the dragon.

When the fire goes out, and the ground becomes cool enough to walk upon, Ser Jorah finds the *Khaleesi* amidst the ashes. Blackened logs and burnt bones surround her, yet she is unhurt. Daenerys rise with three dragon hatchlings. Knowing this, the *khalasar* put their trust once more in her and became its leader.

3.2.3. The Way Becoming Mother of Dragons Affect Daenerys' Personality

Dragons are the symbol of the Targaryen family, not only as a symbol but also as the creatures themselves become a mount for them. They can control dragons for centuries since their golden age in Valyria. The Targaryen held their ability until they colonized Westeros, but it was only for several hundred years for the dragons to survive, and there were none left.

House Targaryen is also on the brink of extinction because of the rebellion that overthrew King Aerys Targaryen. The rebellion also hunts every House member to make sure the Targaryen will not reign anymore. Luckily, the last prince and princess managed to escape with the help of the loyal knights. They spend the rest of the day across the sea in Essos.

As the last female of House Targaryen, Daenerys is supposed to be married by her brother to keep the bloodline pure as the tradition. Nevertheless, she is matched by a Dothraki's lord. At her age, she never thought about marriage—all she wanted was only to live peacefully. The princess is forced to marry the *khal* in return to gain an army for her brother to get revenge over the Usurper.

The day of their wedding has come, and the *khal*'s wife received many bride gifts. One gift looks very special to her, besides Khal Drogo's gift, dragon's eggs. She thought the eggs were fine jewelry made from porcelain because she never knew what a dragon's eggs looked like.

Being a wife also means Daenerys will be a mother soon. Before she is mentally ready to become a mother, she must accept that she is a wife to a *khal* and bound to the Dothraki's customs.

“At first it had not come easy. The *khalasar* had broken camp the morning after her wedding, moving east toward Vaes Dothrak, and by the third day Dany thought she was going to die. Saddle sores opened on her bottom, hideous and bloody. Her thighs were chafed raw, her hands blistered from the reins, the muscles of her legs and back so wracked with pain that she could scarcely sit. By the time dusk fell, her handmaids would need to help her down from her mount.” (halaman menyusul)

For only being a wife, her life seems in a condition where she almost surrendered.

She has planned to end her life because of the harsh condition in the *khalasar*, which she never experienced before.

When she began to use the Dothraki's lifestyle, she also accepted the reality of being a *Khaleesi*. During the journey to Vaes Dothrak, the *khal*'s wife finds herself pregnant, and some of her maids know it too. She is very excited

about her pregnancy and also taking good care of it. By the time the horde arrived, her belly had grown bigger, which drove Drogo's desire for her.

Even though her husband's desire inflamed toward her, her condition is telling the other way. Daenerys tired more easily as the child grew within her night of rest would be most welcome. On the other hand, her brother does not care if she is pregnant and still treats her as he will, making her feel like a child.

The horde finally arrived at Vaes Dothrak, where all Dothraki are one blood and one *khalasar*. There is no violence among them. This city is the safest city for them. Even weapon is not allowed in this city. Therefore, *Khaleesi* is still not safe from her brother. Her brother does not care about the city's laws and still considers everyone lesser than him, even the *Khaleesi* herself.

“I am the Lord of the Seven Kingdoms, not some grass-stained savage with bells in his hair,” Viserys spat back at her. He grabbed her arm. “You forget yourself, slut. Do you think that big belly will protect you if you wake the dragon?” His fingers dug into her arm painfully and for an instant Dany felt like a child again, quailing in the face of his rage.” (halaman menyusul)

Whenever Daenerys felt hurt or weak, she liked to hold her eggs. It is like she feels stronger, braver, as if she is drawing strength from the fossilized eggs. When *Khaleesi* had her egg, she felt the child move as if he was reaching out. Her bond with the dragon's eggs is powerful even when she is asleep. Her dream is about the dragon, and when she is awake, she becomes stronger.

There is a tradition in Dothraki where the *khal*'s child's future will be determined by the crones of the *dosh khaleen*. They believe if the mother ate a raw stallion's heart and could finish it, the son would be strong and fearless.

Lucky for Daenerys and her husband, the prophecy of their son is beyond their expectation. The crone has foreseen the son will lead a *khalasar* that covers the earth. He also will rule the world as the crone say that he should be the stallion who mounts the world.

The epithet given to *Khaleesi's* son is an ancient prophecy where he will unite the Dothraki into a single khalasar, and all the world's people will be his herd. Knowing the true meaning of her son's nickname, Daenerys is shocked and also proud of him. The *khal* also looks happy and proud of his wife and his son. Alas, this happiness is not felt by Viserys. He does not care about any prophecy of his sister's son and threatens her by pushing his sword to *Khaleesi's* belly. His action cost his own life. It was to threaten the *khal* and his family.

A day after, the *Khaleesi* went to the market with her guards to recall her childhood memories. She found foods, fragrances, and people from Pentos, where she grew up until she met a wine seller who tried to poison her. Suddenly she feels weak and helpless. For years she lived in terror of her brother, afraid of waking up the dragon. This is even worse. It is not just for herself that she fears now, but for her baby.

Ser Jorah told her that the Usurper was the man behind her assassination attempt. He added that the Usurper wanted *Khaleesi* and the baby dead, but Daenerys will never give her son to anyone.

“No. He cannot have my son.” She would not weep, she decided. She would not shiver with fear. The Usurper has woken the dragon now, she told herself . . . and her eyes went to the dragon's eggs resting in their nest of dark velvet.” (572)

Daenerys is started to boost her energy. She commands Ser Jorah to light the brazier then she put the eggs in it. She watches her eggs with a sad feeling. A thousand years ago, dragons were part of this world, but they are only pretty rocks now.

The time of her birthing has come, but she is in a troubled condition. Her husband is between death and life, and a *maegi* is trying to save *khal*'s life. *Khaleesi*'s decision to count on a *maegi* to heal her husband also made the situation worse. The Dothraki do not believe in any magic, and the cost of bloodmagic is too high for Daenerys to pay. Some bloodriders and men of her *khas* have to die fighting each other for her decision.

Daenerys' condition becomes worse. She felt like her baby had a knife and was hacking at her to cut his way out. She cannot bear the pain she feels. Her maid suggested that she must take to the *maegi* because she knows the birthing bed's secrets. The *Khaleesi* realize that Mirri Maz Duur is doing a bloodmagic ritual, and she does not want to be taken inside the tent where the ritual is ongoing. She is too weak to say no when carried inside the tent and passed out before birthing.

When she is conscious and fully recovered after giving birth, her companions inform her that her baby did not survive. The *maegi* explained that her baby was unlike a human being, rather like some monster. Surprisingly, she had known somehow that her son was not alive even before she was awake.

“Twisted. I drew him forth myself. He was scaled like a lizard, blind, with the stub of a tail and small leather wings like the wings of a bat. When I touched him, the flesh sloughed off the bone, and inside he was full of

graveworms and the stink of corruption. He had been dead for years.” (731)

Daenerys should weep after learning about her son and her husband, yet her eyes are dry. She had a dragon dream while she was asleep, and that was not for the first time she had had such a dream. She saw Drogo and her son in her dream, but they were gone by flames and swept of great wings. She also saw her brother Rhaegar Targaryen, the last dragon, but when she lifted his visor, the face within was her own. In this time, dragon dream, she is the dragon herself.

The thing born from her womb was a real dragon in a literal meaning from the *maegi*'s explanation. Alas, the dragon went extinct for hundreds of years, and no one knew how the creature looked like. At the moment like this, she must look strong. If she acts like she was before, she will lose everything. She already lost her husband, her son, and most of Drogo's *khalasar*. She cannot lose her pride too in front of the witch who tricked her.

She realizes that she must become more than she is now. The *Khaleesi* commanded her *khas* to set a huge pyre for her husband's funeral and a ritual similar to bloodmagic, where only death could pay for life. They put the dragon's eggs beside Drogo's body and bound the *maegi* to the lowest part of the pyre. Ser Jorah tries to stop the act that the *Khaleesi*'s going to do, but it is the only way to prove that she is worthy of leading the *khalasar* and she is the true dragon.

When the pyre is burning, the Targaryen princess makes her way in the middle of it. She is the dragon's blood, and fire cannot kill a dragon. The fire seemed like it welcomed her in every step she came closer. When the fire goes out

and the ground becomes cool enough, everything is turned into ashes but the *Khaleesi*. She is unhurt, and everything she has lost, her son and her husband, return into three dragons' hatchlings.

Daenerys, a little girl who always obeys her brother's command, now becomes the only Targaryen who brings back the Dragons. With her three dragon children, she is considered the strongest person and capable of leading a *khalasar*. She becomes more confident to be herself and leads the Dothraki to what her husband promised.



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CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

A Game of Thrones, a fantasy novel by George R.R. Martin, is the first book of *A Song of Fire and Ice* series and focuses on the fights to rule the Seven Kingdoms by winning the Iron Throne. The novel is a colossal story. Thus, it has many characters to follow, and each of them has its journey. Despite the complexity of the story, the main focus of the journey is on Daenerys Targaryen as the last descendant of the late king of Seven Kingdoms. As a woman and the last person of her kin, Daenerys Targaryen has a bittersweet journey to reclaim her right as a rightful heir to the Iron Throne.

Her journey to become a *khalasar* leader is a roller coaster life experience. She went through fire and blood to be recognized as a leader, from a forced marriage with a Khal to dealing with a sorceress. Daenerys did not achieve her status by herself. She is helped by her brother, accidentally. She would never be a leader if her brother did not force her.

The *Khaleesi* also went through the rough condition to be what she wanted. Oppressed by her brother is the most often until she could get rid of him. The House of Targaryen is constantly haunted by the mercenaries hired by the person who over-throned the last Targaryen king. Daenerys almost died with her son inside because of the assassin. Losing her beloved husband and her unborn son is the most tragic event of her life and became a turning point for her to become herself and trust herself. The Dothraki never trusts a woman can lead, but

the *Khaleesi* miraculously able to gain their trust by hatching the dragon's eggs by burning them with her in a pyre.

Daenerys' struggle to become a leader also impacts her personality and her way of life. For years, Daenerys acknowledges that she is a princess of a near-extinct family, and she only understands that she must obey her brother as the last male of their family to survive. Though doing her brother's orders made her suffer, she was too afraid to refuse, or she will awaken her brother's rage.

By marrying a great *Khal*, Daenerys learns how to be a real woman. Daenerys become braver in any situation, even to oppose her brother. She can decide for the *khalasar* that benefits her even the Dothraki never trust a woman to rule. Some of her decisions may disserve the *khalasar* and make their trust in her fade, but she eventually knows how to make things clear. The *Khaleesi* can break the stigma that a woman cannot become a leader by proving that she is able.



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