

Marked annually on March 8th, International Women's Day is one of the most important days of the years to:

Celebrate women's achievements,

Educate and raise awareness for women's equality,

Call for positive change advancing women,

Lobby for accelerated gender parity,

Fundraise for female-focused charities.

As of January 10, 2024 Greta Gerwig's Barbie collected more than \$636 million at the North American box office, and \$1.45 bn worldwide.

It has instantly become the biggest debut ever for a film directed by a woman.

In its first four days streaming in the US the Barbie movie was watched in 1.2 million US households.

It is one of the only female-dominated movies among the top-grossing films of all time.

One of the highlights of Greta Gerwig's Barbie comes when Gloria delivers a monologue on the impossible double standards of being a woman.

Reader 1

It is literally impossible to be a woman.

You are so beautiful, and so smart, and it kills me that you don't think you're good enough. Like, we have to always be extraordinary, but somehow we're always doing it wrong. You have to be thin, but not too thin. And you can never say you want to be thin. You have to say you want to be healthy, but also you have to be thin.

Reader 2

You have to have money, but you can't ask for money because that's crass. You have to be a boss, but you can't be mean. You have to lead, but you can't squash others people's ideas.

Reader 3

You're supposed to love being a mother, but don't talk about your kids all the damn time. You have to be a career women but also always be looking out for other people. You have to answer for men's bad behaviour, which is insane, but if you point that out, you're accused of complaining.

Reader 4

You're supposed to stay pretty for men, but not so pretty that you tempt them too much or that you threaten other women because you're supposed to be part of the sisterhood. But always stand out and always be grateful. But never forget that the system is rigged. So find a way to acknowledge that but also always be grateful.

Reader 5

You have to never get old, never be rude, never show off, never be selfish, never fall down, never fail, never show fear, never get out of line. It's too hard! It's too contradictory and nobody gives you a

medal or says thank you! And it turns out in fact that not only are you doing everything wrong, but also everything is your fault.

Reader 6

I'm just so tired of watching myself and every single other women tie herself into knots so that people will like us. And if all of that is also true for a doll just representing women, then I don't even know.