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Justification

*There Was Once*

If I were to describe the second speaker in *There Was Once* pertaining to feminism, I would describe them as being a person who believes in feminist liberation. This is the act of women being freed from the stereotypes and traditional beliefs of society. I think that this speaker would have a very voiced opinion about the way women are seen verses the way women should be seen. They would believe that women should change the way they are viewed by the world by being able to manage our own lives, understanding true beauty, and challenging everything.

In the story *There Was Once*, the second speaker questions the race of the girl in the story. They state “dominant culture this, dominant culture that...well, it would probably be your colour…everything is about you.” This was in the conversation where the speaker challenged the writer to change young girl’s appearance. I started to think of what the second speaker would say to the girl about her race. Based on the speakers’ response, they would probably reveal to the girl that she can be another race besides the ‘dominant culture’. This ability to give the character an option on their life can be stretched to feminist liberation by letting women know that they too can choose what they want to be, and not depend on someone telling them who they are. Women can manage their own lives. In the manifesto, the second speaker stated, “who needs Prince Charming anyways?” referring to Prince Charming in the story of Cinderella, which is the base of *There Was Once*. In Cinderella, the main character was freed from her life of oppression by marrying royalty instead of freeing herself. The second speaker would object to Cinderella gaining her freedom by letting the Prince take her away from a bad life.

The second speaker also brings up the issue of beauty and how it is portrayed in society. In the reading, it is said “women these days have to deal with too many intimidating physical role models as it is, what with those bimbos in the ads.” The speaker clearly has a problem with how media displays the same kind of beautiful women. Usually, a model is thought to be someone who is skinny and looks different from a lot of women in the world. If the speaker were to elaborate on this topic, she would probably make and exaggerated point of the diet and exercise it would take to become the size in fashion ads. They also point out that models can’t be an example of true beauty if they are recreating the way they look through makeup, hair and digital alterations.

Finally, the second speaker would challenge all stereotypes about women. In the passage, the speaker questions every line and word said by the storyteller. It may come off as being pushy, but the speaker is just revealing that there is more than one opinion about how a story can be. The same way the speaker questions every word, they would question every label placed on women. They would want to bring up the fact that women are capable to do more and be more than society would think. The speaker would also want this revelation to be embraced by not only women, but by everyone. This would lead to a better attitude about and towards women in the world.

I used the dramatic and sarcastic voice of the second speaker, as well as their opinion to shed light on any view they would have on women. Feminist liberation would be a topic that the speaker would be passionate about, because it goes against the status quo of women are viewed in society. The speaker would challenge all that is said about women, forcing different views. They would also encourage women to question everything, and grab a hold of their own lives. This would be done by not letting anyone treat them as if they are a burden. Lastly, the speaker would force a new view of beauty in society by making sure that women know that beauty isn’t defined by what is in the media and maybe even seeing to it that all types of women are represented everywhere women are advertised.