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The Color Purple

1. Themes/ ideas and images

- Love
- Sisterhood
- Respect
- Masculinity
- Independency
- Religion
- Obedience
- Unity
- Separation of genres

2. Passage:

“You told Harpo to beat me, she said.

No I didn’t, she said.

Don’t like, she said.

I didn’t mean it, I said.

Then what you say it for? She ast....

I say it cause I’m a fool, I say.I say it cause i’m jealous of you.

I say it cause you do what I can’t. (page 40).

“She say, To tell the truth, you remind me of my mama. She under my daddy

thumb. Naw, she under my daddy foot. Anything he say, goes. She never say nothing

back. She never stand up for herself. Try to make a little half stand sometime for the children but that always backfire. More she stand up for us, the harder time he give her” (page 41).

“You got to fight them, Celie, she say. I can’t do it for you. You got to fight them for yourself” - Mr. _____ 's sister (page 21)

“Harpo ast his daddy why he beat me. Mr. _____ say, I beat her because she is my wife, she stubborn” (page 22)

“I make myself wood”

3. Questions

- What would you have done if you were Celie?
- Why does Celie starts each paragraph with Dear God if she does not believe in God?
What role does God play in the novel?
- What does Shug Avery mean for Celie?
- In today’s society do we still see this kind of behavior towards women? How does society see women now?

4. Contextual Analysis

Celie, a weak woman from the outside but very strong from the inside. At some point in the book she said, “I make myself wood”, which she means that everything that Mr. _____ does to her does not hurt her anymore because she is thinking on Nettie, she is covering herself with an imaginary weapon of wood.. In this quote we can see that she was strong by making herself

wood. She started the book by addressing God because religion was important for people which means if they were good they were going to gain heaven. Celie sees Shug Avery as an idol because she did what she wanted to do and did not let anyone tell her what to do plus she was beautiful for Celie. Shug Avery is the kind of friend that Celie needed to trust and open her mind to a better world without getting beaten. She needed a force to believe in herself and have the strength to reveal against Mr. _____. We can still see some kind of this behavior in today's society however now women stand up for each other more and want to go up in their education. We see women more in television speaking up for themselves and other women and also more organizations that help out women that have been part of home violence.

5. Reader's Reflection

This book totally caught my attention, Alice Walker's way of writing makes the reader want to read more and more. She starts the book rough with her explicit vocabulary which gives life to the book. There's no need to watch the movie because Walker gives us a lot of descriptive details. In this book we can see the sisterhood between Nettie and Celie. Celie was raped by her own dad, however at the end of the book we find out he was not her real dad. I can't imagine living a life like Celie and be able to handle all the mistreatment of Mr. _____. She had to take care of some kids that were not even hers plus a husband that did not love her at all. She has a lot of heart to have not done anything bad to Mr. ____, especially when she would shave him. Celie is a submissive woman, however down her interior she was very strong. On the other hand, Sofia was a very strong woman but when she went to jail she becomes a very weak person because she was thinking about her kids. The vocabulary that she uses is very powerful. Men had all the

power over women and churches played a very strong role in how they treated them. I found very interesting how man would change wives as many times as they wanted and they would do whatever they wanted. Obedience it was the key to not get beat by their husband. Women were supposed to not only work in the house but outside in the fields as well. Something that I definitely collect was that women have to fight for their own opinion and not just go by what people believe. Other people can't do things for you if you don't want to. In order to make changes, unity within the family has to develop and stand up for each other, like we saw Celie and Nettie, when the letters were found and were to give hope to each other that they were going to be together and support each other.