

Owen

Jordan

English 11

26 August 2024

Me Before You

In the book *Me Before You* By Jojo Moyes there is a character named Will Traynor who was a very outgoing and adventurous man, But one rainy morning in 2007 in the city of London, he was struck by tragedy when he was crossing the street to get into a taxi and he was struck by a motorcycle which led to him becoming a quadriplegic and the most painful years of his life. Will Traynor character is changed from when he is struck by a motorcycle and is changed by going from being a outgoing person to depressed quadriplegic, How Will's character changes after the wreck, How will affects lou through the book.

Will was in a tragic motorcycle accident that turned him into a quadriplegic. Will Traynor left his house one rainy morning in the Central London area at half past seven. He was going to take a taxi because he realized it was way too rainy to take his motorcycle. When he walked outside he was shocked about how busy London was that morning. When he got outside he waved a taxi to him, and when he was walking to it, he got to the middle of the road he looked up and saw the headlights and the sounds of tires screeching coming towards him. He let out a scream not knowing if it was his, and the last thing he saw was a leather glove and a face under a helmet then everything went black. In the book *Me Before You*, "The last thing he sees is a leather glove, and a face under a helmet, the shock in the man's eyes mirroring his own. There is an explosion as everything fragments" (4) This states how traumatic this accident was for Will.

Not only was the accident traumatic, but it also changed Will's life. It changed his life from being an adventurous and very outgoing person who loved to do everything to a guy in a wheelchair who couldn't even feed himself. The outcome of the wreck made him depressed and also suicidal. In the book *Me Before You*, Will's mom explains, “ Will... injured himself in her absence.” (29) This explains how miserable he was with his life and how he wanted to leave.

Will's emotional and physical changes after the wreck are a key point of this book. Will was a harsh and bitter man. His depression and suicidalness leads to him being rude to everyone and makes himself a nuisance to everyone. In the book *Me Before You* Will's mom explains, “He's... he's a little cranky. Understandable, given... the circumstances. But you're going to have to have fairly thick skin.” (Moyes 34). Not only did Will have a bad personality, Will also had a physical disability. He couldn't move by himself, he always needed other people's help with everything he did because of his quadriplegicness which prevents him from being able to feel or move anything, but sometimes he could move his fingers but that was it. In the book *Me Before You* Nathan points out , ‘ He is a C5-6 quadriplegic which means nothing works below about here ... He placed a hand on the upper part of his chest. This indicates how he can barely move any of his body.

Lou put a big impact on will, Lou changed will for the better and helped him through his depression. Lou met Will after she was interviewed by his mother Camila Traynor for the job of a caretaker. When Lou first met Will he was sitting in the living room with his head sunk into his shoulders while he was staring at her. Lou was nervous to meet him because she didn't know how he would act towards her. In *Me Before You* Lou expresses, “Im Lou, My voice, uncharacteristically tremulous, broke into silence.” (31) This expresses how Lou was nervous after Will bursted out in a big scream. However, Lou and Will started to become more

comfortable with each other throughout the book. Lou and Will turned from always arguing and Will acting mean and saying rude things about her, to them being friends and going places with each other and building a connection with each other. In *Me Before You*, Mr Traynor explains, “Ah, she doesn't care about that. It's just been a long time since he laughed at anything.” (62). This shows that Will becomes more comfortable with Lou and was happy for once. After Lou being his caregiver, Will started to go out more with Lou and started to become happier. Lou and Will went to his ex-girlfriend's wedding and even went across the country for a vacation. Lou put a big impact on will and helped him get through many challenges throughout the book. Will even helped Lou overcome her own challenges such as, helping go through the maze and even trying new foods. They both grew a relationship together and both overcame many obstacles. Will never wanted to go anywhere, but now he went on a vacation with Lou. Which is very surprising. In *Me Before You* it states, “You're glad you came right?” I said tentatively. He nodded. “Oh yes” “Hah!” I punched the air.” (321) This explains how he improved throughout the book, and how Lou persuaded him to go on vacation.

In conclusion, Will Traynor life was changed dramatically when he was struck by a motorcycle one morning in 2007 in Central London on a rainy day which led to many characteristic changes. The characteristic changes were depression and suicidality and being rude to everyone he meets. Once he meets Lou, she changes him for the better which makes him take his mind off suicide. Lou tries to persuade him to live. So Lou starts taking him places to make him not want to commit suicide, but in the end it all didnt work because he went to the doctors and committed assisted suicide. This event made Lou sad, However left her a note and money for her to continue her education and try to live life to the fullest like he wanted her to.

WORK CITED

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