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Mrs. Graning

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### Me Before You

In *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes, Louisa is unlike any other person. At the beginning of the book she is twenty-six years old. She is living her life the same everyday for six years with her parents until her job shuts down, causing her to go job searching. She interviews. The interview was with Camilia, who was Will's mom. Will is a thirty-five year old who is a paraplegic and needs a caretaker. The job would pay well for her and her family. In *Me Before You*, there is a big lesson taught that love is unique, even though Will and Louisa love each other. Louisa took Will on fun things to try to get him to love life again, because she wanted him to be happy because that is what she was getting paid to do but she ended up falling in love with him. Louisa wanted to adventure and have fun, although Will could not. He loves Louisa, but he was not happy because he could not do those things with her. Louisa's character evolves throughout the story; she changes in many ways after she undergoes a traumatic event, such as her colorful wardrobe, high-spirited personality, and quirky tendencies.

Louisa was very exhilarating before her traumatic event happened, but her traumatic event leads to a drastic change. She got sexually assaulted when she was intoxicated in a maze, with multiple men."My sister and I never really talked about what happened that night at the maze" (Moyes 166). Louisa suffered from that night, in the maze, it made her feel unsafe and she did not want to go out again. After this, Louisa wanted to make herself look less attractive to

men. The incident changed her, the way she dressed, the way she acted around men, and the way she carried out her life. “Clothes that would not appeal to the kind of men who went to the Red Lion, anyway” (Moyes 166). Lousia changed her outlook on life, and tried to not be noticeable.

Louisa changed a lot throughout her life, although it all started when she became a caretaker for Will. Louisa starts to uncover how huge her life can be, and Will urges her to explore the world beyond what she has seen. “ I stared at my folder, at all the effort and work and imagination that had gone into compiling it” (Moyes 302). Louisa had a whole folder of trip’s planned, but before she did not want to do anything. Louisa pushes being sexaully assaulted to the side, and she changed because of it. She was always a happy quirky person, although after the incident she tried to be more outgoing after a while. “I gazed out the window, my thoughts as jumbled as the clouds beneath us, unable yet to think about the fact that this was not just a logical challenge but an adventure to me-that I, Lou Clark, was actually headed to the other side of the world” (Moyes 310). Louisa was thrilled and beyond belief that she was going to the other side of the world, and this was all because of Will.

Louisa is genuinely a happier person since she met Will. Will makes a spark in Louisa like no one ever has, she is happy. “ I couldn’t see anything beyond Will by then” (Moyes 310). Louisa is a caring person and always has been, she loves Will with everything in her, and just wants the best for him. After Lousia’s incident she did not want to do anything or go out, until Will. Will made Louisa step out of her comfort zone and it took a minute for her to do that, but when she did, she was ready for more to come.”I saw that the island was lush and green, fringed with acres of sugarcane crops, the sea visible like a strip of mercury through the volcanic hills (Moyes 311).

Louisa quirky tendencies make her who she is in the story. She is a persistent, cheerful, expressive, patient, sincere, and unselfish woman. “Or perhaps because I was tired and afraid and still finding it hard to believe that I had even gotten us this far” (Moyes 311). She had done so much for Will, not just because she was his caretaker, but because she had loved him. Even though Will and Louisa are opposites and have a very different outlook on life, they loved each other. Louisa’s bumbling chattiness and Will’s sharp wit, along with some lovely chemistry between Clarke and Claflin. “ I never really thought about leaving this town or doing something different.” “You need to live boldly, push yourself, and never settle for mediocrity” (Moyes). They are very different, although they learn to like the same things, and fall in love with each other.

Louisa’s character grows throughout her life and she changed in many ways due to her traumatic event. In conclusion Louisa is a very caring and loving person. She had a lot of changes throughout the whole story. Her traumatic event led to a lot of those changes. Including her colorful wardrobe, after she got comfortable with wearing it. Her high spirited personality to always see the best in people, and try even when Will would be down. Louisa had a lot of quirky tendencies such as, sweet and kind-hearted. She almost always had a positive outlook on life, she always saw the best in people. Before Louisa’s traumatic event she lived the same life every day over and over. Although when she met Will, everything changed. She started going on adventures and living her life to the fullest. She tried to make Will do things with her even though he was paraplegic. Will before was a very maddening, mercurial, clever, funny. He also got more high-spirited. They weren’t the perfect match but their differences equaled them out. They also loved each other very much and would do anything for each other. In the end, they both had their own problems to deal with, they tried to make it a little bit easier by helping each

other. Even though Louisa was just a small-town girl, she eventually got to venture out and learned that she loved it.

Moyes, Jojo. *Me Before You*. Penguin Books, 2012 United States of America.

Crippledscholar. *Why Are You Complaining*. 21 May 2016.

