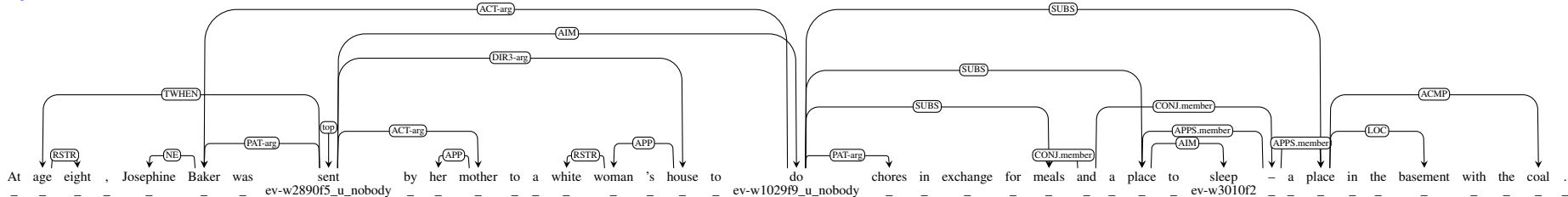
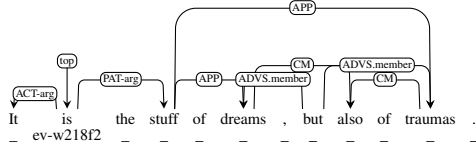


Document 1327

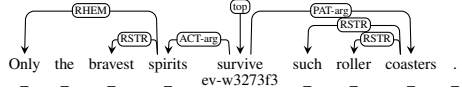
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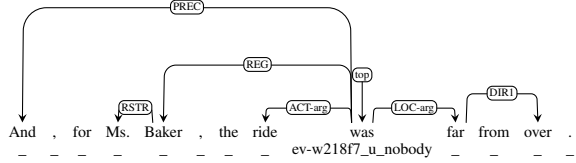
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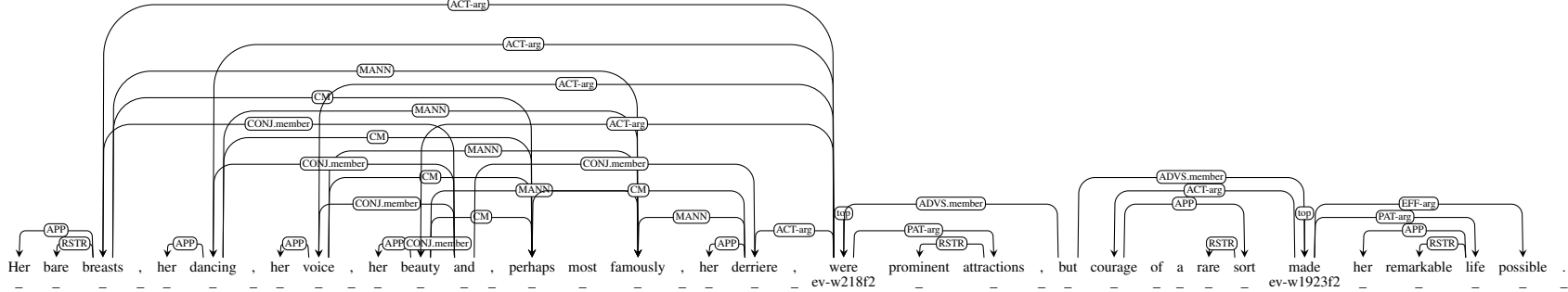
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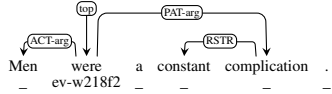
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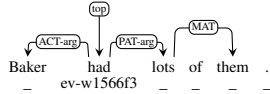
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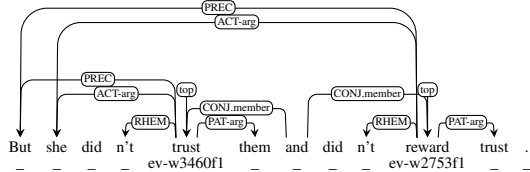
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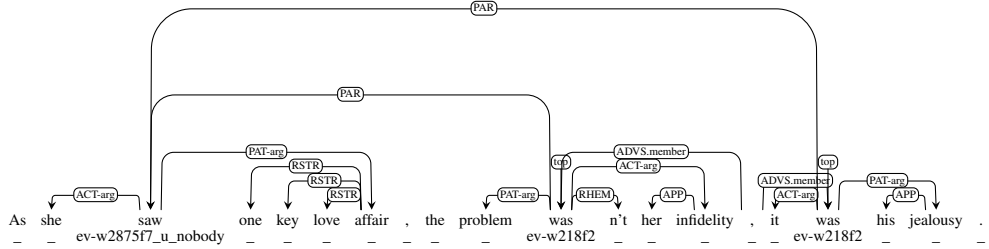
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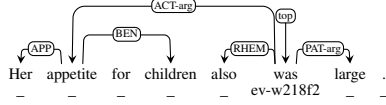
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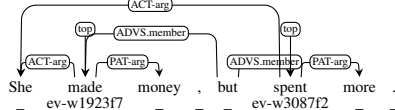
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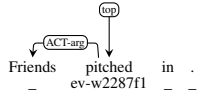
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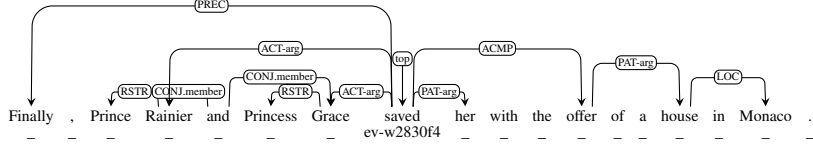
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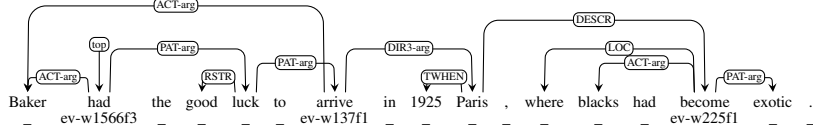
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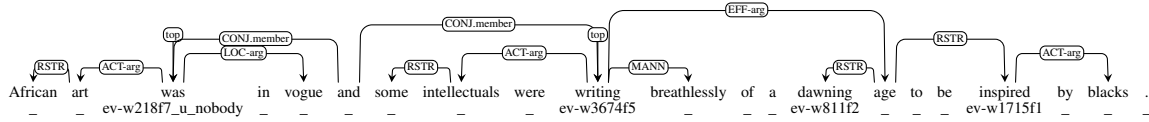
[21327016]



[21327018]



[21327019]



[21327020]

To be exotic was to be patronized as well as prized, but for the most part Paris was a friendly island in a racist world.

[21327022]

Paris loved her at first sight.

[21327024]

"One can hardly overemphasize the importance of her rear end," Ms. Rose writes.

[21327026]

"Jazz Cleopatra" contains other, more important, false notes that undermine what is, for the most part, a lively account of a life already familiar from earlier works.

[21327027]

It is easy to see why Baker, a free spirit who broke many of the restraints convention places on women, attracts Ms. Rose, the author of "Parallel Lives," a wonderful study of Victorian marriage.

[21327028]

Still, even the title raises questions about the author's vision of her subject.

[21327029]

Baker's art was jazz only by the widest stretch of the term.

[21327030]

To find parallels, other than sexual appeal, with Cleopatra, requires an equal stretch.

[21327031]

Baker was 68 years old when she died in Paris, two days after the sold-out opening of her newest show: a movie-like ending to what was a cinematic life.

[21327032]

In fact, Ms. Baker played scenes in Casablanca that could have made it into "Casablanca."

[21327034]

She was devoted to Charles de Gaulle's cause, accepting great financial sacrifice and considerable risk to become first a spy and then a one-woman USO tour for the forces of Free France.

[21327035]

In Humphrey Bogart's nightclub, Victor Lazlo leads Free French sympathizers in "La Marseillaise" to drown out the Nazis.

[21327036]

The night the Germans occupied all of France, Baker performed in Casablanca.

[21327037]

