Noor Hasan

GEEN 2312

Prof. Morales

February 14, 2023

*Why do you think that the protagonist felt free when she found out about the death of her husband?*

During the period of time that this story is set in, which is probably the late 1800’s, rights for women were basically non-existent. As a demographic that couldn’t even vote in the US yet, women could definitely be considered second class citizens. In home life, women were expected to be the homemakers that listened to orders and were submissive. I imagine when the protagonist heard the news, she was able to imagine a life that is free of all the restrictions and hardships during that time and being able to enjoy her life without the oppressions of being a wife. Without her husband, she wouldn’t be forced to live with the constant expectations put on her as a wife who needs to do her duties. With the death of her husband, she is able to have more individuality and the freedom to make her own choices and to take charge of her own life. In the story she even states how she is now looking forward to a long life instead of how she felt dread toward that before.