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Drawing: Jacquie Red Feather

Cora Brownell

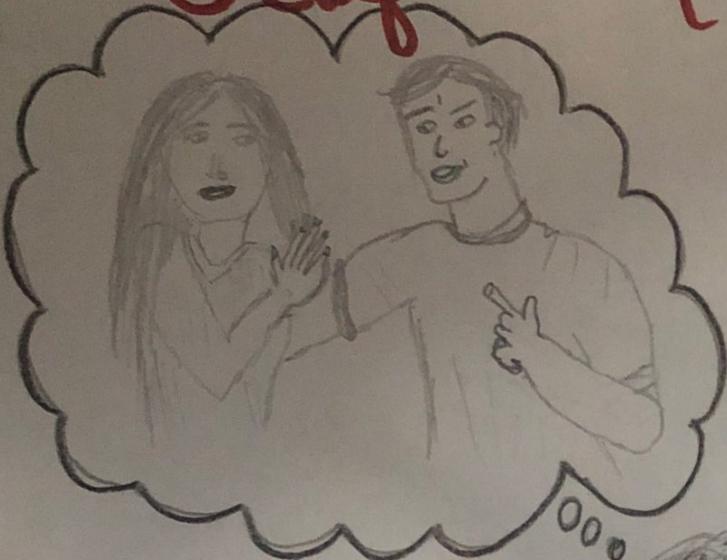
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Jacquie Red Feather



RAPE

PAIN



FORGIVENESS

GRIEF



LOSS

ADDICTION

FAMILY

STRENGTH



SHAME

IDENTITY



SUPPORT

POWER



Cora Brownell

Studies in Literature and Nation

Dr. Anita Duneer

August 6, 2020

Analytical Interpretation of Drawing: Jacquie Red Feather

I chose to do my analytical interpretive piece as a drawing. I chose to do a drawing because when I saw this assignment, I immediately pictured Jacquie Red Feather and I wanted to portray all her hardships she has faced and yet still is a strong woman. Jacquie Red Feather had always been faced with obstacles and disparities. Jacquie's father left when she was little, and her mom was constantly in abusive relationships. Her mother had finally had enough and decided to take her and her younger sister to live in Alcatraz. "We're going to be with our relatives. Indians of All Tribes. We're going over to where they built that prison" (Orange 48). Jacquie's mom thought this would be good for them. Sadly, Jacquie trusted too much and became the victim of rape from a boy, Harvey, that she was dating on the island. "I told him not to. Then he did. I told him to stop" (56). She became pregnant and she was a teen so she decided it was best for the baby to be given up for adoption. As Jacquie grew up, she struggled with alcohol. She became a substance abuse counselor which I feel is very honorable of her to want to try to help others with drug and alcohol addictions. While she works on herself, she is

also helping others and can understand their situations better. Jacquie still struggled with staying away from alcohol. Her life at times was consumed by drinking. "But after that she drove straight to the liquor store, spent the next six years stomaching a fifth of whiskey a night" (106). At the present time in the story however, she had been sober for 11 days and did not fall into another hole. Jacquie had a second daughter. Her daughter committed suicide and left her children whom Jacquie was supposed to take care of but her drinking got in the way of that and her sister Opal, got custody of them.

My drawing shows Jacquie Red Feather in the center of the paper. She is seen holding her legs, head buried in her knees as one would sit when feeling upset or defeated. I illustrated her thoughts in thought bubbles and all the things that might be weighing on her. The rape in her teenage years is shown in the first picture. She is seen saying no. The second illustration is Jacquie giving away her baby girl, Blue, in the closed adoption. I drew her drinking alcohol with empty bottles around her representing the excessive alcohol consumption. I drew her other daughter in a body bag with a bullet to her head which is the last image she saw of her daughter as she had to identify the body. Last I drew a picture of a Native American girl, this represents Jacquie trying to get a grasp of her Native American culture but the American culture has made this hard for her to do this. I added words throughout the paper that represent her feelings and thoughts as I felt they would be. Jacquie Red Feather is a strong woman who has been through so much. She never stopped moving forward though and she continues to work on herself and is trying to get her life back in order. I admire her strength and courage.

Works Cited

Orange, Tommy. *There There*. Vintage Books, 2018.

