

Helen keller analysis essay



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“ I was that ship before my education began, only I was without compass or sounding- line, and had no way of knowing how near to the harbor I was. ‘ Light! Give me light! ‘ Was the wordless cry of my soul and the light of love shone on me In that very hour. ” -Helen Keller. In the above excerpt Helen is talking about what it was like before her eyes had been “ opened” to the world of language. As many great minds have said In the past “ language is the key to life”, and in the movie *The Miracle Worker* this is hon. exceptionally well.

William Gibson and Arthur Penn clearly demonstrate the effect that can be had on one’s life that is lacking the ability to communicate. Helen Keller was entrapped in a world of nothing, but she soon learns for herself that language truly is the key to life. Of all the people that could have been sent to help the Keller family, the Perkins Institute sends a “ half-blind Yankee schoolgirl” (Anne Sullivan) to teach their daughter to behave In an acceptable manner.

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Although Helen proves to be the most difficult student a teacher could ever have, Annie refuses to give up on her. Even after two weeks of living alone with Helen trying to break through the walls of darkness and silence, Annie won’t stop. Helen was able to eat at the table and behave like she should, but Annie wouldn’t settle for that, In the film she says they’re satisfied. Give them back their child and dog, both housebroken, everyone’s satisfied. But me, and you.

It wasn't that Helen had an inability to talk, it was simply the fact that she had refused to be taught: especially by Mrs.. Sullivan. All throughout *The Miracle Worker* we see Helen and Annie struggle with their relationship. But how can a relationship be built without trust, and how can trust be built when one cannot see or hear? It is almost virtually impossible. Somehow though, Annie manages to break down the barriers that were holding Helen back from learning and actually teaches her language.