



Good Morning Ladies & Gentlemen.

Willy Russell's play Educating Rita (ER) is a play about ~~into~~ transition and how one must go through obstacles first to gain understanding than proceed through the transition phase and after coming 'into the world' one is offered possibilities and choices in life. While I was reading through the play one book that came to my mind about 'Into the World' was Maurice Sendak's children's picture book Where the Wild Things Are.

ER includes a number of ideas that lead to 'into the world', firstly in a scene in ER, Rita who wants to be educated, "I want to know everything" Rita has thought about who she wants to be and she knows what it takes to be an educated woman. Rita faces many obstacles on the way. One major issue for Rita is her husband Denny, who opposes Rita's education, in Act One Denny burns her books showing us how much he wants the old Rita back. And when Denny kicks Rita out of the house forcing Rita to



choose between her marriage and education. This was a personal cost for Rita. When Rita explains to Denny why she wants an education, to have possibilities and choices. Denny doesn't understand the concept of choice ~~as~~ as he is happy with choice when "choosing which washing detergent to buy". In assistant with helping Rita with her education is Frank her teacher.

Frank is a ~~an~~ character very different to Rita. Frank sees a uniqueness in Rita that he doesn't want her to lose. Rita sees Frank as not the best role model for an educated person. Frank in a way also wants to move 'into the world' but he doesn't ~~to~~ seem to progress as he keeps drinking alcohol and Rita tries to help him by saying start by stop drinking.

Rita has step closer to her new world when she says she wants to buy a new dress "a dress an educated woman would wear" when Rita graduates, she rewards herself by a dress emphasising her



Complete transformation into her new world.

~~Like~~ Similarly as previously mentioned when I was reading ER I remembered when I was a child reading Maurice Sendak's Where the Wild Things Are. Where the Wild Things Are starts off with little Max dressed in a wolf suit with a look of belisgence on his face being sent to his room without supper because he was ~~being~~ behaving badly.

When Max enters his room he travels to a place where the wild things are over many years in his ~~best~~ head. When he reached the wild place, the ~~the~~ wild things "roared their <sup>terrible</sup> roars and gnashed their terrible teeth, rolled their terrible eyes and showed their terrible claws." Max was not afraid and he tamed the wild things and became the king of wild things. As they played around for long time Max realised that he wanted "to be where someone loved him". As Max wanted to go home he realised that he can't get the way that he wants where no one gave him supper. When Max was about to



leave, the wild things" roared their terrible roars, gnashed their terrible teeth, rolled their terrible eyes and showed their terrible claws" - Max replies "No", implying that Max learned his lesson giving him the choice to say 'no'.

When Max reaches home to his bedroom he takes off his wolf suit symbolises the completion of his transformation and his smile on his face and the supper which was left on his table. Max realised that he can't act the way he acts anymore and after going through his transformation, he is provided with choice.

In contrast with Max and Rita but with Frank and the wild things. The wild things symbolises Frank ~~when~~ when Max leaves they are hesitant to change just like Frank who continues to drink alcohol to escape reality and his life.

These two texts have provided the insights of choice which is gained after transition. In summary, ER has showed us through Rita that one must go through obstacles and learn from it and gain



An understanding to complete the transition. And in Max where he learns that he can't act badly ~~when~~ gave him the choice to come home. Through this after transition one can appreciate the choices and possibilities gained after transition, seen in Rita's dress and Max's supper and smile.