

The Plight of a Woman

Violet Taylor

Southeastern University

About the Work:

This poem recounts the ethical issue of gender bias that is subtly communicated quite frequently in organizations. It narrates the relatable experience of a woman being overlooked for a promotion based on required qualifications. Meanwhile, the promotion was granted to a male employee without the mandatory qualifications that management demanded of her. She strives for growth but remains painfully unfulfilled.

About the Author:

Violet Taylor currently serves as an honor program coordinator where she has the privilege of fulfilling her passion to advocate for fairness, dignity, and respect. She is a member of The International Leaders Association (ILA) and was a presenter in their June 2020 Women & Leadership Conference. Violet is also a member of the International Women's Innovative Network (IWIN). She is a full-time student at Southeastern University in pursuit of a Doctorate in Strategic Leadership (DSL), and her vision is to impact and develop leaders globally.

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She has worked long and hard as a coordinator,
Early mornings, late nights, performing duties of the director.
To her amazement, he often gave her credit,
The vice president sent gratitude, but no further merit.
Still, she worked hard, praying, and believing for a promotion,
Two years later, all she received was an apology and a demotion!

She applied for a management position, well versed in the duties, and excited about the prospect of her betterment,
The interview went exceptionally well, but she was not considered for the role due to an education impediment.
Single momma trying to make ends meet, she attained a certification but no college degree,
Her heart breaks, tears fall, but she could not walk away; in two weeks she again trains her manager, who is considered a better pedigree.
She flashes her manager a winning smile that she hoped would distract from the tears that threatened her eyes,
Teaching, coaching, being friendly, and encouraging, all the while realizing her worth and settling on her goodbyes.

Determined, she returned to school, earning her bachelor's then a master's degree and was on her way up,
Daily checking job openings waiting for any opportunity to jump.
Then it happened! She applied and interviewed for a position in another department as a manager,
Surprise! After being offered the role, they removed her authority and changed her title to examiner!
Feeling hurt and dejected, but still no option to quit,
Knowing in her heart the treatment she received could not be legit.

Twelve months later her former manager was terminated and immediately replaced,
White male, no college degree, what insult thrown in her face!
Now the examiner was left to examine herself – she has raised two children while attaining two college degrees – she is tenacious, courageous, unstoppable, and yes; she is human.
For her heart continues to ache, pillows still filled with tears, as she mourns her plight - in 2020 it's still so hard when you're a woman!