Date 10/24/13

Title Old Woman Protesting with a Mirror

Author / Director / Unknown

Context (Where Found / Viewed / Read?)

Saw this on an app I use that shows pictures.

Content / CD / Summary / Precis (Say? “Plot? Setting/Situation? Key lines/phrases scenes, etc? )

This photograph depicts an old woman protesting on the front lines while holding a mirror. The riot police are coming in with their riot shields and helmets and body armor, and this old woman is standing there with nothing but a mirror. One of the policemen is looking into the mirror and of course seeing himself as the lady also looks at him.

Content / CM / Meaning? / Theme(s)?

This is a very interesting picture, and it can be interpreted many different ways. I see a hero in this woman. She is standing up to someone who could very easily put her down. She is making him think about what he is about to do. Do you really want to do this? What if you were in this situation? It makes the policeman think about a reversal of roles, and what he would want done to him.

Form (Diction? Construction Terms? Symbolism?)

The mirror is symbolism for the golden rule: treat others how you would like to be treated. The mirror forces the policeman look at himself, and ask himself what he would do if he were in the old lady’s situation. The policeman looks in the mirror and sees himself. He finds himself staring into his own eyes on the front lines of a protest. It stops him and makes him think. This picture definitely makes one think.

Commentary (What do you want to say? Why like? Questions? Synthesis / Allusions-Connections / Relevance to personal experience, to literature, 20Q’s? etc.) “Poetic” Traits?

I like this picture. In a very imperfect world, there are protests constantly to promote change. Oftentimes protests are put down inappropriately using force. This old lady represents all of us, while the police represent anything in our lives that is holding us down. The roles could even be reversed. We could be the policeman and we could be in a position to do something that would hurt someone else. How would we like it if they did that to us or what would we do if we were in their situation?