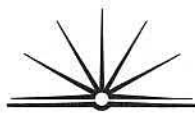


in *Educating Rita* by Willy Russell
We see Rita transform from simple
hairdresser, to middle class uni student
and the traveller.

Along the way she encounters many obstacles
that try to stop her from doing her best
she gets over these hurdles and succeeds
at what she wants to.

Rita was a downtrodden woman married
to a man she really didn't love or respect.
Her husband a man's man who expected
the woman to do everything was not
happy when she went to university, when
she bought books home to read, and he found
out she was on the pill and not helping
in the effort to get pregnant he threw
all her books into the fire, this made it
extremely hard for Rita to study and learn

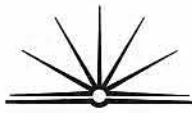


at home. In the first half of the book Rita is a doormat to everyone and tries to make fun of herself as she thinks people won't like her otherwise.

But as the next half of the book comes around, she is confident and has left her husband, she now does what she likes, she dresses differently acts in a more respectable middle class manner.

When she first starts ~~g~~ her private lessons with her professor Frank she turns all his questions into jokes Mrs. is done to hide the fact that she may not know the answer or to hide what she is really like.

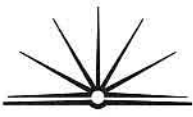
At the end of it the reward she receives for finishing the course is that she has done what she wanted she has progressed on from being a hardress to know being an educated



Woman.

While studying at University she meets a friend who she thinks is a strong confident person, Rita thinks Trish epitomises what she herself wants to be, but then all the pressure gets too much for Trish and she tries to kill herself. Rita finds her and she is taken to the hospital and survives. This rattles Rita's feelings of security but this ultimately makes her strong and gives her another reason to keep going.

She has overcome a lot of obstacles like the ~~main~~ character Elle Woods in my related text Legally Blonde. Elle wants to get into law school ~~she must study~~ to try and get back together with her boyfriend. As a fashion major she must study very hard to reach the level needed to



get into Harvard.

The two characters of Elle and Rita are very different people but ~~may~~ suffer similar struggles once at Uni.

The obstacles Elle must overcome is the definite end of her relationship, a new beginning and the obstacle to fit in to law school she is a Barbie look alike and does not get taken seriously.

Elle and Rita are two interesting characters who obstacles and experiences haven't stopped them from getting on with life.