

Megan Magee Bradley University (Done)


 Fri, 3/13 1:50PM  9:17


SUMMARY KEYWORDS


women, feminism, rage, men, teenage girl, angry, femme, ready, tender, today, prepare, voice, overreacted, playhouse, nancy pelosi's, older white men, motherfucker, boys, bitch, sits


SPEAKERS


Megan Magee

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-  M

Megan Magee 00:23
We meet for the first time in the backyard of my childhood playhouse. That is to say, my parents were playing house while my little brother plucked and pulled at my braided pigtails until I threw him into the fire pit! But it wasn't lit.
 -  M

Megan Magee 00:39
But my mother still rushed to his rescue
 -  M

Megan Magee 00:42
while he whimpered and whined. She's trading feminism for motherhood again. "He's just doing it to get a rise out of you," she says.
 -  M

Megan Magee 00:55
Well, congratulations.
 -  M

Megan Magee 00:58
I have risen. At the party, the only other girl is ranting about feminism. The audience, a sea of rape jokes, snapbacks, styrofoam cups and me.

- M Megan Magee 01:12
I shoot her an empathetic glance.
- M Megan Magee 01:15
Say nothing.
- M Megan Magee 01:17
This house is for wallpaper women.
- M Megan Magee 01:22
And what good is wallpaper that speaks? Five things I would like to tell every teenage girl. One: the world is trying to kill you. It will try to do this by stealing your voice. Kill it back. We've been raising our voices against men again. Don't tell us to smile, agree not to clap back to make them more comfortable. We are angry women here to outrage you, outwork you, outmaneuver you. The big bulls call us grumpy bitches, we bleed red ready for battle. Come, fight.
- M Megan Magee 01:59
Because we're coming for you.
- M Megan Magee 02:06
1992 was the year of the woman. A record number of 28 women were elected to Congress. Flash forward to 2018. Over 100 women blazed their way into that same office. Vox of November 8, 2018 explains, the spark in both 1992 and 2018: Female rage. Maxine Waters, Nancy Pelosi, Ilhan Omar, all women who made headlines this last year, not just for their political accomplishments, but their rage. Men like Mitch McConnell, Donald Trump and Brett Kavanaugh attempt to diminish the political accomplishments of these women by equating their passion to nothing more than fits, or tantrums, because they know, female rage enacts unprecedented change. And USA Today of October 8, 2018 furthers, older white men should no longer get the luxury of making demeaning remarks. For so long women have been conditioned by society, so they rarely let themselves publicly explode. They assert, we must do it more. Through the poetry, "Nine Things I Would Like to Tell Every Teenage Girl" by Melissa Newman-Evans, "Raging Woman" by Melanie Dave, "Pocket-Sized Feminism" by Blythe Baird, "Fura" by Regina LeBeau, and "A Prayer for the

Men Who Have Forsaken Tender Things" by Shay Alexi Stewart, a program. My rage is not a performative choice. It's a survival mechanism. Call us angry in 2018, this year we'll show you a riot. We have waited centuries for the men of this system to make way for the women. At 78, Nancy Pelosi's life has prepared her for this battle of wills. We'll cut your head off and you won't even know you're bleeding. Rashida Tlaib refuses to back down from explicit remarks. Impeach the motherfucker. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, straight from the Bronx. Let's box boys, these boys.

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Megan Magee 04:02

I want to stand up but what if he takes my seat?

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Megan Magee 04:06

These boys, I want to stand up. But what if everyone notices I've been sitting here this whole time? I'm tired of keeping my feminism in my pocket until it's convenient for me. Once on an escalator, a man stuck his hand up my skirt, but no one around me said or did anything so I didn't say or do anything. I didn't want to make a scene. And suddenly everyone wanted a piece of me. People found me more interesting when my mouth stopped moving after all, who doesn't like a nice, quiet,

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Megan Magee 04:45

tender thing.

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Megan Magee 04:48

So when you ask me where my voice has gone or why my birched wood tongue has forgotten gravity, please give me time to remember the subway. 19 and pessimistic enough to carry pepper spray, optimistic enough to think I wouldn't need to use it. When a man walks in and says, "You look like you need to loosen up." Says he can help. And you say the only thing you'd like to loosen up is his jawbone. Why'd you have to be such a bitch about it?

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Megan Magee 05:17

And I wonder

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Megan Magee 05:20

if this motherfucker knows I've already killed him six times in my head with the various weapons I keep on my person. Bitch is just icing on the cake. The best compliment he could have given me that I look like a rabid dog ready to rage, ready to rip out someone's throat, ready to taste blood and regret and everything else that it means to be a woman and being a prisoner to your own

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Megan Magee 05:47

vocal cords.

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Megan Magee 05:50

To watch the world want to see a muzzle instead of your mouth. And I know that angry is not a big enough word for these men who have never spoken to God. Perhaps man made a God that looked like him so he could feel good about forgiveness, for if God were a queer femme, since God is a queer femme,

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Megan Magee 06:10

They know they will never

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Megan Magee 06:12

be worthy of her grace and yet she gives it. Anyway, fine. Wear whatever you want. Look however you want, you know can fuck themselves if they don't like it? Everyone. But once I told a boy I was powerful and he told me I overreacted to my coworker slapping my ass. I drench my boss in desperation because I need this job because I've lost too many others because I have to control her or else they will stake this beast in my chest sits. You remember that metaphor about the world wanting to kill you and steal your voice? Well, sometimes this world will actually try to kill you. It will never be your fault. You will never deserve it, trying to prepare you is pointless. Trying to prepare you is just another way to blame you when it happens. Which is why, seven, you have to hold up your sisters. Everyone is your sister. The world is trying to kill each and every one of you and if you do not hold one another up, nobody else will watch us. Watch us channel all of the angry women spinning with the

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Megan Magee 07:24

animosity of your sexist transgressions.

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Megan Magee 07:27

Will sulk in this anger until you must bow at our feet. We are not afraid to raise our voices, will not rest until we break the last glass ceiling. Come at me, bring the big guns I am the storm. Dead set on you. They are afraid of what she can do. Of what she has already done even in a cage, even in a dress. Even under a glass ceiling. You feel her fire scorching

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Megan Magee 07:53

her smoke, filling your lungs but

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Megan Magee 07:55

you know what they want to do? Lock it in a room laid with crazy, dangerous rage. Woman, I want them to kneel before her. I want them to cower as she unfurls herself, centuries of drowning us in rivers, of stoning our sisters, of defiling us behind dumpsters. This dragon has enough revenge in her stomach to attend to your funeral, sage the misogyny from your bones. For every woman who has ever had to burn her way forward when the divine femme says this is how you take in air despite every time it has been taken out of you. And today, I do not break my body for you. Today. I am not your Savior. Today. I scream hysterically and uncontrollably. I scream [screams] oh,

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Megan Magee 08:41

I scream.

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Megan Magee 08:43

And I, oh I

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Megan Magee 09:06

do not die.