The Little Mermaid

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|  | The Little Mermaid – C.H. Andersen | Film (1989) | Film (2018) |
| PLOT | Folk Tale – A mermaid wants to become a human being so that she might get an immortal soul! | Fairy Tale – 2 different tales – A mermaid wants to be a human being, a girl married to a man | A mermaid is kept as a prisoner and longs to return to the sea |
| CHARACTERS | Mermaid  – announcement of love – It looked as if the roots and the tips of branches were kissing each other.  - quiet, wistful (plot like the sun and red flowers around a statue)  „a rose-coloured weeping willow tree“  - longs for swimings up to surface  - its painful to be a girl  - religion and faith -> mermaid wants an eternal soul and sees a prince as a way to get it „I would gladly give up my 3 hundred years if I could be a human for only a day and later share it that havently realm“  King – less dominant character  Witch  - enchantress  - not wicked  Prince  - good, natured  - loves her as a sister  Grandmother  - ruler  - wise advicer  - role model | Ariel – a leading character, but also a bystander (relies on strong male caracters – father, Eric)  - Obsesed with human  - there is not a grandmother, but two helpers – little fish Flounder and seagull Scuttle, the crab Sebastian  Ursula  – a villain  - not a mermaid, an octopus MATERIALISTIC TRINKETS  - an adventurious and curibus girl  - it is not painful to be a girl – it’s funny  Men (King, Prince) – help her | Mermaid (Elizabeth)  - tricked into the land  - has healing abilities  - prefers freedom in the see to love and life at land  Wizard  - vicious  - greedy  Modern family (a girl and her aunt)  A PRINCE + A GIRL (with a heart of a mermaid)  - a circus and unusual beings (helpers) |
| TIME, PLACE | - deep ocean  - paradise underwater  Tale of spirituality | - 4-5 days  - nature -> beautiful nature  - good vs evil  - the USA | - the USA, 1930 th  - the circus |
| IMPLIED MESSAGE | - in a quest for the true meaning of life --> to find what you yearn for you must be blessed with a higher spiritual power | - your body is not good enough until it fits somebody else’s standards’.  - being beautiful and having the exact body figure society has issued as a desirable one is important in life and essential in love | - MERMAID = GIRL = LIFE it self (cures all illnesses and lives for ever)  - psycho-analitical dimension (Birth, growing-up, separation, death  - Life is born out of water, lives partially in water partially on land and gets helped. She end in water (the girls swims for health) |
| IDEOLOGIOCAL CONTEXT | - It’s tale can sound as a little brutal in pushing moral of spiritual importance over physical importance, it is ideologically accurate and can be seen as true to the world. | Feminism (URSULA) -> „you’ll have you pretty face and don’t underestimate the impotrance of body language.  -The men up there don’t like a lot of blothe is born  - They think a girl who gossips is bore  – Yeah, on land it’s much prefered for ladies not to say a word....  - ofensive for ladies  - Women should behave as it is proper for a lady, hold their tongue and use their looks and body and to get best of life of | - a mermaid (a woman) is an outsider, along, kept impri soned  - strange, weird. |
| CULTURAL CONTEXT | 1837. Danmark Copenhagen  - in Andersen’s era it was very important to be pious and religious! | Good prevail evil  - in Disney’s era it is important to be fit and pretty, but submited and silent  - love leads to richness | - mermaids are mythical beings which do not belong to real world but rather to the world of the unbelievable.  - only rare people can see they |
| END | The ending is tragic but hopeful at the same time with the little mermaid taking her own life but all the while being granted a second chance as a daugther of the air and in that way possibly acquiring her ultimate goal: AN IMMORTAL SOUL. | Jack Zipes – W. Disney made of empire by turning old folk tales into fairy tales.  DISNEYFICATION -> Branding on those tales by Hans Christian Andersen, Charles Perault and The Brothers Grimm -> transforms them into stories more or less different -> A Disney original -> An Americal Fairy Tale - colonisation of other national  Formula: For American Fairy Tales  „What is good for audiences for Disney it is good for the world!“ | MERMAID ->  - medieval hybrid between a girl and a fish  - medieval hybrid between a girl and a bird  - „in-between“creature – mythology  - fatal for sailors  - good singers  - ambigurus origin  NOW – SF  Fairy tale vs Myth -> a story of supernatural beings |