

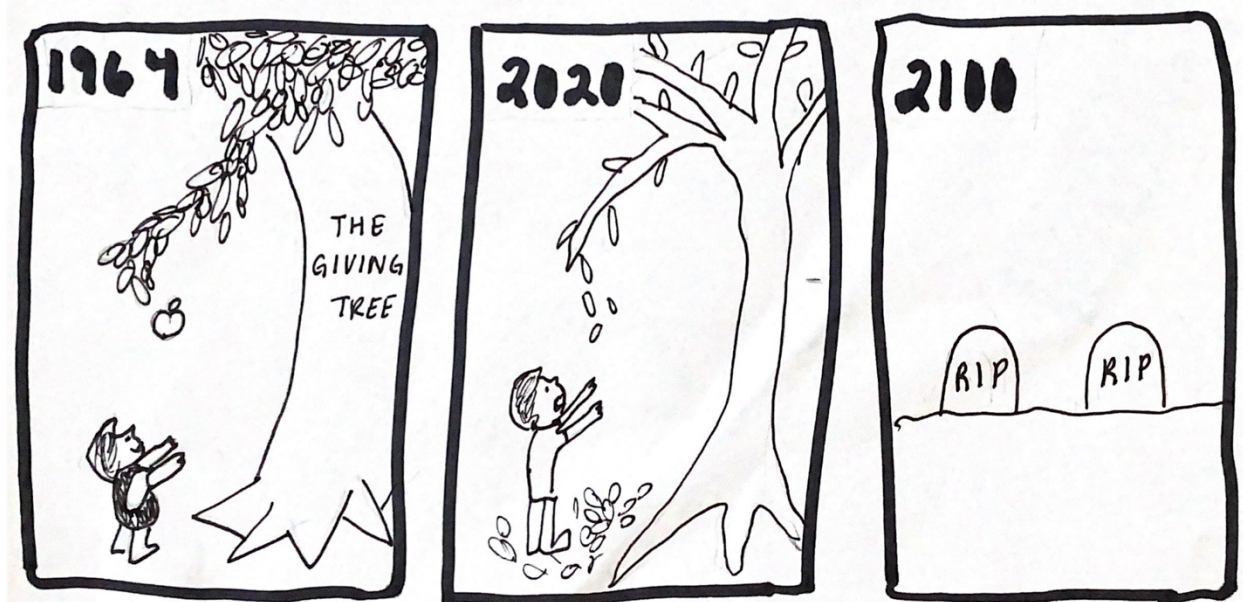
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Project 3: Creating a Wild Thing

PART 1- INTRODUCTION

Allow me to introduce Shelly Silverstein- the great great granddaughter of legendary poet and illustrator, Shel Silverstein. Shelly lives during the 22nd century, where the Earth is being ravaged by the consequences of anthropogenic global warming which lead to irreversible and catastrophic climate change. She lives in a world that is covered in forest fires, category 6 hurricanes, cities covered in carbon filled smog, and dwindling wildlife. As a young child, she would read her great great grandfather's old poetry books and marvel at the drawings of thriving animals, communities, and little girls just like her. Their Earth was 12 degrees cooler, full of flora and fauna, and nothing like Shelly's Earth. Shelly became inspired by these works and took up art and drawing herself. In the year 2140, her newest picture book/comic release titled "Where the Planet Ends" addressed the state of the Earth and the outcomes and consequences of climate change. She would take up Shel Silverstein's original illustration style mixed with her special flair to inspire change around the world through art. Like her great great grandfather, her works seem to appeal to only children at first. At second glance, it is quickly apparent that the issues Shelly addresses are aimed at all of humanity, young and old. This would be met by strict controversy because of the severity of the issues being presented to children. Parents and climate change deniers would label her as wild, crazy, or unruly. Shelly wouldn't censor herself, however. Shelly fights for sustainability, cooperation, and reform – all from the tip of her pen.

PART 2- CULTURAL PRODUCT



PART 3- RHETORIC OF THE PRODUCT

Shelly Silverstein's wild cultural product is an excerpt from her latest book, "Where the Planet Ends." This comic strip references one of Shel Silverstein's most famous works: the 1964 children's picture book, "The Giving Tree." In Shelly's comic strip, three scenes depict the life stages of both the child and the tree. In the first illustration, The Giving Tree was full, healthy, covered in leaves, and gave the boy all of the shade and fruits he desired. Nearly 40 years later, the two are depicted again but older. The tree is skinnier, limper, sparse in leaves, and no longer bears fruit. It can no longer feed the now grown man, nor give him any shade to rest under. This is symbolic of the entire Earth and its creatures struggling to live their daily lives. Global warming is causing nature and humanity difficulty and discomfort, yet no one is making efforts to change. Finally, in the next century, the man is long gone. The Giving Tree that should've still been alive and giving his shade and fruits, is gone too. The tombstones that remain are a reminder to those who are still on Earth that their time, too, is limited. These simple yet striking comics appeal to readers' emotion to inspire change. With her works, it is Shelly's purpose to call her audiences to action and do what they can to save the other Giving Trees and kids of the world. This comic, as well as all of the others in her book share the same common message: our Earth is dying, and it needs our help.

MULTIMEDIA COMPOSITION

(book cover and 2 comics in next page)- supplemental to my in-class presentation



Where the Planet Ends

the outcomes and consequences of
climate change

