

Introduction to EMPOWERMENT

7.1.1. Students will be expected to explore the general concept of empowerment.

Nelly Furtado: Canadian singer/songwriter born in Victoria to parents with Portuguese heritage, the language in which Furtado initially began her career. She comes from a working-class background, whose mother was a chambermaid/housekeeper (Nelly also worked with her mother) and claims this has helped shape her identity.

Powerless (Say What You Want)

Paint my face in your magazines
Make it look whiter than it seems
Paint me over with your dreams
Shove away my ethnicity
Burn every notion that I may have a flame inside to fight
And say just what is on my mind
Without offending your might

Cuz this life is too short to live it just for you
But when you feel so powerless what are you gonna do
So say what you want
Say what you want

I saw her face outside today
Weatherworn, looking all the rage
They took her passion and her gaze and made a poster
Now it's moccasins we sport
We take the culture and contort
Perhaps only to distort what we are hiding

Cuz this life is too short to live it just for you
But when you feel so powerless what are you gonna do
But say what you want
Say what you want

Hey you, the one, the one outside, are you ever gonna get in, get in
Hey you, the one that don't fit in, how ya, how ya gonna get in
Hey you, the one outside, are you ever gonna get in with your
Broken teeth, broken jaw, broken mojo
Yeah, this life is too short to live it just for you
But when you feel so powerless, what are you gonna do

Cuz this life is too short to live it just for you
But when you feel so powerless, what are you gonna do
Cuz this life is too short to live it just for you

But when you feel so powerless, what are you gonna do
Say what you want, say what you want, say, say, say

Cuz this life is too short,
just for you

Discuss below as much as possible:	
How is this song an example of empowerment?	How is this song an example of disempowerment ?
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Sum up what you think the song is about, and explain to me whether you feel this song is more about empowerment or disempowerment: <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	