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Commentary on "I Know How He Felt"

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**Commentary by Caroline Wilson
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The paper "I Know How He Felt" could have simply been a traditional analysis of the book Bread Givers. However, what is unique about this paper is that Nozomi Onishi brings her own voice and experiences into the paper. Though Onishi dislikes the main character, Moishe, Onishi can still identify with him somewhat based on her own experiences as an international student studying in the United States. By describing her own experiences, the argument becomes more powerful and personal to the reader. It is clear that Moishe is a character with many flaws; however, Onishi can identify with him in a way that asks readers of her paper to see Moishe differently. Additionally, the conclusion of this paper is strong; Onishi succinctly states her opinion of the book, while bringing all of her previously discussed ideas together to complete her argument. It is also important to note that the conclusion is not too repetitive of ideas that she has previously stated. This is a good essay that demonstrates the deeper connections that can be made between literature and personal experiences.