

## Because I Could Not Stop for Death A Poem by Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)

"Because I Could Not Stop for Death" is a **lyric** poem on the theme of death. The poem contains **six** stanzas, each with four lines. A four-line **stanza** is called a **quatrain**. The poem was first **published in 1890** in *Poems, Series 1*, a collection of Miss Dickinson's poems.

### Commentary and Theme

"Because I Could Not Stop for Death" reveals Emily Dickinson's calm acceptance of death.

**Speaker:** A woman who speaks from the grave. She says she calmly accepted death. In fact, she seemed to welcome death as a suitor whom she planned to "marry."

**Death:** Suitor who called for the narrator to escort her to eternity.

**Immortality:** A passenger in the carriage.

**Children:** Boys and girls at play in a schoolyard. They symbolize childhood as a stage of life.

### Figures of Speech

الأفضل قراءة الأمثلة من الشرح أو المحتوى مهمه جدا

### Alliteration – Anaphora - Paradox- Personification

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Hope is the Thing with Feathers  
A Poem by Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)

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Poetry of Harlem Renaissance  
"If We Must Die"  
Claude McKay  
Limns

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The Negro Speaks of Rivers  
by Langston Hughes

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## The Story of an Hour By Kate Chopin (1851-1904)

### Type of Work

"The Story of an Hour" is a short story centering on a young married woman of the late nineteenth century as she reacts to a report that her husband has died in a train accident.

### Publication

"The Story of an Hour" was first published in December 6, 1894, under the title "The Dream of an Hour."

### Setting

The action takes place in a single hour in an American home in the last decade of the nineteenth Century.

## Characters

**Mrs. Louise Mallard:** Young, attractive woman who mourns the reported death of her husband but exults in the freedom she will enjoy in the years to come.

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**Brently Mallard:** Mrs. Mallard's husband.

**Josephine:** Mrs. Mallard's sister.

**Richards:** Friend of Brently Mallard.

**Doctors:** Physicians who arrive too late to save Mrs. Mallard.

## Plot Summary

By Michael J. Cummings...© 2006

## Theme

### Oppression

Society in late nineteenth century expected women to keep house, cook, bear and rear children—but little more.

### Repression

Louise Mallard appears to have been a weak-willed woman, one who probably repressed her desire to control her destiny.

## Symbolism

Examples of **symbols** in the story are the following:

**Springtime** (Paragraph 5): The new, exciting life that Mrs. Mallard thinks is awaiting her.

**Patches of Blue Sky** (Paragraph 6): Emergence of her new life.

Examples of **figures of speech** are the following:

Revealed in half-concealing (Paragraph 2): **Paradox**

Storm of grief (Paragraph 3): **Metaphor**

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Physical exhaustion that haunted her body (Paragraph 4): **Metaphor/Personification**

Breath of rain (Paragraph 5): **Metaphor**

Song which someone was singing (Paragraph 5): **Alliteration**

Clouds that had met (Paragraph 6): **Metaphor/Personification**

The sounds, the scents (Paragraph 9): **Alliteration**

Thing that was approaching to possess her (Paragraph 10): **Metaphor/Personification**

Monstrous joy (Paragraph 12): **Oxymoron**

She carried herself unwittingly like a goddess of Victory (Paragraph 20): **Simile**

Joy that kills (Paragraph 23): **Paradox**. The phrase is also ironic, since the doctors mistakenly believe that

Mrs. Mallard was happy to see her husband

## Foreshadowing

The opening sentence of the story foreshadows the ending—or at least hints that Mrs. Mallard's heart

condition will affect the outcome of the story.

### **Author**

Kate Chopin (1851-1904) is best known for her short stories (more than 100) and a novel, *The Awakening*.

One of her recurring themes—the problems facing women in a society that repressed them—made her literary works highly popular in the late twentieth century. They remain popular today.

**Foreshadowing** is the use of hints or clues to suggest what will happen later in literature. Foreshadowing is a tool used to give the reader or audience a hint of what may happen ahead.

**Setting** is determining Time and Place in fiction.

**Setting:** Setting refers to the time, place and social circumstances in which a literary work occurs.

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### **The Tell-Tale Heart**

By Edgar Allan Poe (1809-1849)

#### **Setting**

The story opens in an undisclosed locale, possibly a prison,

#### **Characters**

**The Narrator:** Deranged unnamed person who tries to convince the reader that he is sane.

**The Old Man:** Seemingly harmless elder who has a hideous "evil eye" that unnerves the narrator.

**Neighbor:** Person who hears a shriek coming from the house of the narrator and the old man, then reports it to the police.

**Three Policemen:** Officers who search the narrator's house after a neighbor reports hearing a shriek.

#### **Type of Work**

Short story in the horror genre that focuses on the psyche of the narrator .

#### **Year of Publication**

"The Tell-Tale Heart" was first published in the winter of 1843 in *The Pioneer*, a Boston magazine.

#### **Point of View**

The story is told in first-person point of view by an unreliable narrator.

#### **Figures of Speech**

### **الأطلاع على الأمثلة بالمحتوى افضل**

Anaphora

Personification

Simile

Alliteration

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## **The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn By Mark Twain (1835-1910)**

**Type of Work**.....*The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* is a novel that does not fit neatly into a single genre

### **Composition and Publication Dates**

.....Mark Twain wrote *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* between 1876 and 1883.

### **Setting**

.....The action takes place in St. Petersburg, Missouri, and at various locations along the banks of the Mississippi River in Missouri, Arkansas, and Illinois. The time is the middle of the 19th Century, before the Civil War.

بعض الكاركتير المهمين ومش كلهم سجلتها

**Protagonist:** Huckleberry Finn

**Antagonist:** Society and Its Rules and Laws

**Jim:** The escaped slave who joins Huck. He is a simple, loyal, and trusting man whose common sense helps guide Huck. In a way, he serves as a surrogate father for Huck.

**Pap Finn:** Huck's drunken, greedy, abusive father, who is nearing age fifty. His racism is symptomatic of the racism that infected society as a whole in nineteenth-century America.

### **Point of View**

.....Huckleberry Finn tells the story in first-person point of view.

### **Freedom**

All human beings are free, independent, and equal members of society.

### **The Primacy of the Moral Law**

The moral law supersedes government law. By protecting the black slave Jim, Huck breaks man-made law and feels guilty. But he refuses to turn Jim in because his moral instincts tell him he is doing the right thing.

### **Intuitive Wisdom**

Wisdom comes from the heart, not the head.

### **A Child Shall Lead**

A little child shall lead them. Huck is portrayed as a boy who had a better grasp of morality than the often corrupt civilization around him—a boy worth imitating for his virtues.

### **Love of Money**

The love of money is the root of all evil. It is the love of money, Huck's, that prompts Pap Finn to gain custody of Huck.

### **Climax**

.....The climax occurs when Tom and Huck free Jim, and Tom—who has suffered a bullet wound in the leg—tells Huck that a provision in Miss Watson's will has freed Jim.

### **Structure and Style**

.....Like the Mississippi River itself, the plot flows around bends, through darkness and fog, and into bright sunlight.

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### **Trifles**

#### **A Play by Susan Glaspell (1876-1948)**

### **Glossary of Literary Terms: Drama**

**Act:** A major section of a play. Acts are divided into varying numbers of shorter scenes. From ancient times to the **nineteenth** century plays were generally constructed of **five** acts, but **modern** works typically consist of one, two, or **three** acts. **Examples** of five-act plays include the works of **Sophocles** and **Shakespeare**, while the plays of **Arthur Miller** commonly have a three-act structure.

### **Characterization**

The means by which writers present and reveal character.

### **Climax**

The turning point of the action in the plot of a play or story.

### **Comedy**

A type of drama in which the characters experience reversals of fortune, Shaw's *Arms and the Man* is a romantic comedy; Chekhov's *Marriage Proposal* is a satiric Comedy

**Conflict/Plot** is the struggle found in fiction.

### **Dialogue**

The conversation of characters in a literary work.

**Hyperbole** is exaggeration or overstatement.

Opposite of **Understatement**

### **Example:**

I'm so hungry I could eat a horse.

He's as big as a house

### **Monologue**

A speech by a single character without another character's response.

### **Soliloquy**

A speech in a play that is meant to be heard by the audience but not by other characters on the stage.

**Scene** A subdivision of an **Act** of a **drama**, consisting of continuous action taking place at a single time and in a single location.

**Tragedy**

A type of drama in which the characters experience **reversals** of fortune, usually for the worse.

**Setting**

.....The time is the early twentieth century during cold weather. The action takes place in the kitchen of a farmhouse in the American Midwest.

**Characters**

**John Wright:** Murder victim who lived with his wife in a farmhouse.

**Minnie Foster Wright:** Wife of John Wright and his accused murderer.

**Type of Work and Year of Publication**

*Trifles* is a one-act play centering on two women who discover murder clues that county officials regard as trivial. George Cram Cook, founded in **Massachusetts in 1915**.

**Climax**

.....The climax occurs when the two women discover the dead bird,

**Symbols**

**Bird:** Mrs. Wright's spirit.

**Cage:** John Wright's oppression (or immuration) of his wife and her spirit.

**Unevenly Sewn Quilt Block:** Mrs. Wright's disturbed mental condition.

**Rope:** Minnie Wright's usurpation of male power

**Irony**

.....Sheriff Peters and County Attorney George Henderson pride themselves on their powers of detection and logical reasoning. But it is the two women, Mrs. Peters and Mrs. Hale, who discover the clues and establish a motive amid seemingly innocuous items in the Wright home.

**Themes**

**Casting Off Male Oppression**

.....In 1916, when Glaspell wrote *Trifles*, male-dominated society continued to deny women the right to vote and severely limited their opportunities in offices, industries, legislatures, and the marketplace.

The Work	The Writer	Date Publication	Genre	The Poet Birth
<b>Because I Could Not Stop for Death</b>	Emily Dickinson	1890	Poetry	1830-1886
<b>Hope is the Thing with Feathers</b>	Emily Dickinson		Poetry	1830-1886
<b>The Story of an Hour</b>	Kate Chopin	December 6, 1894	Short Story	1851-1904
<b>The Tell-Tale Heart</b>	Edgar Allan Poe	1843	Short Story	1809-1849
<b>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</b>	Mark Twain	between 1876 and 1883	Novel	1835-1910
<b>Trifles</b>	Susan Glaspell	1916	Drama	1876-1948

<b>Captain John Smith</b>	first American author, when he wrote <i>The General Historie of Virginia, New England, and the Summer Isles</i> (1624)
<b>Benjamin Franklin</b>	The first widely read American author whose witty aphorisms and sound advice written in the yearly journal <i>Poor Richard's Almanack</i>
<b>Washington Irving</b>	Washington Irving ( <i>The Legend of Sleepy Hollow</i> ) was the first American to gain an international literary reputation
<b>James Fenimore Cooper's</b>	verbal landscapes in his <i>Leatherstocking Tales</i> captured the nation's vast beauty
<b>Walt Whitman and Emily Dickinson</b>	broke from poetic tradition and brought a sense of individuality to the nation's literature
<b>Mark Twain</b>	still captivates readers with his unique—and uniquely American—humor and insight
<b>Scott Fitzgerald and Ernest</b>	The modernists of the 1920s and 1930s produced such talents as

<b>Hemingway</b>	
<b>Toni Morrison and Cormac McCarthy</b>	continue to make American literature relevant and exciting
<b>Washington Irving &amp; Edgar Allan Poe</b>	With the <a href="#">War of 1812</a> and an increasing desire to produce uniquely American literature and culture, a number of key new literary figures emerged, perhaps most prominently
<b>Washington Irving</b>	considered the first writer to develop a unique American style(although this has been debated) wrote humorous works in <a href="#">Salmagundi</a> and the satire <a href="#">A History of New York, by Diedrich Knickerbocker</a> (1809).
<b>Bryant</b>	wrote early romantic and nature-inspired poetry, which evolved away from their European origins
<b>Poe</b>	In 1832, Poe began writing short stories – including " <a href="#">The Masque of the Red Death</a> ", " <a href="#">The Pit and the Pendulum</a> ", " <a href="#">The Fall of the House of Usher</a> ", and " <a href="#">The Murders in the Rue Morgue</a> " – that explore previously hidden levels of human psychology and push the boundaries of fiction toward <a href="#">mystery</a> and <a href="#">fantasy</a> .

1- Poe, 2- Emerson, 3- Hawthorne	are near perfect representations for <b>Romanticism</b>
Poe's	<b>poetry</b> has that <b>happy, lyrical, and metrical</b> verse. His subjects may be <b>gloomy</b> , but his poems contain <b>sentimentality</b> and <b>supernatural</b> characteristics and are about exploring the <b>human psyche</b> . For example, " <b>The Raven</b> " is about a sleepless narrator who is absolutely haunted by a raven. This man is mourning the death of his lost Lenore and is very melancholy. The <b>raven</b> shows up and makes his perch and will not leave. The man asks questions about grief, but the raven will only answer " <b>nevermore</b> ." This event would never occur in real life, which makes the poem Romantic. The poem also is about exploring the depths of this man's grief
Emerson	is <b>Romantic</b> . Actually he is <b>transcendental</b> , but this can be seen as an <b>offshoot</b> of <b>Romanticism</b> In " <b>Self Reliance</b> ," Emerson espouses the ideas of Transcendentalism. He tells the <b>reader</b> things like the importance of <b>trusting oneself</b>



	and that we don't know everything by <b>knowledge</b> ; some things are learned through <b>experience</b> . "Give All to Love," he also talks of the importance to <b>trusting</b> oneself and giving oneself over to the divine <b>power</b> of love
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<b>Hawthorne's</b>	<b>short stories</b> , these abstract qualities take on a <b>symbolic</b> meaning. In " <b>The Birthmark</b> ," <b>Alymer</b> was so involved in achieving perfection that he ended up <b>killing</b> his <b>wife</b> in the process
<b>Nathaniel Hawthorne</b>	"Young Goodman Brown", "The Scarlet Letter", "The House of Green Gables", one of the anti-romantics.
<b>Edgar Allan Poe</b>	"Narrative of Arthur Gordon Rym", "A Tell Tale Heart", "The Raven", inventor of the American short short, known for his Gothic writings, and viewed the countryside as a phantasm or an illusionary mental image
<b>Washington Irving</b>	"Rip Van Winkle", "Sleepy Hollow", is the father of American Literature, saw the country as a escape from city life, and fought for copyright infringement laws for authors
<b>Walt Whitman</b>	the controversial "Leaves of Grass", "Franklin Evans", one of the bridge poets between American Romanticism and the 20th century. Henry David Thoreau- "Civil Disobedience", he was a practical transcendentalist.
<b>James Fenimore Cooper</b>	"The Last of the Mohicans" and was the father of the American novel. Emily Dickinson- "is My verse...alive", one of the bridge poets between American Romanticism and the 20th century.
<b>1- Henry James 2- Mark Twain</b>	rote fiction devoted to accurate representation and an exploration of American lives in various contexts

Samuel Clemens, fiction	<b>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</b> , * <b>Life on the Mississippi</b> * " <b>Fenimore Cooper's Literary Offenses</b> ", * <b>A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court</b> )
Henry James, fiction	" <u>Daisy Miller</u> ," <i>Portrait of A Lady</i> , <u>The American</u> , <u>The Turn of the Screw</u>
Kate Chopin, fiction	<u>The Awakening</u>
George Washington Cable, fiction	<u>The Grandissimes</u> , <u>Old Creole Days</u>

<b>Emile Zola</b>	The term <b>naturalism</b> was initially coined by Emile - the renowned <b>French</b> author who is also <b>credited</b> as a key figure in the <b>development of French literary naturalism</b>
<b>Herbert Spencer</b> <b>Joseph LeConte</b>	influences on American naturalists
<b>George Becker's</b>	famous and much-annotated and contested phrase, naturalism's philosophical framework can be simply described as "pessimistic materialistic determinism."
<b>Walcutt</b>	says that the naturalistic novel offers "clinical, panoramic, slice-of-life" drama that is often a "chronicle of despair"
<b>1- Kate Chopin; "The Awakening"</b> <b>2- Rebecca Harding Davis</b> <b>3- William Faulkner</b> <b>4- Ernest Hemingway</b>	<b>Practitioners</b>