

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 او المحتوى مهمه جدا

Alliteration – Anaphora - Paradox- Personification

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

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

The Negro Speaks of Rivers
by Langston Hughes

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

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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.

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

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 ومشي 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.

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.