

What were the
implications of the
title of the story

Literature



When you hear the title the unexpected you think what is unexpected. When you read on you are waiting for something to happen, this brings suspense because you are always on the edge of the chair waiting for the 'unexpected'. Before the unexpected thing happens the writer shows the love and compassion between Dorothea and Randall. This is shown by quotes like 'The good bye dragging with lingering kisses and sighs'. This is preparing the reader for the contradiction which is going to happen later.

When Randall leaves at the beginning of the story Dorothea is very upset that he has to go. 'Left his Dorothea', in this you can see that Randall sees Dorothea as his own. 'The parting was bitter', they didnt want to leave each other. The first unexpected thing for the reader is when they read the following 'He did not return at the close of the month; he was delayed by illness'. The reason why this comes unexpected is because the first paragraph creates a cover for the rest of the page. The first paragraph has Randall and Dorothea getting on very well and kissing, they are happy.

This news is the opposite to the first paragraph though because it is very sad news. Another thing which made the illness feel unexpected is because it is in the third paragraph of the story. When you read most stories it takes 2-3 pages to get into the main plot, this story got into the main plot within a couple of paragraphs, you just are not ready for this action. The way that Dorothea looks at Randall when he has his illness is also unexpected. 'She expected to see him ill and wasted; she would not seem shocked; she would not let him see astonishment or pain in her face.'

She was in a quiver of anticipation, a sensuous fever of expectancy till he came', this is how she said she would react when she sees Randall; she does not act like this when she sees him. When she sees him she acts in the following way ' She stared at him as on might look upon a curious apparition', this is unexpected because just before she said she would treat him as if he was not ill. She has gone against everything that she has just said, she has contradicted herself. This was unexpected, the first paragraph gave the impression that their love was not just skin deep, this was not true thought.

Another thing which is unexpected is how much Randall has changed in appearance in the eyes of Dorothea and how now Dorothea can't bare to touch or look at Randall. Dorothea had earlier described Randall as ' an almost perfect specimen of youthful health, strength and manly beauty', she now describes him as the following 'His skin was waxy and hectic, red upon the cheek-bones. His eyes were sunken'. When you heard that he was ill you had never expected the illness to have this affect. Reader the second quote makes you feel you sick, when you imagine what he looks like you think that he must now be very ugly and disgusting.

I think that Dorothea had not expected the illness to take this large affect on him. She cannot even bare to touch him now. 'At the sight and the touch of him something within seemed to be shuddering'. At the beginning of the story when Randall was good looking Dorothea enjoyed kissing and touching Randall, now it just makes her shudder. On page 11 there is something which is unexpected to both Randall and also the reader. This is how Dorothea tries to withdraw from Randall embrace. At the beginning of the <https://assignbuster.com/what-were-the-implications-of-the-title-of-the-story/>

story Randall and Dorothea couldn't get enough of this but now Dorothea no longer wants it to happen.

I think it would be an understatement if I said at the beginning Dorothea and Randall wanted to get married quickly. Well towards the end this changed. This is the main contrition. Her state of mind has now changed, it is like she is a different person. After Randall says that he wants to marry Dorothea as quick as possible, Dorothea replies with a response which you would have never expected at the beginning of the story. She says the following ' She begged him not to think of it, and tried to convince him that it was impossible. She no longer wants to marry him because his looks have changed.

Dorothea sees it later on in the story as if she is fleeing death. Death is a metaphor Randall. She now in her mind sees him as an illness which is trying to get her. Her views are now so different than what they were at the beginning of the story. When Dorothea says that she does not really want to marry Randall, Randall gives a nice incentive to Dorothea if she marries him. This is that he will let her have all his money and positions if he dies (which is quite probable).

This is a piece of black mail. When she thinks about this offer her response is ' Never! She whispered not for all his thousands! Never never! Not for millions' The way I interpreted this is that when she says never for millions, that in fact she is considering it. She is thinking that she may marry him for his millions. This is the big ending, you don't expect this one coming. I

think that ever Dorothea is shocked with herself, how she is considering it.
She cannot bare to say it out loud so she whispers it.