

# Katherine mansfield's...

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Her talent was unique among us. . . . Her work stirs and excites us, and so quietly; it is an expression of the mood in love with life. It has the rare flavor that endures. Beautiful work! John Galsworthy Katherine Mansfield is widely considered one of the best short story writers of her period. A number of her works, including " Miss Brill", " Prelude", " The Garden Party", " The Doll's House", and later works such as " The Fly", are frequently collected in short story anthologies. Mansfield also proved ahead of her time in her adoration of Russian playwright Anton Chekhov, and incorporated some of his themes and techniques into her writing. The fact that Mansfield died relatively young only added to her legacy. One of the stories from one of her latest short story collections " The Dove's Nest", which she wrote shortly after her first hemorrhage, is called " Taking the Veil". It gives the perspective of a character whose story is told in the 3rd person entirely through the young woman's unspoken thoughts and memories. The heroine of the story, 18-year-old Edna suddenly became very unhappy. She thought she loved Jimmy, her boyfriend she knew from since her childhood and moreover they had been engaged for a year, but last night she went to the theatre and fell in love with an actor. She realized that if she did not marry Jimmy she would marry nobody because it would be very odd. Of course the only thing left for her to do is to take the veil. Then she realized as she vividly pictured this future of her, asperity and hardships and then a death in the odor of sanctity that she really did love Jimmy after all. In this story we can observe the very characteristic of Mansfield's style - its objective, impersonal quality. The author doesn't comment upon her personage, she lets us judge for ourselves on her speech, and, of course, on petty details which Mansfield masterly

gives in abundance. In this very story she resorts to a device more common for John Galsworthy's style - inner represented speech. It helps the author to characterize her character from inside. In the story we don't hear the author's voice at all - the story is a kind of uninterrupted monologue spoken by a poor girl trying to take over her feelings. We can clearly see that K. Mansfield fully possesses the art of making a few pages go very far in enabling the reader not only to enter into the most intimate feelings of her heroine but to visualize the most important stages of her life. Several forms of presentation interrelate in this story: first of all, monologue a piece of narration and the description of nature. All the elements of the plot are presented in the story. We can consider the very beginning when Edna realizes she is unhappy as the exposition/introduction, her memories about the actor and Jimmy as the development, and then the tense is increasing till the decision to take the veil, so it's undoubtedly the climax of the story. The last decision of going back to Jimmy is the denouement. The text is written in a dramatic, passionate, very tense and nervous mood as it represents the soul and mind torments of a young girl. The mood is revealed with the help of different stylistic devices and by the means of the inner speech, as we have already mentioned. The monologue prevails so we can assume that the aim of the author was to portray the young soul of a girl. Mansfield reached her aim, because she made us feel like the heroine and experience her torments as we were Edna. She brought the image to life. My attitude to the story is complex, because as a man I'm not very fond of different girls' torments, at first I wasn't very impressed, but after I reread the story several

times I became more and more fascinated by the style of the author and fell in love and suffered with Edna.