

Assignment example

[Linguistics](#), [English](#)



I Stand Here Ironing Point of View and Structure The point of view in which the story is told is from the mother's first person. A remarried woman who is the narrator in the story writes about the ways in which she parented her child known as Emily. The story is about how the woman could have parented the child differently (Olsen 272).

Use of Dialogue

In the story the use of dialogue is seen in different parts with the women or the narrator addressing the audience. The mother is informing a school counsellor or teacher about her daughter's past life (Olsen 273).

Characters

There are different characters involved in the story and they include Emily, Emily's mother, Emily's father, Emily's step father and Susan (Olsen 270).

Use of Symbols and Figurative Language

The narrator in the story uses iron as a symbol. Iron represents Emily's mother responsibility and chores that prevent her from engaging more profoundly with the life of Emily. Emily's mother is concerned with his duties in order to raise Emily and this is ironic because those duties made her to fail in giving the appropriate care to Emily (Olsen 271).

Setting and Atmosphere

The story is set or moves in a long timeframe. It is set in the 1950 but it focuses back in 1930 during the time of great depression and 1940's at the time of the Second World War. The story is also set in the narrator's working class home as she indicates that after birth of their first child they were poor and could not afford to bring up the daughter as required (Olsen 272).

Theme

The themes present in the story include the unspoken burden of motherhood and the nature of guilty. The story shows the role which mothers should perform as expected by the society (Olsen 270).

Plot

In the story, Emily's mother is contacted by her daughter's school counsellor or teacher. She informs him about how her daughter had a trouble life while growing. The difficulties which the mother talks about her daughter include, she was left by her father when 8 years old, She was sent away to live with relatives because her mother was poor and she was sent to a convalescent home and she never enjoyed (Olsen 273).

Work Cited

Olsen Tillie. *Anthology of Short Fiction*. New York: Feminist Press at Cuny, 2003. Print.