

# The white heron by sarah orne jewett essay



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The White Heron by Sarah Orne Jewett was a short story with a passion that resembles that of nature and its wonders.

It speaks of the relationship of man with the environment around it. It was fascinating to hear and remember the feelings and actions of the little girl named Sylvia. It is attainable to feel the emotions of the little girl due to the detailed descriptions that the author has given only to the child. The personal character of the girl was remarkable since the girl's character was the only one that has its emotions and musings. The grandmother's and the young hunter's characters were not elaborated as such.

It was worth noting that although the story is in the third person, the author achieved the feeling that the girl Sylvia was the one who was telling the story such that it felt like a first person story. The narration of the story also gave a proper impression of the setting and the real facts behind it such as the young man's eagerness to hunt a white heron. The white herons were known to be famous hunting games and have become almost extinct because of this. Furthermore, the flow of the story was quite noteworthy. The author has started the story with a slow pace at the beginning of the story with the girl and the cow's way home and climaxed on the girl's fast-paced event of climbing the tree that also mirrored the girl's emotions. It ended slowly again with a shadowy portion which fits the feelings that the author wishes to leave as an impression.

Sometimes, the best way to make a point in a story is by using irony of the very lesson one wishes to impart. One good example is Paul Lawrence Dunbar's Lynching of Jude Benson. To impart the message that racism is a

disease that hinders humankind's development to a more civilized society, this is the theory that was embedded in the story. The author narrates of a man who has taken part in a lynching he himself has initiated.

By the recounting of a barbarous story that reveals the evil that racism may bring, the author makes a point without blatantly uttering the lesson. This was even more emphasized by the setting of the story where the man narrated his lynching with a group of people interested in doing the same thing. As we can see, after the doctor narrated the story, though the author did not explicitly say so, the men who were eager to lynch a black person had learned their lesson. It is quite fascinating how the bitter doctor retold the lynching as if it were happening vividly. Moreover, implicitly, he blamed the education and the impression that was instilled to him in his childhood, that is, racism.

In a very crude way, he learned what racism and inappropriate judgment could cause. What's more persuasive is the fact that to learn such a lesson, he has to lose a lover and a friend at the same time. It speaks of wisdom from experience that jumpy judgments and emotions are not to be trusted. The stories "A Deal in Wheat" by Frank Norris and "Shifts of the Poor" by Theodore Dreiser have one common theme, that is, the large difference of the rich and the poor of society. In both stories, the thesis revolved around the fate of the rich and the poor and the large difference between the two.

It reveals the power that the rich have over the poor and the increasing magnitude of difference between the two classes of people. The two stories narrate in two different settings how the poor become poorer and the rich

become richer. In Dreiser's story, the setting was in an urban place. The stakes are different and the mode of acquiring power is different. The poverty was described by the situation of the ex-manager's life in the streets with hunger and homelessness.

Although he was alone at first and the reader must have despised him through the expressive adjectives the author used, the face of poverty was completed as the author divulge to the reader that the ex-manager was not actually alone in his plight but rather his story was only one of the many stories of poverty. Meanwhile, in Norris's story, the face of poverty was presented by the farmers who have been put to a meager state by the rich people who have controlled the sales of wheat much like a cartel would do. Though the setting ended up in the city, the original setting began in a rural area, unlike that of Dreiser, thus, giving a different view of the existing theme between the stories.