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of the of the Beast in the Jungle The Beast in the Jungle is the story of a man, Marcher who lives his life waiting for some extraordinary fate to befall him. The story revolves around many themes but the most important is the Marcher's failure to appreciate life. Throughout the novella, he seems to be waiting for an impending doom. Measurement, knowledge and appreciation are the key terms associated with the theme of this novella. Marcher did not have any knowledge of the beast that was to pounce on him. Despite this, he waited for something momentous to happen in his life. Even when May, on her deathbed told him had the beast had already struck him, he could not make out what the beast was. He had failed to appreciate the importance of May in his life and did not reciprocate her affection. It was only after her death that he gained knowledge of his fate that he was the only man in the world to whom nothing had ever happened. He realized that he had been wasting his life and the doom that had befallen him was actually the loneliness which he had earned because of his futile anticipations of the unknown beast. Marcher failed to measure the vastness of life and never appreciated its significance. He had wasted his life as he always waited for some extraordinary thing to happen to him while not yearning for any. Had he appreciated the value of his life, he would have been a happy man without having regret as his final abode (James). Works Cited James, Henry. The Beast in the Jungle. CreateSpace, 2011. Print.