

Lather and nothing  
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**ASSIGN  
BUSTER**

Essentially, even though the way of making choices is different from each other, both articles are about achieving a same purpose of choice-? profit, as Marx said, “ All that people fight for are closely related to their interest”.

In both short stories, authors use first person point of view and appropriate foreshadowing to address the writing topic. In Lather and Nothing Else, as the narrator, the barber describes his psychological activities vividly, “ I was secretly a revolutionary, but at the same time I was a conscientious barber, proud of the way I did my job”(Peggy.

Teller), namely defining himself, explains that shaving beards is his job and what he is known for, which foreshadows the decision he makes finally. In The Bicycle, “ The second thing she forbade me to do was ride on a bicycle.

Tanta Rose had hurt herself badly once when she was pitched from a bicycle”(page, Horton), Tanta Rose’s great fear of bicycles affects Hannah directly , it provides a chance for Henna’s treachery psychology grows up and foreshadows the actions Hannah takes after. By defining herself, Tanta firmly believes that bicycles are ungenerous and she has to keep Hannah away from the troubles.

But differently, in Lather and Nothing Else, the barber changes his decision after a long process of struggling and he affects himself directly, while in The Bicycle, Henna’s choice is affected by external factor-? Tang’s fear. Besides, it is obvious that the barber is older than Hannah, and their age also foreshadows the different ways of making decisions.

In terms of symbolism, it appears many times throughout the two stories. In Lather and Nothing Else, the razor is the symbol that represents the power on hand and the barber's situation.

As a tool, the razor has different characteristics. Generally, the razor is used to shave off beards.

In another hand, it is sharp enough to become a lethal weapon and as long as the barber makes a little mistake, the captain will be hurt. As a result, the barber has to decide what to do with the sharp razor. In The Bicycle, it is obvious that the bicycle is the symbol that represents the way to reach freedom, disobey Tang's rules and the desire of a youth. The conflict between Tanta and Hannah appears when Tanta consists of keeping Hannah away from bicycles.

As a result, the bicycle is not a normal vehicle for Hannah any more and it is the object she always wants. Hannah can follow Tang's rules until she grows up, but she wants to be like other kids, and the way to achieve that is breaking rules and riding the bicycle, namely do what she wants.

As for irony in both stories, it plays a significant role. In Lather and Nothing Else, the barber talked to himself, " I'm sure that with a good strong blow, a deep cut, he would feel no pain. He would not suffer at all. And what would do then with the body? Where would I hide it?

I would have to flee, leave all this behind, take shelter far away, very far away"(Peggy, Tillie). He is facing two choices, as one of the rebels, he can kill the captain and become a hero. Otherwise, as a barber, he would be a murderer, coward murderer, and also ruin his reputation, " because I am a

good barber, the best in this town, and I say this in all modesty "(Peggy, Teller).

As a result, considering the profits, even though the barber has an enemy in his shop and the barber can end him to his death easily, the barber makes decisions rationally, he decides toward the right way and does not to kill the captain.

In *The Bicycle*, in order to be like a normal kid, Hannah violates the control of Tanta, and at the end, " Tanta Rose had said one day I would understand how choices were made. Understood as of that moment. I did not go to New York" (page, Horton), Hannah gives up his gifts, gives up the opportunity to become a great pianist and the decision she makes is to protect her own rights and profits.

Besides, as a youth, Henna's way of solving the issue is kind of motional, namely she has a better way to solve it rather than gives up everything she has.