

Kate Chopin, "The Story of an Hour"

- **Applicable fiction terms:** (look for in *Holt* as well, 749-51)
 - allusion (*Bed* 9-10) ambiguity (*Bed* 10-12) simile (*M* 128, *Bed* 370-71)
 - antagonist (*M* 100, 159, *Bed* 14) archetype (*Bed* 23-24)
 - connotation (*M* 127, *Bed* 59-60)
 - controlling image, etc. (*Bed*, under "conceit" 57-58)
 - dialogue (*M* 104, 161, *Bed* 87) diction (*M*127, *Bed* 87)
 - static character
 - dilemma ()
 - explication (*Bed* 115 as "exegesis", 116-17 as "explication de texte")/exposition
 - foreshadowing stereotype ()
 - genre (*M*24, *Bed*146-47) hyperbole (*Bed* 161) stock character (*Bed* 377-78)
 - imagery (*M* 102, 161, *Bed*137-68) initiation () subplot ()

● **Characters:**

● **Dialogue/diction:**

How much of what we know of Louise do we get from her actions, and how much from the third-person narrative voice?

What *ideas* might this story be about? (*themes*)

● **Imagery:**

What verbal images or descriptions seem particularly meaningful in this story?

Do any images *control* or *dominate* in this story? (*controlling image/conceit*)

● **Structure:**

What do you make of the brevity of the story? What does this add/subtract from the story's overall effect?

Does the story rely on elements of metaphor, or of foreshadowing?

• **Themes** (what the story is *about*, not just what *happens* in it [plot]):

• **Symbols/references/etc.:**

What elements work as *symbols* in the story?

What elements work as *metaphors* – of thinking about something by speaking about something different?

What use does Chopin make of *double meanings* or loaded phrases/images?