Charlotte Perkins Gilman, "The Yellow Wall-paper"

●**Applicable fiction terms:** (look for in *Holt* as well, 749-51)

allusion	**ambiguity**	*simile
antagonist	archetype	connotation
controlling image, etc. ("conceit")		
dialogue	diction	static character
dilemma	explication (as "exegesis", "explication de texte")/exposition	
foreshadowing	stereotype	genre
hyperbole	stock character	
imagery	initiation	**subplot**
*motif/leitmotif		*meiosis

●**Characters:**

●**Dialogue/diction:**
Who narrates this story? What do we get from this **point of view**? How compares to /contrasts from other narrators in this section?

●**Setting:**
How does the *setting* influence the narrator's mental state? How does the narrator interact with that setting?

To what other settings do the narrator's surroundings *allude?* What effect do these allusions/associations have on the narrator?

●**Imagery/ *motifs* – this story is *loaded* with it!:**
Besides the wall-paper, what other elements does the narrator focus on? Why?

How does the wallpaper work as a controlling image? (*controlling image/conceit*) How does the narrator describe the wall-paper, and the rest of the room?

What about color in the story – how do color and physical objects interact? How do they build meaning together?

●**<u>Outside material:</u>**
How does the biographical information on pp.588-89 help you read the story? In what ways does that information potentially *limit* how we read the story?

How does immediately dismissing the narrator as "crazy" *limit* our interpretation of the story? Is "craziness" the *cause* or the *effect* in this story?

●**<u>Symbols/references/*motifs/*etc.:</u>**
What elements work as *symbols* in the story? Which ones are repeated often enough to qualify as **motifs?**

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

What use does the story make of *ambiguity? of ambivalence?*

●**<u>Structure:</u>**
 Since this is a first-person narrative, how does the narrator sense *time and space?* How is that reflected in the flow of the narrative?

●**<u>Themes</u> (what the story is *about*, not just what *happens* in it [plot]):**