

Sarah Orne Jewett, “A White Heron”

● **Applicable fiction terms:** (look up in *Bedford Glossary* and *Making Arguments*)

allusion • ambiguity • antagonist • archetype • connotation/denotation • controlling image, etc.
dialogue • dialect • dilemma • diction • explication (explication de texte)/exegesis/exposition
foreshadowing • genre • hyperbole • imagery • initiation • local color • narrator intrusion •
personification/anthropomorphism • point of view (POV) • simile • static character • stereotype • subplot

● **Characters:**

● **Dialogue/diction:**

What sense of the characters do we get from what they say, but also from how Jewett describes them, or what Jewett has the characters do?

What *ideas* might characters represent?

What do you make of the way the *narrator* speaks?

● **Imagery:**

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

Do any images *control* or dominate in this story? (usually through repetition or central placement)

● **Structure:**

Does the story make use of *repetition*?

Does it rely on elements of metaphor, or of foreshadowing?

● **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 about elements of *simile* or comparison?

● **Style:**

From what/whose point of view (POV) is the story told?

How does the narrator tell this story? Through what kind of language?

What do you make of the *narrator intrusions*, places where the narrator stops telling the story and either talks to the characters or to us the readers directly?

Does the story suggest any course of action to the reader?

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

The critical articles on the story in the *Casebook* give some ideas.