

Week 7

Literary Device: Irony

- ✗ Irony
- ✗ Lamb to the Slaughter
- ✗ Alfred Hitchcock Presents
- ✗ Grammar Fails



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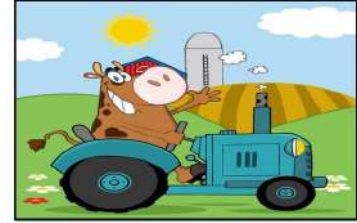


Let's Take a Look

Irony



IRONY



when there is a contrast between what is expected and what actually occurs

Three Types of Irony

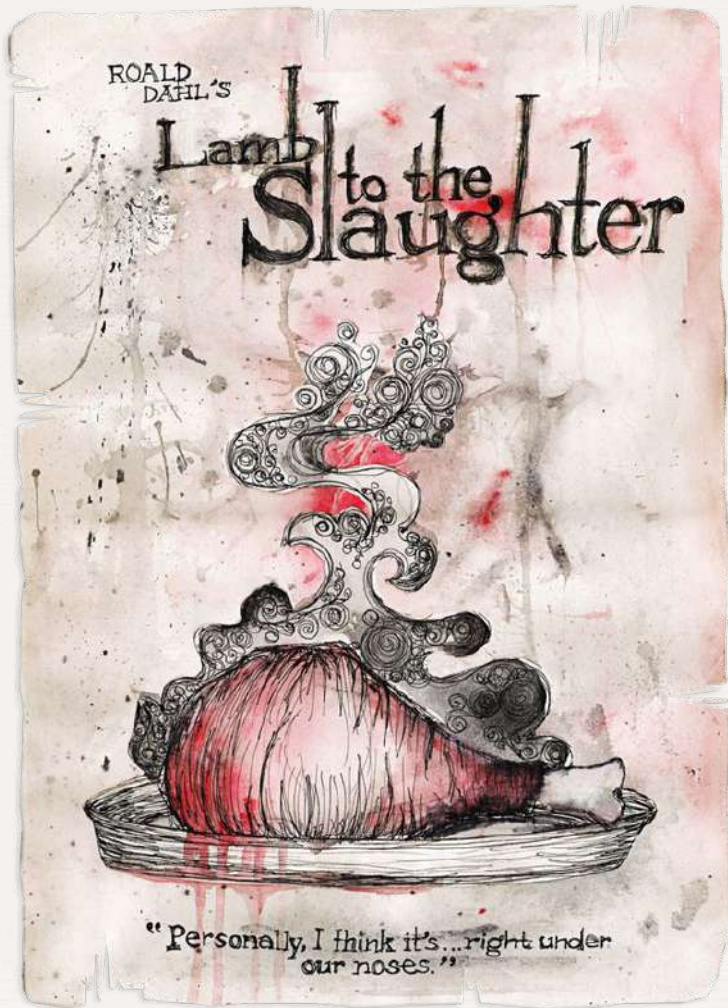
- Verbal
- Dramatic
- Situational

Find the Irony



With each short film, discuss the types of Irony and how it impacts the theme or message the film is trying to convey to the audience.





Let's Read

Together, we will read the story. As we are reading, annotate your copy with different colored highlighters or post-it notes to help you answer each of these questions:

- What type of irony does the author use in this story? Give an example.
- Why is Mary Maloney a dynamic character? Use evidence from the story to support your answer.
- What do you think the theme of this story is? Support your claim.

[Story Link PDF](#)

What type of irony is used in the story?

In the story *Lamb to the Slaughter*, Roald Dahl uses dramatic irony, which occurs when the reader is aware of something that one or more of the characters are not.

Within the story, this dramatic irony occurs when the policemen are eating the leg of lamb (p. 10), served to them by Mrs. Maloney, the wife of a dead cop whose murder they have come to investigate.

The reader is aware that the leg of lamb is the murder weapon and it would implicate Mrs. Maloney in her husband's death, but the policemen are not. They are eating and destroying the evidence which they note is probably "right under our noses."

Claim

Evidence

Reason



Why is Mary a dynamic character?

Mary is a dynamic character because of the significant change that her character undergoes in the story. Although Mary plays the role of the traditional obedient and loving housewife who does everything for her husband, this version of her is shattered with the news that her husband is leaving her alone and pregnant, turning her into a manipulative murderer.

Claim

Evidence

Reason

While the act of killing her husband was based on emotions, we quickly learn that there is far more to Mary than we initially see. In the beginning, the author says Mary “loved to luxuriate in the presence of this man” and shows her serving her husband as a traditional housewife would when he returns home from work (pg. 2). In this way, Mary is timid and obedient to her husband.

After the murder, she becomes incredibly logical, cunning, and clever in covering up her crime and manages to outwit many experienced investigators. On pages 10-11, Mary cooks and serves the murder weapon—a leg of lamb—to the officers, ensuring it will never be found. In fact, the officers state that the key to solving the crime is likely “right under our noses.” Mary uses her cooking skills to ensure she will never be caught for her crime.

When Mary finally giggles, we see that she has made a complete transformation from serene and calm to murderous and callous, making her a dynamic character.



What is the theme of the story?

Claim

Evidence

Reason

The killing of Mr. Maloney was not that of an evil woman, but a crime of passion carried out in the heat of the moment by a pregnant woman seeking only to protect her unborn child. With that single act, Mrs. Maloney gained her independence and freedom during a time when women's lives were subservient to men and their identities tied to their husbands.

In the beginning, Mrs. Maloney defines herself by her husband and lives her life for him. She spends her day watching the clock “merely to please herself with the thought that each minute gone by made it nearer the time when he would come.” (p. 1). As a result, she does not have an identity independent of him and relies on him for her housing, clothing, and finances.

When Mr. Maloney tells his wife he is leaving her, that he will divorce her and abandon her and their unborn child, Mary suddenly finds herself without an identity. The author states that Mary was “watching him with a kind of dazed horror as he went further and further away from her with each word” as her husband tells her the news (p. 4). Mary transforms from happiness and complete devotion for her husband to confused and shocked after the news. She is no longer in control of herself or who she really is.

When Mary commits murder, she is on autopilot, as the text states “everything was automatic now” and covers everything up in order to protect herself and her child. By giggling at the end, Mary has finally realized her freedom. She has destroyed the murder weapon, given herself an alibi, and will be able to provide a comfortable life for her child on her own terms.



Lamb to the Slaughter

Alfred Hitchcock Presents

Sir Alfred Hitchcock was an English film director and producer widely regarded as one of the most influential figures in the history of cinema. Known as the “**Master of Suspense**” he makes a cameo in most of his films. Some of his most famous are *Dial M for Murder*, *Psycho*, *North by Northwest*, *Vertigo*, *Rear Window*, *To Catch a Thief*, and *The Birds*.



[Click here to watch video](#)




Grammar Fails

And Other Horrible Insults to the English Language

Each week, we will shame these Darwin winners with their unique understanding of the English language.






Driver: “How’s your night going?”

Passenger: “I just forgot the word for penguin on a first date. I called it a ‘waddly cold bird’ so...not great.”

@overhearduber



did you go to the liquid zoo

7:45 PM

where you can walk inside

7:45 PM

u mean aquarium yes.

7:45 PM ✓✓

it's a fluid aquarium not a liquid
zoo

7:45 PM ✓✓

ok fluid i forgot



Michael 🏳️‍🌈

@Home_Halfway

Forgot Ron Weasley's name earlier so I called him "Magic Ed Sheeran."



bff2sweet

do u ever get like water hungry...



pitsu-pitsu

Thirsty?



analmals

water hungry