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Normalisation and its types

May 28, 2020 by Essay WriterThe short story ‘A Rose for Emily’ by William Faulkner and ‘Hills Like White Elephants’ by Ernest Hemingway are not comparable when it comes to the plots of the stories, but both stories have many similarities. Both stories have women characters with tragic occurrences. The women, Emily from ‘A Rose for Emily’ and Jig from ‘Hills Like White Elephants’ consume leading roles and have or had the strong influence of a dominant male, which sculpted their life. Emily and Jig are also isolated, Emily who isolates herself from her community and Jig who feels isolated by ‘The American’s’ feelings towards her pregnancy.Both stories also deal with murder, although not in the same sense. In ‘Hills Like White Elephants’ Jig is having a conversation with the American about having an abortion, and in ‘A Rose for Emily’ Emily murders her lover Homer. These two stories situations could not be more different; however, the tragedies are equally frightening. The tragedies in ‘A Rose for Emily’ come down to the fact that Miss Emily Grierson lived a life of turmoil. Her whole life could be described in loneliness and death. Emily is confined to her home by self-imprisonment after what some may call a blind devotion to her father, her lover and her home. Emily's childhood was dominated by a controlling father. Her upbringing was severely oppressed, and she was unable to socialize as a young woman. Her father felt her to be too good for her class and she was under constant supervision to avoid her from seeing anyone which may lead to Emily's mental health. Her neighbors disregarard her inability to get her father after his death, despite the delicacy of her being, caused for her madness to fester. “She told them her father was not dead. For three days she did this. We did not say she was crazy then. We believed she had to do that.” (Faulkner.311). Their negligence of all the warning signs; even after her lover vanished, the deterioration of her home, and Miss Emily's inability to accept reality serves as the most prevailing form of repression in this story. Emily then started seeing a man named Homer. But the community of Jefferson being extremely judgmental, believed that she was forgetting her ‘noblesse oblige’ and accused her of setting a bad example for the younger generation. These harsh words from the town people and unwillingness to accept their relationship, which may have influenced Homers decision to leave Jefferson, may be one reason that Emily killed her lover, Homer. Leading Emily to live in solitude for thirty years until her death.In the story ‘Hills Like White Elephants’ the tragedy is the conversation that Jig and the American are having. They are sitting at a train station in Spain, as the American attempts to talk Jig into getting an abortion. “The American” says, “That’s the only thing that bothers us. It’s the only thing that’s made us unhappy.” (Hemingway 115) which unequivocally shows that the center of conflict inside of their relationship is the presumed pregnancy. Jig is faced with the choice of her freedom or taking the responsibility of becoming a mother. Choosing her freedom would be the death of the unborn child but choosing motherhood would be the death of everything she loves in her life at that moment.As the American is doing his best to make her see his side of things without an open mind. Although he does state that he won’t force her to have the operation but believes that it would be best for them. Thus, making this even harder on Jig. She wonders if they could really be happy if she does have the operation. They continue to have the conversation/ argue until Jig gets tired and makes the American promise to stop talking. These two stories are completely different but have many similarities.The difference is that Emily reflects this personality issue through grief, hostility and violence and Jig does so in a happily manner; she’s much more open about it and almost seems careles. Together they both have some me or compassion whether it would be a more convincing man who wants Jig to have an abortion or Emily case who dead Homer who she keeps as a pet. The story opens–surprise, surprise–with a description of some white hills. We also get a view of the river Ebro, all seen from a train station. An American man and a woman are having some beers outside the station bar as they wait for the train from Barcelona to Madrid.Sounds fun and peaceful, right? Eh—not so much.As the couple drinks, the woman tells that man that the hills in the distance remind her of (yup) “white elephants.” This sparks a little argument between them, which the woman sidesteps by pointing out that something has been painted on the beaded curtain that hangs over the doorway of the bar. The painting advertises a liquor called Anís del Toro, which they decide to try.Their conversation remains tense, and soon the man begins trying to convince the woman, Jig, to have an abortion—but only, he says, if she wants to. She wants to know if this will solve their problems, and get their relationship back on track. He tells her that their relationship is on track, but that he’s distracted because of his “worry” over the pregnancy. She agrees to have the abortion, but says she is only agreeing because she no longer cares about herself. The man says she shouldn’t do it for that reason, which; yes...but he’s hardly getting a “world’s best boyfriend” award for that one.She expresses despair over the situation and a feeling that all is now lost. The man tries to reassure her that this isn’t the case, and finally tells her (without actually saying it) that he is willing to marry her...but makes it clear he would prefer that she have the abortion. (Definitely no “boyfriend of the year” award.)She becomes anxious and asks him to stop talking. He responds by saying he doesn’t want her to have the abortion if she doesn’t want it. Jig threatens to scream.The woman who has been serving their drinks tells them that the train will soon arrive, and the man gets up and takes their luggage over to the train stop. Then he goes into the bar and has another Anís del Toro. When he gets back to Jig, sitting at the table outside, she gives him a smile. He asks her if she “feels” better,” and she responds by insinuating she never felt bad in the first place. And that’s the end of the story. 1. Hills Like White Elephants “Hills Like White Elephants” is a short story by Ernest Hemingway. It was first published in August 1927, in the literary magazine transition, then later in the 1927 short story collection Men Without Women.[1] Plot summary The story takes place at a train station in the Ebro River valley of Spain. This particular day is oppressively hot and dry, and the scenery in the valley is barren and ugly for the most part. The two main characters are a man (referred to only as “the American”) and his female companion, whom he refers to as “Jig”. While waiting for the train to Madrid, the American and the girl with him drink beer and a liquor called Anís del Toro, which the girl compares to liquorice. Their conversation is mundane at first, but quickly drifts to the subject of an operation the American is attempting to convince the girl to undergo. Though it is never made explicit in the text, it is made clear (through phrases of dialogue such as, “It’s just to let the air in,” and, “But I don’t want anybody but you”, among numerous context clues) that the girl is pregnant and the procedure in question is an abortion. After posing arguments to which the American is largely unresponsive, the girl assents to the operation, while saying: “I don’t care about me.” However, he then responds, “You’ve got to realize that I don’t want you to do it if you don’t want to.” He continues, “I’m perfectly willing to go through with it if it means anything to you.” She attempts to drop the subject, but the American persists as if still unsure of the girl’s intentions and mental state. She insists, “Would you please please... please stop talking?” He is silent a while, and repeats, “But I don’t want you to,” adding, “I don’t care anything about it.” She interjects, “I’ll scream.” The barmaid comes out through the beaded curtains with two glasses of beer and puts them down on the felt pads. She notes, “The train comes in five minutes.” The girl was distracted, but then smiles brightly at the woman and thanks her. The American leaves the table and carries their bags to the opping platform, but the girl is still no sight of the train in the distance. He walks back through the station, and everyone else is still waiting reasonably for the train. Pausing at the bar, he drinks another Anís, alone, before rejecting the girl’s attempt to sit with white elephants, but the hyper-rational male immediately denies it, “I feel fine. There’s nothing wrong with me. I feel fine.” The story ends. Symbolism and setting The girl’s reference to white elephants could be in regards to the baby. The American could see the baby as a white elephant and does not want to raise it because of the cost, while the girl could see the child as an extraordinary addition to her mundane life of drinking and mindless traveling.[2] ‘Hills Like White Elephants’ shows Hemingway’s use of iceberg theory or theory of omission: a message is presented through the story’s subtext; for instance, in the story the word “abortion” is never mentioned, although the male character seems to be attempting to convince his girlfriend to have an abortion. [3] The symbolism of the hills and the big white elephant can be thought of as the images of a pregnant woman’s swollen breasts and abdomen, and the prenatal dread of the mother of the future Buddha in which a white elephant appears in her (in this case, as a symbol of prestigious leadership).[4] Apart from the hills, other parts of the setting provide symbolism which expresses the tension and conflict surrounding the couple. The train tracks form a dividing line between the barren expanse of 2. land stretching toward the hills on one side and the green, fertile farmland on the other, symbolizing the choice faced by each of the main characters and their differing interpretations of the dilemma of pregnancy. The girl focuses on the landscape during the conversation, rarely making eye contact with the American.[5] Dialogue “They look like white elephants,” she said. “I’ve never seen one,” the man drank his beer. “No, you wouldn’t have.” “I might have,” the man said. “Just because you say I wouldn’t have doesn’t prove anything.” The girl looked at the bead curtain. “They’ve painted something on it,” she said. “What does it say?” “Anís del Toro. It’s a drink.” “Could we try it?” The reader must interpret their dialogue and body language to infer their backgrounds and their attitudes with respect to the situation at hand, and their attitudes toward one another. From the outset of the story, the contrast between the couple’s conversational styles into his own fiction writing. Hemingway was a writer who wrote in a terse, direct style. He was a member of the Red Cross and he worked as an ambulance driver in Europe during World War I. The bartender. 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