

**Sample 2: Response Paper on Story of an Hour (pdf)**

The story, "Story of an Hour" by Kate Chopin is a prime example of symbolism.

The story begins when the main character's husband has died and goes into detail about how much his wife loved him and was truly hurt by his death. She describes her emotions as seeing him in the casket and not being able to touch him because he looked so lifeless. She wanted to hold on to her last memory of him alive, instead of thinking that she was never going to see him again. When she hears that he has died in a train crash, she thinks about all of the things they planned on doing together as a couple and how it is such a shame that those plans will now not come true for them. She is also upset that she was not there to see him before he died, but instead he had been taken away from her.

The reason this story is considered a prime example of symbolism is because of how it is clear that the character does not want anything bad to happen to her husband, but at the same time she also realizes that they cannot be together anymore and it is just too sad for them both. She begins feeling very emotional when she starts thinking about all of their future plans together and how they will never come true now. It would almost seem as if she is relieved by his death

because it allows them to live two different lives since they can no longer continue on together in life.

Here's my response:

When I read this story, I was confused. At first, it seems like the woman is upset by her husband's death because she won't be able to have future plans with him anymore. However, when she hears that he died in a train crash, she becomes relieved and starts thinking about their future together that will never happen now. It feels as if she doesn't want anything bad to happen to him but also wants him gone so they can live different lives.

I think the author did an excellent job portraying symbolism through this story; however, I feel like it could use more details or explanations on what exactly the characters are thinking and feeling during certain scenes. Other than that though, I give this article 5/5 stars! Great work!