

The Lottery Commonlit

COMMONLIT

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THE LOTTERY

by Shirley Jackson • 1948

FONT SIZE A A A A

Shirley Jackson (1916-1963) was an American writer whose writing was popular during her life and continues to be studied by literary critics today. In Jackson's most well-known short story, "The Lottery," a town participates in an annual ritual. Good morning, class! As you read "The Lottery," I want you to analyze the mood of the story. Using the annotation tool, jot at least 1 note about the mood after every 10 paragraphs of the text. As you read, also analyze how the mood changes throughout the story.

[1] The morning of June 27th was clear and sunny, with the fresh warmth of a full-summer day; the flowers were blossoming profusely [2] and the grass was richly green. The people of the village began to gather in the square, between the post office and the bank, around ten o'clock; in some towns there were so many people that the lottery took two days and had to be started on June 28th, but in this village, where there were only about three hundred people, the whole lottery took less than two hours, so it could begin at ten o'clock in the morning and still be through in time to allow the villagers to get home for noon dinner.



"The Color 'Yellow' got round" by Bernard Sengul. All rights reserved.

The children assembled first, of course. School was recently over for the summer, and the feeling of liberty sat uneasily on most of them; they tended to gather together quietly for a while before they broke into boisterous [3] play, and their talk was still of the classroom and the teacher, of books and reprimands. [4] Bobby Martin had already stuffed his pockets full of stones, and the other boys soon followed his example, selecting the smoothest and roundest stones; Bobby and Harry Jones and Dickie Delacroix – the villagers pronounced this name "DeLacroy" – eventually made a great pile of stones in one corner of the square and guarded it against the raids [5] of the other boys. The girls stood aside, talking among themselves, looking over their shoulders at the boys, and the very small children rolled in the dust or clung to the hands of their older brothers or sisters.

Soon the men began to gather, surveying their own children, speaking of planting and rain, tractors and taxes. They stood together, away from the pile of stones in the corner, and their jokes were quiet and they smiled rather than laughed. The women, wearing faded house-dresses and sweaters, came shortly after

ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS

1. The description of the lottery in paragraph 1 is meant to make the reader feel --

- ☐ A. suspicious about the true meaning of the lottery.
- ☒ B. that the lottery is a pleasant tradition.
- ☐ C. certain something bad will happen.
- ☐ D. that the lottery is very important.

SAVE & NEXT

The Lottery CommonLit: A Deep Dive into Shirley Jackson's Classic Tale

The chilling short story, "The Lottery," by Shirley Jackson, remains a staple in literature classrooms worldwide. Its shocking conclusion and exploration of blindly followed tradition continue to spark intense debate and analysis. This comprehensive guide dives deep into "The Lottery" as presented by CommonLit, exploring its themes, symbolism, characters, and enduring relevance in contemporary society. We'll provide you with key insights to enhance your understanding and improve your analysis of this powerful work.

Understanding the Context: "The Lottery" on CommonLit

CommonLit, a valuable educational resource, often includes "The Lottery" in its curated collection. This platform provides the text, along with various tools designed to facilitate comprehension and critical thinking. Using CommonLit as a starting point, this post aims to offer a more in-depth analysis beyond the basic reading comprehension. We'll explore the underlying messages and nuances that make "The Lottery" such a potent and enduring piece of literature.

Exploring the Key Themes of "The Lottery"

The Dangers of Blind Conformity

Jackson masterfully illustrates the dangers of blindly following tradition without questioning its morality. The villagers, year after year, participate in the lottery without considering the inherent cruelty of the ritual. Their unquestioning obedience highlights the fragility of individual conscience when faced with societal pressure. This theme resonates powerfully even today, prompting reflections on unquestioned authority and the importance of critical thinking.

The Nature of Evil and Violence

The story's shocking climax underscores the casual cruelty that can emerge from seemingly ordinary people. The seemingly pleasant village setting starkly contrasts with the brutal act of stoning. This juxtaposition forces readers to confront the insidious nature of evil and its potential to reside within seemingly normal communities. It challenges the assumption that violence is always associated with outwardly malicious individuals.

Tradition vs. Progress

The lottery itself symbolizes the conflict between outdated traditions and the potential for progress. The villagers' stubborn adherence to the ritual, despite its horrific consequences, highlights the inertia of societal change and the challenges of questioning established norms. This conflict resonates with contemporary debates surrounding tradition and the adoption of new ideas.

The Power of Social Pressure

The villagers' actions, particularly their collective participation in the stoning, demonstrate the overwhelming power of social pressure. Individuals are compelled to conform to the group's actions, even when those actions violate their own moral compass. This exploration of groupthink and its influence on individual behavior remains incredibly pertinent in today's interconnected world.

Symbolism and Imagery in "The Lottery"

The story is rich with potent symbols and imagery that deepen its meaning:

The Black Box:

Represents the outdated and decaying nature of the tradition, mirroring the villagers' unwillingness

to change. Its worn condition suggests a long history of unquestioned acceptance.

The Stones:

Symbolize the collective violence and the villagers' complicity in Tessie Hutchinson's death. The seemingly ordinary stones become instruments of brutal, communal violence.

The Setting:

The idyllic village setting creates a stark contrast with the horrific event, highlighting the shocking juxtaposition of seemingly normal life and brutal violence. This contrast enhances the story's overall impact.

Character Analysis: Understanding Tessie Hutchinson

Tessie Hutchinson, the story's protagonist, is a complex character. While initially appearing as an ordinary villager, her late arrival and protest against the lottery reveal a selfish disregard for the tradition, only to her detriment. This late protest, after years of participation, highlights the inherent hypocrisy of those who only object when directly affected. Her fate underscores the indiscriminate nature of the tradition and the arbitrary selection process.

The Enduring Relevance of "The Lottery"

"The Lottery" continues to resonate with readers today because its themes are timeless. The story serves as a cautionary tale about the dangers of blind conformity, the insidious nature of evil, and the importance of questioning established norms. Its impact lies in its ability to provoke thought and discussion about societal pressures, the nature of tradition, and the potential for violence within seemingly ordinary communities. CommonLit's inclusion of this story ensures that its vital message remains accessible to new generations of readers.

Conclusion

"The Lottery" by Shirley Jackson, as presented through CommonLit, is more than just a short story; it's a powerful exploration of human nature and the dangers of unquestioned tradition. By examining its themes, symbolism, and characters, we can gain a deeper understanding of its enduring relevance and its profound impact on readers. The story compels us to confront uncomfortable truths about ourselves and our societies, prompting critical reflection and encouraging a more conscious engagement with the world around us.

FAQs

1. What is the main conflict in "The Lottery"? The main conflict is between the established tradition of the lottery and Tessie Hutchinson's desperate attempt to avoid her fate after initially accepting it. It's also a conflict between blind conformity and individual conscience.
2. What is the significance of the lottery's annual occurrence? The annual nature of the lottery reinforces the cyclical and seemingly inescapable nature of the tradition, highlighting its enduring hold on the community despite its brutality.
3. How does the setting contribute to the story's impact? The idyllic, seemingly peaceful village setting creates a stark contrast with the shocking violence of the lottery, amplifying the story's unsettling effect on the reader.
4. What is the symbolism of the black box? The black box symbolizes the decaying and outdated nature of the tradition itself, reflecting the villagers' unwillingness to modernize or question their customs.
5. What makes "The Lottery" a relevant story today? The story remains relevant due to its exploration of themes such as blind conformity, the power of social pressure, and the insidious nature of violence, all of which continue to be relevant societal issues.

the lottery commonlit: The Lottery Shirley Jackson, 2008 A seemingly ordinary village participates in a yearly lottery to determine a sacrificial victim.

the lottery commonlit: Let Me Tell You Shirley Jackson, 2015-08-04 NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY NPR • From the renowned author of "The Lottery" and *The Haunting of Hill House*, a spectacular volume of previously unpublished and uncollected stories, essays, and other writings. Features "Family Treasures," nominated for the Edgar Award for Best Short Story Shirley Jackson is one of the most important American writers of the last hundred years. Since her death in 1965, her place in the landscape of twentieth-century fiction has grown only more exalted. As we approach the centenary of her birth comes this astonishing compilation of fifty-six pieces—more than forty of which have never been published before. Two of Jackson's children co-edited this volume, culling through the vast archives of their mother's papers at the Library of Congress, selecting only the very best for inclusion. *Let Me Tell You* brings together the deliciously eerie short stories Jackson is best known for, along with frank, inspiring lectures on writing; comic essays about her large, boisterous family; and whimsical drawings. Jackson's landscape here is most frequently domestic: dinner parties and bridge, household budgets and homeward-bound commutes, children's games and neighborly gossip. But this familiar setting is also her most subversive: She wields humor, terror, and the uncanny to explore the real challenges of marriage, parenting, and community—the pressure of social norms, the veins of distrust in love, the constant lack of time and space. For the first time, this collection showcases Shirley Jackson's radically different modes of writing side by side. Together they show her to be a magnificent storyteller, a sharp, sly humorist, and a powerful feminist. This volume includes a Foreword by the celebrated literary critic and Jackson biographer Ruth Franklin. Praise for *Let Me Tell You* "Stunning."—O: The Oprah Magazine "Let us now—at last—celebrate dangerous women writers: how cheering to see justice done with [this collection of] Shirley Jackson's heretofore unpublished works—uniquely unsettling stories and ruthlessly barbed essays on domestic life."—Vanity Fair "Feels like an uncanny dollhouse: Everything perfectly rendered, but something deliciously not quite right."—NPR "There are . . .

times in reading [Jackson's] accounts of desperate women in their thirties slowly going crazy that she seems an American Jean Rhys, other times when she rivals even Flannery O'Connor in her cool depictions of inhumanity and insidious cruelty, and still others when she matches Philip K. Dick at his most hallucinatory. At her best, though, she's just incomparable."—The Washington Post "Offers insights into the vagaries of [Jackson's] mind, which was ruminant and generous, accommodating such diverse figures as Dr. Seuss and Samuel Richardson."—The New York Times Book Review "The best pieces clutch your throat, gently at first, and then with growing strength. . . . The whole collection has a timelessness."—The Boston Globe "[Jackson's] writing, both fiction and nonfiction, has such enduring power—she brings out the darkness in life, the poltergeists shut into everyone's basement, and offers them up, bringing wit and even joy to the examination."—USA Today "The closest we can get to sitting down and having a conversation with . . . one of the most original voices of her generation."—The Huffington Post

the lottery commonlit: The Most Dangerous Game Richard Connell, 2023-02-23 Sanger Rainsford is a big-game hunter, who finds himself washed up on an island owned by the eccentric General Zaroff. Zaroff, a big-game hunter himself, has heard of Rainsford's abilities with a gun and organises a hunt. However, they're not after animals – they're after people. When he protests, Rainsford the hunter becomes Rainsford the hunted. Sharing similarities with The Hunger Games, starring Jennifer Lawrence, this is the story that created the template for pitting man against man. Born in New York, Richard Connell (1893 – 1949) went on to become an acclaimed author, screenwriter, and journalist. He is best remembered for the gripping novel *The Most Dangerous Game* and for receiving an Oscar nomination for the screenplay *Meet John Doe*.

the lottery commonlit: Summer Ball Mike Lupica, 2007-05-15 The sequel to the #1 New York Times bestseller *Travel Team!* When you're the smallest kid playing a big man's game, the challenges never stop—especially when your name is Danny Walker. Leading your travel team to the national championship may seem like a dream come true, but for Danny, being at the top just means the competition tries that much harder to knock him off. Now Danny's leaving Middletown for the summer and heading to Right Way basketball camp, where he's out of his element and maybe out of his league. The country's best ballers are in attendance, and Danny will need to raise his game if he wants to match up. But it won't be easy. Old rivals and new battles leave Danny wondering if he really has what it takes to stand tall. "Lupica is at his best when he puts the reader right in the center of the action on the court. His game descriptions are fast, accurate, and exciting. Young sports-fiction fans will eat this up." –Booklist "Sports fans will relish the on-court action, expertly rendered in Lupica's taut prose. This worthy sequel to *Travel Team* should earn a wide audience." –School Library Journal "Lupica knows his basketball and knows how to spin a page-turner of a story. Those who enjoyed the first installment of Danny's story will be thrilled to read a sequel, and even those middle school readers who are not huge sports fans will want to cheer for Danny Walker, who proves that determination can be a whole lot bigger than height." –VOYA

the lottery commonlit: I Will Always Write Back Martin Ganda, Caitlin Alifirenka, 2015-04-14 The New York Times bestselling true story of an all-American girl and a boy from Zimbabwe and the letter that changed both of their lives forever. It started as an assignment... Everyone in Caitlin's class wrote to an unknown student somewhere in a distant place. Martin was lucky to even receive a pen-pal letter. There were only ten letters, and fifty kids in his class. But he was the top student, so he got the first one. That letter was the beginning of a correspondence that spanned six years and changed two lives. In this compelling dual memoir, Caitlin and Martin recount how they became best friends—and better people—through their long-distance exchange. Their story will inspire you to look beyond your own life and wonder about the world at large and your place in it.

the lottery commonlit: A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings Gabriel García Márquez, 2014 Strange, wondrous things happen in these two short stories, which are both the perfect introduction to Gabriel García Márquez, and a wonderful read for anyone who loves the magic and marvels of his novels. After days of rain, a couple find an old man with huge wings in their courtyard in 'A Very Old

Man with Enormous Wings' - but is he an angel? Accompanying 'A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings' is the short story 'The Sea of Lost Time', in which a seaside town is brought back to life by a curious smell of roses.

the lottery commonlit: *Puerto Rican Obituary* Pedro Pietri, 1973-01-01

the lottery commonlit: The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas Ursula K. Le Guin, 2017-02-14 "Ursula Le Guin is more than just a writer of adult fantasy and science fiction . . . she is a philosopher; an explorer in the landscapes of the mind." – Cincinnati Enquirer The recipient of numerous literary prizes, including the National Book Award, the Kafka Award, and the Pushcart Prize, Ursula K. Le Guin is renowned for her spare, elegant prose, rich characterization, and diverse worlds. *The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas* is a short story originally published in the collection *The Wind's Twelve Quarters*.

the lottery commonlit: *The Lottery and Other Stories* Shirley Jackson, 1991

the lottery commonlit: The Things They Carried Tim O'Brien, 2009-10-13 A classic work of American literature that has not stopped changing minds and lives since it burst onto the literary scene, *The Things They Carried* is a ground-breaking meditation on war, memory, imagination, and the redemptive power of storytelling. *The Things They Carried* depicts the men of Alpha Company: Jimmy Cross, Henry Dobbins, Rat Kiley, Mitchell Sanders, Norman Bowker, Kiowa, and the character Tim O'Brien, who has survived his tour in Vietnam to become a father and writer at the age of forty-three. Taught everywhere—from high school classrooms to graduate seminars in creative writing—it has become required reading for any American and continues to challenge readers in their perceptions of fact and fiction, war and peace, courage and fear and longing. *The Things They Carried* won France's prestigious Prix du Meilleur Livre Etranger and the Chicago Tribune Heartland Prize; it was also a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award.

the lottery commonlit: *Understanding by Design* Grant P. Wiggins, Jay McTighe, 2005 What is understanding and how does it differ from knowledge? How can we determine the big ideas worth understanding? Why is understanding an important teaching goal, and how do we know when students have attained it? How can we create a rigorous and engaging curriculum that focuses on understanding and leads to improved student performance in today's high-stakes, standards-based environment? Authors Grant Wiggins and Jay McTighe answer these and many other questions in this second edition of *Understanding by Design*. Drawing on feedback from thousands of educators around the world who have used the UbD framework since its introduction in 1998, the authors have greatly revised and expanded their original work to guide educators across the K-16 spectrum in the design of curriculum, assessment, and instruction. With an improved UbD Template at its core, the book explains the rationale of backward design and explores in greater depth the meaning of such key ideas as essential questions and transfer tasks. Readers will learn why the familiar coverage- and activity-based approaches to curriculum design fall short, and how a focus on the six facets of understanding can enrich student learning. With an expanded array of practical strategies, tools, and examples from all subject areas, the book demonstrates how the research-based principles of *Understanding by Design* apply to district frameworks as well as to individual units of curriculum. Combining provocative ideas, thoughtful analysis, and tested approaches, this new edition of *Understanding by Design* offers teacher-designers a clear path to the creation of curriculum that ensures better learning and a more stimulating experience for students and teachers alike.

the lottery commonlit: The House on Mango Street Sandra Cisneros, 2013-04-30 NATIONAL BESTSELLER • A coming-of-age classic about a young girl growing up in Chicago • Acclaimed by critics, beloved by readers of all ages, taught in schools and universities alike, and translated around the world—from the winner of the 2019 PEN/Nabokov Award for Achievement in International Literature. "Cisneros draws on her rich [Latino] heritage...and seduces with precise, spare prose, creat[ing] unforgettable characters we want to lift off the page. She is not only a gifted writer, but an absolutely essential one." —The New York Times Book Review *The House on Mango Street* is one of the most cherished novels of the last fifty years. Readers from all walks of life have fallen for the

voice of Esperanza Cordero, growing up in Chicago and inventing for herself who and what she will become. "In English my name means hope," she says. "In Spanish it means too many letters. It means sadness, it means waiting. Told in a series of vignettes—sometimes heartbreaking, sometimes joyous—Cisneros's masterpiece is a classic story of childhood and self-discovery and one of the greatest neighborhood novels of all time. Like Sinclair Lewis's *Main Street* or Toni Morrison's *Sula*, it makes a world through people and their voices, and it does so in language that is poetic and direct. This gorgeous coming-of-age novel is a celebration of the power of telling one's story and of being proud of where you're from.

the lottery commonlit: The Witch Shirley Jackson, 2014-03-06 A terrifying short story from Shirley Jackson, the master of the macabre tale. Shirley Jackson's chilling tales of creeping unease and random cruelty have the power to unsettle and terrify unlike any other. When her story *The Lottery* was first published in *The New Yorker* in 1948, readers were so horrified they sent her hate mail. It became known as one of the greatest short stories ever written. Have you read her yet? 'Shirley Jackson's stories are among the most terrifying ever written' Donna Tartt 'An amazing writer ... if you haven't read any of her short stories ... you have missed out on something marvellous' Neil Gaiman 'Her stories are stunning, timeless - as relevant and terrifying now as when they were first published ... 'The Lottery' is so much an icon in the history of the American short story that one could argue it has moved from the canon of American twentieth-century fiction directly into the American psyche, our collective unconscious' A. M. Homes Shirley Jackson was born in California in 1916. When her short story *The Lottery* was first published in *The New Yorker* in 1948, readers were so horrified they sent her hate mail; it has since become one of the greatest American stories of all time. Her first novel, *The Road Through the Wall*, was published in the same year and was followed by five more: *Hangsamen*, *The Bird's Nest*, *The Sundial*, *The Haunting of Hill House* and *We Have Always Lived in the Castle*, widely seen as her masterpiece. Shirley Jackson died in her sleep at the age of 48.

the lottery commonlit: The Yellow Wall-Paper Charlotte Perkins Gilman, 2024-03-21 She has just given birth to their child. He labels her postpartum depression as »hysteria.« He rents the attic in an old country house. Here, she is to rest alone – forbidden to leave her room. Instead of improving, she starts hallucinating, imagining herself crawling with other women behind the room's yellow wallpaper. And secretly, she records her experiences. *The Yellow Wall-Paper* [1892] is the short but intense, Gothic horror story, written as a diary, about a woman in an attic – imprisoned in her gender; by the story. Charlotte Perkins Gilman's feminist novella was long overlooked in American literary history. Nowadays, it is counted among the classics. CHARLOTTE PERKINS GILMAN (1860-1935), born in Hartford, Connecticut, was an American feminist theorist, sociologist, novelist, short story writer, poet, and playwright. Her writings are precursors to many later feminist theories. With her radical life attitude, Perkins Gilman has been an inspiration for many generations of feminists in the USA. Her most famous work is the short story *The Yellow Wall-Paper* [1892], written when she suffered from postpartum psychosis.

the lottery commonlit: The Treasure in the Forest H. G. Wells, 2014-03-09 The canoe was now approaching the land. The bay opened out, and a gap in the white surf of the reef marked where the little river ran out to the sea; the thicker and deeper green of the virgin forest showed its course down the distant hill slope. The forest here came close to the beach. Far beyond, dim and almost cloudlike in texture, rose the mountains, like suddenly frozen waves. The sea was still save for an almost imperceptible swell. The sky blazed.

the lottery commonlit: Charles Shirley Jackson, 2000 Shirley Jackson [RL 6 IL 7-10] A boy's kindergarten career surprises his parents. Themes: change; perception versus reality. 24 pages. Tale Blazers.

the lottery commonlit: Holes Louis Sachar, 2011-06-01 This groundbreaking classic is now available in a special anniversary edition with bonus content. Winner of the Newbery Medal as well as the National Book Award, *HOLE*s is a New York Times bestseller and one of the strongest-selling middle-grade books to ever hit shelves! Stanley Yelnats is under a curse. A curse that began with his

no-good-dirty-rotten-pig-stealing-great-great-grandfather and has since followed generations of Yelnatses. Now Stanley has been unjustly sent to a boys' detention center, Camp Green Lake, where the boys build character by spending all day, every day digging holes exactly five feet wide and five feet deep. There is no lake at Camp Green Lake. But there are an awful lot of holes. It doesn't take long for Stanley to realize there's more than character improvement going on at Camp Green Lake. The boys are digging holes because the warden is looking for something. But what could be buried under a dried-up lake? Stanley tries to dig up the truth in this inventive and darkly humorous tale of crime and punishment—and redemption. Special anniversary edition bonus content includes: A New Note From the Author!; Ten Things You May Not Know About HOLES by Louis Sachar; and more!

the lottery commonlit: *The Gift of the Magi* O. Henry, 2021-12-22 *The Gift of the Magi* is a short story by O. Henry first published in 1905. The story tells of a young husband and wife and how they deal with the challenge of buying secret Christmas gifts for each other with very little money. As a sentimental story with a moral lesson about gift-giving, it has been popular for adaptation, especially for presentation at Christmas time.

the lottery commonlit: *Motorcycles & Sweetgrass* Drew Hayden Taylor, 2021-06-01 A story of magic, family, a mysterious stranger . . . and a band of marauding raccoons. Otter Lake is a sleepy Anishnawbe community where little happens. Until the day a handsome stranger pulls up astride a 1953 Indian Chief motorcycle – and turns Otter Lake completely upside down. Maggie, the Reserve's chief, is swept off her feet, but Virgil, her teenage son, is less than enchanted. Suspicious of the stranger's intentions, he teams up with his uncle Wayne – a master of aboriginal martial arts – to drive the stranger from the Reserve. And it turns out that the raccoons are willing to lend a hand.

the lottery commonlit: *Everything that Rises Must Converge* Flannery O'Connor, 1965 *Everything That Rises Must Converge* (1965) is nine posthumous stories. The introduction is by Robert Fitzgerald.

the lottery commonlit: *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* (National Book Award Winner) Sherman Alexie, 2012-01-10 A New York Times bestseller—over one million copies sold! A National Book Award winner A Boston Globe-Horn Book Award winner Bestselling author Sherman Alexie tells the story of Junior, a budding cartoonist growing up on the Spokane Indian Reservation. Determined to take his future into his own hands, Junior leaves his troubled school on the rez to attend an all-white farm town high school where the only other Indian is the school mascot. Heartbreaking, funny, and beautifully written, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, which is based on the author's own experiences, coupled with poignant drawings by Ellen Forney that reflect the character's art, chronicles the contemporary adolescence of one Native American boy as he attempts to break away from the life he was destined to live. With a forward by Markus Zusak, interviews with Sherman Alexie and Ellen Forney, and black-and-white interior art throughout, this edition is perfect for fans and collectors alike.

the lottery commonlit: *A Rose for Emily* Faulkner William, 2022-02-08 The short tale *A Rose for Emily* was first published on April 30, 1930, by American author William Faulkner. This narrative is set in Faulkner's fictional city of Jefferson, Mississippi, in his fictional county of Yoknapatawpha County. It was the first time Faulkner's short tale had been published in a national magazine. Emily Grierson, an eccentric spinster, is the subject of *A Rose for Emily*. The peculiar circumstances of Emily's existence are described by a nameless narrator, as are her strange interactions with her father and her lover, Yankee road worker Homer Barron.

the lottery commonlit: *The Story Of An Hour* Kate Chopin, 2014-04-22 Mrs. Louise Mallard, afflicted with a heart condition, reflects on the death of her husband from the safety of her locked room. Originally published in *Vogue* magazine, “*The Story of an Hour*” was retitled as “*The Dream of an Hour*,” when it was published amid much controversy under its new title a year later in *St. Louis Life*. “*The Story of an Hour*” was adapted to film in *The Joy That Kills* by director Tina Rathbone, which was part of a PBS anthology called *American Playhouse*. HarperPerennial Classics brings great works of literature to life in digital format, upholding the highest standards in ebook production and celebrating reading in all its forms. Look for more titles in the HarperPerennial

Classics collection to build your digital library.

the lottery commonlit: *The Bet* Anton Chekhov, 1958-01-01

the lottery commonlit: *The Landlady (A Roald Dahl Short Story)* Roald Dahl, 2012-09-13

The Landlady is a brilliant gem of a short story from Roald Dahl, the master of the sting in the tail. In The Landlady, Roald Dahl, one of the world's favourite authors, tells a sinister story about the darker side of human nature. Here, a young man in need of room meets a most accommodating landlady . . . The Landlady is taken from the short story collection Kiss Kiss, which includes ten other devious and shocking stories, featuring the wife who pawns the mink coat from her lover with unexpected results; the priceless piece of furniture that is the subject of a deceitful bargain; a wronged woman taking revenge on her dead husband, and others. 'Unnerving bedtime stories, subtle, proficient, hair-raising and done to a turn.' (San Francisco Chronicle) This story is also available as a Penguin digital audio download read by Tamsin Greig. Roald Dahl, the brilliant and worldwide acclaimed author of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, James and the Giant Peach, Matilda, and many more classics for children, also wrote scores of short stories for adults. These delightfully disturbing tales have often been filmed and were most recently the inspiration for the West End play, Roald Dahl's Twisted Tales by Jeremy Dyson. Roald Dahl's stories continue to make readers shiver today.

the lottery commonlit: *The Witchcraft of Salem Village* Shirley Jackson, 2011-02-02 Stories of magic, superstition, and witchcraft were strictly forbidden in the little town of Salem Village. But a group of young girls ignored those rules, spellbound by the tales told by a woman named Tituba. When questioned about their activities, the terrified girls set off a whirlwind of controversy as they accused townspeople after townspeople of being witches. Author Shirley Jackson examines in careful detail this horrifying true story of accusations, trials, and executions that shook a community to its foundations.

the lottery commonlit: *Thank You, M'am* Langston Hughes, 2014-08 When a young boy named Roger tries to steal the purse of a woman named Luella, he is just looking for money to buy stylish new shoes. After she grabs him by the collar and drags him back to her home, he's sure that he is in deep trouble. Instead, Roger is soon left speechless by her kindness and generosity.

the lottery commonlit: *Everyday Use* Alice Walker, 1994 Presents the text of Alice Walker's story Everyday Use; contains background essays that provide insight into the story; and features a selection of critical response. Includes a chronology and an interview with the author.

the lottery commonlit: *Woman in the Nineteenth Century* Margaret Fuller, 1845

the lottery commonlit: *The Children's Story* James Clavell, 2022-11-22 "What does 'allegiance' mean?" the New Teacher asked, hand over her heart. In this classic and chilling tale about an elementary school classroom in post-war occupied America, James Clavell brings to light the vulnerability of children and the power educators have to shape and change young minds. Originally written in the Cold War era, Clavell's extraordinary and enduringly relevant allegory on the impressionability of the human mind is still read in schools around the globe today, and is a call to every person to keep questioning and keep learning.

the lottery commonlit: *Obedience to Authority* Stanley Milgram, 2017-07-11 A special edition reissue of the landmark study of humanity's susceptibility to authoritarianism. In the 1960s Yale University psychologist Stanley Milgram famously carried out a series of experiments that forever changed our perceptions of morality and free will. The subjects—or "teachers"—were instructed to administer electroshocks to a human "learner," with the shocks becoming progressively more powerful and painful. Controversial but now strongly vindicated by the scientific community, these experiments attempted to determine to what extent people will obey orders from authority figures regardless of consequences. "Milgram's experiments on obedience have made us more aware of the dangers of uncritically accepting authority," wrote Peter Singer in the New York Times Book Review. Featuring a new introduction from Dr. Philip Zimbardo, who conducted the famous Stanford Prison Experiment, Obedience to Authority is Milgram's fascinating and troubling chronicle of his classic study and a vivid and persuasive explanation of his conclusions . . . A part of Harper Perennial's special "Resistance Library" highlighting classic works that illuminate our times The

inspiration for the major motion picture *Experimenter*

the lottery commonlit: *Breath* Tim Winton, 2008-05-27 Falling under the spell of an enigmatic extreme-sports surfer, a thrill-seeking pair of western Australian adolescents is initiated into a world of high-stakes adventures and dangerous boundary testing.

the lottery commonlit: *The Curriculum Management Audit* Larry E. Frase, Fenwick W. English, William K. Poston, 2000-09-20 Overviews the curriculum management audit (CMA) and compares and contrasts it with principles of total quality management (TQM), asking whether a school district can use curriculum audit principles in conjunction with TQM. Part I examines the history, critics, and practical compatibility of the CMA

the lottery commonlit: *Through The Tunnel* Doris Lessing, 2013-03-28 From the winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature, Doris Lessing, a short story about a young boy's coming of age.

the lottery commonlit: *The Minister's Black Veil Illustrated* Nathaniel Hawthorne, 2021-04-24 *The Minister's Black Veil* is a short story written by Nathaniel Hawthorne. It was first published in the 1832 edition of *The Token and Atlantic Souvenir*. It was also included in the 1836 edition of *The Token and Atlantic Souvenir*, edited by Samuel Goodrich. It later appeared in *Twice-Told Tales*, a collection of short stories by Hawthorne published in 1837.

the lottery commonlit: *Fireflies* Ana María Matute, 1998 *Fireflies*, although set in Barcelona during the Spanish Civil War, could readily take place in a bellicose situation anywhere in the world. It contains an exposé of the chasm between generations, between rich and poor, between materialism and idealism. This novel has a socioeconomic/psychological relevance that leaves the reader pondering the consequences of war and the nugatory effects of imposing status quo values on adolescents who are in search of their own truth, their *raison d'être*. The story centers on the lives of two adolescents from opposite levels of society whose redemption lies in their short-lived mutual love, which ends tragically.

the lottery commonlit: *Grammar Advantage* Eric S. Nelson, George Yule, 2019-06-11 A course text and self-study tool for advanced learners of English for academic purposes.

the lottery commonlit: *To Build a Fire* Jack London, 2008 Describes the experiences of a newcomer to the Yukon when he attempts to hike through the snow to reach a mining claim.

the lottery commonlit: *There Will Come Soft Rains* Ray Bradbury, 1989-01-01

the lottery commonlit: *A Retrieved Reformation* O. Henry, 2020-08-26 Do you believe that people can change? Can a bank robber marry the banker's daughter without having any hidden thoughts and intentions? *A Retrieved Reformation* tells the story of Jimmy, a former prisoner, who decides to quit violating the law in the name of love. He takes up a new identity and starts a new life as an honorable man. However he is about to face a choice which can cost him his future. Will he sacrifice himself in order to save a child in danger or he will prefer to keep his old identity in secret? William Sydney Porter, better known as O. Henry, was an American writer who lived in the late 19th century. He gains wide popularity with his short stories which often take place either in New York or some small American towns. The plot twists and the surprise endings are a typical and integral part of O. Henry's short stories. Some of his best known works are *The Gift of the Magi*, *The Cop* and *The Anthem*, *A Retrieved Reformation*. His stories often deal with ordinary people and the individual aspects of life. As a result of the outstanding literature legacy that O. Henry left behind, there is an American annual award after his name, given to exceptional short stories.

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