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Outline

Introduction:

The story *Yellow Wall-paper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman explains the story of a women who is instructed to be in a room isolated from the world. She suffers from nervous depression and her husband decides to take her to a country house for her to recuperate. When it comes to her healthcare she is treated by her husband who is also a physician. She knows that being isolated is only making her depression worst, but her husband insist that she is getting better and to keep doing what she is doing. Most of the day her husband is not home and does not spend time her. She is confined to do what her husband says not only because he is her husband, but because he is the physician so therefore she needs to trust him.

Thesis: The short story demonstrates the way that women were treated when it came to healthcare, and marriage.

Focus and Development:

* The theme of this story could be the exploration of women’s voice because the author focus on the way that “jane” is treated by her husband. She tries to explain to her husband that her condition is only getting worst, but he does not listen. John does not seem to understand what his wife is saying to him. Her voice is not validated, therefore she created herself into the wallpaper.
* Historical: The scholarly article *The Rest Cure Revisited* written by Martin, Diana is about S. Weir Mitchell and his treatment for neurasthenics, which were nervous women. The treatment consisted of isolating women and making them have an instructed diet. They were not allowed to see anyone else but the nurse that was assigned to attend their needs, such as feeding them. Women were exposed to other therapies, but they used Mitchell’s treatment as a last option. He also believed that for women to be healthy they had to have limited “brain work”. The scholarly article *Literature and Medicine: Narrative of Mental illness* by Anne Hudson Jones is about the different treatments for mental illness that different centuries had. This article is also about the stories that the narrators have read and explain the different ways that mental illness was treated in previous centuries.
* Symbolism: The yellow wallpaper is a big symbol in this story. She had been isolated in that room that she starts to see herself trapped in the bars on the yellow wallpaper. She starts to get worst with her condition and sees women creeping around trapped in the wallpaper. She describes the wallpaper as unpleasant and at the end she tries to escape the wallpaper. Also the wallpaper can symbolize how women back in the 19th century was trapped by the domestic life that the had to live.
* Setting: The setting of this story is in a room inside a house that is located in the country in the late 19th century. The whole story takes place inside the room with the yellow wallpaper.
* Point of view: This is a story that the narrator writes to herself in form of a diary. She describes her feelings and how she is changing due to the isolation of the rest cure her husband instructed her to go through. She also writes about what other people think about her condition and how they think that she is getting better.
* Structure: The story parallels the reader’s experience because they also do not get to leave the room. The reader goes through what the narrator is going through.
* “I Say”: This issue is still important to think about because some women are still dependent and do not have their voice. Now women are allowed to do many things that they were not allowed in the 19th century. Even now, women can feel trapped with the domestic life. Women are expected to take care of the children and clean around the house, sometimes not having time for themselves. Women were also treated differently than men were, also had an impact in the way that they were told to live.

Conclusion: The narrator ends up escaping the wallpaper and begins to creep around the room. John never listened to her complain about her mental health and the obsession she had with the wallpaper. John returned to check on his wife and found that she had ripped all the wallpaper off the walls, therefore he faints and she is forced to wall over him. The author is expressing how she feels about women who have to depend on someone. She wants women to take the blind fold of their eyes and see that they have to develop their selves.

Works Cited

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