

Discovering Fiction

A READER *of* NORTH AMERICAN SHORT STORIES

AN INTRODUCTION

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Contents

About the Authors	iii
To the Instructor	xiii
To the Student	xvi
Acknowledgments	xvi
Elements of a Short Story Chart	xvii

PART ONE	MAKING CHOICES	2
-----------------	-----------------------	----------

<i>Chapter 1</i>	<i>Young Man Axelbrod</i>	SINCLAIR LEWIS	4
------------------	---------------------------	----------------	---

A PRE-READING	4
----------------------	---

1. Think Before You Read	4
2. Picture Focus	4
3. Key Vocabulary	5
4. Story Preview	5
5. Making Predictions	6
6. Idioms and Expressions	6
7. Literary Term: Setting	6

B THE STORY	7
--------------------	---

C AFTER READING	11
------------------------	----

1. Understanding the Story	11
2. Vocabulary Comprehension	11
3. Grammar: Proper and Common Nouns	12

D THINKING ABOUT THE STORY	14
-----------------------------------	----

1. Sharing Ideas	14
2. Reading Between the Lines	14
3. Analyzing the Story: Setting	14
4. Summary	15
5. Writing	15

Chapter 2 *A Pair of Silk Stockings* KATE CHOPIN _____ 16

A PRE-READING	16
1. Think Before You Read	16
2. Picture Focus	16
3. Key Vocabulary	17
4. Story Preview	17
5. Making Predictions	18
6. Idioms and Expressions	18
7. Literary Term: Sensory Details	18
B THE STORY	19
C AFTER READING	22
1. Understanding the Story	22
2. Vocabulary Comprehension	22
3. Grammar: Adjectives	23
D THINKING ABOUT THE STORY	25
1. Sharing Ideas	25
2. Reading Between the Lines	25
3. Analyzing the Story: Sensory Details	26
4. Summary	27
5. Writing	27

Chapter 3 *One Thousand Dollars* O. HENRY _____ 28

A PRE-READING	28
1. Think Before You Read	28
2. Picture Focus	28
3. Key Vocabulary	29
4. Story Preview	29
5. Making Predictions	30
6. Idioms and Expressions	30
7. Literary Term: Character	30
B THE STORY	31
C AFTER READING	34
1. Understanding the Story	34
2. Vocabulary Comprehension	34
3. Grammar: Adverbs	36

PART ONE

Making Choices

Chapter 1



YOUNG MAN AXELBROD

– Sinclair Lewis

Chapter 2



A PAIR OF SILK STOCKINGS

– Kate Chopin

lunch in an expensive restaurant. Then she saw a wonderful play in the theater. In the final story, Gillian gave away his inheritance to the small, quiet secretary of his uncle. He told the two lawyers he spent the money foolishly on a horse race.

2. Vocabulary Review

Discover the vocabulary words by filling in the missing letters. Meanings are given after each word. If you need help, look back at the three stories you read in Part One.

1. a _ _ d _ _ _ _ _ something added on
2. a _ _ v _ _ _ _ _ e an exciting trip or experience
3. a _ _ z _ _ surprised, filled with wonder
4. b _ l _ _ c _ what is left over
5. b l _ _ _ pink color in the face, usually when embarrassed
6. b _ w _ _ bent over to show respect or to say thank you
7. l _ _ n _ _ rested on, such as a hand on a table
8. l _ _ _ l y feeling sad; being alone
9. l _ x _ _ y something one doesn't need but wants
10. p _ _ _ s _ _ nice
11. p _ l _ _ _ y using good manners
12. p _ _ c _ _ _ l useful
13. p _ _ d _ feeling of worth
14. s _ r _ _ s _ y without humor
15. s _ _ l spirit, essence of a person
16. s _ _ r _ look at something for a long time
17. s t _ _ _ take something that doesn't belong to you
18. s _ r _ _ g _ unusual; odd; unfamiliar

C AFTER READING

1. Understanding the Story

With a partner or in a small group, discuss the following questions.

1. Why is there excitement in Roaring Camp at the beginning of the story?
2. What type of men live in Roaring Camp, and why are they there?
3. Why do the men name the baby “The Luck”?
4. How does the camp change after The Luck is born?
5. What happens when winter comes?

2. Vocabulary Comprehension

The words in the list are in the story. Find the words in the story, and try to understand their meanings. Then answer the questions that follow the list. Use your own opinions, knowledge, or experiences.

wondering	shy	adopt	creek
criminal	contribution	allow	sweep
bravest	funeral	improve	drift

1. Would it be difficult or easy for a **shy** person to make a speech?

It would be difficult because a shy person does not want to speak in front of other people.

2. Why would you be surprised if you saw a **criminal** with the face of an angel?

3. How do you clean the floors where you live? Do you **sweep** them?

4. What color clothes do people wear at a **funeral** in your culture?

5. Should teachers **allow** students to use cell phones in their classes?

6. What is the best way to **improve** your health?