

JEKYLL AND HYDE

REVISION

Jekyll and Hyde revision

Opinion/answer → Textual reference/quotes → Effect on reader → Influence of context → Writer's ideas → Language effect

Point

Evidence

Readers effect

Context

Idea of writer

Language effect

Themes:

- Duality of human nature
- Friendship/curiosity → drives the plot forward
- Science and the unexplained
- Religion
- Reputation/appearance → Victorian values
- Hypocrisy
- Silence/secretary – refusal to reveal? Cannot reveal? – Blackmail, shock etc.
- Urban terror – link between Victorian London and horrors
- Darwinism/devolution
- Freudian concepts: battle between ID (Hyde) and superego (Jekyll)
- Suppression → Violence
- Beast within man (innate evil)
- Good vs. evil

Context:

- Robert Louis Stevenson
 - Health problems
 - Born in Edinburgh into rich family
- Two sides:
 - London/Edinburgh: respectable side vs. dodgy side
 - Burke and Hare: navvies by day, body snatchers by night
 - Jack the Ripper: murdered/mutilated prostitutes – rumoured respectable by day, killer by night
- Darwin: SIMILAR TO JEKYLL (SCIENTIST DISCOVERS SOMETHING CONTROVERSIAL)
 - Descent of Man and Origin of Species
 - Proposed controversial theory of evolution which was outrageous to most religious Victorians
 - Hyde is presented as an ape-like man (troglodytic/bestial terms)
 - Because Jekyll devolves into him, idea that if man evolved from ape, can there be an Hyde-like animal within us → beast within man
- Victorian Age and Values:
 - Civilised/reputable/repressed
 - Industrial Revolution – period of rapid change → fear of the unknown = RLS uses this to inflict fear
 - Reputation and status is priority → society based off appearance

Gothic novel: MODERN

- No reader distance from the horrors → FEAR
- Draw on science rather than superstition → MORE BELIEVABLE → FEAR
- Draw on the possible rather than the absurd (monsters) → TRUE FEAR
- Emphasis of horror IN us/ rather than in a distant place (externally)

Some important quotes:

Hypocrisy:

- “No gentleman but wishes to avoid a scene...name your figure”
- “if your master has fled or is dead, we may at least save his credit”
- “men before hired bravos to transact their crimes”
- Jekyll = “a man who could afford to laugh at suspicion”
- Utterson meant to be “last good influence of downgoing men” → DOESN'T HELP JEKYLL

Science:

- Lanyon: “Such unscientific balderdash” → contrasting views yet an “inseparable friend” seen as “hidebound pedant”
- “transcendental medicine” → the science of the supernatural

Religion:

- “Pious work...annotated with startling blasphemies”
- Hyde is “staggering the unbelief of Satan”
- “read the signature of Satan”

Jekyll:

- “fond of the respect of the wise”
- “such irregularities as I was guilty of...hid them with sense of shame”
- “I felt younger, lighter happier”
- “shook the doors of the prisonhouse of my disposition”
- “strip off these lendings, and spring into a sea of liberty”
- “greedy gusto”

Suppression:

- “my devil had been long caged, he came out roaring” → consequences of suppression

Duality:

- “man is not truly one, but truly two”
- “primitive duality of man”
- “all human beings are commingled out of good and evil”

Main characters:

- **Gabriel Utterson: HYPOCRISY/REPUTATION/SECRECY**
 - Prominent and well respected lawyer
 - Reserved, dignified → presents traditional Victorian society
 - Narrator of story
- **Dr Henry Jekyll: DUALITY/MODERN SCIENCE/FREUDIAN CONCEPTS**
 - Respected doctor and friend of Utterson and Lanyon
 - Modern scientist who explores the “transcendental medicine”
 - Wants to explore the two sides of man → good and evil
 - “all human beings are commingled out of good and evil”
 - “fond of the respect of the wise”
- **Mr Edward Hyde: DUALITY/FREUDIAN CONCEPTS/DARWINISM/EVIL/BEAST WITHIN MAN**
 - Violent and cruel → absolute evil → ugly and deformed
 - Released from the bonds of conscience and separated from Jekyll
 - “Smaller and younger”, “hissing”, “snarled”,
 - “like some damned Juggernaut”
 - “troglodyte/troglodytic”, “ape like fury”, “like a rat”, “like a monkey”, “mere animal terror”
- **Dr Hastle Lanyon: TRADITIONALIST/VICTORIAN/SCIENCE**
 - Reputable doctor – friend of Utterson and Jekyll
 - Embodiment of rationalism and materialism
 - DEATH REPRESENTS VICTORY OF SUPERNATURALISM over MATERIALISM → emphasising power of the unknown (horror)

Chapter 1 quotes: [STORY OF THE DOOR]

- "I let my brother go to Cain's heresy"
- "He is not easy to describe...something down-right detestable" → **HYDE**
- "Last good influence in the lives of down-going men" → **HYPOCRISY**
- "Little man trampled calmly over the child's body...it was hellish to see" → **EVIL**
- "damned Juggernaut...like Satan" → **DARWINISM/EVIL**
- "I am ashamed of my long tongue" → **SECRECY**

Chapter 2 quotes: [SEARCH FOR MR HYDE]

- "Such unscientific balderdash" → **SCIENCE**
- "Nocturnal city" → **URBAN TERROR**
- "human Juggernaut" → **HYDE**
- "through sleeping houses" → **URBAN TERROR**
- "labyrinth"
- "If he be Mr Hyde, I shall be Mr Seek"
- "hissing intake...snarled" → **HYDE**
- "Soho" → **URBAN TERROR**
- "pale and dwarfish"
- "murderous mixture of timidity and boldness" → **HYDE**
- "hardly human...troglodytic"
- "Satan's signature upon a face" → **EVIL**
- "creature stealing like a thief" → **FRIENDSHIP**

Chapter 3 quotes: [DR JEKYLL WAS QUITE AT EASE]

- "learning something of young Hyde" → [Utterson to Jekyll]
- "the moment I choose, I can be rid of Mr. Hyde" → **SECRECY** (avoiding situation)
- "every mark of capacity and kindness" → [Jekyll description] → **DUALITY**
- "hidebound, ignorant pedant" → [Lanyon description] → **SCIENCE**
- "Jekyll grew pale" → [Hyde reaction]

Chapter 4 quotes: [THE CAREW MURDER CASE]

- "house not far from the river" → [vague descriptions increases plausibility]
- "fog rolled over" → **SUPPRESSION/SECRECY**
- "night was cloudless...brilliantly lit by the full moon" → [use of setting]
- "great flame of anger...like a madman" → **CONSEQUENCES OF SUPPRESSION/EVIL**
- "clubbed him to the earth...with ape-like fury" → [murder description] → **DARWINISM**
- "bones were audibly shattered" → [inhuman strength] → **BEAST WITHIN MAN**
- "recognized it to Henry Jekyll" → **SECRECY** → [doesn't tell anyone]
- "chocolate-coloured pall" → [fog] → **SUPPRESSION**
- "dismal quarter of Soho" → **URBAN TERROR** → [increase plausibility]
- "like some city in nightmare"
- "had an evil face" → [landlady description]
- "haunting sense of deformity" → [Hyde description]

Chapter 5 quotes: [INCIDENT OF THE LETTER]

- “dingy windowless structure” → [Jekyll’s house]
- “light falling dimly” → [emphasise darkness → evil?]
- “windows barred with iron” → [trapped literally] → **SUPPRESSION**
- “I swear to God I will never set eyes on him” → [God’s help needed] → **RELIGION**
- “I was thinking of my own character” → **HYPOCRISY**
- “fog slept above the drowned city” → city is dead? → **EVIL?**
- “lights like carbuncles” → [diseased city] → dead? → **EVIL?**
- “I wouldn’t speak of this note” → [keeps important evidence a secret] → **HYPOCRISY** → **SECRECY**

Chapter 6 quotes: [REMARKABLE INCIDENT OF DOCTOR LANYON]

- “deep-seated terror of the mind” → [reaction to Hyde]
- “Lanyon declared himself a doomed man” → [given up after meeting with Hyde with no explanation → forebodes evil]
- “I regard [Jekyll] as dead” → [Lanyon too scared to meet him]
- “three very old friends” → **FRIENDSHIP**
- “I cannot tell you” → **SECRECY** → build tension
- “accursed topic” → **EVIL**
- “life of extreme seclusion” → **SECRECY/DUALITY**
- “If I am the chief of sinners, I am the chief of sufferers” → **DUALITY**

Chapter 7 quotes: [INCIDENT AT THE WINDOW]

- “premature twilight” → [setting]
- “disconsolate prisoner” → [Jekyll description] → trapped by evil Hyde
- “abject terror and despair...froze the blood” → [reaction to transformation]
- “both pale...horror in their eyes” → [terrified by the transformation]
- “God forgive us” → **RELIGION** → [looks to God for aid]
- “walked in silence” → **SECRECY** → [afraid to even talk about it]

Chapter 8 quotes: [THE LAST NIGHT]

- “there’s been some foul play” → [unknown fear – not of this world]
- “pale moon” → surreal atmosphere
- “diaphanous texture” → [translucent] → blurred → **SECRECY/SETTING**
- “God grant there be nothing wrong” → **RELIGION** → [looks to God for help to imply a sense of evil]
- “a thing that cries to Heaven” → [Hyde not of this world] → “transcendental”
- “like a rat” → **HYDE DESCRIPTION**
- “the creature” → **HYDE DESCRIPTION** → **BEAST WITHIN MAN**
- “a monkey jumped from among the chemicals” → **HYDE DESCRIPTION**
- “evil founded of that connection” → fear of the unknown and supernatural
- “the scud had banked over the moon and was dark” → **SETTING** → secrecy
- “screech of mere animal terror”
- “this is beyond me” → [not of this world and thus supernatural]
- “pious work annotated with startling blasphemies” → against God → **GOOD vs EVIL**
- “if your master is fled or dead, we may at least save his credit” → **HYPOCRISY**

Chapter 9 quotes: [DOCTOR LANYON’S NARRATIVE]

- “something seizing, surprising and revolting” → **HYDE DESCRIPTION**
- “icy pang along my blood”
- “stagger the unbelief of Satan” → transformation is evil and not of this world
- “my soul sickened at it...I must die” → [can’t carry on living]

“Chapter 10 quotes: [JEKYLL’S FULL STATEMENT OF THE CASE]

- “fond of the respect of the good”
- “such irregularities as I was guilty of”
- “hid them with a sense of shame”
- “compound man’s dual nature”
- “MAN IS NOT TRULY ONE, BUT TRULY TWO”
- “primitive duality of man”
- “I felt younger, lighter, happier in body”
- “I knew myself to be more wicked”
- “all human beings are commingled out of good and evil”
- “Edward Hyde was pure evil”
- “shook the doors of the prisonhouse of my disposition”
- “a man who could afford to laugh at suspicion”
- “strip off these lendings and spring headlong into a sea of liberty”
- “It was Hyde alone that was guilty”
- “with a greedy gusto”
- “those appetites which I secretly indulged”
- “my devil had been long caged, he came out roaring”
- “Jekyll was now my city of refuge”
- “animal within me”
- “Hyde, not only hellish but inorganic”