The narrator I believe is giving the feeling and perspective of a friend to Cletus. While the narrator does seem to take different stands, he does recount how he failed to support Cletus a friend from school and son of a murderer. While I do want to take the position of a judge in these situations because the narrator can be slightly ambiguous in which he attacks the story of Cletus and the ways they interact, however the narrator has had tragedies of their own happen allowing them to sympathize with Cletus. While the two may have been friends, the narrator still stands his own ground in being an impartial character reminiscing nothing more, like thinking back to a long-lost friend many you do miss but as time moves forward after losing contact with those you lose your judgement of those characters and see them in a more linear fashion instead of with the dynamic lens a friendship would provide. This story to me is not linear, while it does have a beginning middle and an end it doesn’t weave them in perfectly to where you can always tell this is the beginning, middle, etc. The story does skip and jump a few places however it keeps the story of the narrator and Cletus’ friendship bound together. I believe the narrator is unreliable. While he does give off the fact that he did know Cletus, the narrator says they didn’t acknowledge him in the hallways, to me this is a big point, because if the narrator doesn’t notice Cletus, then how can he be reliable to inform us of all the events and if the narrator can be trusted with all the information given. This may be a stretch but could the old age of the narrator happen to affect him and influence how much they may remember about Cletus; it was a long time ago. I know this is a stretch but it is something to take into consideration.