* The story called “The Word Love” is about an Indian woman driving herself into depression and torment over the relationship, or lack-thereof, with her mother.
* The story is from an internal monologue, which could lead to the possible unreliable narration.
* The narrator is in a seemingly happy relationship with her husband that her mother disapproves of.
* The main theme of the story is about the love that the narrator receives from her husband that is absent in her mother.
* She is noticeably changed by these interactions as her husband begins to comment on how it drives her crazy.
* The narrator is very self critical, even when the events that occur around them are out of their control.
* The mother eventually disowns her daughter by writing her out of her will and refusing any correspondence.
* The refusal of correspondence leads the narrator to consider the sleeping pills as a form a suicide
* Before they reach that point they decide to go for a walk during a rainstorm to consider another choice
* They see a woman who is also trying to endure the storm that rages around them both and fails
* The narrator compares the woman’s tribulations in the actual storm with their emotions
* As this other woman refuses to give in and accepts the storm around them, the narrator concludes that they will accept the storm around them as they return home.
* The story called “The Moths” is about a fourteen year old Latin American girl that leaves to help her grandmother
* She states that she was never the closest of the granddaughters to their grandmother, explaining their relationship from the past
* They describe the relationship they had with their family as a whole as a very contentious one.
* Even with these issues between the narrator and their family, they still resided to assisting their grandmother
* The narrator is seemingly aware of the condition of their grandmother as they help them with menial tasks
* The narrator describes themselves as not being particularly religious either, which angers their grandfather
* The narrator’s mother seems quite affected by the issues plaguing the grandmother as her condition worsens
* Eventually the grandmother’s body is found by the narrator, but despite the relationship being so bad, they deal with them with reverence
* They clean their body and garb the grandmother in soft linens in this self described ritualistic manner
* As they move them to the bathtub, they describe them as having an angelic appearance by the way their hair spreads
* Finally, the titular moths appear, as a metaphorical way in which the soul departs in their myth.
* The narrator laments the passing of the grandmother and eventually is moved to tears.