**Story #1: Great Heart and the Three Tests- In Depth**

**Setting**

The story is set anywhere before the 19th century in an aboriginal culture because they use nicknames that are not common within the modern world. We know that it’s set in an aboriginal culture because there is a mention of a great Chief, which in the modern world is uncommon. The main story is set in the girl’s village that is situated on an island.

The mood of the beginning of the story was very mysterious, because the mother and father were vey vague at the start. When Great Heart started his journey, it was very carefree, because he wasn’t worried what or who he met in the forest, and he trusted a lot of people. The rest of the story though was very suspenseful, especially the climax because the reader didn’t know if Scarlett Runner was going to beat the maiden’s runner.

**Protagonists & Antagonists**

Great Heart is the protagonist because he is the one challenging to marry the girl, his name is in the title, and the story follows him throughout his journey.

There are many antagonists in this story. The maiden’s runner is an antagonist because he tricked Scarlet Runner into falling asleep while he tried to finish the race. The Old Woman and the girl are also antagonists because they were the ones that set up these challenges that killed many suitors.

**Point of View**

The point of view is omniscient because we get to see more than what Great Heart knows. We know about his mother and his father at the start of the story, and we know that Scarlett Runner got tricked into falling asleep before Great Heart knew about it.

**Climax**

The climax starts when Far-Darter shoots an arrow at Scarlett Runner’s nose to wake him up. When Scarlett Runner woke up dismayed and ticked off that his rival tricked him, he ran as fast as he could to the finish line, beating the maiden’s runner slightly.

**Moral & Theme**

The moral of the story is to always do your best and to never let your guard down, because if Scarlett Runner didn’t let his guard down, he would’ve easily beat the maiden’s runner. A theme of this story is to be careful for what you wish for, because if Great Heart didn’t succeed, then he would’ve died. His life would’ve been over just because he wanted to follow his destiny.

**Type of Conflict**

He is in a man versus man problem and a man versus environment. He is in a man versus man conflict because he is challenged against the old woman and the girl’s challenges. He is in a man versus environment conflict because he is up against the fate of other suitors who have died trying to become worthy of this girl.

**Ending**

Great Heart and the Three Tests has a happy and resolved ending. Great Heart completed the three tests, got married to the girl, and returned to his home village by the sea.

**Story #1: Great Heart and the Three Tests- Questions**

**What is the significance of each character’s name? Is there any similarity to how we determine names today?**

There is a lot of significance in the character’s names in the story. It shows the traits and strengths of each character. While this was most likely done to make the character’s traits easier to understand, there is some meaning of why they are nicknamed that way. Way back when in First Nations tribes, the people’s names had meaning. And they were also nicknamed after a special skill they were good at, like we see with every character in the book. It’s different than today because there is barely any spiritual connection that a person makes with the world. We also don’t have to be really good at anything to survive because there has been so much advancement in technology and automation that everything is handed to us on a silver platter, with a price of course.

**What is the hidden purpose of each test?**

The main purpose is to see if Great Heart is a capable husband for the girl. But each test tested different strengths of Great Heart. For the first task, where he had to push a rock out of her window to let the sunshine in, it tested his strength to make sure he can defend her whenever needed. The second task emphasised on stamina, making sure he can withstand tough situations. The third task, even though he didn’t run the race, was the most important one. To test his and his team’s wit. Since the sleeping was planned, in order to win the race, you needed wit and teamwork to figure out why their fastest runner was not with the maiden’s runner. That all lead to reason why the girl had these tasks in the first place, so she had someone that was worthy of being her husband.

**What is revealed about human nature in this story? Is there a lesson(s) for the reader?**

Human nature is sporadic. And it’s no different in this story. It tells the many flaws in man, but also some good ones. At the start, it points out that humans always care about their offspring. They’re kind, caring, and want them to succeed. But it also mentions that we are impatient and we boast about our accomplishments, as Great Heart’s father says: “It is time he set out to seek his fortune. I was in the forest doing so myself when I was no older than he.”.

Another flawed human nature is greed and overconfidence. This sentence said by the village people describes both: “It will never be. She places hard conditions on all who seek her hand. He who fails the tests is doomed to death. Many suitors have tried and failed and died.”. This shows that there are many men that were greedy and overconfident in their abilities, and they failed her test because of it.

Even though there are flawed traits in humans, there are some good ones too. During the climax of the story there was a lot of teamwork between Great Heart’s team. This shows that humans are never willing to give up, and sometimes it turns out great in the end, just like the story ended.

**Story #1: Great Heart and the Three Tests- Definitions**

**Suitors**

A person that wants to chase a relationship with a specific person and in the end, marry them.

“Many suitors have attempted to past the three tests, but nobody has succeeded.”

**Dwelt**

To think, speak or write of a subject that is the cause of discontent, usually from experiences in the person’s past.

“I would not like to dwell on my childish mistakes I made when I was little.”

**Vain**

Having a high opinion of one’s self’s worth, making them big-headed.

“With all of the attention Jerry received at a young age, made him vain.”

**Fringe**

The radical and extreme parts of a group or activity.

“They were on the fringe of criminal activity”

**Marveled**

To be astonished and amazed from something or someone.

“Everyone marveled at the Concord reaching Mach 2 over the ocean.”

**Story #2: Odin’s Eye- In Depth**

**Setting & Mood**

Odin’s eye begins in Asgard, but most of the story takes place on Midgard (Earth) in Europe. It’s set before the 8th century, because it says in the background info of the story that: “There are lots of different stories about him but in every story, one fact remains the same and that is that he had only one eye…”. This is important to determine what era we are in because the sentence mentions the eye in the stories as past tense, which means before the stories were made, he already had one eye. Since the Vikings were during the 8th-12th century, he had to get his eye taken from him before the 8th century. The mood of this story is suspenseful and tense, because we don’t know if he is going to sacrifice his eye for “True Wisdom”

**Protagonists & Antagonists**

Odin is obviously the protagonist in this story, as he is the main character that we follow along in his journey. The antagonists are the wise giant in Jotunheim. The giant delayed him by asking him riddles and threatened to kill Odin if he didn’t get the right answers. Mimir isn’t an antagonist because he gave Odin the waters of wisdom to gain “True Wisdom”.

**Point of View**

The point of view is omniscient because we get to know the other characters well, and not just Odin.

**Climax**

Odin accepted the trade for the waters of wisdom and was in terrible pain when he gave Mimir his right eye. Then he drank the waters of wisdom, and saw the past, present and future of everything

**Moral & Theme**

The story’s main moral is to not expect anything without a form of payment, whether it be labour or money, or your right eye. This shows in the hardships Odin had to endure trying to get to the well and sacrificing his right eye for “True Wisdom”. A theme for this story is that people’s search for wisdom is never ending and this is shown with Odin sacrificing his right eye for it.

**Type of Conflict**

Odin is in a Man versus Himself conflict as well as a Man versus Man conflict. He is in a Man versus Himself conflict because he is having an internal conflict whether or not he should sacrifice his right eye for “True Wisdom”. This is also a Man versus Man conflict because the giant and Odin had a showdown of wits.

**Ending**

The story ends resolved, but not happy or sad. Odin gets what he wanted, but at a significant cost of his right eye.

**Story #3: The Duel by Nicolai Teleshov- In Depth**

**Setting**

The story takes place in Russia, because of the Russian names and words that were said throughout the story. The story’s timeline is between the 17th and the 19th century because that was when duelling was popular in Russia.

The mood of the start of the story is tense and suspenseful, especially when Vladimir was duelling his opponent Kladunov. When Ivan was trying to tell Pelageia Petrovna that her son died in a duel, it was sad to see that Vladimir’s mother was so happy and carefree before they told her. Near the end the mood was suspenseful because we didn’t know if Ivan was going to tell Pelageia about Vladimir’s death.

**Protagonists & Antagonists**

It’s pretty hard to determine the protagonists in this story because there is no certain conflict that happened throughout the story. I would think that the protagonist is Ivan Golubenko because he had to tell Pelageia about the death of her son. The antagonist would be Kladunov, who caused the death of Vladimir, and if that didn’t happen, then none of this wouldn’t’ve happened.

**Point of View**

The point of view is omniscient because we know about all of the characters and there is multiple perspectives.

**Climax**

The climax is when Ivan was torn between telling Pelageia about Vladimir’s death or leaving her with her happiness until she learns herself.

**Moral & Theme**

The moral for this story is to always tell the bad news first and to not delay, because if you don’t, they will learn the bad news the hard way, potentially blaming you along the way. The theme of this story is that actions have consequences, shown in the duel between Vladimir and Kladunov. You don’t always win. Another example is delaying in telling Pelageia about her son’s death. He delayed it, and left without telling her the news, leaving her oblivious and having to learn it on herself.

**Type of Conflict**

Ivan is in a Man versus Himself conflict as well as a Man vs Man conflict. He is in a Man versus Himself conflict because he’s having an internal conflict whether to break the news that Vladimir is dead or not. He is in a Man versus Man conflict because he is having trouble telling Pelageia the bad news.

**Ending**

The story is left unresolved, leaving us to imagine what would happen when Pelageia learned about the news, and what she would do if she learned that Ivan knew it, but didn’t tell her.

**Story #4: The Other Family by Himani Bannerji- In Depth**

**Setting**

The story takes place in Canada specifically in a cold place during winter because of many suggested points in the story. It tells us we are in Canada in the first paragraph. The first paragraph also mentions winter, so we are in a place where there are seasons and it snows a lot in winter. This most likely takes place in the late 19th or the 20th century because in the story, we see the school that the girl goes to is multi-racial, which took place after residential schools.

**Protagonists & Antagonists**

The protagonist in this story is the little girl because it follows her throughout the story and into the school when she adds to the drawing she did. The antagonist is the teacher because she was being racially discriminatory and told her class to only draw a white family.

**Point of View**

The point of view is omniscient because we see the point of view from the mother and the child.

**Climax**

The climax was when the girl gave the finished drawing to the teacher, and when the girl answered the teacher’s question about who they are. Wasn’t expecting that!

**Moral & Theme**

The moral of the story is to never racially discriminate. The theme of the story is that even a little girl can have her own opinions.

**Type of Conflict**

The conflict is a Man versus Man conflict and a Man versus Environment. The girl is in a Man versus Man conflict because she was arguing with her mother on her drawing. She was in a Man versus Environment conflict because society is making her draw a white family instead of her family.

**Ending**

The story is left on a cliffhanger, with many questions for the reader. We don’t know what will happen when her mother see’s it or what the teacher’s end reaction is, and it’s hard to answer those questions.

**Story #5: The Veldt by Ray Bradbury- In Depth**

**Setting**

The whole story take place in a technological advanced, automated house. It’s called “HappyLife Home” and it was made by the father of Peter and Wendy, George. The story’s set in the home, which is in the distant future where all the technology is possible, because you cannot replicate any of this technology today. For example, you can’t replicate intricate smell and bring living organisms to life from crystals screens in today.

The mood of the story is very suspenseful and suspicious. The reader had a lot of clues leading up to the climax to make it very suspenseful, but during the story, the reader didn’t know what was going to happen next. It was suspicious because George had doubts about Peter and Wendy’s loyalty towards them and it was expressed greatly in the middle of the story.

**Protagonists & Antagonists**

The protagonist is the father, because the story follows him, his thoughts and movements more than any other character in the story. The antagonists are Peter and Wendy because they are the ones that want to kill their mother and father, which the story portrays them as evil characters.

**Point of View**

The point of view is omniscient because there is no defiant point of view, and at the end when George and Lydia are dead, it switches over to David’s perspective, where the reader can tell his emotions and what he is thinking.

**Climax**

The rising action started when Peter and Wendy called their parents over to the nursery. The climax happens when the kids lock their parents in, and the parents realise that they’re trapped in the nursery with just the lions. The falling action is when the lions come to real life and prey on George and Lydia.

**Moral & Theme**

The moral of this story is to never let technology control humans. This leads to serious consequences. The theme of this story is with great power comes great responsibility. If you have a power so strong it can kill someone, don’t let it fall into the wrong hands.

**Type of Conflict**

George is in a Man versus Man conflict and a Man versus Himself. He is in a Man versus Man conflict because he is arguing with his children about letting them be pampered and needing to step into the real world, but they are arguing back, and eventually kill George and his wife. He is also in a Man versus Himself because he doesn’t have the gut to shut down the entire house like he said, and it would upset his family (mostly Peter and Wendy) a great deal.

**Ending**

The story is left resolved with an unhappy ending, as George fell into Peter and Wendy’s trap, killing them and then they moved onto David, leaving the story with only one question that David might not be able to answer in time before the birds flying over him start feasting.