***Woman in White***

***Part 2***

***Section 4***

***Chapter 1***

### ***The Story Continued in Several Narratives: 1. The Narrative of Hester Pinhorn, Cook in the Service of Count Fosco***

***Summary:***

* Fosco's cook, Hester Pinhorn, orally dictates her story, since she can't read or write.
* She starts with Lady Glyde's arrival at the house.
* Upon arriving, Lady Glyde passes out.
* Two doctors arrive—Goodricke and Garth—and say that Lady Glyde is suffering from heart disease.
* Lady Glyde gets progressively worse, and Fosco gets increasingly worried.
* Lady Glyde finally dies a few days later.

***Synopsis:***

The Narrative of Hester Pinhorn, Cook in the Service of Count Fosco

Hester recounts the arrival of Lady Glyde at the Fosco's home in London. Lady Glyde is agitated and very weak, so she is brought to a room to rest in seclusion. Doctor Goodricke examines her and declares that she has a heart problem. Later he visits and declares her dead. The doctor offers to register the death according to law.

The Narrative of the Doctor

Doctor Alfred Goodricke registers the death as Lady Glyde, aged 21, on July 25th, 1850 of an aneurysm.

***Summary and Analysis Part by Part:***

***Summary Part 1:***

The next section of the narrative is a transcript of the testament of [Hester Pinhorn](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-woman-in-white/characters), who worked for [Count Fosco](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-woman-in-white/characters/count-fosco) as a cook in his house in London. She was taken into his service in the summer and, a couple of days after Count Fosco and [Madame Fosco](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-woman-in-white/characters/madame-fosco) arrived in London, was told that his niece was coming to stay and that she was unwell. Shortly after his niece arrived, the doctor had to be called because the Count’s niece had a fit.

***Analysis Part 1:***

The narrative continues to present more “evidence” in the form of testimonies from various characters. Hester is hired around the time of Laura’s journey to London. A young woman is clearly brought to the Count’s house and introduced to the servants as his niece.

***Summary Part 2:***

The doctor, [Mr. Goodricke](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-woman-in-white/characters), was called and discovered that the lady suffered from heart disease which was very advanced. [Count Fosco](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-woman-in-white/characters/count-fosco), on hearing this, began to weep and cry out, “Poor Lady Glyde!” The cook thought he was very sweet as he gathered flowers for Lady Glyde’s sick room. Lady Glyde spent a troubled night but seemed to recover slightly the next day. At five o’clock, however, she collapsed again and, when the doctor arrived, he pronounced her dead.

***Analysis Part 2:***

Count Fosco refers to this woman as Lady Glyde, or Laura. However, Anne Catherick told Laura that she is dying and, as the woman look so similar, it is difficult to tell which is which. Count Fosco makes a point of calling the young woman Lady Glyde in front of the servants and the doctor so that they believe that’s who she is.

***Summary Part 3:***

[Count Fosco](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-woman-in-white/characters/count-fosco) appeared to be devastated by Lady Glyde’s death, and [Madame Fosco](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-woman-in-white/characters/madame-fosco) was left to arrange the funeral. [Hester](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-woman-in-white/characters) heard that Lady Glyde was to be buried in Cumberland, in the family tomb, with her mother. She concludes her narrative by answering three questions which have been put to her. She answers that she never saw the Count give Lady Glyde any medicine, that she never knew the Count to be alone with Lady Glyde, and that she did not know what had given Lady Glyde a fright or caused her to fall into a swoon.

***Analysis Part 3:***

Hester seems to confirm that Count Fosco has not had a direct hand in the young woman’s death. He has not given her anything which might have been poisoned her, and he was not left alone with her where he could interfere with her in some way. Her death seems to have genuinely been caused by a weak heart, which gave out when she received a shock.