

Eeshu Singh

ENGL 393

Dr. Christopher Justice

27 February 2024

The text I chose was a short story that was submitted in a competition called "Killer In The Willows" by Kajsa Ohman. It uses detailed descriptions and changes in mood to give the readers a sense of fear and suspense. The author puts in very vivid details in order to establish the setting of the story by adding in the willows and the stream. They reflect the character's tough situation. These descriptions of the scene help us feel what the character is going through, making her fear and desperation real to us. The story's mood changes from violence to feelings of fear and lastly, bravery and determination, showing us the emotional journey of the main character as she deals with the effects of her actions.

The story is told from a close but also slightly distant perspective. It lets us get to know the main character's thoughts and feelings without fully agreeing with her actions. This way of telling the story helps show her complexity and allow us to relate to her, despite the serious nature of her situation. Her inner thoughts, as she navigates reflects on what she's done, adds depth to her character and reveals how alone she feels. The tension in the story comes from not knowing if she was seen, if there's another threat out there, and if she can escape, which keeps us in suspense.

This short story explores how we change when we come across frightening situations. The shifting mood, descriptive setting, and the sense of tension keeps the reader hooked into the story while allowing us to empathize with the character.