

Notes on Faulkner

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1 Faulkner's background

- Born in 1897, his earliest efforts were in poetry but was known for his fiction. Yoknapatawpha county was his fictional county.
- 2 collections of stories, a couple volumes of poetry, several of the greatest American novels.
 - The Sound and the Fury
 - As I Lay Dying
 - The Unvanquished
- Faulkner is a very difficult author, and writes with the following:
 - Inconsistent punctuation
 - Other things which I haven't gotten down
- Was awarded the Pulitzer Prize and the Nobel Prize.

2 A Rose for Emily

- Narrator represents the town, and is very inquisitive. The narration is first person.
- Faulkner attempts to keep the reader from perceiving the relation of seemingly isolated effects. He wants the reader to sympathise with Emily.
- Emily portrayed as a victim through:

- Her father's treatment of her
 - The insanity in her family
- The small town Southern setting and the social conventions of it are very important to the story. During this time period, and prior to it, there was the respect for the "Southern Lady" Archetype. The whole old style Southern womanhood type of thing.
- Added to the fact that Emily's family was highly respected, she demanded the respect of a Southern Lady
- This leads Emily to live in the past, eventually being alone in the house save for the servant.
- Town representatives force their way into her house, and she is described as small, fat, and bloated, dressed in black.