Paul Bartlett

Professor Christopher Keep

Elizabeth Jinsun Song

ENG 1027F, Tutorial 009

18 October 2017

Setting – Electrical tram outside the city. The whole story they were inside his parents apartment where Gregor was because they were afraid to leave him alone. The story never specifies when the events occur, but based on the references in the story it would have likely taken place in the past (1900’s).

Characters – Gregor Samsa: Protagonist of the story. Was the financial support for his family after his father stopped working 5 years before. Never questioned why he was a bug and instead seemed to just accept it. He is a round character, although he does not seem to develop much through the story.

Grete Samsa: Only character who accepts Gregor after his transformation. Cares for Gregor throughout the story, to the point of getting angry with her mother when she tries to take over. They seem to be close based on parts of the story indicating how he appreciated her musical performances more than anyone else and even wanted to save money to get them tickets for a musical concert for Christmas.

Plot: About a man who gets turned into a dung beetle and how he adjusts to his new life until he eventually dies.

Diction: Denotative, precise, explains the bizarre world around him in a functional style.

Tone: Helpless, changes to hope

Narrative perspective: Moved outside of Gregor, now can see the family and the relief they feel in his death

This passage is important because it shows how much Gregor’s condition consumed the family in grief and misfortune, while in reality the family was doing well.

Thesis: The Metamorphosis is a story about how your response to your struggles define and shape who you are. Characters, plot

Gregor’s struggles start at the beginning of the story when he wakes up. He discovers that he has been turned into a monstrous verminous bug and hopelessly struggles to get up so that he can go to work. It takes him a long time to finally understand that he can’t continue working due to his transformation. Although Gregor does become more comfortable with his new body, preferring to be in tighter spaces and climb on the walls, he still struggles with his past human self and even puts up a fight when his mother and sister are “taking away from him everything he cherished” (Kafka 46). In his selfishness to preserve his childhood belongings, he terrifies his mother who was previously excited to finally get to see him since his transformation. Gregor continues to cause problems for his family in his own selfishness and eventually dies being unable to adjust to his new struggles.

Grete is the first person in their family who manages to accept Gregor’s grotesque transformation. Although she is terrified of him at first, she ends up being the main caregiver and eventually adjusts to the routine of feeding him and cleaning his room. She does the job as her role in the family and even goes as far as to get angry at her mother for trying to intervene to spare her the pain of seeing her transformed son. This is much different than her life before Gregor’s transformation, which she was described as “a somewhat useless young woman” (Kafka 40). At the peak of conflict in the story, she ends up getting angry at Gregor and addresses him by name for the first time, showing (insert something). She stops doing the task as an act of sympathy for her brother and ends up getting a part time job and studying to further her career. At the end of her transformation, it is her who convinces her parents that it is time to get rid of Gregor. In the final passage with their family finally free of Gregor, they notice how much she has grown despite all the hardship she faced.