

Chapter 7: The Necklace – *Guy de Maupassant*

Main Character: Mathilde Loisel

- 📈 **Vain and Ambitious:** Always dreams of luxury and wealth.
- 😞 **Dissatisfied:** Unhappy with her modest life despite having a loving husband.
- 🏠 **Lives Simply:** Married to a clerk in the Board of Education.

Supporting Characters

- 😊 **Monsieur Loisel:** Caring and content husband, sacrifices for Mathilde's happiness.
- 👤 **Madame Forestier:** Wealthy friend who lends Mathilde a necklace.

Plot Summary



- 🎉 Mathilde is invited to a ball, but is upset because she has nothing elegant to wear.
- 👗 Loisel buys her a new dress; she borrows a **diamond necklace** from Madame Forestier.
- 🌟 Mathilde shines at the ball, feeling beautiful and admired.
- 🚪 After the ball, she realizes the necklace is **missing**.
- 💰 To replace it, they borrow a large sum and live in **extreme poverty** for 10 years.
- 👵 Mathilde becomes old and haggard due to hard work and sacrifice.
- 🤔 In the end, she learns the original necklace was **fake** — worth very little.

Key Themes

- 👤 **Vanity vs. Reality:** Mathilde's desire to appear rich ruins her life.
- 🎭 **Appearance vs. Truth:** The fake necklace symbolizes deceptive appearances.
- 💸 **Cost of Pride:** Her unwillingness to confess leads to unnecessary suffering.
- 🔄 **Irony:** The twist ending reveals life-altering choices were made over a worthless object.

Important Points

- 💔 Mathilde's downfall is due to her pride and obsession with wealth.
- 👤 Loisel's sacrifices highlight love and devotion.
- 🕒 Passage of 10 years represents wasted youth and opportunity.
- 🤔 The twist ending makes this story a **classic example of situational irony**.

