

The Lottery

Story-Line



Setting

The story takes place in a peaceful country village surrounded by grassy fields. It is the 27th of June, and all the villagers are expected to gather in the square. Despite the beautiful day, there is a foreboding air hanging over the village.



1

Characters

The story revolves around the protagonist Tessie Hutchinson and her family, Mr. Summers, Old Man Warener and the villagers.



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Rising Action 2

One of the villagers suggests they stop the lottery. Their doubt is quickly stomped out by Old Man Warner. He believes the lottery is necessary for a good harvest.



3

Rising Action 1

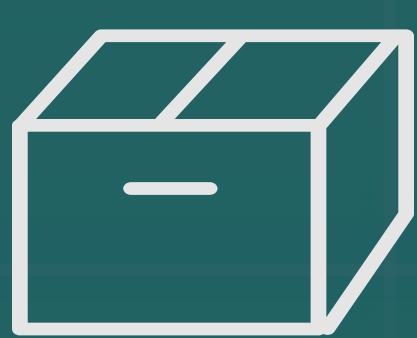
The children begin playfully gathering stones, collecting them in piles. Their parents watch without intervening, talking amongst themselves and smiling humorlessly.



2

Initiating Incident

The initiating incident is when the villagers gather in the center square. We are introduced to Mr. Summers and the mysterious black box, a tradition that started long before the oldest villager was born.



5

Rising Action 3

A member from each family goes to the front and draws a slip of paper one by one. They unfold their slips, and Mr. Hutchinson, Tessie's husband, draws the slip with the black dot.



6

Rising Action 4

Tessie begins saying the draw was unfair and demanding they re-start the process. She even tries to drag her married daughters into the second draw.



7

Climax

Five slips are placed back into the black box, then the Hutchinsons draw again. The children and Mr. Hutchinson reveal blank slips. Tessie refuses to show her slip and it is evident that she has won the lottery.



10

Conclusion

As the winner of the lottery, Tessie is sacrificed in the square. The villagers return to life as usual until June 27th the following year.



9

Falling Action 2

The villagers start closing in on Tessie, throwing stones at her despite her frantic protests. Even her own children throw stones.



8

Falling Action 1

Once again, Tessie protests. She is desperate, claiming that the lottery is unfair, while the villagers start picking up the stones the children had gathered earlier.