



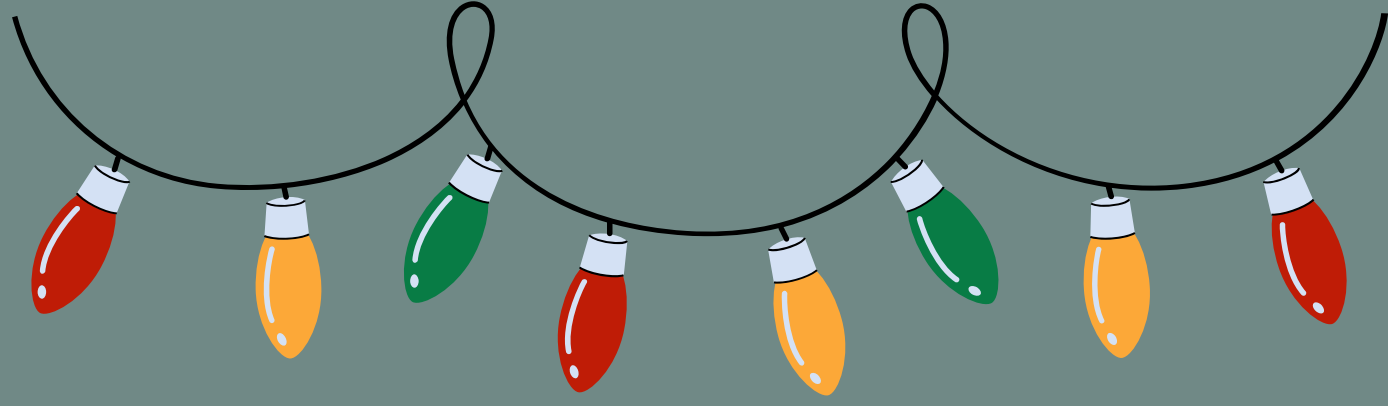
# DAVE COOKS THE TURKEY

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Psychological Lens Character Analysis Presentation

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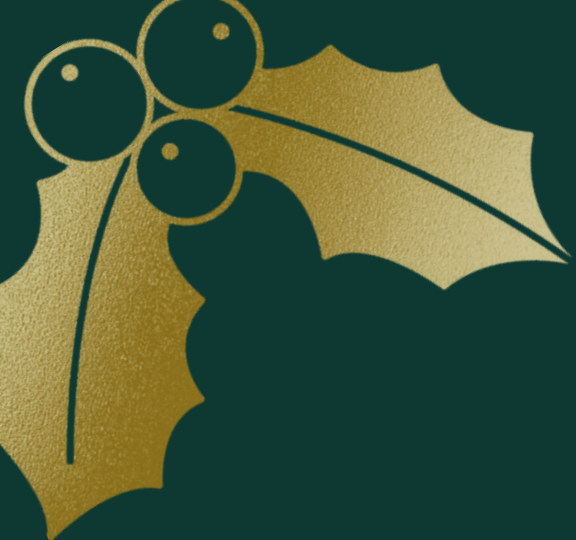




# SHORT STORY SUMMARY

The short story "Dave Cooks the Turkey" is about how Dave asked his wife Morley what else he can do to help out. She mentioned that he could take on the role of cooking the turkey for Christmas dinner this year, which would then take some of the load of the Christmas responsibility from Morley. Dave wants to help out and make the holiday season more enjoyable for Morley "I'm trying to make it fun again. That's what this is all about" (McLean 9). Dave then scrambles to find a turkey on Christmas morning, being left with a B-grade turkey and realizing that he is out of time and does not know how to use the oven to cook the turkey.





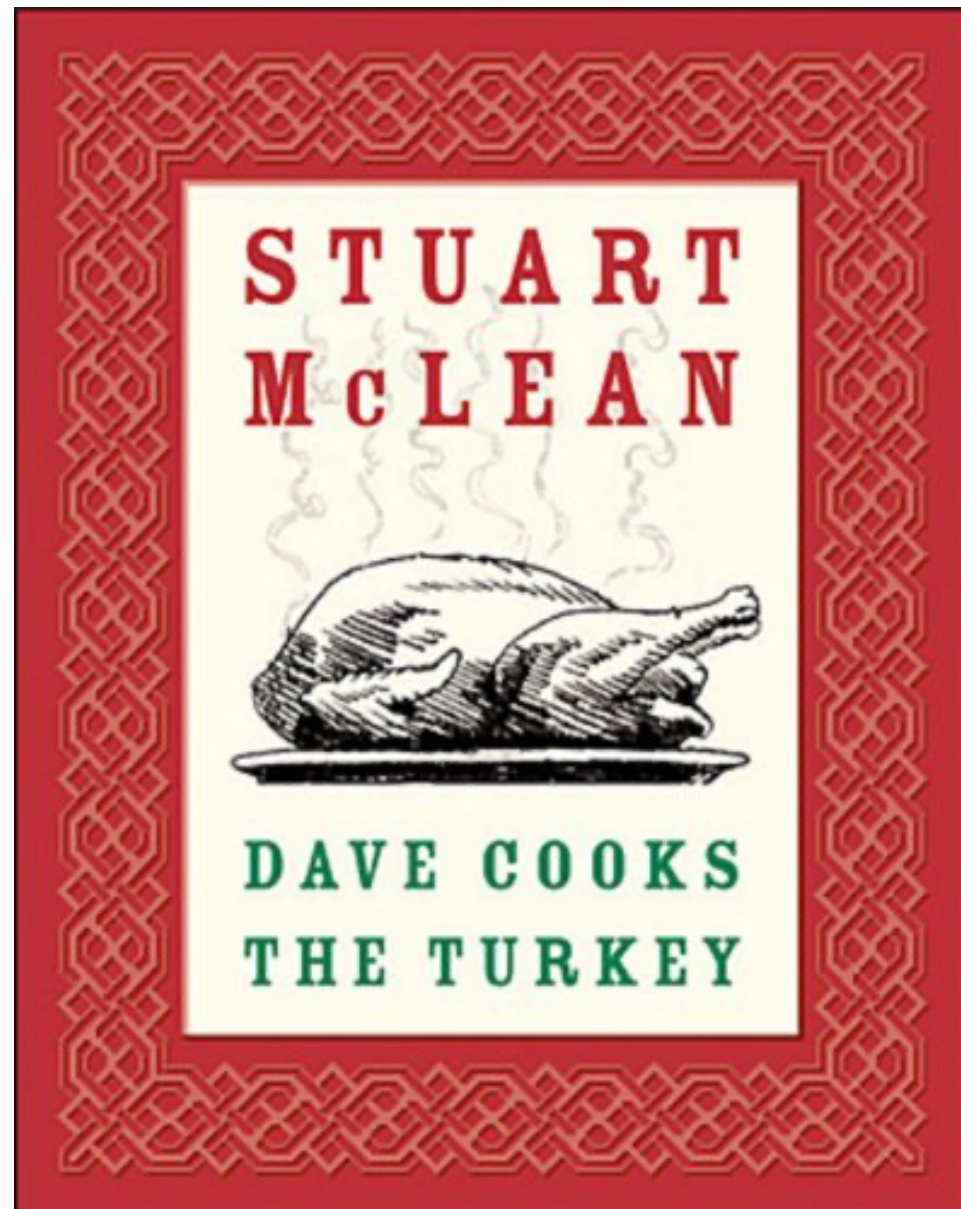
# CHARACTER SUMMARY

## DAVE

- He is a good problem solver, as he had to think on his feet to make sure that he did not ruin Christmas dinner and break his promise to his wife
- Dave is a Father and husband
- He is a hard worker as he is "busy with men's work" (McLean 9).



# BEGINNING



The story begins with Dave asking his wife Morley if there is anything else besides shopping for Christmas presents that he can do to take some pressure off her for the holiday preparation. His wife says that he can take on the role of cooking the turkey for Christmas dinner and Dave agrees to take on this task for her.



# BEGINNING - ID



- In the beginning, Dave's ID was not very high as he was not very productive and did not put in much effort around the house to help Morley.
- Morley explains that "you are the guy in the bar car, Dave, pushing the button to ask for another drink" (McLean 9). She is implying that Dave is not very helpful and does not care to lend a helping hand.
- Dave could have offered to not participate in any Christmas activities, only thinking of himself.



# BEGINNING -SUPEREGO

- Dave knows how stressful the holiday season is for his wife Morley as she normally covers all the different holiday tasks.
- This year Dave decides to start the Christmas shopping early so he got a shopping list for everyone in Cape Breton from Morely
- Dave wants to be more involved this Christmas season so he asks Morely "what else can I do" (McLean 9).
- Daves's superego is showing that he can be helpful and put others first in a stressful situation.



# BEGINNING - EGO

- Dave did not fully comprehend, "that looking after the turkey, something he had promised to do, meant buying it as well as putting it in the oven" (McLean 11).
- Dave realizes that he made a promise and he would have to do whatever it took to not ruin Christmas dinner, which means not breaking his promise to his wife.



# MIDDLE

The Middle of the story displays how Dave is struggling with the one task his wife assigned him in contributing to her special Christmas dinner. Being that Dave is absentminded, he forgets about the turkey "there was no turkey in the basement freezer" (McLean 11).

Now he has to rush to a local store and pray that he can save Christmas dinner and please his wife Morley.





# MIDDLE - ID

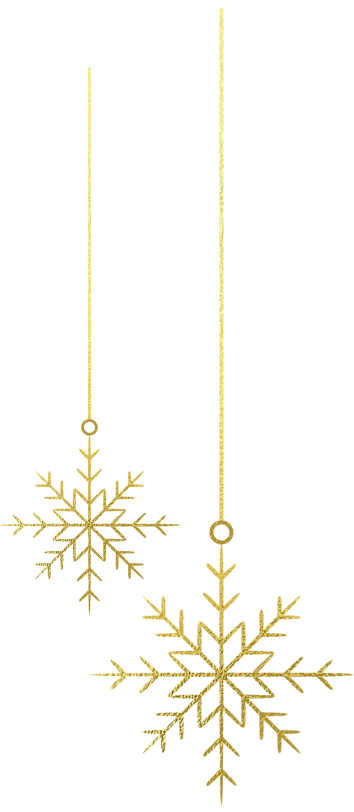
- In the middle of the story, dave's Id is thinking it is a good idea to lie to his wife about taking the turkey out of the freezer "He wasn't going to tell Morley he couldn't hold up his end of a Barrigan" (McLean 10).
- Dave was not thinking about Morley's feelings and how much this dinner meant to her, he was being irresponsible
- Dave was putting his horrible mood in the way of the happiness towards Christmas joy/activities



# MIDDLE - SUPEREGO

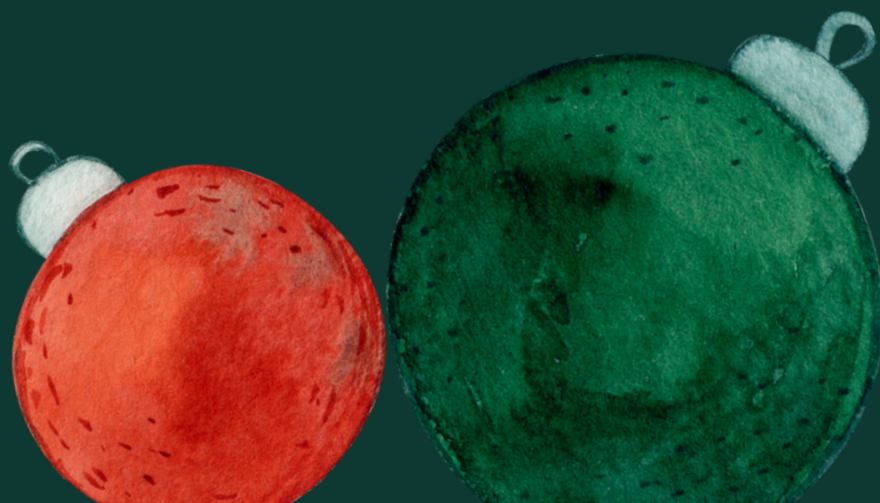


- Dave was showing concern that he didn't have a turkey which indicates that he cares about making his wife happy
- He tries to make up for his mistake and he goes to many stores to try to find a turkey
- Dave searches the whole house for a turkey "Dave unloaded both freezers to be sure" (McLean 12).



# MIDDLE -EGO

- Dave started to take initiative and was determined to make sure that there was a turkey at Christmas dinner
- Dave started to plan and take the task his wife gave him seriously "he was still awake at 2:00 am, but at least he had a plan" (McLean 12).
- Dave was realizing how upset it would make his wife if he didn't have a turkey for dinner



# END

At the end of the story after Dave had gone searching everywhere, he finally got his hands on a turkey. It was only later that day that Dave realises the turkey didn't look good at all "as the turkey defrosted, it became clear what a B-grade turkey meant" (McLean 13). Dave now needed help cooking the B-grade turkey and his last resort was a five-star hotel. In the end, Dave does have a cooked turkey but doesn't fulfill his wife's task of him cooking it himself.





## END - ID

- Dave wanted to ask his wife for help but his ID forced him to hide the truth and figure out how to get the turkey he never had in the first place
- Dave's frustration caused him to be in a grumpy mood. He was very rude and impatient when speaking with the bellboy "He gave the bellboy another twenty dollar bill and said I'm going check out bring the bird and call me a taxi" (McLean 19). Even after he received the help he needed to have a decent-looking turkey still he showed no respect and manners towards them.



# END - SUPEREGO

- Dave convinces the hotel to cook the turkey. He did everything he could to make the hotel agree to his requests, as this was very important to Dave because the hotel was his only hope in making the b-grade turkey look appealing to eat.
- Dave was helping Morley during dinner. He was making sure their guest were comfortable and had everything they needed. This displayed how Dave is trying to contribute more to making Morley's dinner event a special night "ill get the drinks" (McLean 20).

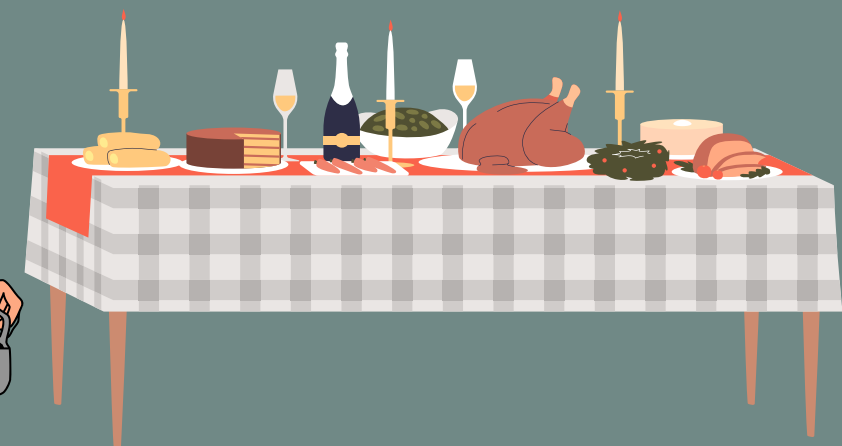




# END - EGO




- Dave did everything he could to fix the big mistake of not taking the turkey dinner seriously and potentially ruining it. In the end, Daves Ego shows that he was determined in pleasing his wife because that's the only thing that mattered to him
- At the end of the story Dave sees how happy Morley is and how she hasn't suspected anything wrong with the turkey. As the night went on with laughs and a good time Daves's Ego builds up his courage to tell Morely the Truth about the turkey " Morley could you come here? He said softly, there's something I have to tell you" (McLean 20).
- Dave's love for Morley affected his EGO throughout the story. His Ego overshadowed his ID from lying and killing the spirit of the events and activities that Morley mentions, to make an effort to enjoy the time with his wife and kids and be truthful to her.





# CHARACTER ANALYSIS

Dave's character changed throughout the story in a positive way as he decides to participate in this year's Christmas activity and help out his wife. Dave is a dynamic and round character throughout the story because he learned to persevere through the challenge of cooking the turkey and overcoming different obstacles or adversity. His ID, superego, and ego all helped him at the end of the story to keep his promise to cook the perfect turkey dinner.







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THANK YOU

FOR LISTENING