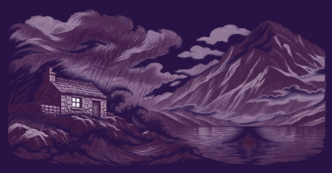
EXAM STASH

LOVE AND RELATIONSHIPS

THE FARMER'S BRIDE



Charlotte Mew

WHAT HAPPENS? A farmer describes his young wife's withdrawal while revealing his own frustration.

BIG IDEA **The farmer's account exposes how sympathy can coexist with a failure to respect another person's freedom.**

FOUR EVIDENCE FRAGMENTS · ZOOM IN, THEN EXPLAIN

"Three Summers since I chose a maid,"

Agency

The opening centres the farmer's decision, not a mutual agreement.

"We chased her, flying like a hare"

Simile

The pursuit makes the bride seem hunted.

"And turned the key upon her, fast."

Action

The practical detail exposes confinement beneath claims of concern.

"her eyes, her hair, her hair!"

Repetition

The fractured ending reveals intensifying fixation rather than understanding.

FORM

A dramatic monologue in six unequal stanzas; rural speech and shifting line lengths develop an uneasy personal voice.

CONTEXT

Mew gives the husband the speaking role while making the young bride's fear visible through the limitations of his account.

COMPARE IT WITH…

Porphyria's Lover: possessive narrators. Follower: a contrasting rural relationship.

VOICE, TONE & FEELINGS · FOLLOW THE SHIFTS

Marriage and flight

BAFFLED

The farmer recalls the bride's fear while presenting the marriage as his own choice.

Capture and domestic life

UNEASILY DESCRIPTIVE

Images of vulnerable animals reveal a woman who seeks safety away from men.

Attic and final outburst

FRUSTRATED AND DESIROUS

The speaker's attention narrows to her body, leaving the threat unresolved.

FULL POEM: use your anthology. Evidence fragments are prompts for close reading.

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