



**“Before you act, listen.
Before you react, think.
Before you spend, earn.
Before you criticize, wait.
Before you pray, forgive.
Before you quit, try.”**

Ernest Hemingway

CONTENT

THE AUTHOR

PLOT SUMMARY

POINT OF VIEW

CHARACTERS ANALYSIS

FORESHADOW

SYMBOLS

THEMES

CONFLICT



**THE CAT IN THE
RAIN**

ERNEST

HEMINGWAY

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Ernest Hemingway, famous author and journalist, was born in Chicago Illinois, on July 21, 1899.

His father was a doctor; his mother, a musician.

As a young man, he was interested in writing; he wrote for and edited his high school's newspaper, as well as the high school yearbook.

River Forest High School in 1917, he worked for the Kansas City Star newspaper briefly, but in that short time, he learned the writing style that would shape nearly all of his future work.

As an ambulance driver in Italy during World War I, Ernest Hemingway was wounded and spent several months in the hospital. While there, he met and fell in love with a Red Cross nurse named Agnes von Kurowsky. They planned to marry; however, she became engaged to an Italian officer instead.

This experience devastated Hemingway, and Agnes became the basis for the female characters in his subsequent short stories “A Very Short Story” (1925) and “The Snows of Kilimanjaro” (1936), as well as the famous novel “A Farewell To Arms” (1929). This would also start a pattern Ernest would repeat for the rest of his life - leaving women before they had the chance to leave him first.

Ernest Hemingway began work as a journalist upon moving to Paris in the early 1920s, but he still found time to write. He was at his most prolific in the 20s and 30s. His first short story collection, aptly titled “Three Stories and Ten Poems,” was published in 1923.

He also won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1954.

He died in 1961, and managed to publish dozens more novels and anthologies after his death, which became quite popular among true fans of the author.

As you can see, Ernest Hemingway had a life full of writing stories. No matter where he was or what he was doing, there was always a story to tell. He had four wives throughout his lifetime, and likely was only truly married to his writing in the end. Although many critics will disagree, Ernest Hemingway is one of the best authors of our time and has provided many great works for people around the world to enjoy.

THE CAT IN THE RAIN

PLOT OF THE STORY

"Cat in the Rain" is like many Hemingway stories. It has a very simple plot and the reader must read between the lines in order to understand the story's theme.

The theme of the story revolves around the lack of communication between George, the husband, and his wife, who is never named.

Neither one of the couple ever communicates his or her true desires and the woman seems to be dominated by her husband.

SUMMARY

‘Cat in the Rain’ begins with an American couple on vacation in Italy.

Their room faces the sea, a public garden, and a war monument. Many Italians come from far away to see the monument. That day, it is raining, and the American wife is looking out the window. She sees a cat under a table that is trying to keep dry. She tells her husband that she is going to get it. He tells her not to get wet.

When she goes outside, hotelkeeper sends a maid after her with an umbrella. She does not find the cat. She goes back upstairs feeling sad.

She asks her husband if she should grow her hair out. He says that he likes it the way that it is.

She decides that she wants a bun at the back of her neck, and a cat to stroke, and a table with her own silver, and some new clothing. He tells her to shut up and to find a book to read.

She says that she still wants a cat. Just then, someone knocks at the door. It is the maid. She has brought up a cat, at the request of the hotelkeeper.

- **Rising action:** The American wife, from her window, notices a cat underneath a table in the midst of rain. She decides to go out and fetch her.
- **Climax:** She goes out into the garden looking for the cat with the help of a maid (sent from the hotel-keeper); but doesn't find the cat.
- **Falling action:** The American wife complains of a need for a new life.

CHARACTERS ANALYSIS

- **Major:** The American Woman
- **Minor:** George (Her Husband), The Hotel-keeper

CHARACTERS ANALYSIS

AMERICAN WIFE

Cat in the Rain is a very short story and does not have many characters. The American wife is the protagonist.

We simply never learn this woman's name. Neither the narrator, nor the hotel staff, nor even her own husband says her name.

She seems discontented by her new marriage and the transient lifestyle she shares with her husband.

She appears to have a feeling of loneliness and she longs for children.

The cat that the American wife finds outside of the hotel is most likely symbolic of the wife's desire to have a child.

CHARACTERS ANALYSIS

GEORGE (THE HUSBAND)

George is one of the most realistic characters in this story. Think of a time when one of your siblings was bored, unoccupied, and wanted nothing more than to get your attention.

George is the most inactive figure in the story.

In a way, George's character represents everything the wife wants to escape.

He seems to be self-involved and is very dismissive of his young wife.

POINT OF VIEW

The narrator in the short story “Cat in the Rain” is a third-person omniscient who is the author.

In spite of this, we can see that the reader is invited to imagine the actions as the second-person narrative therefore, our sympathies as readers lie with the female protagonist who is the American wife.

THEMES

- Marriage Problems and the different levels between couples.
- Hemingway's "Cat in the Rain" has a symbolic title that points to the theme of unsatisfied emotional desire.
- Selfishness (George)
- The desire for freedom (the American wife)
- Helplessness to save oneself (the American wife)
- Marriage problems that lead to internal problems.

SYMBOLS

- **The Cat** : American wife or Baby.
- **Rain** : Unfortunate family life. The description of the environment and their relationship.
- **New clothes**: Symbolize the want of new life.

CONFLICT

- **External:** Between the American wife and her husband. The wife is looking for attention from her husband (not for a cat).
- **Internal:** Within the American woman. She feels confined and restricted. She wants freedom, choice and independence.

FORESHADOWING

- The war monument foreshadows conflict (internal and external)
- Rain usually foreshadows disappointments. The American wife will be disappointed with her husband and for not finding the cat.

IRONY

- **Situational:** The cat they finally find for her is not the one she went out to look for.

THANKS FOR LISTENING

EMINE YALÇIN

BEYZA CAN

ROZERIN GÜNAY

*NOTE : (INSALLAH) WE HOPE THAT YOU DON'T
NEED TO ASK QUESTION TO US 😊*