Quick Card



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| Reference | *The Spider and the Fly* by Mary Howitt ISBN-10: 0689852894ISBN-13: 978-0689852893 |
| Plot | A cunning spider, renowned for ensnaring insects and devouring them, flatters a silly fly. Despite all the evidence of his devilry, she is blinded by his sweet words. Their dinner date becomes disastrous. She is doomed! |
| Setting | According to Tony DiTerlizzi’s brilliant illustrations, this story takes place in a gothic mansion-dollhouse in an abandoned playroom. The key scenes take place at night, lending a haunted, lurid atmosphere to both encounters between the spider and the fly. |
| Characters | * The Spider, a well-dressed, oily fellow as genteel and silver-tongued as he is venomous
* The Fly, a naïve young creature as shallow and vain as she is trusting
* DiTerlizzi includes two more silent characters as well, ghosts of insect-victims past who try in vain to warn the Fly
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| Conflict | Man vs. ManMan vs. Himself- Will the Fly heed the wise suspicion in her heart and flee? Or will she be lured to her death by the Spider’s flattery? |
| Theme | The moral offered at the end of the story: “To idle, silly, flattering words I pray you ne’er give heed. Unto an evil counselor close heart, and ear, and eye.” |
| Literary Devices | RhymeRhythmPersonificationForeshadowingIrony |