

Drawbridge Exercise

Read the story below and follow the instructions that follow

As he left for a trip to his outlying regions, the jealous nobleman warned his pretty wife, "Do not leave the castle while I am gone or I will punish you when I return."

But as time passed, the young woman grew lonely. Despite her husband's warning, she decided to visit her lover who lived in the countryside nearby.

The castle was surrounded by a moat teeming with deadly crocodiles. The only way across was by the castle drawbridge.

'My husband will not return before dawn,' she thought, and ordered her servants to lower the drawbridge and leave it down until she returned.

After spending several pleasant hours with her lover, the Lady returned to the drawbridge, only to find it blocked by a madman wildly waving a large and dangerous sword.

"If you attempt to cross this bridge, My Lady, I will kill you!" he raved.

Fearing for her life, the Lady returned to her lover and asked him to help her.

"Our relationship is only a romantic one," he said. "And the nobleman would surely kill me should he find out. I will not help."

The Lady then found a boatman on the river, explained her plight to him, and asked him to take her across the river in his boat.

"I will take you across only if you pay my fee."

"But I have no money with me!" The Lady pleaded.

The boatman refused. "That is too bad, no money, no ride."

Her fear growing, the Lady ran crying to the home of a friend and after again explaining the situation, begged for enough money to pay the boatman his fee.

"If you had not disobeyed your husband, this would not have happened," the friend said. "I will give you no money." With dawn approaching and her last resource exhausted, the Lady returned to the bridge in desperation, attempting to cross to the castle and was slain by the madman.

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Instructions

In the story above, there are six characters. They are listed below in alphabetical order:

The Boatman _____

The Lover _____

The Friend _____

The Madman _____

The Lady _____

The Nobleman _____

Working by yourself, use the list above to rank the characters in the order of their responsibility for the death of the Lady. #1 is the most responsible and #6 is the least responsible.

Then discuss your answers in your small group noting similarities and differences.

Source: Unknown