

PRESENT

Setting

time: indeterminate, sometime in the past (village/woodcutter)
rural, edge of a village, working class?
"pretty little cottage"
forest: dark, foreboding, full of danger

Characterization

LRRH: "sweet" "pretty" everybody loves her
innocent/naive = unaware of danger
Mom: nurturing: takes care of LRRH + Gran (basket with food & sweets)
Dad: woodcutter, strong, physical, axe=work, violence
Grandmother: loves LRRH, nurturing (gives LRRH gifts), weak/ill
BBW: "gruff voice" "wicked" menacing (although LRRH doesn't realize this), deceptive, violent: jumps into room, attacks Gran+LRRH

Conflict(s)

external: LRRH vs. BBW
(good vs. evil, light vs. dark, youth/innocence vs. age/experience)
internal: LRRH vs. self
she allows herself to be distracted by flowers, pretty & wild things (including the wolf!), and so disobeys the rules for a girl/her age
"It was a bright and sunny morning. Red Riding Hood was so happy that at first she wanted to dance through the wood. All around her grew pretty wild flowers which she loved so well and she stopped to pick a bunch for her grandmother." internal: LRRH vs. self This establishes setting and mood. It also demonstrates LRRH's character: happy ("wanted to dance") & cheerful, loving (picking flowers for Gran) and a bit too naive. The word "pretty" is repeated again here for the 3rd time. Anything associated with LRRH is physically appealing. The use of the word "wild" to describe the flowers suggests a darker mood to come. . . "Everybody was happy that Little Red Riding Hood had escaped the wolf. Then Little Red Riding Hood's father carried her home and they lived happily ever after." internal: LRRH vs. self This is the resolution. The BBW is dead, and LRRH is saved. In fact, she lives "happily ever after," as most fairy tales do. The fact that LRRH was "carried...home" by her dad reinforces her weakness, delicacy, and femininity. She's not even strong enough to walk under her own power!

Key Lines

(Think in terms of foreshadowing, irony, character development, symbolism, theme, etc.)

Motif(s)

physical attractiveness, pretty = LRRH, flowers
Wild =
gender roles: follow the rules or you'll get hurt
light vs. dark, good vs. evil, youth/innocence vs. age/experience

Symbol(s)

basket = caring, nurturing, female role
cottage = safe place, light, decorated with flowers
forest = dark, foreboding, male
wolf = male desire to devour
females: weak, ill, young, incapable