

Title: **DAISY MILLER: A STUDY**  
 Author: **HENRY JAMES**  
 Date of Publication: ~~1879~~ 1879  
 Genre: ~~Realism~~ **Realism**

Biographical information about the author: **per. 1A**  
 - 1843 - 1916 - often used as an example of ~~realism~~ realism genre of writing  
 - American  
 - died in a British citizen  
 - His Brother, WILLIAM JAMES, KNOWN FOR STREAM OF CONSCIOUSNESS  
 - wrote 20 novels, 112 stories, 12 plays, & many travel writings / literary journalism & criticism  
 - had a strong bombastic voice (he was an expert)

Historical information about period of publication:  
 - LATE 1800s ~~Realism~~  
 - ONE WORLD  
 - REALISM  
 - "NOVVA KLICHE" → NEW MONEY & HOW IT WASN'T AS GREAT AS OLD MONEY  
 - wasn't as respected in social class  
 - MARK TWAIN'S "THE INNOCENT ABROAD"  
 • HIM & A FRIEND ABROAD IN EUROPE  
 • FIT THE KNOWN AMERICAN STEREOTYPE  
 - PEOPLE TRAVEL AROUND EUROPE → THE TOUR  
 - the beginning / middle of the industrial revolution  
 - when countries opened up rapid change in Europe  
 - many changes to America

Characteristics of the genre:  
 - free formalism / romanticism  
 - the normal, pragmatic of people's behavior  
 - non-sensory approach  
 - rational philosophy  
 - realistic in its depiction - no overexaggeration  
 - Henry James (the author) is concerned of realism  
 - depiction of special social environment into the comedy of manners, psychobiology, description of character.

Part I  
 - ~~Italy~~ → VEVEY, SWITZERLAND → ~~Italy~~ TOURIST TOWN  
 • WINTERSBORNE IS VISITING HIS Aunt MRS COSTELLO; MEETS RANDOLPH, WHO INTRODUCES HIM TO DAISY  
 • DAISY TALKS TO HIM A LOT; WINTERSBORNE IS INTERESTED BY HER & WANTS HER TO TAKE HER TO THE CASTLE HOME

Part II → SWITZERLAND  
 • INTRODUCES MRS COSTELLO → SHE THINKS DAISY IS COMMON, REFUSES TO MEET HER → DAISY UNTHINKINGLY BY IT BUT WINTERSBORNE TRIES TO BE ABOUT IT.  
 • INTRODUCES MRS MILLER → POWERS LESS AGAINST DAISY  
 • GO TO THE CASTLE TOGETHER (DAISY & WINTERSBORNE) & DAISY TALKS A LOT  
 • WINTERSBORNE PROMISED TO VISIT DAISY IN ROME

Part III → ROME  
 • WINTERSBORNE COMES TO ROME → HEARS DAISY IS MAKING A TERRIBLE IMPRESSION. → HE GOES TO VISIT MRS WATKINS  
 • MRS WATKINS TRIES TO HELP DAISY, WHO QUANTLY LISTEN & GOES TO SEE GOVERNOR → SHE BECOMES ITALIAN  
 • MRS WATKINS TRIES TO GIVE DAISY REPUTATION BUT DAISY REFUSES → WINTERSBORNE CARVES WITH HER

Part IV → ROME  
 • DAISY RAN AWAY WITH THE ITALIAN  
 • MRS WATKINS PROPS → MRS MILLER COMES HOME, DAISY COMES BACK IN ITALIAN, MRS WATKINS IS UPSET & EVERYONE  
 • WORD OF RUMORS ABOUT DAISY COME WHO TO HER → QUESTIONS OF IF DAISY IS ENJOYING  
 • DAISY & GOVERNOR GO TO COLISEUM AT NIGHT → WINTERSBORNE SEES THEM → WANTS HER ABOUT "KISSING SCENE"  
 • DAISY GOES SILENT & QUIET → WANTS WINTERSBORNE TO KNOW SHE WAS NEVER ENJOYING TO HIM

Describe the author's style:

- uses a lot of dialogue throughout to develop each of the characters
- incorporates the vernacular throughout the work
- characters are very exaggerated in their traits. ~~Daisy~~ →
- verisimilitude
- realism genre

-2

Examples that demonstrate style:

- Daisy Miller, Mrs. Costello, and Anne Miller, Daisy's mother, are all exaggerated characters in their personalities
- verisimilitude can be seen in many of the descriptions given in the novel → esp. descriptions given by Winterbourne. Extensive descriptions of the castle or different American girls
- realism → psychological perception of characters  
- genuineness of manners

Memorable quotations (min of 5):

"They are very common," Mrs. Costello declared. "They are the sort of Americans that one does one's duty by not - not accepting."

"I'm dying to be exclusive myself. Well, we are exclusive, mother and I. We don't speak to everyone or they don't speak to us."

"You are old enough to be more reasonable, dear Miss Miller. You are old enough to be talked about."

"I think everyone knows you," said Mrs. Walker pregnantly.

"If she had lived, I should have got nothing. She would have never married me. I am sure!"

Significance of quotations:

• helps with the characterization of Mrs. Costello while also giving readers clues that the Miller family is not as high in society as they come off to be.

Illustrates Daisy's naivety to the fact that she is not as exclusive as she perceives her family to be

Daisy does not follow the proper customs of the society. Mrs. Walker tries to help Daisy from being judged but it does not phase Daisy.

Daisy has created a negative reputation within the society. She comes off as the flirty American girl who is always out with a man by herself.

We finally learn that Daisy wanted Winterbourne all along. Giovanelli expresses to Winterbourne that he was very aware of that throughout their relationship.



- Daisy
- Mr. B.
- Mrs. C.
- Mrs. M.
- Givernelli
- Mrs. Walker
- Curran

Characters

Name	Role in story	Significance	Adjectives
- Winklerbourne (Medford)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Menard and Stays with Winklerbourne throughout the entire story</li> <li>- Obsessed in Krackers with Daisy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Winklerbourne comes from higher society and lives in Geneva with wealthy relatives. This allows him to view Daisy Miller, not as a vulgar foreigner but as an upper class citizen in a private he needed society, but also as a woman interested in women. Winklerbourne despite the title of the work is the main protagonist in the novel.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>polite, gentlemanly, courteous, appealing, serene, free woman (in Geneva), curvy (misinterpreted in Daisy, despite numerous warnings)</li> </ul>
- Daisy Miller (Annie P. Miller)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Daisy is the daughter of two wealthy Americans from New York on her trip to Europe the narrator being with Winklerbourne. Her focus is on Daisy and her actions. She is a main character in the story - witness to Winklerbourne.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The significance of Daisy Miller is that she represents the new social class that was becoming dominant - however she refused to let the social limitations of her gender define her and instead she refused to conform to the expectations of her parents. Her beauty, attractiveness and rebel behavior emphasized what she was. She acted like a woman without social acceptance - something that wasn't common.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>feminous, headstrong, open, lack of etiquette, common</li> </ul>
Mrs. Miller	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Daisy's motherhood manner was is always absent her parent was is socially awkward</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mrs. Miller had a view of parenting and her allowance of Daisy's behavior contradicted her own behavior. She has no sense of propriety and is unsure of how to discipline when it was her duty to do so. Her own decisions reflect her alienation from the social class.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>staggeringly dramatic, bad parent, weak</li> </ul>
Mrs. Costello	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In a kind way she is extremely judgmental society class was frequently passes judgement on errors (especially the Miller family - Mrs. Costello)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- She acts as Winklerbourne's constant reminder about the propriety of the Miller family and the propriety of her own behavior. She is really a hypocrite as she is really the only person in the family who is really concerned about propriety and the name of propriety.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>exclusive, proper, judge mental, antagonistic</li> </ul>

Adjective  
low  
childish  
excitable  
energetic

Significance

Randolph is the younger plans of  
Oswald's return to America, is still  
important. He acts as the  
opposite of the American who  
believes that everything in  
America is better. He represents  
the person who ~~can~~ all must  
is not respectful of Europe &  
what it offers because they  
believe communism is so great.

Role in Story

Daisy Miller's brother  
and the first one of  
the family with whom  
she stays. Very American  
knows best patriotic.

Name

Randolph  
Miller



Setting and explanation of significance:  
 the setting is based in Europe act 1 + 11  
 in Rome and act 2 + 3 in two acts  
 in Rome. this is significant because it was  
 common at the time for wealthy families  
 to travel around and live for extended  
 periods of time in Europe. ~~Europe was~~  
~~the most important place being depicted~~  
 culture and Daisy's American identity +  
 imperialism suit her character + European  
 society + ~~imperialism~~ ~~the~~ ~~from~~ ~~background~~

Symbols: of Europe provides a dramatic  
 backdrop for the novel.

Symbols

- the boat → the boat Daisy rides  
 in to the castle is representative  
 of Daisy going away from ~~the~~  
 the proper acceptable actions  
 of a young lady
- the ruins in Rome → these  
 ruins are representative of  
 Daisy's characters. They are  
 so famous and well known  
 yet are slowly crumbling  
 away which is much like  
 Daisy's characters

-2

Significance of opening scene:  
 The opening scene of the novel sets the tone  
 for the rest of the novel. It also introduces  
 us to the social customs because  
 when we see how to approach Daisy  
 carefully, but it is soon revealed that  
 she lives in a different world  
 one class in the same social  
 structure but in a different way. We are introduced  
 to Tom's character and what he  
 represents.

Significance of closing scene:  
 The post-arrival of Daisy's life  
 and those around her, in the  
 remains general to her life as we  
 all know. What we realize after  
 Daisy's death that she had been  
 with Tom. As Giorgio (the  
 object of Daisy's affection during the  
 affair) reveals that he never had her  
 and never intended to.

Old AP questions (list year)  
 - 1970, 1971, 1973, 1976, 1980  
 - 1995!!

Possible themes / Topics of discussion:  
 - important themes: society +  
 culture.  
 - gender ~~and~~ and social expectations  
 - INTERACTIONS BETWEEN EUROPEAN + AMERICAN  
~~INTERACTIONS~~  
 - interaction between men + women  
 - differences in social standards/classes