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## APPENDIX

### 1. Synopsis of Short Stories *The Story of an Hour*

The story of One Hour written by American woman Kate Chopin was first published in Vogue on December 6, 1894. This short story tells about the situation of women trying to get their freedom, related to the description of the condition of women at that time. do not get equalization against men. The patriarchal culture still prevails, where men dominate more than women at that time.

The synopsis of this short story tells of a woman who has Mrs. Mallard's heart disease. Who one day got the wrong news that her husband had died in an accident. Her sister and one of her friends were confused about delivering the news, until finally Mrs. Mallard found out that she shed tears and locked herself in a room. Hearing the sad news, Louise felt sad because she was left behind by the figure she loved, then she ran to the room alone and no one followed her.

When he was alone in the room there were many things he thought about, suddenly he felt something was coming to him, he felt it was a joy and calm. She felt it from behind the window, it turned out that in her heart she wanted freedom, she thought that her husband's death would change her life to be happy. During her household relationship, Louise did not get the happiness she wanted, she only stayed at home doing household duties as a wife, serving her husband, until he waited for her husband to come home.

She repeatedly said "free, free body and soul free", so much wanted to be a free woman, do whatever she wants to go out of the house to work, study and get an education, and occasionally go out to see the world like men do- men too at that. Louise wondered if she would be able to live her own life doing her will for such a long time.

At that time Mrs. Mallard thought about her own life without her beloved husband, she felt confused about what to do in the future whether she felt free or felt lonely, she also only thought that she would take care of herself so that she could survive. Not long after, her sister and her friend came to pick up Mrs. Mallard, who was in her room to go downstairs and come out to meet someone, it turned out that it was her husband Brently Mallard, but Louise, who saw this, was shocked so that Mrs. Mallard fell and was unconscious. The doctor diagnosed that he had heart disease and his life was not saved.

## **2. Biography of Kate Chopin**

Kate Chopin was born Kate O'Flaherty in St. Louis, Missouri in 1850 to Eliza and Thomas O'Flaherty. She was the third of five children, but her sisters died in infancy and her brothers (from her father's first marriage) in their early twenties. She was the only child to live past the age of twenty-five.

In 1855, at five and a half, she was sent to The Sacred Heart Academy, a Catholic boarding school in St. Louis. Her father was killed two months later when a train on

which he was riding crossed a bridge that collapsed. For the next two years she lived at home with her mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, all of them widows. Her great-grandmother, Victoria Verdon Charleville oversaw her education and taught her French, music, and the gossip on St. Louis women of the past.

Kate O'Flaherty grew up surrounded by smart, independent, single women. They were also savvy and came from a long line of ground breaking women Victoria's own mother had been the first woman in St. Louis to obtain legal separation from her husband, after which she raised her five children and ran a shipping business on the Mississippi. Until Kate was sixteen, no married couples lived in her home, although it was full of brothers, uncles, cousins, and borders. She returned to the Sacred Heart Academy, where the nuns were known for their intelligence, and was top of her class. She won medals, was elected into the elite Children of Mary Society, and delivered the commencement address. After graduation she was a popular, if cynical, debutante.

She grew up during the Civil War and this caused her to be separated from the one friend she had made at the Sacred Heart Academy, Kitty Garesche. Her family were slave holders and supported the South. St. Louis was a pro-North city, and the Gareshe's were forced to move. After the war, Kitty returned and she and Chopin were friends until Kitty entered Sacred Heart as a nun. There is no other evidence that Chopin had any other close female friendships.

Kate's grandmother died three days before Christmas in 1863, the same year Kitty was banished. Kate's half-brother, George, died in the war of typhoid fever on Mardi Gras Day. Her father had died on All Saints day, eight years previously, and these unhappy incidents combined to create a strong skepticism of religion in Chopin.

In 1870, at the age of twenty, she married Oscar Chopin, twenty-five, and the son of a wealthy cotton-growing family in Louisiana. He was French catholic in background, as was Kate. By all accounts he adored his wife, admired her independence and intelligence, and "allowed" her unheard of freedom. After their marriage they lived in New Orleans where she had five boys and two girls, all before she was twenty-eight. Oscar was not an able business man, and they were forced to move to his old home in a small Louisiana parish. Oscar died of swamp fever there in 1882 and Kate took over the running of his general store and plantation for over a year.

In 1884 she sold up and moved back to St. Louis to live with her mother. Sadly, Eliza died the next year, leaving Kate alone with her children again. To support herself and her young family, she began to write. She was immediately successful and wrote short stories about people she had known in Louisiana. The Awakening was inspired by a true story of a New Orleans woman who was infamous in the French Quarter.

Her first novel, *At Fault*, was published in 1890, followed by two collections of her short stories, *Bayou Folk* in 1894, *The Story of an Hour*, and *A Night in Acadia* in 1897. *The Awakening* was published in 1899, and by then she was well known as both a local colorist and a woman writer, and had published over one hundred stories, essays, and sketches in literary magazines.