Quick Card:

*Snowdrop*

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| Reference | *Snowdrop,* The Brothers Grimm. (1909)  |
| Plot | A beautiful queen with a wicked heart attempts to assure her own station as “the fairest in the land” by arranging the death of her rival, her own step-daughter, Princess Snowdrop. With each foiled assassination attempt, she faces her magic mirror only to hear her fate pronounced anew: “Snowdrop is fairest of them all.” Will innocent young Snowdrop survive the machinations of this evil queen? |
| Setting | A far-off kingdom in a fantastic world full of magic.The story takes place over the course of the princess’s life from her youth to her maturity. As she grows in beauty, the jealous queen fades. |
| Characters | * The evil queen, step-mother to Snowdrop and secret sorceress
* Snowdrop, the innocent protagonist of the piece whose beauty and goodness make her prime prey for the queen.
* The Huntsman, ordered to murder the princess who spares her life and helps her escape
* The seven dwarves, who offer her a place to stay and serve and protect her loyally throughout the story
* The prince, who comes to save the princess at the end of the piece and offer her a rightful seat on the throne once again.
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| Conflict | Man vs. Man- Snowdrop evading the queen’s evil tricksMan vs. Nature- the queen avoiding the ravages of time and remaining eternally fair |
| Theme | Appearances are deceitful.True beauty is found within.Innocence should be protected. |
| Literary Devices | Rhyme- the verse which the mirror recites in answer to the queen’s questions is melodious and memorable like a nursery rhyme. Repetition- the power of the verse grows each time it occurs in the story, emphasizing the queen’s growing desperation |