Quick Card:



*Snowdrop*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 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. |
| Conflict | Man vs. Man- Snowdrop evading the queen’s evil tricks  Man 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 |