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"A most extraordinary man, a Mr. Nuttel," said Mrs. Sappleton; "could only talk about his illnesses, and dashed off without a word of goodby or apology when you arrived. One would think he had seen a ghost."

28

"I expect it was the spaniel," said the niece calmly; "he told me he had a horror of dogs. He was once hunted into a cemetery somewhere on the banks of the Ganges by a pack of pariah dogs, and had to spend the night in a newly dug grave with the creatures snarling and grinning and foaming just above him. Enough to make anyone lose their nerve."

29

Romance at short notice was her speciality.

30

FOR WRITING OR DISCUSSION

MyWritingLab

1. In what ways could you classify these pieces as "surprise ending" stories? How does each writer achieve the surprise? What clues to the outcome do you notice in each case before you reach the ending?
2. In what ways are the children in the stories similar? Different? How do the adults affect the outcome—the parents in Laurie's case, the aunt and Mr. Nuttel (note the man's name!) in the niece's case?
3. The last line of each story is well known. How do the last lines capture the heart of the stories?
4. Write a paper comparing and/or contrasting Jackson's short story with Saki's. You may use one or more of the preceding questions to guide you in limiting your subject.

Love, Sweet Love: Two Poems for Comparison and Contrast

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Sonnet 29

When, in disgrace with Fortune and men's eyes,
I all alone beweeep my outcast state,
And trouble deaf heaven with my bootless¹ cries,
And look upon myself and curse my fate,
Wishing me like to one more rich in hope,

¹Futile.

Featured like him, like him with friends possessed,
Desiring this man's art, and that man's scope,
With what I most enjoy contented least;

10

Yet in these thoughts myself almost despising,
Haply² I think on thee, and then my state,
Like to the lark at break of day arising
From sullen earth, sings hymns at heaven's gate;
For thy sweet love remembered such wealth brings
That then I scorn to change my state with kings.

²By chance.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Sonnet 130

5

My mistress' eyes are nothing like the sun;
Coral is far more red than her lips' red;
If snow be white, why then her breasts are dun;
If hairs be wires, black wires grow on her head.
I have seen roses damasked, red and white,
But no such roses see I in her cheeks;
And in some perfumes is there more delight
Than in the breath that from my mistress reeks.

10

I love to hear her speak; yet well I know
That music hath a far more pleasing sound.
I grant I never saw a goddess go;
My mistress, when she walks, treads on the ground.
And yet, by heaven, I think my love as rare
As any she belied with false compare.

FOR WRITING OR DISCUSSION

MyWritingLab

1. What similarities do you note between the two women represented in the sonnets?
2. How does the speaker feel about himself in the first sonnet? How do you know? What changes his mood?
3. How does the speaker feel about himself in the second sonnet? How do you know?

4. Do you thi
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STRATEGY

Plan the paper.

Write a first draft

Revise and edit
the paper.

Proofread the
paper.