

Mother's Day

By
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Rising Action:

Mrs. Pearson (Mrs. Fitzgerald's soul) smoked a cigarette and when Doris started demanding tea and her dress, Mrs. Pearson made her realize that she was Doris' mother and not a servant. She even treated Cyril similarly when he returned. The two children discussed their mother's behaviour.

Climax:

Doris asked her mother if they had done something wrong. Mrs. Pearson tells them that it is actually their behaviour that has disturbed her. They always come and go, demanding duties from her and she does her best to keep everyone happy and still nobody is bothered about her. She remarks that while the three of them do a job of forty hours a week with two days at the weekend, she goes on working seven days round the clock.

Falling Action:

George Pearson returns and is annoyed at her wife. They fight over tea and Mrs. Pearson (Mrs. Fitzgerald) rebuked him by telling him why he goes to the club when he is a joke among all there. He is stunned and demanded the truth from his son, who got upset at his mother yet told the father that it was the truth.

Beginning:

Mrs. Pearson works day and night to support her family members but is upset at the way she is being treated. Her neighbor Mrs. Fitzgerald proposed that they exchange bodies and then with Pearson's body, she would teach a lesson to Pearson's family that Mrs. Pearson could not do herself as she was too humble and nice to do that. Mrs. Pearson agreed to the idea, reluctantly.

Anticlimax:

Then enters Mrs. Fitzgerald (actually Mrs. Pearson). Mrs. Pearson (actually Mrs. Fitzgerald) told her that she was just putting everyone at place and that the things were alright. Mrs. Pearson (Mrs. Fitzgerald in body) requested to have her body then and Mrs. Pearson (Mrs. Fitzgerald in body) on a condition that Pearson would not go soft on her family again.

Background/ Setting:

All the action in this play takes place in the comfortably furnished living room of the Pearsons' House, a semi-detached villa in a London suburb in the afternoon. Mrs. Pearson and Mrs. Fitzgerald are sitting opposite each other at the small table, on which are two tea-cups and saucers and the cards with which Mrs. Fitzgerald has been telling Mrs. Pearson's fortune.

Characters:

There are five major characters:

- **Mrs. Anne Pearson:** A timid and confused lady in her forties; devoted housewife and enjoys serving her husband and children
- **George Pearson:** Mrs. Pearson's spoilt husband
- **Doris Pearson:** Mrs. Pearson's 'spoilt' daughter.
- **Cyril Pearson:** Mrs. Pearson's son; also 'spoilt'
- **Mrs. Fitzgerald:** Mrs. Pearson's tarot card-reading neighbour

Themes:

- Status of women in their own household
- Unsung roles women play in the family
- Selfless sacrifice of women for their families
- Comical satire
- Magic Realism