

Module 2: Gender Inequality

Group 4



DEFINITION OF TERMS


ADULTERY

Voluntary sexual intercourse between a married person and a person who is not his or her spouse.

Unfaithfulness. Infidelity. Falseness. Disloyalty.

CONCUBINAGE

The practice of having concubines. The cohabitation of persons not legally married.



ADULTERY AND CONCUBINAGE IN THE PHILIPPINES

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

DARYLL DELGADO

She moved with her family in Brooklyn, New York in 1955. She defeated early troubles with English to ascend to the highest point of her class, skipped eighth grade, graduated toward the finish of eleventh grade, and selected as SUNY New Paltz.

1970, worked for the Children's Television Workshop. Evaluator at 1973. Facilitator on Sesame Street.

1985, became CEO and president of Coalition of Spanish Speaking Mental Health Organization, devoted to enhance the wellbeing and prosperity of Hispanics.




SUMMARY OF THE STORY:

PRELUDE

BY DARYLL DELGADO

A man died singing. He had sung a total of three songs before he heaved his last breath and collapse. It happened at the Municipal Hall. The time was three in the afternoon. The sun was high. Heat seeped into people's bones. Tuba warned their blood even more. Someone's ninth death anniversary was being celebrated. Another man's life in that party ended. It ended on a high note.

At that very moment, Nenita, the wife, was at home, picking leaves for a medicinal brew. Earlier that day, Nenita had been lying on the sofa, slipping in and out of an afternoon sleep she should not have heeded, embracing Willy Revillame in her dreams. She had had no plans of taking a nap. She had just wanted to catch a glimpse of Willy after she sent off her grandson for the city, just before she resumed her cooking.




At the sala, she opened the window to let some breeze in. But the air was so dry. Outside it was very quiet.

Everyone was at the Hall, to attend the ninth death anniversary of the juez. Most of them bore the judge a grudge, but they were all there anyway, eager to see what kind of feast his children had prepared.

The children had all come home from America and Europe for this very important occasion in the dead man's journey. Nenita herself did not mind the judge really, even if she had always found him rather severe.

It was the wife whom Nenita did not feel very comfortable with. There had been some very persistent rumors involving the judge's wife that Nenita did not care so much for.




Nenita knew her husband was happy the way he was. She never heard him complain. Nenita took him back every time his affairs with other women turned sour.

Nenita's herbalista friend suggested that she should prepare that one that makes the balls shrink, give him hallucinations, make his blood boil until his veins popped. But she didn't of course and just bought a packet of purple leaves said to be from a rare vine.



DISCUSSION



What is a prelude? Why is that the title of the story?

Prelude means an action or event serving as an introduction to something more important.

It is the title of the story because the story is introduced as a simple story but as the reader expands and understands more about the story, readers will find it thrilling and find out that there is more into it.




What does Nenita feel for her husband?
Why do you think that way?

“beneath the benign façade beats the heart of a wronged”

At first, Nenita seems to be a loving, caring and considerate wife to her husband.


But in reality, Nenita’s demeanor conceals considerably more than it reveals.



What does her *herbalista* friend feel about Nenita's husband?

The herbalista is mad at Nenita's husband because of what the husband keeps on doing to Nenita.

And the herbalista friend of Nenita is guilty because it was him/her who gave the poisonous plant.




What is the importance of the dried purple leaves? Do you think they were used in the story? How?

The purple leaves serves as the “gun” in the story which kills the husband of Nenita.


Dried purple leaves = *Aconitum napellus* (Monkshood/Wolfsbane)

- A herb often grew as a ornamental plant due to its attractive purple color. All parts of the plant contains toxins (Aconitine), especially the roots.
- It is noted as a heart poison and a potent nerve poison.
- They are used as herbs after processing by boiling or steaming to reduce toxicity (kills slowly)



Who killed the man? Explain your answer.

Nenita killed her husband. Not instantly, but gradually.



The story ends with the feeling of heat.
What are the many meanings of heat in
the story?

- Temperature
- Anger/Grudge
- Love
- Lust



QUESTIONS



Who was the man that died in
the first paragraph?

How do you think he died? What clues in the text helped you to reach for conclusion?





Why is it ironic that the widow
was married to a judge?

Do you think, with what happened, that justice was served? Why or why not?





Thank you.
