

“Still Knitting”

By Andrea Lirio and Dalia Paris-Saper

Basic Overview

Characters

- Madame and Monsieur Defarge
- Policeman
- John Barsad, spy
- Lucie Manette
- Charles Darnay

Overview

Setting

- their home and wine shop in Saint Antoine, France
- the same day, later in the evening after the hanging

Overview Continued



Plot

- Defarges go back to Saint Antoine
- people in the country are upset because of the hanging
- Madame Defarge asks if any news, Monsieur says there is one new spy seeking revolutionaries
- John Barsad comes into the wine shop

Plot Continued



Plot Continued

- Monsieur and Madame talk about revenge with the revolution
- Monsieur worries that the revolution will not happen in his life
- Madame admits that knitting is a hobby to keep busy

Literary Devices

Motif- a dominant idea in a literary composition

2 major examples of Motifs in the chapter:

- Knitting
- The Revolution

Knitting



- “So much was closing in about the women who sat knitting, knitting, that they their very selves were closing in around a structure yet unbuilt, where they were to sit knitting, knitting, counting dropping heads.” (194)

Knitting Continued

- as the women knit they were actually putting people's names into the "register"
- the motif of knitting is repeated throughout the book, but it is only now that we have figured out the symbolism

Knitting Continued

- the knitting is actually symbolism for the three fates in Greek Mythology
- Madame Defarge is creating a list
- puts the names of people she wants killed when the revolution starts

Three Fates



Revolution

- Defarge is worried that the revolution will not come in his lifetime, but Madame Defarge tells him to be patient, and they will get “revenge”
- ““But when it is ready, it takes place, and grinds to pieces everything before it. ” (208)

Revolution Continued

- The revolution is a repeating motif
- referred to in different ways
- in this way seen as lightning and an earthquake
- It is an earthquake because it is a perpetual thing, building up over time until it finally cracks and revolution breaks out

Bibliography

Madame Defarge knitting: <http://web.montgomerybell.com/battenw/4b.jpg>

<http://www.victorianweb.org/art/illustration/furniss/106.jpg>

Three Fates:

<https://markb4.files.wordpress.com/2013/04/hercules-fates.jpg>

Women knitting: <http://www.victorianweb.org/art/illustration/barnard/ttc/13.jpg>