

Character sketch

Mathilde Loisel

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The Diamond Necklace
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Mathilde Loisel



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(Monologue)

- **Mathilde** : “You are so young, so beautiful, why do you put on simple clothes?”
- **Her answer** : “I belong to a family of poor clerks.”
- **Mathilde** : “Why are you so hopeless?”
- **Mathilde** : “I have no dowry, no reputation; ultimately, I may be married to a poor clerk.”

(Monologue)

- **Mathilde** : “Why are you worried about your room?”
- **Her answer** : “I am worried because my house gives such a dejected, empty, shabby and ugly look.”

- **Name/Age**
- **Physique**
- **Family**
- **Nature**

Name and age

Mathilde Loisel is a young lady of 25 years.

Physique

- She is very pretty, charming and beautiful.
- When dressed in a new party gown, she is the centre of attraction at the ball.
- She was marked by the Minister himself

Family

- She is born in a poor family of clerks.
- No dowry, no reputation and with no hope of ever getting rich..
- Married to Mr. Loisel, a poor clerk of the Ministry of Public Instruction.
- She dwells in a poor and shabby surroundings .

Nature

- Very ambitious.
- Day dreamer
- Feels highly distressed due to her poverty.

conversation between Mr. Loisel and Mathilde

Loisel : (Handing over an envelope) “There is something for you.”

Mathilde : (She tore the cover and read the invitation and muttered)

“What do you wish me to do with that?”

Loisel: “My dear, I thought you would be glad... It is very select...”

Mathilde :” And what do you wish me to put on my back?”

Conversation contd.

Loisel : Darling! I have saved four hundred francs to buy a gun for shooting. But there is no emergency. You can buy a pretty gown with that money.

(But still Mathilde looked sad.)

Conversation contd.

- **Mr. Loisel:** “What is the matter?”
- **Mathilde :**“I am unhappy to say that I don't have a single piece of jewellery “.
- **Loisel** : “**You might wear natural flowers.**”
- **Mathilde :** “**There is nothing more humiliating**”

- **Loisel** : “Go and look up your friend Madame Forestier and ask her to lend you some jewels”.
- **Mathilde** (She uttered a cry of joy)
“True! I never thought of it.”

Mathilde Loisel



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Conversation

- **Mathilde** :(Looking at herself in the glass, she uttered a cry) “Oh! I am undone!
- **Loisel** : “What is the matter with you?”
- **Mathilde**: “I have – I have lost Madame Forestier’s necklace.

AMBITIOUS WOMAN

- **Charming lady, desirous of name and fame**
- **Nourishes a desire of marriage with a rich person**
- **Very fond of jewellery and clothes.**
- **Dreams of a home with royal furnishings.**
- **Wishes to have servants waiting on her.**

A GOOD WIFE:

- **Loves her husband**
- **Understands her husband's compulsions**
- **Ready to lead a life of misery and hard work when in trouble.**

NATURE AND BEHAVIOUR

- **Loves embroidery, interior decoration and artistic work.**
- **Very sociable and values friendship.**
- **A good dancer.**

Conclusion

- **Mathilde a beautiful, young woman becomes a victim of circumstances and leads an endlessly miserable life.**

Theme

The moral of the lesson is that one should be satisfied with what one possesses. No doubt, ambitions lead to progress, but one should not be over ambitious. It is the never ending desire which ruined Mathilde Loisel.

Short Answer Questions

- What troubled Mathilde Loisel?
- Why did she refuse to go to the party?
- How did they arrange a a dress?
- What did she do at the party?
- What did they notice after she and her husband returned from the party?
- What did she discover at the end?
- How did they arrange to return the necklace?