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MARRIAGE AS SOCIAL CONSTRAINT: A QUALITATIVE EXPLORATION OF LOUISE MALLARD'S STRUGGLE FOR AUTONOMY IN CHOPIN'S THE STORY OF AN HOUR

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Abstract
This paper examines the individual versus social conflict in The Story of an Hour *in view of the social contract theory since that is its guidance. It has a qualitative intention that aims at exploring a heroine, Louise Mallard, who at the brief moment sees the opportunity to become free when she learns about the death of her husband, thus revealing the oppressive nature of the traditional gender constraints. The study presents the way in which Chopin depicts marriage as social construct, which is oppressive to individuality in the name of maintaining social order. In this way, the paper places the story by Chopin into a larger context of the European struggles against emancipation processes, and to demonstrate how the example of the patriarchal order and the existing build up of expectation is threatened by the will towards freedom. Dismantling the institution of marriage as a civic alliance that binds partners together, Chopin enlarges the conflict between communal composure and conjugal will. The phenomenological interpretation of the inner conflict of Louise leads to the representation of the broader socially influential factors in the form of the personal experience of Louise. Finally, the results emphasize the way the work of Chopin presents a critique of societal oppression in a contemporary setting that leads to the necessity to reconsider the basics and choose individual freedom.*

INTRODUCTION

Thomas Hobbes John Locke and Jean-Jacques Rousseau established a new foundation for interpreting human nature and government and freedom. These theorists presented distinct sophisticated models which explained how organizations bind individuals together even while focusing heavily on consent mechanisms that establish social structures. When applied to literature the theories developed primarily as philosophical and political perspectives evolved into analytical methods focused on analyzing thematic content in works that explore problems relating to power and enforcement as well as self-governance and social standards. Kate Chopin's The Story of an Hour serves as a important literary example regarding these themes in the following paper. According to Chopin's short but

emotionally resonant story a woman takes D'yavol's role from Gogol's work to gain a momentary sense of freedom through the news about her husband's death. The narrative presents personal freedom through social contract theory to explain how personal autonomy links with group identity.

The social agreement theory positions among primary building blocks of political science which focuses on explicit / unstated promises made between citizens and governments for societal management. Through this analysis we obtain initial insight into the Social Contract Theory according to Thomas Hobbes who presented his arguments in his work Leviathan (1651) about self-interested behavior and civil war traditions in natural states. According to Hobbes's theory people abandoned their unprotected natural state by handing over their full sovereignty rights to an absolute leader who secured stability and structural organization and protection of remaining possessions. Social thinkers developed unique frameworks describing how individuals interact with their communities through their concepts about freedom and social control and consent as basic forces for community creation. The theories usually analyzed in political and philosophical fields also found literary applications which guide evaluations of texts which depict autonomy conflicts between characters and their social contexts. In Kate Chopin's The Story of an Hour enables readers to explore themes of freedom and required consent. Across a brief yet profound story Chopin portrays a woman experiencing an immediate powerful freedom feeling when her husband's death appears certain. A brief experience of personal freedom in the tale invites examination through social contract theory to explore how people relate their personal identities to social limitations.

Through The Social Contract published in 1762 Jean-Jacques Rousseau demonstrated how organized sovereignty functions along with moral liberty called general Will. According to the ideas of Jean-Jacques Rousseau the social contract balance individual needs with community welfare. Similar to Chopin's work about the oppressive societal restrictions of the 19th century which forced women to obey uniform expectations Rousseau evaluates societal constraints that disrupt individual decision-making autonomy. After examining Rousseau's moral freedom theory centered on societal will alignment several thoughts emerge about women's oppression and gender boundaries illustrated in the heroine's dramatic outburst upon learning her husband is dead.

Through The Story of an Hour (1894) Kate Chopin demonstrates how a woman changes emotionally during one single hour after learning about her husband's death. Even though it is brief it still challenges readers to question essential ideas such as personal autonomy and communal control and the nature of nuptial bonds. Social contract theory works well in this text because the author investigates essential human dilemmas about personal independence together with official political authority while also exploring social conformity versus authentic self-expression across cultures. Our analysis of literature through philosophy finds a complete manifestation of individual-want conflicts against social expectations within Chopin's

During the final decades of the nineteenth century when social change impacted the environment this study provides contextual understanding of The Awakening from Chopin. During this period females spoke openly about seeking equality while resisting traditional social gender roles. Starting from the nineteenth century until now we can detect the growing movement for women's emancipation allowing the social contract theory to be applied to Chopin's story. Through the exaggerated postfarcidal emotion of the main character the author illustrates women's ongoing battle against societal subordination by male authorities. The analysis finishes by connecting Hobbes' Locke's Rousseau's concepts from political philosophy to contemporary world elements found in literature. This paper presents an analysis of Chopin's philosophical views while identifying the core concepts of freedom alongside social agreements. The characters in The Story of an Hour deal with greedy and lonely feelings because they must fight to meet their individual needs when confronted with political and social requirements.

STATEMENT OF THE RESEARCH PROBLEM

The Story of an Hour written by Kate Chopin has an effective criticism of marriage as a limiting social institution, especially when it comes to the role of gender roles that was dominant in the 19th century. Whereas social contract theory is an idealization

regarding marriage as a type of agreement in which both parties are regarded as being free and equal, there has been a contradiction on the ideology and the actualities presented by the social contract theory when it comes to Chopin and his narrative. This is illustrated through the brief feelings of freedom made by Louise Mallard when she learns that her husband is dead, as it points towards the oppressive forces that refuse to give women their independence in the patriarchal society. Nevertheless, the attempt to understand how the fable by Chopin both complies with and refutes the ideals of social contract theory has been quota-sufficiently studied in the academia. The issue, hence, is to delve into how the element of oppression, freedom and symbolism, particularly death, has been employed by Chopin to question patriarchal subversion of matrimonial liberty and envisioning independence of women in a socially subdued universe.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

1. To analyze the themes of oppression and freedom in *The Story of an Hour* and their alignment or conflict with social contract theory in relation to women's roles.
2. To examine Chopin's use of symbolism and narrative strategies in highlighting how patriarchy restricts marital freedom and redefines autonomy.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. In what ways Kate Chopin's *The Story of an Hour* portray marriage as a social constraint that limits women's autonomy in the 19th-century context?
2. How does does Chopin's use of symbolism, particularly death, challenge the ideals of social contract theory and expose the patriarchal distortion of marital freedom?
3.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The results of the research can have significant practical implications to the whole literature academic community as well as the sphere of philosophical and literary theories. The given research presents a new approach to the study of The Story of an Hour to the literature scholars. Through this analysis, it is possible to understand the philosophical changes that influence the storytelling and how the researchers have a deeper understanding of the way Chopin revealed societal expectations regarding marriage as well as the roles and freedom of women through conformity. The study shows the use of philosophical theories as a means through which the literature is made to fit with students and academic philosophers.

CHAPTER 02
LITERATURE REVIEW

The social contract theory 'general will' introduced by Jean Jacques Rousseau expands current understandings about Louise Mallard's emotional turmoil found in The Story of an Hour. According to Bertram the views on individual interests presented by Rousseau have equal significance for understanding the novel as the conventional criticisms brought by Chopin do (2012, p 43). Rousseau investigated how individual needs contrast with community rules for maintaining social harmony which became repeated in Chopin's fictional narrative. Louise's battle between wanting sexual independence and living by societal rules demonstrates how desire creates conflict with enforceable social norms. Such inner pressure makes Louise briefly unlock her emotions leading to personal catastrophe. Through the social contract framework political thinkers obtain a framework to assess how societies begin operations together with their official authorization. Contract acts as an understanding between people who share a social space it defines both personal independence and communal benefits. Through signing this mutually agreed "contract" people opt into social participation so they need to adhere to rules that trade individual independence for system stability yet society loses authority. The voices of Hobbes and Locke and Rousseau play crucial roles in contractarian theory literature because each writer presented distinctive ideas about why societies develop. According to the English philosopher Hobbes every political structure needs a strong central governance because people would otherwise perpetuate ongoing violence because of their natural sinful tendencies. While Locke supported restricted government institutions obtaining power through citizen consent he established POLITIC bodies exist fundamentally to safeguard innate life liberty and property rights. Rousseau developed what he named as a rationalistic

approach of social contract creation where common public will converged with public good yet excluded individual desires. Modern political theories have benefited from these philosophers whose contributions document the history of political theory development through diverse approaches to social and political design.

As Rousseau wrote in 1762 that "Man is born free, yet everywhere he exists as a prisoner" (1762, p. 3). Human existence within societal boundaries finds its central meaning through this phrase overview. ‘‘The general will established for the maintenance of the common interest’’ according to Rousseau in his ‘Social Contract’ that exists contrary to their private interest (1762, p. 57). People can see Louise's position better using this perspective (57). Her brief feelings of liberation symbolize all major human needs for independence which social conformity extinguishes. According to Rousseau social contexts that force conformity lead people to lose their individual sense of self. Louise's death appears as the crashing together of penetrating urges for independence in women and tyrannical societal controls. The warning issue comes from Rousseau who stated that society establishes societal norms above individual freedom. According to scholars Louis's death represents someone who attempts to compete with outsiders for personal freedom will suffer massive consequences and destruction. Through its plot of limited freedom and unfortunate grim ending the story depicts an ultimate useless rebellion against a progressive social order. Rich information exists in Locke's theory about individual freedom in connection with social role responsibilities. According to Rousseau individual interests unite consciously to defeat selfish instincts yet Locke reveals two profound elements which exist between individual freedom and societal spirit. Throughout Chopin's work the ongoing theme involves narrative conflicts between society and individual roles as well as the tension between following societal norms and individual desires appears as mystical to people who strive to conform (Tuckness, 2002, p. 129).

Thomas Hobbes in Leviathan introduces readers to pictures of natural human existence through his portrayal of continuous warfare. The state of war he describes exists between every individual against everyone else and produces an existence that is poor and brutish and brief. To Hobbes this state is war because each person fights against everyone else yet lacks central authority so everyone remains in danger from each other. Nonetheless Hobbes believes total power in one individual remains vital. Individuals who join a commonwealth surrender their personal rights to receive sovereign protection that delivers peace and security. Hobbes}') state of nature shows why a Leviathan requires limited freedom in favor of absolute authority because according to him “this makes the Leviathan possible” the state of nature demonstrates the irrationality of independent choices using “nasty, poor, solitary, brutish, and short” as a description (Hobbes, 1651, p. 89).

Rousseau’s ideas in the theory of social contract especially in his book titled: The Social Contract brings modern thinking about social structures that exist between individuals and society. According to Rousseau the general will “dbut; it represents the “will of a ‘community as a whole.' Through the general will society determines choices which promote the collective well-being at the expense of individual personal interest. Rousseau addresses a critical dilemma: Under what circumstances does freedom exist in implementing rules that hold power over citizens? Real liberty extends beyond liberation from coercion because citizens should freely practice what the entire population accepts as valid. Society recognizes freedom when people restrain their personal interests for the purpose of fulfillment of communal objectives. The system brings together different social perspectives yet focuses especially on the connection between personal independence and societal responsibilities. People lose certain liberties when they follow the general will but they emerge able to experience a society where all stand equal under the law without harming others according to Rousseau. The idea prompts an inquiry about achieving public welfare at the same time as satisfying individual happiness.

CHAPTER 03
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research takes the form of qualitative research to examine the interpretations of social contracts by Hobbes, Locke and Rousseau in the works of Kate Chopin titled *The Story of an Hour.* In the research, qualitative research methodology is used to analyze

the themes of stories along with symbols and interactions among characters which refer to aspects of the social contract theory. In the process of text analysis the researchers derive significant interpretations that disclose the cultural conventions as described by Chopin in relating the text meanings to the main principles that the chosen philosopher believes in. The textual analysis techniques can assist the researcher to comprehend various dimensions of the text by Chopin. The text analysis of the study reveals Hobbesian, Lockean and Rousseauian elements in the presentation. Various text features illustrate the emotional growth of the characters, as well as the society demands that were put on the protagonist and the symbols and ironies that reveal weak points of the society within the text. The analysis is based on the primary material that was created as a part of the research project as well as the secondary one which includes thorough theoretical discussion of the social contract theory by Chopin. The paper uses a comparative method to analyze philosophical doctrines with respect to the narrative characteristics or elements based on stories. The study helps to create the bridge between the ideas of Locke Hobbes and Rousseau by the direct assessment of their ideas in the fiction work of Chopin. This discussion proves the ways in which these theories develop on superior representation of perceptual expressions in the story and definitions of freedom in terms of social expectations.

Primary fiction data consists of the Kate Chopin short story The Story of an Hour that serves as the basis for this study. One must study all the textual elements within the work before discovering elements of social contract theory. Readers will study significant text sections by reading in reverse while tracing emotional protocol responses alongside societal critiques during each passage. The research uses secondary data through multiple article journals alongside books and various literary resources about the works of Chopin alongside the theory of Social Contracts and Feminist criticism. The researchers collected data through detailed background information as explained by Hobbes Leviathan and Locke Two Treatises of Government and Rousseau, The Social Contract. The available texts provide conceptual standards to analyze the narrative under examination. Any published discussion of these philosophers receives analysis in order to better understand their intended meanings. Foundational research and secondary analytical data throughout the study enables authors to establish a refined understanding regarding the social contract connections within Chopin's work.

Social contract theories developed by Hobbes Locke and Rousseau form the database for this research. Social control emerges in Hobbes' Leviathan and citizens abandon their rights to receive public safety and these specific effects constitute the analysis in this paper since society controls Louise Mallard's freedom. Through her role as enforcer of life liberty and property rights Thatcher allows Louise to briefly experience freedom and affirm her rights to life. Rousseau's general will reveals how personhood conflicts with social obligations thereby revealing the story's fatal conclusion. As a second approach within structural analysis postfeminist theory describes gender roles along with the heroine's position in the restrictive confines of nineteenth-century patriarchal society.

CHAPTER 4
ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

An Overview

Sovereignty according to Hobbes requires ultimate control of power to stop social chaos and increase order. In the Story of an Hour Louise Mallard experienced grief over her husband's death before tasting the liberating sense of autonomy that reveals the ultimate spark between contraflowing order and liberty. Based on Hobbes' interpretation the government should maintain control and organize society but Louise finds the order her husband imposed on her to be damaging. His status as ruler overrode every imprisoned her completely within home boundaries. Her brief sad emotions following this passing prove that these social contract obligations served her unjustly.

Hobbesian Theory and the State of Nature:

According to Hobbes' Leviathan human beings exist as self-interested beings who fear natural circumstances offering only 'solitary, poor, nasty, brutish, and short' conditions (Hobbes 1651 p.89). Prior to her short term liberation Louise Mallard, Chopin's protagonist, embody Hobbesian natural state in full. The marital aspect of Louise shows a

carefree nature limited by traditional social expectations matching Hobbes' belief that individuals who lack exposure to social authority simply show fear. When she learns her husband perished Louise immediately demonstrates the severe subordination of women through her initial reaction. The experience of grief in her first reaction leads Dibutenu to appreciate freedom from marital restraints but this Hobbesian concept of brute symbolizes against instincts to her mind. Not unlike how Hobbes described uncivilized states as lawless and unrestrained (desperat), Louise's bout of freedom shows the justification for Hobbes' argument that ungoverned states cause chaos.

Through his Social Contract Theory John Locke explained natural rights while also addressing freedom

In his Two Treatises of Government (1690) English philosopher John Locke describes man's basic rights as life preservation coupled with becoming free and gaining ownership of possessions. According to Locke these rights required protection from a legitimate government system. In The Story of an Hour Louise Mallard achieves liberation after she escapes the marital turmoil by the theme of freedom identified by Locke's philosophy. After learning about her husband's death Louise's feeling finds its core definition through the concept of 'Personal Autonomy'. Her breakup with social marriage allows her to leave behind the stifling confinement of her life until then. According to Locke true liberty goes beyond physical freedom since it enables natural choice and desire execution as a person sees fit.

Freedom and the Social Contract:

Through the story's use of irony several philosophical ideals connected to social contract theory emerged about its ultimate failure.Louise Mallard faces freedom when her husband supposedly dies yet this turns out to be a fatal misreading.lure of social contract theory. The main element of the plot can be described as the grotesque: the that opens the key Episode —Louise Mallard's opportunity for freedom, which is a deadly misinterpretation of her husband's death. The ironic situation destabilizes the fundamental principles that underpin the societal arrangement between governments and their citizens and between citizens and their states. Why does Louise think she is free when her husband dies if the social contract should guarantee both liberty and equality? Inside this structure she exists as constrained and unable to obtain personal freedom under Locke's definition which should be upheld by shared communal rights. The narrative outlines how failed and false agreements between societal structures and women play out instead of teaching methods for living with liberty. Through this essay Chopin presents her criticism of the theoretical framework that overlooks women's freedom constraints since it emphasizes the unexpected gap between social contract theory possibilities versus real human dilemmas.

Marriage as a Social Contract

In Chopin's short story marriage functions to show the state of the socio-contract between people. Society in the nineteenth century defined marriage clearly which established both gendered social relationships together with the standards people must follow. Responsible conduct or sexuality according to Irish is primarily applied to this marriage whereby the wife received these limitations without equal reciprocal privileges. According to the beginning of the plot's introduction the character displays heart-troubling signs indicating how the tale portrays a girl forced to restrict her freedom for traditional social responsibilities. Upon his death she faced a dual loss – both personal and social because he served as the foundation of their social bond. Running parallel to Hobbes's thoughts about law enforcement authority the story demonstrates instantaneous application of this concept at the family level.

The Conflict Between the Self's Want and the Self's Should

The tension between what Louise to do versus what she needs to do forms a foundational element for understanding how well the social contract theory works. Through marriage the story examines societal constraints on female freedom which composition serves as the main illustration. After a period of shock Louise discovers satisfaction from experiencing genuine independence. The emotional change combines opposite influences between social obligations during that time and individual identity because women must prioritize being wives while

seeking personal independence. The Social contract theory allows individuals to consent to societal rule enforcement for overall community benefits but Louise finds these same rules serve her marriage no useful purpose. Today's social needs impose general societal benefits over the choices of singular individuals at great expense for women such as Loshoul according to Rousseau's general will theory.

Social Contract with Reference to Feminism

This research examines feminist perspectives on the analysis of The Story of an Hour by revealing societal inequalities implicit in contemporary marriage laws. Through Locke and Rousseau we learn that the social contract defends the right of individuals to remain free. During Chopin's writing period female participation in contractual relationships was rarely acknowledged by society. Following the brief liberation period after her husband's death caused by a heart attack Louise experiences the total restriction women faced in marriage through parenthood. In the 19th century social contract theory eliminated women's rights through domestic service while confining their interests and individual pursuits.

Marriage as a Business Partnership and the Limitations that It Places on Women

Within the framework established by marriage society holds each person accountable to specific social rules particularly those affecting women. During the nineteenth century marriage agreements restricted women's personal autonomy making the social contract theory a relevant framework to explain these restrictions. Upon learning her husband died Louise Mallard begins to demonstrate her true sentiments regarding their marriage partnership. To Louise the union which society sanctifies remained a costly burden in terms of social losses. Another indication of her submission and confinement is the opportunity she gets when she learns that the husband is dead: Even though French marriage practices did not suppress women like English marriage traditions did they still limited a wife's liberty.

Male Involvement and the Imperative in the Social Contract: The Absence of Male Autonomy

Evaluation of The Story of an Hour demands an analysis of the complete absence of male decision-making throughout the tale. According to traditional social contracts males serve as protectors who safeguard civil prescription and household command. Within a marital relationship a man does not acquire guaranteed access to personal freedom because marriage serves to restrict women's options. When she arrives home both Louis's personal autonomy and independence ends because traditional gender roles immediately take effect similar to the movie's narrative. Every basic individual freedom remains highly delicate within societal contracts which regulate men and women's rights. Through its departure from traditional gender conventions the social contract exposes systemic efforts towards disempowerment.

Freedom exists only as an unreal fabled notion within social contract thought.

Social contract theory receives critical backlash because it generates inaccurate freedom claims according to the Story of an Hour analysis. Society which breaks it through oppressive dictatorial means violates what the social contract exists to achieve to protect both independence and freedom equality. After getting news of her husband's death Joe experiences a brief moment of independence that emerges from escaping societal expectations. Both the conceptual form and substance of social contract theory come under attack from critics who show how free societies use limited freedoms to constrain excluded populations from their rightful freedom. The narrative reveals the relationship between social commentary on Social Contract tradition along with Abstract Liberty's broad concept and concrete human freedom.

The Role of Gender in the Social Contract

The analysis of the social contract within The Story of an Hour depends heavily on gender considerations. The main definition of the social contract depends upon equality because its development process fails to address gender inclusivity. Through her narrative Chopin displays that traditional gender roles create barriers which prevent social contract theory from achieving effective implementation. According to the paper marriage contracts demonstrate overt sexist values which reduce female autonomy. According to the social contract understanding seems to privilege

males for increased dominance as well as mastery of authority. Louise exists within a state of being instead of having full rights of liberty according to the social contrat because women occupy an inferior position. The break-down of social contract principles stands as evidence that social contract theories demonstrate fundamental problems which leads to my considerations about their inadequacies.

The Absurdity of the Social Contract: Philosophers' Insight

Existentally speaking the Story of an Hour by Chopin distresses social contract theorists when it demonstrates societal systems that restrict human freedom beyond measure. Social conceptualization fails to uphold promised liberties for individuals because typical male-dominated social systems practice double standards that restrain freedoms rather than promote them. According to Chopin true freedom exists for a brief moment only before death takes Louise because freedom systems really worsen the limitations people experience.

Social contract theory stands transformed by the concept of death.

The idea of death its unique interest as a central theme across The Story of an Hour and Social Contract Theory. According to Hobbes death terminates all personal freedom by dissolving the contract socialis . When Josephine Lowe's Mallard loses her spouse to death he also loses the masculine bond that once kept her restricted. According to the story the arrangements aimed for social stability through the social contract require individual freedom to vanish as its essential cost. Throughout both her successful flight and fatal end Louise serves as a death figure marking women's sole path to emancipate from social entrapment.

Consent in the Social Contract: The Traditional Version

Through Louise Mallard's reaction to her husband's supposed death The Story of an Hour addresses issues related to consent within traditional marital social contracts. According to Locke's views a governing system formed by the people must only exercise power with their direct and agreed consent. Throughout suffer the little children and in the tale of louise's breast 'a broken heart' barker demonstrates louise unwillingly entered no agreement regarding women's assigned domestic roles. When her husband dies she no longer fulfills the obligations under a marriage contract which she did not willingly choose because this uncoupling reveals about the forceful requirements of social contracts particularly in marriage systems.

The Removal of Consent in the Classic Social Contract

In The Story of an Hour Louise Mallard faces her husband's passing while social contract consent issues remain uncertain. According to Locke societal power holders need to demonstrate consent from the ruled population before their authority becomes legitimate. From an unconscious standpoint Louise indicates she never intended to join the marriage social contract. She uses her husband's death to end her forced marital bond since she remained unwilling to confirm the contract initially or throughout their union.

Of Paradox and Powerful Sexualized Imagery: The Illusion of Liberation in Patriarchy

In Chopin's work readers witness how escaping to the perceived freedom within male society creates an inescapable trap. The lifeforce aschaoting itself as a moment Into which society has imposed Its rules and Its regulations of gender: Structurally the escape Louise tried seems successful but turns fatal once she escapes. This is an anti-rationalist declaration which attacks both the social contract and Enlightenment rationalism and the extensive celebration of liberty it embraced without ever really delivering it. The patriarchal power system appears indifferent toward granting women face value humanity along with agent status thus leading Louise to form the opinion that liberation under civilisation offers no freedom.

Patriarchal Marriage and Property in Locke

The Life People Own and the Liberty People Wield and the Property They Possess serve as important analytical tools for The Story of an Hour's interpretation. Locke explains that people choose society membership for protection of their rights with property rights included under this protection. The marriage institution refused women the ability to rule their bodies or thoughts or existence. The restorations

symbolize the basic rights of autonomy that society ended with marriage marriage contracts terminated.

The Nullity of the Social Contract in Women's Lives

John Chopin delivers a tacit commentary about the empty promises behind women's societal marital agreements within his work The Story of an Hour. Women ratified societal morality and order attributes although their social ranking as subordinate creatures meant they forfeited multiple personal liberties in obedience to societal demands. The dying, blind "thrown" Louise Mallard sees through the false social covenant pursued by men against femaleness because it denies female freedom and joy. The narrative reaches its sadder moments because it describes how price accompanies the society's compulsory arrangements.

Chopin's Commentary on the Shadow of Social Calm

This paper investigates how The Story of an Hour by Chopin reveals the artificial nature of social unity that the social contract implies. People worship system and order in their democratic societies yet individual rights remain at the core of their value system. The Little Woman: In The Little Woman: Ida B. Wells's Historical Narrative we can find Mrs. Mallard's story about social unity as a fictitious construct trapping those who stand outside its established boundaries. Through the loss of Louise's life Chopin reveals how social contract theories use freedom and harmony rhetoric while denying women both protecting their unique selves and owning their individual bodies.

The Tragic Conclusion as a critique of social contracts.

The tragic end of Brently Mallard and the discouraged prospects of CONTENT_FIL Telecoming dilemma with social contract principles in Kate Chopin's short story Security-based freedom produces a heart attack in those forced to persist within patriarchal gender-bound societies once their husbands return. To the end of the story the reader discovers social contracts especially those connected to traditional gender roles become more restrictive than liberating. Within the story women face unfulfilled promises of ownership over themselves and equal rights throughout the narrative.

CHAPTER 05
CONCLUSION

Through its portrayal The Story of an Hour showcases Kate Chopin's pointed analysis of social contract agreements with society and traditional women's roles. Through her character of Louise Mallard Chopin presents the essential problems facing married women including total oppression in their society. While recognizing the societal need for trading freedoms for protection Hobbes, Lockes, and Rousseaus version of social contract remains weaker than the narrative depicting patriarchal constraints which trap women articulated by Chopin. Through thorough portrayal of alone freedom from patriarchal oppression followed by a death moment the text provides an unexpected spin on individual liberties while illustrating public relationship demands observance of societal conventions. The story points to the gap between formal theories on social contracts and realities of women in the society during 19th century. Through his portrayal of main character Louise Mallard Chopin provides insight into early American women's restricted life before showing their limited moments of independence in escape. The heartbreaking conclusion of this short work shows how social contracts secure order but disregard human rights which drives disadvantaged individuals to total despair. When traditional social contracts prevent individual personhood alongside free will then people might experience such grim consequences as Louise's demise. Through her writing Chopin joins people discussing how establishing basic human rights for women remains essential today.

SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Viewers who examine The story of An Hour through social contract theory will understand that modern society needs reform to ensure complete gender equality for women as human beings. A comprehensive review process of key social contract premises that includes freedom and autonomy and justice should be performed. With contemporary awareness these analytic frameworks need deeper analysis beyond their traditional binary structures that exclude people of color and women. By incorporating modern notions of societal equality into social contract theory both commonwealth justice and personal freedom can be protected for people beyond

predefined limitations such as gender or race variables.

Social thinking academics must design realistic and impactful social contracts that defend equality for evolved societal norms specific to those who faced past discrimination. The law should evaluate and possibly restart family contracts and rethink marriage statutes to address modern relationships between society and marriage and create equal opportunities between contemporary ladies and gentlemen. According to The Story of an Hour viewers witness how Louise Mallard's death reveals society's failure to view people especially women as completely capable legal actors. The problems require improved gender viewpoint along with custom-made contracts that will address ongoing social inequalities.

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