

Foreshadowing in “The Landlady”

The stories which are full of suspense and foreshadowing make reader exciting. Roald Dahl is a successful example for using foreshadowing in the short story. In the story, “*The Landlady*,” Roald Dahl uses a lot of foreshadowing to make the story more suspense and more attractive to the reader. When readers are reading this story, they will have a feeling that something weird is going to happen. It is because of the foreshadowing Roald Dahl uses, and he also uses a lot of different ways to show readers.

First of all, Dahl uses dialogue to show us the foreshadowing. Readers can know a lot of information through the dialogues between landlady and Billy. For instance, at page 24, line 105, “It’s all ready for you, my dear.” After to read some parts of this story; however, the lady seems to know a lot of things that we do not know. It gives reader a strong feeling something might happen next. For another example, at page 25, line 116 to 117, “If that is too much...I can reduce it...” After reading this sentence and a big question comes out. Why this lady wants Billy to stay? All those dialogue give the reader suspense and some hints.

Another way to show the foreshadowing is to describe people’s behavior. At page 24, line 90 to 92, “But this dame was like a jack-in-the-box...it made him jump.” This sentence shows how astonished Billy is when he sees the lady suddenly appear and from nowhere. This lady is not only a normal

landlady. At page 26, line 150 to 151, "...her blue eyes travelled all the way down the length of Bill's body..." The action of landlady looks at Billy up and down let readers feel creepy, and something thrilling will happen next. To describe the behavior of the characters in the story can let readers feel the suspense and let the readers to predict what will happen next.

Last one is the tones the author use to make the atmosphere. At page 32, line 313 to 315, "...he never left. He's still here. Mr. Temple is also here...both of them together." The rhetorical question that the author uses here is good. The lady seems like she asks Billy, but the truth is already there, it will not change. Both boy never leave, maybe Billy will not leave this place too. This is a possible thought readers have after reading this sentence. Readers can feel the emotion the author wants to transmit through using the tones.

The readers will all enjoy the story "The Landlady". It full of suspense and foreshadowing. The small details in the story are the key point to attract the reader. Roald Dahl is really good at using foreshadowing in his story, and this might be one of the reasons why so much readers love his stories.