

Unlocking unseen Prose



Setting - Literal? Symbolic?
Realistic? Domestic? Public or
private?

Time - Is it condensed,
chronological, non-linear,
accelerated or elongated? Where
does the extract start and finish
in terms of time?

Narrator/Perspective - Who is
the narrator? Are they reliable?
Intradiegetic? Extradiegetic?
Homodiegetic? Heterodiegetic?
Omniscient? Does the perspective
change?

Voice - who speaks to whom and
when? (Is the speech direct,
indirect, free indirect?) Is the
speech attributed? Confident?
Anxious? Confrontational?
Nostalgic?

Sequence/Structure - what is the
order in which events are told?

Generic conventions - Are they
typical? Link to the literature of
love?

Language - Imagery?
Colloquialisms? Register and
formality? Syntax? Fragmented?
Stream of consciousness?

Characterisation - How are
characters constructed? Are they
symbolic? Realistic?
Representative? What is their
relationship?

Journey - is there a sense of
discovery? Epiphany? Change?
Emotional/physical movement?

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Possible other features:

Bathos
Pathos
Misunderstanding
Violence
Juxtaposition
Incongruity
Stereotypes
Inversion/ subversion
Wit & wordplay
Rhetorical features
Imagery
Irony
Use of word classes e.g.
adverbs/ adjectives/ verbs
Atmosphere
Dialogue use
Metaphors and symbolism

Type of love presented?

Equal
First love
Parting
Beginning
Ending
Painful
Joyful
Celebratory
Scandalous
Hidden/ secret
Unrequited
Power play
Affair
Monogamous
Young love
Mature love
Passionate
Loss
Grief
Companionship
Barriers
Familial/ fraternal/
sorority/ maternal
Denial



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