

1. Find a piece of art that has a connection to “The Story of An Hour.” It need not be similar in a literal way; it can also represent an idea, emotion, or message present in the story.
2. Paste this image into a Google Document. Add the title and artist’s name below the artwork.
3. Write a paragraph (6-10 sentences) to explain how and why it is similar to “The Story of An Hour.” Begin with a topic sentence that explains the main similarities and includes the title of the artwork and artist. Write supporting sentences that discuss the art and story similarities. Include two direct quotations from the story and be sure to explain the point(s) of comparison. You may also point out the ways that it diverges from the story. Conclude with a memorable final thought about theme, message, or technique.



“Reading” by Louise Comfort Tiffany (1888)

“Reading” by Louise Comfort Tiffany captures a moment of solitude similar to Mrs. Mallard’s time in her room just after she learns of her husband’s death in “The Story of An Hour.” As soon as she finds out about his death, she retreats to her room to grieve. This woman, as she sits in her room alone, holds a book but does not appear to be reading. She appears to be thinking and reflecting, as Mrs. Mallard does in the story: “She sat with her head thrown back upon the cushion of the chair, quite motionless...”. This woman and Mrs. Mallard both sit in a “roomy armchair” and gaze at flowers or trees, and both Louise Tiffany and Kate Chopin present a woman as she sits for a moment, alone and deep in thought. While “The Story of an Hour” goes on to show how a solitary moment results in a sea change; Mrs. Mallard’s thoughts about her life shift in one hour, “Reading” mostly captures a woman in a moment of reflection after time spent alone with a book.