The Lottery

by Shirley Jackson

Discussion Questions:

1. Explain how the title of the story, and therefore the outcome of the Lottery, is an example of **irony** (p. 6 of Short Story Terms handout) and explain what kind of irony in your answer as well.
2. Who is the **protagonist** (p. 3-4 of terms handout)of the story? Why do you think so? Is the protagonist a **round or flat** character? **Dynamic or Static**? Explain why.
3. Give two examples of **symbols** (p. 6 of terms handout) in the story. Name the objects and explain what they symbolize (represent) in the story.
4. Provide 2 examples of foreshadowing (p. 2 of terms handout) in the story, and explain why they are foreshadowing.
5. What is the **main conflict** (p. 4 of the terms handout) of the story? Why do you think so? Therefore, who or what is the **antagonist** (p. 3-4 of terms handout)?
6. What is a ‘**scapegoat**?’ What purposes do scapegoats have in society? Who is the scapegoat in the story?

**The Hunger Games**

1. How are the settings different or similar in ‘The Hunger Games’ and ‘The Lottery?’ What effect does this have on the stories?
2. How are the games in the Hunger Games justified? How is the lottery in ‘The Lottery’ justified?
3. Do the villagers in ‘The Lottery’ seem to view the ceremony/the process differently from those in ‘The Hunger Games?’
4. What are the character differences between Katniss and Tessie? What about the character similarities. (Think about how they were ‘chosen’). How are we made to feel about them?