



Mountain Victory

Title

"loses" (another interpretation of the title "victory")
 "wins" (the peace and the quiet; the power to be afraid again)
 "too much fear" (anger)
 "not enough fear" (fears death)
 Vatch v. Weddel (hypocritical (but: class))
 "And you fought four years to free us, I understand."
 but: war + killing Weddel = "victorious"

Setting

Tennessee mountains (isolation, e.g. Vatch mistakes Weddel's ethnicity)
 after the Civil War (tension)

Plot

- arrival (Major Saucier Weddel + Jubal)
- first threats (Vatch vs. Weddel – Civil War)
- explanation of Weddel's and Jubal's history
- Weddel meets the girl – asked to leave
- Jubal gets drunk
- Hule and his sister want to leave with SW (marriage)
- the father gives Weddel an ultimatum
- Weddel and Jubal leave – Hule leads them
- Weddel and Hule shot dead (Vatch + his father)
- Jubal about to be shot by Vatch

Narrative

third-person (different POVs, unnamed)
 information revealed gradually (e.g. SW is one-armed, part Native American, ...)

Style

repetition (see themes, + symbols (whiskey, cloak, footwear, ...))
 descriptions, imagery (setting (shabby), characters (quizzical, arrogant)...)
 (free) direct speech
 very detailed (The father spoke a name; Weddel did not catch it; he did not even know that he had missed it.)
 "It's like a music. It's like a singing."

Characters

Union v. Confederacy (see differences in direct speech (style))
 Jubal (black, former slave, caricature (?), compared to a monkey, drunk, speech...)
 Major Saucier Weddel (of Choctaw/French descent, former Confederate officer, wit, bravery, honor, loyal, sense of duty)
 the family of five (tried to avoid the conflict (unable), father, mother and daughter (no names): ignored, abused, controlled)
 Hule (idealizes)
 Vatch (full of hate, fought in the war (sided with the Union), fear, see title)
 "white trash"

Themes

fear (loyalty, escape, power, ...)
 Union v. Confederacy
 prejudice (racism, sexism, identity, class - resentment on "all" sides)
 war (tradition, social change)
 "Thank de Lawd it's just dese hyer mountain trash." (pride)
 tension (identity, class - resentment on "all" sides)