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Literary Analysis

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Literary Analysis

Characterizing people can either bring good or bad, but what will happen when you find out the bad. Assumption can cause confusion and regret fullness. Assuming because someone lives in a bad environment must mean they grow up struggling and having a hard time trying to survive. Isn't always going to lead out in a good effect. Alienation is a separation of a person or a person's affections from an object or position of former attachment; like attachment from one's society/home. As mentioned in the poem he could always detect someone who stole, someone who was less fortunate, or someone who could be a horrible person. Rather than telling someone apart from their clothing or hair. He found a way to follow their habits and pay attention to that to tell from the less fortunate The narrator sits and thinks about all of the people outside the window. He mysteriously kept up with an old mischievous man all night long. But long after he realized the old man was an amazing thief in the night and he no longer wonders about the crowd of London.

In this poem it is clear as mentioned stereotyping can be easily done. As said in an article, "Stereotypes are bundles of characteristics including traits, attitudes, behavioral tendencies, and goals that are associated with the members of a social category (e.g., Aarts et al. 2005; Hilton and von Hippel 1996; Stangor and Lange 1994). Activation of a social stereotype refers to increased accessibility of associations with the social group"(Seeing Is Eating: How and When Activation of a **Negative Stereotype** Increases **Stereotype-Conductive Behavior**). Now reading what the poet has to say about the mischievous man brings thoughts of why him. Why did he follow this guy. Why didn't he follow someone else or why didn't he question the guy once and then leave him alone.

The main character could have just mentioned how the man in the crowd looked a little suspicious and called it a day. But he went on to follow someone he knew nothing about. What if

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that man did something horrific or illegal, then what would have happened. The Man of the Crowd shows first person point of view. The narrator uses "I" a lot because he is talking about himself sitting at a coffee shop and watching people. Yes, it does sound a bit creepy. But it's believable that everyone in their lifetime keeps an eye out on someone. More literary terms being used in this poem are: foreshadowing, anecdote, and epiphany.

This poem in fact did involve some illegal work with the old man and that brought out many feelings towards him. The poem wanted to be known as detective work because it was seen that the old man went and made a crime with a dagger, but returned because of his guilt. They wanted to show that even people being stereotyped could be proved right and sometimes have sympathy. The example of an anecdote was, "Not long ago, about the closing in autumn, I sat at the large bow window.."(Edgar Allan Poe, 1845). The example of foreshadowing is, "the conscience of man takes upon a burden so heavy in horror that it can be thrown down only into the grave...."(Edgar Allan Poe, 1845). The last example of epiphany is when the narrator realizes what is so fascinating about the old man. Poe wanted to express his feelings of strangers and he did in a way that would make people want to be more cautious.

References

The Man of the Crowd. Edgar Allan Poe. (published 1845)

Seeing Is Eating: How and When Activation of a **Negative Stereotype** Increases **Stereotype-Conductive Behavior**.

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