

Plot		Overview	Character		Context (Written 1880)
<b>1</b> The Story of the Door	<i>Passing a strange-looking door whilst out for a walk, Enfield tells Utterson about incident involving a man (Hyde) trampling on a young girl. The man paid the girl compensation. Enfield says the man had a key to the door (which leads to Dr Jekyll's laboratory)</i>	<p>This novella is about man's dual nature. A respectable doctor, Henry Jekyll, experiments and finds that he is able to transform into the criminal and evil Edward Hyde. The text is about human nature – everyone has good and evil inside them. When characters explore their dark side it leads to problems but hiding or denying it can lead to issues too.</p> <p><b>Setting and Symbolism</b></p> <p>The settings are mainly dark and foggy; London streets are presented as threatening. Many objects also represent wider things e.g. closed doors, Jekyll's house, possessions, windows...</p>	Dr Henry Jekyll	<i>A doctor and experimental scientist who is both wealthy and respectable.</i>	<p><b>Victorian Fears</b></p> <p>At the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, there were growing fears about: migration and the threats of disease; sexuality and promiscuity and moral decline.</p>
<b>2</b> Search for Hyde	<i>Utterson is worried because he recognized Hyde's name from Jekyll's will; in the event of his death or disappearance Hyde will inherit Jekyll's possession. Concerned, Utterson visits Lanyon who explains he has fallen out with Jekyll. Utterson watches the door and sees Hyde unlock it, then goes to warn Jekyll. Jekyll isn't in, but Poole tells him that the servants have been told to obey Hyde.</i>		Mr Edward Hyde	<i>A small, violent and unpleasant-looking man. Makes those around him feel disgusted and uneasy.</i>	
<b>3</b> Dr Jekyll was Quite at Ease	<i>Two weeks later, Utterson goes to a dinner party at Jekyll's house and tells him about his concerns. Jekyll laughs off his worries but does ask Utterson to protect Hyde if anything happens.</i>		Gabriel Utterson	<i>A calm and rational lawyer and friend of Jekyll.</i>	<p>The implications of <b>Darwinism and evolution</b> haunted Victorian society. The idea that humans evolved from apes and amphibians led to worries about our lineage and about humanity's reversion to these primitive states.</p>
<b>4</b> The Carew Murder Case	<i>Nearly a year later, an elderly gentleman is murdered in the street by Hyde. A letter to Utterson is found on the body. Utterson recognises the murder weapon as a broken walking cane of Jekyll's. He takes the police to Hyde's house but are told that, apart from the previous night, he hadn't been there for two months. They find the other half of the cane and a burned cheque book.</i>		Dr Hastie Lanyon	<i>A conventional and respectable doctor and former friend of Jekyll.</i>	
<b>5</b> Incident of the Letter	<i>Utterson goes to Jekyll's house and finds him 'looking deadly sick'. He asks about Hyde but Jekyll shows him a letter that says he won't be back. Utterson shows the letter to his clerk, Mr Guest, who notices the writing is very similar to Dr Jekyll's.</i>		Richard Enfield	<i>A distant relative of Utterson and well-known man about town. Sunday walks with Utterson.</i>	<p><b>Victorian London</b></p> <p>The population of 1 million in 1800 grew to 6.7 million in 1900 with a huge numbers migrating from Europe. It became the biggest city in the world and a global capital for politics, finance and trade. The city grew wealthy.</p>
<b>6</b> Remarkable Incident of Dr Lanyon	<i>Hyde has disappeared and Jekyll seems more happy and sociable until he becomes suddenly reclusive. Utterson visits Dr Lanyon on his death-bed, who hints that Jekyll is the cause of his illness. Utterson writes to Jekyll and receives a reply that suggests he is has fallen 'under a dark influence'. Lanyon dies and leaves a note for Utterson to open after the death or disappearance of Jekyll. Utterson tries to revisit Jekyll but is told by Poole that he is living in isolation.</i>		Poole	<i>Jekyll's butler. He has worked with him for 20 years.</i>	
<b>7</b> Incident at the Window	<i>Utterson and Enfield are out for their usual Sunday walk and pass Jekyll's window, where they see him confined like a prisoner. After a brief chat, suddenly Jekyll's face has a look of 'abject terror and despair' and the window is slammed shut. Shocked, Utterson and Enfield leave.</i>		Sir Danvers Carew	<i>A distinguished gentlemen who is beaten to death by Hyde.</i>	<p><b>Robert Louis Stevenson</b> was born and raised in Edinburgh, giving him the dual identity of being both Scottish and British. Edinburgh was a city of two sides - he was raised in the wealthy New Town area, but spent his youth exploring the darker, more sinister side of town.</p>
<b>8</b> The Last Night	<i>Poole visits Utterson and asks him to come to Jekyll's house. The door to the laboratory is locked and the voice inside sounds like Hyde. Poole says that the voice has been asking for days for a chemical to be brought, but has rejected it each time as it is not pure. They break down the door and find a twitching body with a vial in its hands. There is also a will which leaves everything to Utterson and a package containing Jekyll's confession and a letter asking Utterson to read Lanyon's letter.</i>		Mr Guest	<i>Utterson's clerk and handwriting expert.</i>	
<b>9</b> Dr Lanyon's Narrative	<i>The contents of Lanyon's letter tells of how he received a letter from Jekyll asking him to collect chemicals, a vial and notebook from Jekyll's laboratory and give it to a man who would call at midnight. A grotesque man arrives and drinks the potion which transforms him into Jekyll, causing Lanyon to fall ill.</i>		<b>Themes</b>		
<b>10</b> Henry Jekyll's Full Statement of the Case	<i>Jekyll tells the story of how he turned into Hyde. It began as a scientific investigation into the duality of human nature and an attempt to destroy his 'darker self'. Eventually he became addicted to being Hyde, who increasingly took over and destroyed him.</i>		The duality of human nature		Two sides to every man; they can't be separated successfully. Stevenson commenting on society which can't be all good nor can it be divided into good and evil.
		Science and the unexplained		The advance of science during the Victorian period was a source of pride and fear.	
		Reputation		The way people are viewed by society; in some cases reputation matters more than anything else. Stevenson presents the idea that reputations cannot be trusted.	
		Rationality		Basing your world view on facts.	
		Secrecy and silence		Throughout the novella secrets are kept. Repeated references to silence.	
		Gothic		Popular, often sensationalist, genre which gives voice to taboos and that which we are afraid to confront.	