

“The Gift of the Magi”

1. Read the beginning of “The Gift of the Magi,” by O. Henry.
❖ **STOP** reading when the narrator states, “Oh, and the next two hours tripped by on rosy wings. Forget the hashed metaphor. She was ransacking the stores for Jim's present.”
2. When you are finished reading, **answer the following questions:**
 - How is their home described?
 - How does the description reinforce what you understood from the opening paragraphs?
 - What has happened to Della and her husband?
 - Why does buying the right present for Jim seem important to Della?
 - What does Della realize when she sees herself in the mirror?
 - What possessions do they value?