

Homework Assignment: The Two-Sided Coin

Name: _____

Date: _____

Creative Writing 2 | Week 2

Core Prompt

Take today's in-class character (or invent an new one) and write the **same event twice** through two distinct journal entries and voices.

Watch for who's telling the story. Listen for what's missing. Notice when a sentence lands a little too carefully.

Every narrator is a choice. Make it a deliberate one.

Craft Notes: The Unreliable Narrator

- **Resist the Cartoonish:** Stronger writers avoid extreme, wild-eyed villains screaming *"I'm not mad!"* A reliable-feeling lie builds **dramatic irony**—where the reader sees what the teller cannot.
- **Subtle Clues:** Tiny word choices let the reader know the truth, even when your narrator refuses to admit it.

Common Motives Behind the Unreliability:

Motive	The Driving Force
Self-Delusion	Believes their own story.
Pride	Cannot allow themselves to look small.
Fear	Driven by the dread of getting caught.
Innocence	Simply doesn't know any better.

Context Setup

- **Character Names & Roles:**

- The Shared Event:

Assignment Specifications

Feature	Reliable	Unreliable
Narrator Style	Mostly reliable, objective observer.	Unreliable narrator with a heavy bias.
Lens	Honest onlooker; wide-angle camera. The camera doesn't lie, but it might leave things out.	Eyes that lie—to us, or to themselves first. Let a motive peek through.
Length	100–150 words	100–150 words

Writing Workspace

Version A:

Version B:

Submission Checklist

- **Due:** Next class period (10/8)
- **Format:** Bring printed, write neatly on a separate piece of paper, or share a doc link with:
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