

Q 9

Though Angela Carter refutes the idea that the stories that ~~comprise~~ together comprise 'The Bloody Chamber' as 'adult fairytales' or versions of fairy tales, this does not remove the dark ~~idea~~ ^{idea} that the content of these tales originates in the fairy tales we have told to our children for centuries. This darkness, in itself, introduces this sense of comedy, that is almost entirely unfunny.

don't forget

In 'The Company of Wolves' it is evident that the idea was developed from latent content found in the classic 'Little Red Riding Hood'. It even, up until a certain point, ^{vaguely} follows the ~~the~~ template of the original story, a girl taking a basket of food and such to her elderly grandmother who lives deep in the woods. But here, the girl meets a man, portrayed as not too dissimilar to the Marquis in 'The Bloody Chamber' which already introduces the idea of sexuality to the text. Though, when the girl reaches the cottage, she is greeted by the man, she discovers that, unlike the fairy tale, where the grandmother is gobbled up whole, the man, now distinctly more wolflike, has had his way with ~~the~~ ^{the} grandmother. (I don't know if this actually happened or I have got it confused with a film) In light of this occurrence, when the wolf utters the words 'All the better to see you with...' or altogether more complex and disturbing ~~effect~~ effect is created. Unsettlingly humorous, the kind that



doom & commerd laughter, or even joy.

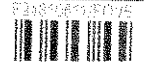
The clerical role of 'Werewolf' straight out of a budget horror movie that is filled by the Duke in 'Wolf Thrice' is also, arguably, darkly comic. His 'paper-thin' skin and 'seabed' body revolts us, depicts him as frail and decrepit. Yet he transforms into a horrifying beast, salivating at the bared teeth and growling. This, paired with the endless ~~sadness~~ emptiness of his life before the transformation, with his 'Luracotta' walls awash with pain, ~~is~~ holds some unsettlingly ^{comic} ~~comedic~~ value. How his existence can be so bleak, and evoke such pity, yet he becomes this ^{heroic} creature that we could conjure up in a few minutes, is just strangely amusing.

An interesting argument, taking the writer's methods into account.



Another story that could, in an altogether unpleasant and disconcerting sense, be construed as 'darkly comic' is 'The Snow Child'. It may strike one as unsettling upon first consideration, but there are certain aspects to this text that allude to dark comedy. We are told of the Count, who proceeds to wish for a child 'black as ebony' 'white as chalk' and 'red as blood'. To which he is granted a waif-like, pale girl with coal-black hair and blood-red lips. There is nothing more to the wish; the Count merely says it and it is his, he must take no consideration, nothing so quickly as she is created, she is destroyed; destroyed by jealousy conjured by the Count's own wife. This creation of hate has created gothic imagery and a morose little ending evokes a certain sadness within its audience. Though these ~~these~~ aspects do not offer the darkly comic quality which we seek. Remember how, with one sentence, the snow child came into existence, and into the possession of the Count? And how the child is just as quickly removed from existence? This is where the dark comedy lies; the Count, whose figurative perfume reeks of greed, of passing desire, and the primitive notion of - 'I want, GIVE!' gets yet another thing he lusts after for a fleeting few minutes. Except that this time, it is not for good. For what may be the first time, the Count is deprived of the object of

Confidently expressed
with
style



his demise, which is, arguably, fully deserved,
And we can all derive a slight of
dark humour from somebody or other
getting exactly what they deserve ✓

(Sorry I know this probably isn't an answer
on your sheet but it is just the impressions
this particular text gave me)

Band 5-29

Agreed

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A well argued personal response in
which several points are developed
and analysed; effective analysis of
the genre is evident. Quotations are
well chosen.