



Kate Chopin

February 8, 1850 — August 22, 1904

Advanced Placement
English Literature & Composition

Childhood

- Catherine O'Flaherty born in St. Louis, Missouri
- Bilingual and bicultural; French and English
- Attended St. Louis Academy of the Sacred Heart
- Recurring traumas
- Commonplace book

1870

Irish beauty meets Oscar Chopin

Louisiana

1871

1871-9

Motherhood

Widowhood

1882

Relocation to St. Louis

The Awakening and other literary works

Death

Romanticism

- 1800-1840
- Anti-Neoclassicism
- Emphasis on fancy, imagination, emotion, nature, individuality, and exotica

Realism

- 1865-1915
- Details of actual life
- Realists tried to write truthfully and objectively

Local Color

- Use of characters and details unique to a particular geographic area
- Created by use of dialect and desc. of customs, clothing, manners, attitudes, scenery, and landscape



Writing Influences

- Guy de Maupassant
- Women's Rights



Things to Consider While Reading

Psychoanalysis

Social
obligations

Independence

Imagery

The Story of an Hour



*by
Kate Chopin*

Work to be Explored

- "The Story of an Hour"



Fay Weldon
1931 — 20??



Early Life

- Born in England; grew up in New Zealand
- University of St. Andrews
- Failed marriage and single motherhood



Later Life

- In 30 years: 20 novels, collections of short stories, television movies, newspaper, and magazine articles
- Divorced Ron Weldon in 1994
- Married again; poet Nick Fox
- First writer-in-residence at the Savoy Hotel in London
- Appointed Professor of Creative Writing at Brunel University in London
- Currently living in Dorset, England with husband.



Work to be Explored

- "IND AFF (or Out of Love in Sarajevo)"

Things to Consider While Reading

Sexual
warfare

Historical
allusions