

Lamb To The Slaughter Questions

instructions: On a separate sheet of paper, completely and thoughtfully answer the following questions.

1. Although she killed her husband, there's plenty of evidence in the story to support the argument that Mary Maloney actually loved her husband very much. Looking back over the text, write down two quotes that show her love for Patrick. Yes, I want you to write down the full sentences.

2. The author does not tell us what Patrick says to Mary to explain his reason for wanting to leave. What do you think was Patrick's reason for wanting to end his marriage?

3. Why, do you suppose, the author doesn't tell us the reason? What is accomplished by using this story-telling strategy?

3. Dahl could have had Mary kill Patrick with a package of steak or a block of ice. Why, do you suppose, he chose the leg of lamb? Symbolically, why is this an interesting choice?