

Lola's 8.2 Updates

Summary of "Heat Lightning", Lola's chosen play:

The play, "Heat Lightning", in *Between the Lines 11* on [page 127](#) is a short one-act play about a girl who leaves a party late at night in a rainstorm and runs out of gas on the way home. She sees a car and calls to the owner whom she then notices is dragging a body from his trunk. She runs away in the rain with the murderer chasing her and makes it to a nearby bus station. At that time of night, only one person is there, a well-dressed man whom she trusts because of his concern for her safety. She tells him what has happened and is fearful of the killer showing up. Shortly after, another man, disheveled and sopping wet, enters the bus station. She assumes he is the murderer, and terrified, she avoids him, staying close to the first man, who calms her. The bus finally arrives, and the sodden man invites her to come with him. When she refuses, he gets on the bus and leaves. This is when the girl sees the first man carrying the flashlight she dropped at the murder scene and realizes she made a horrible mistake. The lights close on the scene as the first man closes in. This play is very suspenseful and uses a lot of dialogue and lighting to create sinister effects.

Lola's 8.2 Update: Scene Tweets



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Tweet important information from your protagonist's point of view. Consider significant events, character development, and what you know about play techniques and elements of story and plot (conflict, rising action, resolution, etc.)

Scene 1

@CharacterPOV Tweeted...

My car's **wrecked** and there's a big storm! Trying to find help, I think I just saw a scary man dumping a body—A BODY! I dropped my flashlight trying to get away from him!

Scene 2

I made it to the bus stop! Thankfully when I got there, a really nice man rushed up right away to ask what was wrong. I told him what I'd seen outside. He's terribly kind, and dressed like a gentleman, and tried to calm me down.

Scene 3

The first man is on my side—he says I should tell the police as soon as I can, but I'm scared about it—I don't remember what the murderer looks like. The first man is very reassuring though!

Scene 4

A second man peeked in the window, nearly scaring me to death! It's him; I know it is! The first man said he will keep me safe. The second man is very talkative, and scares me, though he tries to be nice. He thinks I shouldn't be scared of the lightning, but it's the lights. The lights keep flickering—I don't want to be in the dark with him, the killer!

Scene 5

The bus has just arrived! More than anything I just want to get out of here, but the **killer** is getting aboard the empty bus. He even invited me to keep him company! But ... **the nice man** is staying here so I'm going to stay here with him instead!

Scene 6

I remembered what I saw! I have made a terrible mistake! The man—the nice man—he's the one! He had my flashlight in his pocket-- it was him all along! Oh no, the lights have gone out!

Lola, the play says the girl's car is out of gas.

To keep this simple, refer to him as the second man.

You have said both are nice in their own way—do you mean the first man here?

Lola's 8.2 Update: Blog Entry of Girl from "Heat Lightning"

Delete the unnecessary comma.

"I seen" is not grammatically correct. Consider "I saw", "I witnessed", or "I observed" instead.

Who is "him" here? Himself, or the other man? Be specific.

Here, you have given a clear idea that you understand the theme of the play—nice work!

My fate, is that I had a chance to escape, and I didn't take it and something terrible happened to me. I ended up staying behind because the man whom I thought was the murderer I seen outside, left on the bus. I should have realized that the real killer would have wanted to stay behind to take care of the girl who saw him disposing of his victim, but I was so scared that I couldn't calm down and think straight.







The real killer didn't call any attention to him or give any information about himself either. The second man was talkative and friendly with me, and that should have tipped me off. Appearances aren't always what they seem. I didn't get a chance to "change", because my poor judgment led to me being killed. So...that sucks.

Lola, I appreciate your writing in Girl's voice but this comment adds little to your post.

This comma joins two long sentences that would be more effective if separated.

Lola, this is a very basic response—I wonder if you could give some more specific details from the play to support your ideas about Girl's thoughts and feelings.

Lola's 8.2 Update Assessment

Value	Tweets and Blog
 Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> You present an <i>insightful</i> understanding of the poem and play. <input type="checkbox"/> Your ideas are supported with <i>deliberately chosen</i> details. <input type="checkbox"/> Your text is organized <i>skillfully</i> for a unifying effect . <input type="checkbox"/> You write with the <i>distinct</i> voice of the main character.
 Proficient	<input type="checkbox"/> You present a <i>thoughtful</i> understanding of the poem and play. <input type="checkbox"/> Your ideas are supported with <i>relevant</i> details. <input type="checkbox"/> Your text is organized <i>capably</i> for a unifying effect . <input type="checkbox"/> You write with a <i>convincing</i> voice of the main character.
 Satisfactory	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> You present a <i>basic</i> understanding of the poem and play. <input type="checkbox"/> Your ideas are supported with <i>sufficient</i> details. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Your text is organized <i>adequately</i> for a unifying effect . <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> You write with an <i>ordinary</i> voice.
 Limited	<input type="checkbox"/> You present a <i>simplistic</i> or <i>confused</i> understanding of the poem and play. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Your ideas are supported with <i>insufficient</i> or <i>inaccurate</i> details. <input type="checkbox"/> Your text is organized <i>inadequately</i> . <input type="checkbox"/> You write with an <i>inconsistent</i> or <i>awkward</i> voice.
 Resubmission Needed	<p>Your attempt to respond is insufficient. Contact your teacher to discuss suggestions for improvements and resubmission of your work.</p>
TOTAL: 11.5/20 = 58%	
 Assessment	<p>Areas of strength: <i>Lola, you clearly understand the play and the perspective of the character. You also had a clear idea about the resolution and theme of the play. You took into consideration some of the effects the author achieved with lighting by referring to them in your tweets.</i></p> <p>Might I suggest . . . <i>Your tweets and your blog posting were overly simplified. I would have liked less summary with the tweets and more attention to details in the play. In your blog posting, you listed several ideas but mentioned little evidence from the play. Having evidence would have made your ideas more logical and expanded the response.</i></p>