

Personal

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surprise to Della. So he does not tell her about it earlier. He also wants to give an ideal gift to his wife. He purchases a set of comb to his wife.

The time of giving presents comes. Both of them are happy. They think that they are giving the best presents to each other. Jim is surprised to find Della without hair. On the other hand, Della is surprised to find that Jim is without the watch now. Both of them console each other. Della says to Jim that her hair grows very fast. So their presents become useless. But O. Henry calls them the Magi or the wisest persons. In the eyes of people, Jim and Della are foolish persons. The reason is that they celebrate Christmas in its true spirit.

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Della (R. Short stories) B.A. D (S) Eng.

O. Henry has described the love and sacrifice of the poor couple in the story, "The Gift of the Magi". It is criticism of our society. There is good amount of romance in it. At the same time, Henry has given a good character sketch of the couple.

Della and Jim are husband and wife. They love each other heart and soul. They are ready to sacrifice everything for their life partner. In this story the character is not like that of hero and heroine. It is not a case of hero set against a heroine. They are equally heroic. They share the love and sacrifice equally. They are one in the same.

Della counts her savings. It comes to one dollar eighty cents. She is keen to present a gift to her husband on the eve of Christmas. Her husband Jim has a gold watch. But it is without a chain. She wants to present a good chain to him. But her saving is not sufficient. She stands before a looking-glass. She finds her hair very beautiful. She cuts it off. She sells it. She buys a fob-chain for her husband. She does not tell Jim about it in advance. She wants to give a surprise to him.

On the other hand Jim sells his gold watch. It is the proud heritage of his ancestors. He wants to give