**Vocabulary from “The Story of an Hour”**

• **Afflicted**: (adj.; verb to afflict; noun affliction): to distress with mental or bodily pain; trouble greatly or grievously.

➢ “Knowing that Mrs. Mallard was **afflicted** with a heart trouble, great care was taken to break to her as gently as possible the news of her husband's death” (1)

**• Veiled**: (adj): partially concealed, disguised, or obscured.

➢ “It was her sister Josephine who told her, in broken sentences; **veiled** hints

that revealed in half concealing” (2).

• **Hastened**: (past participle of the verb to hasten): To be quick to do something.

➢ “He had only taken the time to assure himself of its truth by a second

telegram, and had **hastened** to forestall any less careful, less tender friend in bearing the sad message” (2).

• **Forestall**: (verb): To prevent or obstruct an anticipated event by taking action ahead of time.

➢ “He had only taken the time to assure himself of its truth by a second

telegram, and had hastened to **forestall** any less careful, less tender friend in bearing the sad message” (2).

• **Aquiver**: (adj.): quivering; trembling

➢ “She could see in the open square before her house the tops of trees that were

all **aquiver** with the new spring life” (5).

• **Elusive:** (adj.): Something difficult to find.

➢ “She did not know; it was too subtle and **elusive t**o name” (9).

• **Yonder:** (noun): At some distance in the direction indicated; over there.

➢ “But now there was a dull stare in her eyes, whose gaze was fixed away

off **yonder** on one of those patches of blue sky” (8)

• **Tumultuously**: (adv.): Making a loud and confused noise; excited, confused or disorderly (adj. tumultuous)

➢ “Now her bosom rose and fell **tumultuously**” (10).

• **Bosom**: noun: a woman's chest.

➢ “Now her **bosom** rose and fell tumultuously” (10).

• **Keen**: (adj): Sharp or penetrating; having or showing eagerness or enthusiasm.

➢ “The vacant stare and the look of terror that had followed it went from her

eyes. They stayed **keen** and bright.” (Paragraph 11)

• **Exalted**: (adj.; verb to exalt): raised or elevated, as in rank or character; of high station.

➢ “A clear and **exalted** perception enabled her to dismiss the suggestion as

trivial” (12)

**• Elixir**: (noun): a magical or medicinal potion.

➢ “No, she was drinking in a very **elixir** of life through that open window” (18).

**• Unwittingly**: (adv.): unwitting (adj.): not knowing, unaware

➢ “There was a feverish triumph in her eyes, and she carried herself

**unwittingly** like a goddess of Victory” (20).

• **Importunities**: (pl. noun): an importune request or demand; importune (adj.): persistent, especially to the point of annoyance.

➢ “She arose at length and opened the door to her sister's **importunities”** (20).