

“LAMB TO THE SLAUGHTER” (p.10) by Roald Dahl

1. Describe Mary Maloney’s conversation with Sam, the grocer. Explain why it becomes very important in the story.
2. Describe Mary Maloney at the beginning of the story. What kind of wife does she appear to be?
3. How can you tell that Patrick Maloney is preoccupied?
4. What clues does the writer give about how Mary feels as she hears the news that Patrick is leaving her?
5. What is Mary’s first concern as she builds her alibi?
6. Examine the story carefully. Make a list of references where the author has created suspense. How is suspense created at each of these points?
7. Find two examples of foreshadowing. Explain each example (what you think at the time it occurs and how your understanding changes later in the story).
8. Answer #3 and #4 on page 18 of Sightlines.