

APPENDICES

Synopsis of Mary Reilly

Mary Reilly is the story about Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde seen through a different perspective. The story is seen from Reilly's point of view, who is Dr. Jekyll's intelligent and dutiful housemaid. Reilly is always with her unemployed father at home while her mother is too busy working to make a living for the family. Her father is abusive and cruel. Reilly is being tortured by her alcoholic father without any reason when she was a child. One day, her father puts her in a small closet with rats that bite her and leave scars on her hands and neck. What her father has done to her results in traumas that she always remembers.

Mary works at Dr. Jekyll's house as one of his housemaids. Dr. Jekyll is curious about the scars on her hands and also on her neck. He finds Mary's past life to be interesting, and then he tells her to write about it and give it to him to read.

Strange things happen in the house when her master is busy with his scientific works in the laboratory. Her master is often ill and he often locks himself in the laboratory.

There is also a new person in the house, who is her master's assistant, Mr. Hyde. Everything in Dr. Jekyll's house becomes more complicated because one of her master's friends is murdered. Reilly is curious about what happens as she suspects that the murder case is related to Dr. Jekyll. She tries to find out about the murder case. Mary is soon drawn into her master's dark world and slowly begins to know her master's terrible secret. Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde are actually the same person.

Biography of Valerie Martin

Valerie Martin, who is an American novelist and short story writer, was born in 1948, Missouri. She graduated from University of Massachusetts, Amherst, where she received an MFA in creative writing in 1974. Her teaching career is at various universities, Mount Holyoke College, The University of New Orleans, University of Alabama, and Sarah Lawrence College. She lives in New York.

She is the author of nine novels, three collections of short stories. Her first novel, Set in Motion was published in 1978. Her other works, Alexander (1979), A Recent Martyr (1987), The Consolation of Nature and Other Stories (1988), Mary Reilly won Kafka prize (1990), The Great Divorce (1993), Italian Fever (1999), Salvation: Scenes from The Life of St. Francis (2001), Property (2003) won the Prestigious Orange Price, The Unfinished Novel and Other Stories (2006), Trepass (2007).

Her novel, Mary Reilly is an intertextual narrative that retells the story of the classic horror story of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde from the point of view of Dr. Jekyll's housemaid. In 1996, with the same title Mary Reilly, this novel was made into a movie by Columbian Tristar. The film stars are Julia Robert as Mary Reilly and John Malkovich as Dr. Jekyll.

Source : "Biography of Valerie Martin"