The Tell Tale Heart

* There was a man, an old man, and cops
* The man was crazy and he knew it but he thought it was a ‘good’ type of crazy
* He could hear really well- better than anyone else
* The old man had an eye that drove the narrator crazy but we do not know really what
* The narrator ‘loved’ the old man but he still creeped on him at night
* The narrator watched the man for 7 nights and on the 8th night, he killed him!!
* He suffocated the old man in his own bed
* After killing him, he chopped up the body and put it under the floor.
* After killing the man the narrator went crazy! – he started to hear a heartbeat and he thought it was the old man’s coming from the floorboards
* When the cops were there, he confessed to them about killing the old man
* We do not know what happened to the man after he confessed, we just know that he told the cops where the body was hidden
* I think the narrator was talking to a reporter and sharing his story
* We do not know who he is talking to exactly
* It was a creepy story

The Most Dangerous Game

* The setting takes place on an island that is owned by General Zaroff
* Both the general and Rainsford are superior hunters
* Rainsford has published a book on big game hunting
* Whitney is only in the beginning of the story
* Rainsford falls off of his yacht and swims to the island
* When he is in the water, he has to take his clothes off to help him swim
* Ivan is the “butler” for the general- he is deaf and ‘dumb’
* The general likes to hunt people because he considers them to be ‘big game’ and it offers a challenge that animals cannot offer (reason)
* Rainsford does not like this idea of big game hunting but he is forced to play in order to survive
* Rainsford defeats the general and the story eludes to him “winning”
* The general is very rich- he owns the island, many dogs, fancy food and wine that is imported onto his island
* The nickname for the island is called “Ship-Trap Island” because people crash on the rocks or their boats sink from the tides and it forces the sailors to swim to his island
* Rainsford kills Ivan and one of the dogs

The Necklace

* Main lady in the story is very ungrateful – she always wants more than she can afford
* Her husband works all day and is grateful for the life they have together
* He knows that his wife is unhappy so he gets an invitation to a big party
* She is unhappy because she has nothing to wear to the party
* He uses his money to buy her a dress, even though he was saving up for a rifle
* She borrows a necklace to complete her outfit
* They go to the party- she has a marvelous time being courted by all the men at the party but her husband is tired and lays in a chair at midnight
* When they leave at 4a, she realizes that she lost the necklace at some point but HE goes out to find it
* They do not find the necklace so they post ads in the newspaper offering rewards and hoping someone will return it
* They buy a new necklace and spend 10years working to pay it off
* In the end, we learn that the necklace she borrowed was fake and they spent 10years working to pay off a fake necklace
* DEPRESSING
* While they are working, she is still ungrateful and thinks back to that night where she felt rich and cherished by everyone at the party

The Ransom of Red Chief

* There was a little boy and he was very annoying
* The boy’s name was Johnny but he was also ‘Red Chief’
* The two kidnappers were professionals at being criminals
* They wanted to kidnap the boy then ask for $2,000 in ransom from his father
* As they spent time with the boy, they started to lower the ransom because he was so annoying and violent
* Sam did the majority of the work while his partner took the beatings from the boy
* The boy liked to ask a lot of questions that really do not have answer.
* He also liked to say random facts about his life that do not pertain to the men
* He wanted to play Indians when they first kidnapped him
* They slept and hid out in a cave
* The boy tried to scalp the man while he was sleeping, using a knife that they used to cut bacon the day before
* He had red hair
* When they wrote the letter to the father, they only asked for $1500 because they knew the dad would not pay $2,000
* The father did not pay the ransom because he knew that his child was annoying.
* The kidnappers went to Canada instead of Chicago

The Monkey’s Paw

* Another depressing short story
* Father, mother, son and military friend
* The friend was in possession of the paw at the beginning of the story but he gave it to the family before he left
* He knew that it brought trouble but he still left it for his friend
* They wished for 200 pounds
* They got the money but it was at the cost of their son
* After the son died at work, the parents did nothing by live
* They did not talk because they were both sad and were not sure what to talk about
* After he died, the mom decided that she wanted to try and wish her son back to life
* He had been dead for 10 days
* There was a knock at the door but they were not sure what it was
* The dad thought it was his son and he did not want to see him after being dead for 10 days
* Mother did not care because all she cared about was seeing her son
* Before the mother is able to open the door, the husband wishes for something that we do not know and the knocking at the door stops