

Sheila - Cheatsheet

3 Key Facts

1. Sheila is engaged to Gerald Croft. This match takes place partly so her father can become a closer business associate of Lord and Lady Croft.
2. Although Sheila mistreats Eva Smith, Sheila's attitude changes throughout the play as she becomes a better person.
3. When Sheila hears about her role in Eva's death, she is upset. She accepts responsibility and agrees that her actions were unacceptable.

Key Quotations

"Mummy – isn't it a beauty?" (Act 1)	Sheila is presented as childish by using 'Mummy'. She plays the stereotypical young, pre-war, higher-class woman whose role is to marry well and produce children.
"Mother, I think that was cruel and vile" (Act 2)	Sheila has shifted from her initial child-like behaviour to telling off her mother and openly disagreeing with her.
"It frightens me the way you talk" (Act 3)	Sheila becomes increasingly more socially aware and more upset by the family's actions. She worries that her parents have not learnt anything.

The Most Important Questions

What is Sheila's connection to Eva Smith?	Sheila went shopping at Milward's (where Eva worked). She got Eva fired because she felt that Eva was laughing at her.
What does Priestley show his society through Sheila's character?	Priestley uses Sheila to show how attitudes of wealthy, higher-class people can be changed through educating them.
What is Sheila like at the beginning of the play?	Sheila starts the play feeling very happy with her privileged life.
How does Sheila represent women in society?	Sheila represents the rising importance of women in society. She begins to involve herself in political ideas and shows that she wants to work for a fairer society.
Who in society does Sheila represent at the end of the play?	Sheila represents the future generations who needed to learn and grow in order to create a better, fairer society.

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<p>“Mummy – isn’t it a?” (Act 1)</p>	<p>Sheila is presented as childish by using ‘Mummy’. She plays the stereotypical young, pre-war, higher-class woman whose role is to well and produce children.</p>
<p>“Mother, I think that was and vile” (Act 2)</p>	<p>Sheila has shifted from her initial child-like behaviour to telling off her mother and openly disagreeing with her.</p>
<p>“It me the way you talk” (Act 3)</p>	<p>Sheila becomes increasingly more socially aware and more upset by the family’s actions. She worries that her have not learnt anything.</p>

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