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Analysis of The Foreigner

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Catherine Simms



*Photo from <https://www.thelineofbestfit.com/reviews/albums/femme-debutante>

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Breakdown

1. Play - The Foreigner

2. Character - Catherine Simms

3. Overall Objective – I want to have a life full of *real* meaning and purpose.

4. What is at Stake – I am going to have a child with a man who cares more about a ministry than he cares for his own future wife. I have the potential to be unhappy for the rest of my life, with, virtually, no family. I feel like my life is suppose to begin but now that I am trapped in this life, I don't know if I'll even get to have one. I need people who let me be by myself, listen to me, and accept me. I haven't found that yet.

Definitions:

- Sterile – Cannot produce children
- Funny Farm – slang term for a psychiatric hospital
- Revolving Restaurant - a tower eating space designed to rest on top a broad, circular platform that revolves and operates as a large turntable. The building remains still and the diners are carried on the revolving floor.
- Scaring up – to find or get together w/ considerable labor
- Liable – most likely to do something

Biography

Hey there, my name is Catherine Ann Simms. I was born November 1, 1965 in Berkley Lake, Georgia. My parents' names are Geoffrey and Edna. My dad created the business Simms Prepared Meats and became pretty rich. I grew up in a house with 8 bedrooms, 6 and half bathrooms, and indoor and outdoor pool, a home theatre, and more things than many people can imagine. I have one younger brother named Ellard. He was my best friend growing up. We would play with each other all of the time, I would dress him up in my clothes, and do so much other stuff. Ellard was always there for me and I for him. I care about him so deeply and am extremely protective over him. I was on decent terms with my parents; we were not too close but not too distant. Like most parents in a wealthy family, work and social status often took precedent over quality, family time. We often had babysitters for most of the time growing up and my parents didn't really attend the activities I was in. But the one thing my parents always made sure they were involved in was my manners and steps to be a "lady". So most of my life I was sheltered and not allowed to make too many mistakes because ladies had to be perfect. My mom made sure that I had the proper social life, social friends, and so on. Thankfully, I had times where I could break free from that and feel like a kid that could get dirty and make mistakes. Ellard and I were able to sneak away and swim in the lake. Our parents hated the mud, fish, and other things surrounding it. But I loved it! Since then, I have always enjoyed breaking away to go to a lake nearby. Wherever I am, I always find a lake to walk by, and sometimes I swim in it. But before I hit high school, my mama left the family without so much as a word. We have no way to contact her and have no idea where she is. She's basically dead to me.

These past few years, it has been all about my debutante lessons. My daddy made me give up sports in order for me to become the "proper lady" that they wanted me to be. He was very strict regarding my behavior and appearance. But there were some time where he would let me loosen up and have a bit of fun. He would let me and some of my friends take the private jet places and we would have champagne and other fun stuff. We'd usually fly out to Rodeo Drive and go on shopping sprees. Sometimes, I would tell my parents that we were going to Florida when we'd actually fly to Vegas and do all the sinful things that they wouldn't like! Debutante stuff wasn't all that bad; a majority was crap, but not all of it. I felt like I was trapped in a world with girls I didn't really have much in common with. I wanted to have fun and be goofy sometimes and they looked down on me for it. Also, a lot of the people in debutante world seem so fake to me. They would act like they cared about my problems, but they really don't. Plus, if I would confess things to them about my life that they didn't like, then they would automatically judge me. In life, I feel like I haven't found that person I can confide in without being judged or turned away from. So I keep a lot of stuff to myself. I don't want to, but I haven't found anyone I can trust with that yet.

Guys were always showing me attention in school. At first, it was great and I really enjoyed it. But I soon found out that a majority of the guys in Georgia are Grade A

jerks. They all were interested in two things only: sex and reputation. Call me old fashioned, but I wanted my first to be with someone nice, caring, and, most importantly, someone I loved. When they found that out, they usually ran out the door. But my senior year of high school, I met a kind, sweet, and cute man that was a valley at a debutante ball I was attending. His name was David and our meeting was so cute that it could have been a movie. Unlike the immature and selfish boys in high school, he was a man that was kind, caring, and sensitive. And I could tell that he was super interested in me so that made it even more fun! When he brought the car back after the ball, I slipped a paper with my number in his pocket. He was a few years older than me and I loved that. I was done with the stupidity of boys my age. I wanted a man and that is what he was!

The first date was so fantastic and out of the ordinary. We went apple picking, to farmer's markets, and a bunch of other places to get food that we had for a picnic at the end of the day. Then the next few dates were just as adorable. He made me feel so special that it was unbelievable. Then when we had been dating for a few months, he revealed me that he was a Reverend. To be honest, I was surprised and not surprised at the same time. He is a very good person; like extremely good. He always put others before himself, and is always loving towards people. He doesn't seem like the typical judgey people that I see at church. So since we were together, I thought I'd support him and go a few Sundays a month. The women there were extremely judgmental and made me feel like I was inferior to David. But I am able to overlook it most of the time because David and I care for each other.

We took things pretty slow the first few months. We would often do cute things like holding hands, quick kisses and so on. But once we were officially committed, things started to heat up. We were basically doing everything except sex. With his sweetness, commitment, and love mixed with his touch was so satisfying. Oh. Man. I have never felt so thrilled and titillated in my entire life. Not too long ago, David confided in me and said that he would never be able to have children. Also, he said that he'd understand if he'd want to stop seeing me, but he first told me that he loved me very much and that he was ready to consummate our love. I told him that I needed a few days to think. I definitely did not want kids until later in life. I wanted to travel, socialize, and be free for most of my twenties. But then again, being with someone where I'd never be able to give birth to my own children...That's a pretty tough pill to swallow. But I begin to think of how David made me feel physically and I definitely wanted to go all the way with that. To rationalize, I figured I could adopt a few children eventually. But for now, I wanted to have sex with David real bad. And it was absolutely terrific.

Once David and I became an established couple, his work and ministry started to take him away from me. His father made him the head reverend of the church and he started to do more service work. At this time, I had stopped my debutante stuff. My mother was not happy, but the fact that I was dating a preacher made up for it a bit. I had stopped going to church as often. I felt like the people there would just glare at me and it made me feel like I wasn't good enough. I was trying the best I could to fit the "good person" bill that David needed and they weren't making me feel better. But David has been so incredibly sweet. He has never told me to change one hair on my head and we both love each other. He ALWAYS knows what to say

and do to make me feel better. And even though he's gone a good deal of time, when he comes back the sex is amazing. Every single time! But I still have this feeling of not being good enough; no matter how hard I try.

But a few weeks ago, David asked me to be his wife with a romantic picnic like our first date. Of course I said yes! I had always wanted to get married and Daddy is going to pay for the wedding of my dreams and it's going to make all of the other girls jealous that didn't like me in the debutante world. I'm hoping I will start to feel like David's equal in the marriage. I don't want to stop being myself, but I want to stop feeling that way. Oh well, I'm sure I'll get over it like I have with many other things.

Right now, I'm going through a little rough patch with Ellard. His brain is starting to deteriorate a bit and it scares the crap out of me. He is my best friend and one of the few people I trust with confiding in about a few things. His memory is growing short and he is starting to hear people say things that they didn't. Also, he is now very quiet and doesn't say too much. Not even to me. This just frustrates me more than people know because that is not the brother I grew up with. The brother I grew up with is very smart, talkative, outgoing, and friendly. I don't want the Ellard to go away. I need him back because he is one of the few people that I care about more than anything in this world. And, about a year ago, my daddy passed away. Even though we were not super close, it is still so hard to lose a parent. The fact that me and Ellard are on our own at a pretty young age terrifies me. I am pretty scared about what the future holds and if I will find my place in this world.

Now that brings me up to speed with what is happening now. We are visiting Betty's lodge that my family and I so often did as a child. For a few weeks, I have been showing signs of pregnancy and praying to God that it is not true. I didn't want to do it, but I finally made myself get a pregnancy test. But I thought I was just fooling myself because David told me he was sterile. And I know for a FACT that I'm only having sex with David. I know I'm good in the commitment area. But I just found out that I am pregnant....What?! There is absolutely no way. Was David lying to me? I can't have that. I need to go check for the truth with him.

Four Levels of Characterization

1. Physical – I am 20 years old and 5'7". By American's standards, I guess I'm considered attractive. I have medium, blonde hair, average built, and a strong, Georgian accent. I have blue eyes, quite a bit of freckles, a wide face, straight teeth, I enjoy walking and running, especially around the lake so I have pretty strong legs. Growing up in upper class and debutante life, I still care about my clothes and make up. My appearance is something that I feel I can actually offer to society. I was raised to be polite than anyone could ever imagine, but there are definitely times where I let anger get the best of me. But I have also learned the way to bash someone with politeness down south.

2. Social – Definitely upper class. I am an heir to my parent's home in Berkley Lake. Around my parents, colleagues, and most of my friends, I am expected to act and talk a certain way. I usually have to talk about debutante things, girly things, upper class stuff, and all that crap. We are never allowed to talk about feelings; it shows a sign of weakness. But I definitely like to unwind by myself. I don't unwind too much with Ellard anymore since he has changed. It's been hard for me to watch. I wish I could say that I felt like I could unwind with David. He's just so good that if I feel like I'd vent to him then I wouldn't be worth his time. I'm really trying to be good enough for him and hopefully us getting married will help me feel better. As an heiress and a woman of the south, you have to tolerate a lot of fake, judgmental, and just plain crappy talk. And don't even get me started on the bimbos that I have to deal with all the debutantes. Many of them were so surfacey and wouldn't know a meaningful conversation if it slapped them in the face. Amidst all this, I think there is a middle ground: It is important to be polite to people, but it's not ok to pretend like everything is "hunky dory" when it isn't.

3. Psychological – Sometimes I can let crankiness get the best of me. If I'm irritated by something or there is a problem in my life, I tend to take it out on the people around me. I don't like when I do this, but yet I keep doing it anyway. But I truly am very kind to people and want to please them. I'm not too shy of a person, I can be pretty blunt when I feel it is necessary. But I do not want to come across as rude; I really do not want to be rude to people. When people are being successful, I really enjoy encouraging them. I really

enjoy seeing good people prosper. I love when people are happy and giddy around me. It makes me feel so good. I'm a very intelligent girl. I'm definitely a thinker and the lake is my co-thinker. I do all my thinking around lakes because it just feels so right. I also have a very protective instinct. When someone I love is hurting or is in danger, I go into fight mode. I will protect them from getting scared and I will fight for a way out for them. I'm especially like this with Ellard. If he's in danger, I will protect him no matter what.

4. Moral – Not too sure about the God thing. I definitely don't believe this world was created from an explosion that came from a piece of matter and everything magically fit together though. But all I know is that I do not like how most people of the church are. I'm not saying they are all that way, but I have met a lot of vicious and judgmental ladies in churches in the south. I have not really been to the north a lot, but in the south it's not too great. David is one of the few exceptions. He is very sweet and very into sex (which can be rare with Christians). But he seems to put the needs of the church over my own and I do not really like that. Anyway, I believe in trying to be the best person I can. Even though I do not feel like I reach it a lot, I certainly try my best. I think being rude is so wrong and disrespectful to people.

Four Given Circs Questions (Quotes directly from play *The Foreigner* by Larry Shue)

What Do I Say About Myself?

- “I’m just going nuts, I guess. I’m probably just ready for the funny farm.”
- “I am not edgy.”
- “I don’t ever do this.” (In big monologue)
- “I’m just a little bit weary this morning.”
- “I just get a little sick and tired of things from time to time.”
- “I just keep thinking if he knew me a little better he wouldn’t...”
- “I don’t think I was cut out to be a decent person.”
- “Somebody that is just so good that you (me) feels vile most of the time.”
- “I was one of those little cutie patooties.” (Debutantes)
- Some people are just meant to be a waste of food and I think I’m one of them. I’m good at it.”
- “I’m all right.”
- “I’m not going to worry anymore. I’m just not.”

What Do Others Say About Me?

- Betty – “She’s real well off.”
- David – “I love you. We’re meant to have a family.”
- Owen – “She goes through a lot of candles.”
- David – “We couldn’t wait until November. We’re too much in love.”
- Charlie – “I shall miss them (me included) terribly.”
- David – “You’ve helped enough.”
- David – “I loved you, Catherine!”
- Betty respond to me and Ellard staying – “That’ll be the next best thing to having kids.”

What Do I Actually Do?

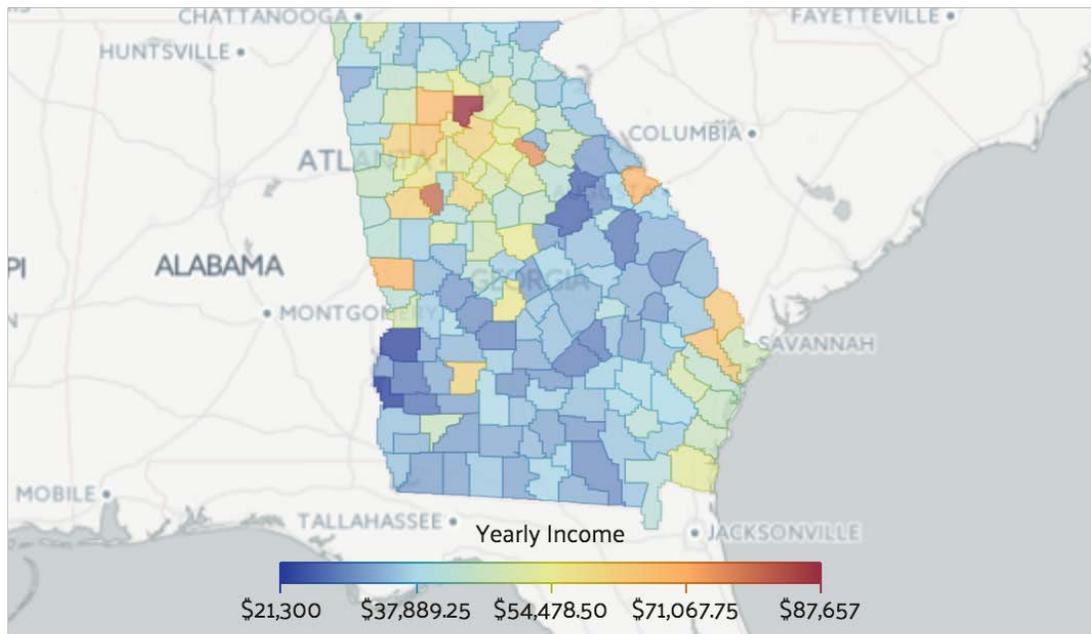
- I find out I'm pregnant
- I agree to making the wedding to David earlier
- I open up to someone for the first time about my problems (Charlie)
- I get to see my baby brother be a teacher.
- I decide he's smart enough to have half of the inheritance.
- We find out Owen is in the Klan and have to devise a plan in order to trick them.
- I find out that David is also with the Klan and wanted to marry me and use my money to support him.
- I kick David out.
- I decide that Betty is not going to move out of the house and Ellard and I are going to move in with her.
- I get Charlie to also stay with us.

Research

State of Georgia

- Named after King George of Great Britain
- Consists of 159 Counties
- 24th Largest and 8th most populous of the 50 states
- Race (1990's) – White – 71%; Black – 27%; Asian-1.2%
- Some Major Cities – Atlanta, Columbus, Augusta
- Recent Religious Stats – 70% Protestant, 9% Catholic, 1% Mormon, 1% Jewish, 0.5% Atheists and other unaffiliated peoples are 13%

Income by Location in Georgia



Dataset: 2014 ACS 5-year Estimate
Source: Census Bureau

DATAUSA*

State Symbols

- Amphibian: [American green tree frog](#)
- Bird: [brown thrasher](#)

- Butterfly: [eastern tiger swallowtail](#)
- Dance: [square dance](#)
- Fish: [largemouth bass](#)
- Flower: [Cherokee rose](#)
- Food: [grits](#), [peach](#), [Vidalia onion](#)
- Fossil: [shark tooth](#)
- Gem: [quartz](#)
- Insect: [European honey bee](#)
- Mammal: [White-tailed deer](#) ^[127]
- Marine mammal: [right whale](#)
- Mineral: [staurolite](#)
- Nicknames:
 - "Peach State"
 - "Empire State of the South"

*Info and photo of Georgia directly from
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Georgia_\(U.S._state\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Georgia_(U.S._state))

A “Southern Lady”

A lady is simply someone who cares about herself and others. She sees that her garments are clean and neatly pressed, her shoes are polished, and every button is in place. She is neat and tidy even at the breakfast table and wishes to appear well to her own family. She keeps her hair clean and well-groomed and never puts her hand to her hair to re-arrange it or search for loose pins while others can see.

A lady does not monopolize the conversation. She does not talk of herself and her own affairs but listens with well-simulated interest to a story that bores her. This is the mark of good breeding. She does not sit apart with one or two friends but makes the gentle effort to assure a good time for all with pleasant conversation. A lady does not say or do anything that will upset those around her or make them uncomfortable.

A lady does not let any man kiss her or put his arm around her unless she is engaged to be married to him, and even then she should be a little stingy with her favors.

A lady, when she brushes off her hat, does not forget to brush away the cobwebs...in her brain. She does not conclude that every man who has said something pleasant to her has fallen in love with her.

A lady is possessed of refinement, which prevents her from all fidgeting, from playing with her handkerchief, her umbrella, her purse, or whatever may be in her hands. When she sits down she remains quietly, her hands resting easily without movement and her whole figure is filled with repose. She is calm, composed, self-controlled at all times, yet there are no airs about her. These qualities are what keep her from talking and laughing loudly, and they prevent her from hurting the feelings of anyone.

A lady does not grow weary in well-doing but encourages herself by trying to live up to her ideal of a woman.

Southern Manners and Etiquette

The word “ticket” is French. In the days of kings and queens, in France you had to have a ticket to enter the palace for any court function. This ticket (or invitation) meant that you knew how to *act properly*.

Why is it important to have good manners? All people like to be treated with kindness, courtesy and respect. Good manners are the rules that developed out of the need for one person to treat another person in a respectful, friendly and courteous manner. Children, like adults, like to feel important. Good manners cause adults to welcome your presence and treat you well. Your popularity with others will increase. People like to be friends with other people who have good manners.

Do not confuse good manners with conduct for special occasions such church, parties, weddings, etc. Good manners are something you do every place and every day. Our friendships and relationships are based on how we treat others on a daily basis.

Sitting

Women/Girls:

1. Legs together, or legs crossed at ankles, or legs crossed at knees, or legs together – leaning at angle.

Never:

1. Bend over to pick up. Stoop.
2. Sit with legs apart.
3. One leg crossed over knee of other leg.
4. Straddle a chair.

Conduct at the dining Table

Before coming to the table, be clean, neat, appropriately dressed (wearing a shirt and hair combed) and wash & dry your hands. Be on time.

1. Your napkin should be placed in your lap, folded halfway.
2. The first person to take a bite of food should be the person who prepared the meal.
3. Sit up straight with both feet on the floor.
4. Never rest your arms/elbows on the table.
5. Eat with one hand and rest the other in your lap.
6. Men and boys can help women be seated (pull out their chair).
7. Talk only of pleasant things at the table, and don't interrupt another person.
8. Don't talk with food in your mouth.
9. Never say you don't like something that is being served. Take a small helping and eat it out of respect for the cook and host. You don't have to have seconds.
10. Food is passed to the right.
11. Do not overload your plate.
12. Chew with your mouth closed.
13. When serving yourself, be sure and use the serving utensil, not your own utensils.
14. When eating soup, spoon away from yourself.
15. Never reach for food, say, "Would you please pass the _____."
16. Before talking or drinking, be sure you do not have food in your mouth.
17. Never spit food out if it is too hot. Drink water to cool off the food.
18. Use your napkin to clean your mouth and hands before getting up from the table.
19. If you must sneeze at the table, use your napkin and sneeze downward and away from others and your plate.
20. You may leave the table when everyone is finished. Children may ask to be excused early if adults wish to stay and talk. Children should address whoever prepared the meal and say, "I enjoyed my meal, may I be excused?"
21. When finished, place napkin to the left side of your plate, or if plate has been removed where plate was.
22. When leaving the table, be sure to push your chair under the table.

Maintaining Your Honor and Integrity

Family is important to Southerners probably more so than to others living in these United States. Our tradition is such that we tend to be "clannish." Stand by your family. The bonds you have with family are such that no matter what, you will always have them. As a dependent living with your parents, you should always defer to their authority. Once on your own, you are the boss, but you should still show respect for your parents and all they have done to raise you.

Once married, you, your spouse and any children you have are your immediate family. Parents and siblings become extended family. Priorities should be immediate family and then extended family. If you put a sibling or your mother or father before your spouse, don't expect the marriage to last. Having your priorities out of order is not

honorable and having a failed marriage due to misplaced priorities is definitely not honorable.

***Info on "A Southern Lady" directly from**
http://www.knowsouthernhistory.net/Culture/Manners/table_of_contents.htm

Debutantes

A **debutante** or **deb** (from the French *débutante*, "female beginner") is a girl or young lady from an aristocratic or upper class family who has reached the age of maturity and, as a new adult, is introduced to society at a formal "debut" presentation. Originally, it meant the young woman was eligible to marry, and part of the purpose was to display her to eligible bachelors and their families with a view to marriage within a select upper class circle. Debutantes may be recommended by a distinguished committee or sponsored by an established member of elite society.

Debut presentations vary by regional culture and are also frequently referenced as "debutante balls," "cotillion balls" or "coming-out" parties. The male equivalent is often referred to as "beautillion ball." A lone debutante might have her own debut, or she might share it with a sister or other close relative. Modern debutante balls are often charity events: the parents of the debutante donate a certain amount of money to the designated cause, and the invited guests pay for their tickets. These balls may be elaborate formal affairs and involve not only "debs" but junior debutantes, escorts and ushers, flower girls and pages as well.

A cotillion or *débutante* ball in the United States is a formal presentation of young ladies, *débutantes*, to "polite society," typically hosted by a charity or society. The ladies introduced can vary from the ages of 16 to 21 (younger ages are more typical of Southern regions, while older are more common place in the North) in some areas 15- and 16-year-olds are called "junior *débutantes*."

One of the most expensive debutante balls in the United States is the International Debutante Ball at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City, where girls from families with great wealth are presented at the ball.

To gain entrance to a ball, *débutantes* must usually be recommended by a distinguished committee or sponsored by an established member of elite society, typically their mothers or other female relatives. Wearing white gowns and satin or kid gloves, the *débutantes* stand in a receiving line, and then are introduced individually to the audience. The *débutante* is announced and then is walked around the stage, guided by her father who then presents her. Her younger male escort then joins her and escorts her away. Each

débutante brings at least one escort, sometimes two. Many débutante balls select escorts and then pair them with the debs to promote good social pairings. Cotillions may be elaborate formal affairs and involve not only "debs" but junior débutantes, escorts and ushers, flower girls and pages as well. Every débutante must perform a curtsy also known as the St. James Bow or a full court bow, with the exception of Texas débutantes presenting at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, who perform the 'Texas Dip.' This gesture is made as the young woman is formally presented. Débutante balls exist in nearly every major city in the United States but are more common and larger affairs in the American South. The Christmas Cotillion in Savannah, Georgia, first held in 1817, is the oldest débutante ball in the United States. Many cities such as Dallas and Atlanta have several balls in a season. Dallas, for example, is home of the traditional Idlewild organization, as well as more modern organizations such as the Dallas Symphony Orchestra Presentation Ball and La Fiesta de las Seis Banderas, both of which benefit charities. The National Cotillion and Thanksgiving Ball of Washington, DC., hosted by Mary-Stuart Montague Price, has met every November for over 60 years with proceeds going to Children's Hospital.



***Info and Photo of Debutantes directly from**
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Debutante>

American Upper Class

The **American upper class** is the wealthiest layer of society in the **United States** and is often referred to as **the rich**. People of this class commonly have immense influence in the nation's political and economic institutions as well as public opinion. The American upper class is composed of members born into this class, called members of Old money; as well as those who have acquired their wealth and influence within their own generation, called the Nouveau riche.

Many politicians, heirs to fortunes, top business executives, CEOs, successful venture capitalists, those born into high society, and some celebrities may be considered members of this class. Some prominent and high-rung professionals may also be included if they attain great influence and wealth. The main distinguishing feature of this class, which is estimated to constitute roughly 1% of the population, is the source of income. While the vast majority of people and households derive their income from wages or salaries, those in the upper class derive their income from investments and capital gains.^[4] Estimates for the size of this group commonly vary from 1% to 2%,^[3] while some surveys have indicated that as many as 6% of Americans identify as "upper class." Sociologist Leonard Beeghley sees wealth as the only significant distinguishing feature of this class and, therefore, refers to this group simply as "the rich."^[1]

Functional theorists in sociology and economics assert that the existence of social classes is necessary^[4] in order to distribute persons so that only the most qualified are able to acquire positions of power, and so that all persons fulfill their occupational duties to the greatest extent of their ability. Notably, this view does not address wealth, which plays an important role in allocating status and power (see Affluence in the United States for more).

In order to make sure that important and complex tasks are handled by qualified and motivated personnel, society offers incentives such as income and prestige. The more scarce qualified applicants are and the more essential the given task is, the larger the incentive will be. Income and prestige which are often used to tell a person's social class, are merely the incentives given to that person for meeting all qualifications to complete an important task that is of high standing in society due to its functional value.

American upper class tends to adhere to various Mainline Protestant denominations; Episcopalians and Presbyterians are most prevalent.

***Info on American Upper Class directly from**
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_upper_class

Thoughts from a Preacher's Wife

1. **I wish someone had told me just to be myself.** “I am a people-pleaser by nature, so for me, not being prepared to handle being a pastor’s wife with my personality was a heavy burden to carry early in our ministry.”
2. **I wish someone had prepared me to deal with criticism of my husband and me.** “It was hard to deal with negative experiences, conflicts, or criticisms, especially in relation to my husband and our area of ministry. So I would harbor feelings of resentment when it came to ministry and my man.”
3. **I wish someone had reminded me that my husband is human.** “I wish someone had told me that my husband could not be God for me. I was disillusioned at first to find out that he indeed is just a man.”
4. **I wish someone had told me that others were watching us (the glass house syndrome).** “Even though they are watching us, we don’t need to be controlled by what they expect of us.”
5. **I wish someone had told me there are some really mean people in the church.** “I was really surprised. I had to learn not to pay too much attention to them or they would get me down.”
6. **I wish someone had told me how much my husband needs me to build him up.** “I need to be his cheerleader. Dealing with critics in the church is difficult. He needs to hear that I respect him now more than ever.”
7. **I wish someone had told me that my schedule will never be normal again.** “Your husband will be very busy. Expect that. But come alongside him in the areas of time management and organization.”

***”Thoughts from a Preacher’s Wife” directly from <http://www.christianpost.com/news/seven-things-pastors-wives-wish-they-had-been-told-before-they-became-pastors-wives-93384/>**

Klu Klux Klan

The **Ku Klux Klan (KKK)**, or simply "**the Klan**", is the name of three distinct past and present movements in the **United States** that have advocated extremist **reactionary** currents such as white supremacy, white nationalism, anti-immigration, and, especially in later iterations, Nordicism,^{[6][7]} anti-Catholicism,^{[8][9]} and anti-Semitism,^[9] historically expressed through terrorism aimed at groups or individuals whom they opposed.^[10] All three movements have called for the "purification" of American society, and all are considered right wing extremist organizations.^{[11][12][13][14]}

The first Klan flourished in the Southern United States in the late 1860s, then died out by the early 1870s. It sought to overthrow the Republican state governments in the South during the Reconstruction Era, especially by using violence against African American leaders. With numerous chapters across the South, it was suppressed around 1871, through federal law enforcement. Members made their own, often colorful, costumes: robes, masks, and conical hats, designed to be terrifying, and to hide their identities.^{[15][16]}

The second group was founded in 1915, and flourished nationwide in the early and mid-1920s, particularly in urban areas of the Midwest and West. It opposed Catholics and Jews, especially newer immigrants, and stressed opposition to the Catholic Church.^[17] This second organization adopted a standard white costume and used similar code words as the first Klan, while adding cross burnings and mass parades.

The third and current manifestation of the KKK emerged after 1950, in the form of small, local, unconnected groups that use the KKK name. They focused on opposition to the Civil Rights Movement, often using violence and murder to suppress activists. It is classified as a hate group by the Anti-Defamation League and the Southern Poverty Law Center.^[18] As of 2016, the Anti-Defamation League puts total Klan membership nationwide at around 3,000 while the Southern Poverty Law Center puts it at 6,000 members total. Although members of the KKK swear to uphold Christian morality, virtually every Christian denomination has officially denounced the KKK

Contemporary Klan

Once African Americans secured federal legislation to protect civil and voting rights, by Republican President, Dwight D. Eisenhower, through the signing of the Civil Rights Act of 1960, and Democratic President, Lyndon B. Johnson, through the signing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and the Civil Rights Act of 1968, the KKK shifted its focus to opposing court-ordered busing to desegregate schools, affirmative action and more open immigration. In 1971, KKK members used bombs to destroy 10 school buses in Pontiac, Michigan. By 1975, there were known KKK groups on most college campuses in Louisiana as well as at Vanderbilt University,

the University of Georgia, the University of Mississippi, the University of Akron, and the University of Southern California.^[166]

Massacre of Communist Workers Party Protesters

On November 3, 1979, five communist protesters were killed by KKK and American Nazi Party members in the Greensboro massacre in Greensboro, North Carolina.^[167] This incident took place during the *Death to the Klan* rally sponsored by the Communist Workers Party, in their efforts to organize predominantly black industrial workers in the area.^[168]

Jerry Thompson infiltration

Jerry Thompson, a newspaper reporter who infiltrated the KKK in 1979, reported that the FBI's COINTELPRO efforts were highly successful. Rival KKK factions accused each other's leaders of being FBI informants. William Wilkinson of the Invisible Empire, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, was revealed to have been working for the FBI.^[169]

Thompson also related that KKK leaders who appeared indifferent to the threat of arrest showed great concern about a series of civil lawsuits filed by the Southern Poverty Law Center for damages amounting to millions of dollars. These were filed after KKK members shot into a group of African Americans. Klansmen curtailed their activities in order to conserve money for defense against the lawsuits. The KKK also used lawsuits as tools; they filed a libel suit in order to prevent the publication of a paperback edition of Thompson's book.

Tennessee shooting

In 1980, three KKK members shot four elderly black women (Viola Ellison, Lela Evans, Opal Jackson and Katherine Johnson) in Chattanooga, Tennessee, following a KKK initiation rally. A fifth woman, Fannie Crumsey, was injured by flying glass in the incident. Attempted murder charges were filed against the three KKK members, two of whom—Bill Church and Larry Payne—were acquitted by an all-white jury, and the other of whom—Marshall Thrash—was sentenced by the same jury to nine months on lesser charges. He was released after three months.^{[170][171][172]} In 1982, a jury awarded the five women \$535,000 in a civil trial.^[173]

Michael Donald lynching

After Michael Donald was lynched in 1981 in Alabama, the FBI investigated his death and two local KKK members were convicted of having a role, including Henry Francis Hays, who was sentenced to death. With the support of attorneys Morris Dees of the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) and State Senator Michael A. Figures, Donald's mother, Beulah Mae Donald, sued the KKK in civil court in Alabama. Her lawsuit against the United Klans of America was tried in February 1987. The all-white jury found

the Klan responsible for the lynching of Donald and ordered the Klan to pay US\$7 million, but the KKK did not have sufficient funds to pay the fine, and had to give up their national headquarters building in Tuscaloosa.^{[174][175]} After exhausting the appeals process, Hays was executed by electric chair for Donald's death in Alabama on June 6, 1997.^[176] It was the first time since 1913 that a white man had been executed in Alabama for a crime against an African American

- **Info on “Klu Klux Klan” directly from**
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ku_Klux_Klan

Rehearsal Journal

9/6 – We had our first rehearsal today! It was a blast reading through the script w/ everyone. I'm so looking forward to get started on this hilarious show. PS we kind of suck at tapeball.

9/7 – We continued reading through today. Elizabeth sat in and listened to our accents. She said mine was pretty close, but I needed to elongate the vowels (at the end of sentences specifically).

9/8 – We started blocking the show. I haven't been in a show with Mark yet, so I loved watching how he worked each moment and blocked simultaneously. It hasn't even gotten to my scene yet, but I'm looking forward to it!

9/12 – We got to some of my scene today! It's so cool to work in the Williams. I truly love that space. Sometimes I really wonder if I have actually improved w/ my acting or just remained the same. But today was an eye opener to the fact that I have actually retained what I have been learning and striving for. I did a lot of work for the show in the summer and I really feel like it's coming across.

9/13 – Still blocking. I made a lot of discoveries about myself today. I realize that I have become more emotionally available on stage. This is something that I have been striving for for a few years. I have begun to learn

how to do my bookwork at home and live in the moment while I'm in rehearsal.

9/14 – We are almost done blocking Act 1. We did a run and I felt like I was trying to copy the emotions I had the other night. I just need to focus on being in the moment and not trying to recreate the same emotions first. The actions and objectives are most important.

9/15 – This was one of the funniest nights of my life. We all told stories in a made up language and it was the most hilarious thing in the entire world. I fell down on the ground laughing multiple times. Then Fox told a story for 20 MINUTES. I needed this night. Especially with the stress that school creates. I'm feeling really close with the cast.

9/20 – We started blocking Act 2 tonight. What I really like about Mark being the director is that he gives us a lot of room to play with the space. He tells us a few places to go, but he mostly lets the actor lead their movements with intention. It's really fun to explore that!

9/21 – We finished blocking Act 2 tonight. And we set the highest record we had for tapeball! It was awesome to see everyone focused on working as an ensemble. It really paid off! Marking has introduced a bit of moment work into our rehearsals. It's been nice because when he usually asks a question, I have an answer! Good to see my bookwork is WORKING!

9/22 – We did a designer run for a few people tonight. It was nerve-racking to do a full run! It went so long. It's mainly because we are all still getting off book. I'm excited for the next rehearsal because we are going to start getting into the nitty-gritty details of the show.

9/27 – Wasn't called yesterday because it was the first half of the show. I really enjoyed tonight's rehearsal Mark gave me a different circumstance than the one I had in my bookwork. Instead, of finding out that I am pregnant a few minutes before going onstage (which I originally intended), I changed in to me waiting for 4 days to tell him. Oh man this made me so mad and act accordingly! It was really cool to feel that happen! And it wasn't forced at all.

9/28 – Continued working moment work.

9/29 – Continued moment work. For the first time in a mainstage, my bookwork has really made me feel comfortable and confident in what I'm doing.

10/4 – More moment stuff. I did my big monologue today. Mark said that whatever I did over the summer, it has been working. It was what we have been working towards for 4 years. Honesty and vulnerability is propelling my work. I really understand this character because a lot of me is in Catherine. It's so amazing to feel this way about a show!

10/5 – More moments and discoveries. Still loving it and I'm trying not to psych myself out and repeating instead of living in the moment.

10/6 – Saw costume ideas today! So pumped. I get to be full on 80s and it is a dream come true. I love the 80s and this kind of makes up for not being able to be apart of the decade that I love more than any!

10/11- We are in the York space now and are adjusting. Playing tapeball and getting a ton better at it. This cast is getting pretty close and I really enjoy working with them all.

10/12 – We started running the show and it is dragging a bit. I think we are still trying to find out the moments and make the discoveries as characters.

10/13 – Oh man. Elizabeth watched the first scene tonight and then gave us notes. It was absolutely rough. She didn't tear us apart, but it felt like we all were extremely disheartened. Mark then tried to give us to talk to boost us up. He saw the potential and said we were going to work to get there. But we couldn't really shake off what Elizabeth said so we ended rehearsal.

10/17 – We are now starting to do runs and then take notes. Today feels much better than the last rehearsal. I think we are getting close to finding our groove, but aren't quite there yet.

10/18- Tonight's rehearsal was amazing! I applied what I've been learning in Viewpoints and it felt so great! We were all having so much fun and it clearly showed. It ran a

little long though so we are going to start working on pacing.

10/19 – We are back in the Williams! Tonight we went through Act 1 at warp speed. And then we had to do it again and make a certain time limit. We didn't make it, so we had to do it a THIRD time! Oh man I was tired, but we need to drill the pacing in us.

10/20 – Did the same pacing thing for Act 2. But we made the time and did not have to go through it a third time! Yay! I really love all the cast mates and the flow we have with each other. The klansmen are coming tomorrow!

10/21 – Did a run of the show and added the Klan. They are hilarious! I'm excited and nervous for tech week. I hope audiences enjoy it as much as I do!

10/23 – Cue to cue. Pretty easy and painless. I love of the elements are coming together for this show. Cast is still tight.

10/24 – Run with lights. Going well!

10/25 – Costumes and crazy hair! I absolutely love it. I'm getting use to now running around in heels. Going surprisingly well!

10/26 – Another run w/ costumes. We are so close to opening and we can feel it.

10/27 – We are SOOOOO ready for an audience. I’m so thankful and grateful for this show. This was one of the best experiences of my life and I will miss it so much.

Journal for Applying Viewpoints to *The Foreigner*

Source Work – Listening to 80s music and studying culture in the 80s was so much fun to do! Not only because I love this decade, but it helped me get excited for rehearsal and have more fun and have a fresh perspective during it. One of the top songs of 1984 was “Wake Me Up Before You Go Go” by *Wham*. I felt like this perfectly describes Catherine. It is a bit bubbly and fun, but also has a sad story behind it. David constantly is away from her and leaving her solo. It’s a great song that I feel emotionally connects me to the character.

When I think of the KKK, I think of fire, hatred, and hypocrisy.

When I think of David (at the beginning), I think of guide, sex, and need.

When I think of David (at the end) I think of betrayal, stranger, and heartbreak.

When I think of Charlie, I think of relief, confession, and completeness.

When I think of Ellard, I think of protection, affection, and frustration.

Behavioral Gestures

I am studying the movements and behaviors of debutantes. Since we not do Viewpoints at rehearsal, I have been doing it at home. So I have been working with my apartment as my “rehearsal space”. So I put on classical music and move around my apartment as if I were a debutante. I did my laundry and approached it as if I were a debutante at a ball. How would she fold her clothes? How would she behave? I think she would have a smile the entire time. She cannot show signs of frustration. She must be poised and make everything seem seamless at her ball. I went around my apartment for 30 mins as a debutante. With every minute detail it would be in that mindset. I really liked exploring using chapstick as a debutante. She would hold it

gracefully and delicately, press it with light force, and smooth it as if it were a ballet sequence. Shoulders are back the entire time, no sudden and abrupt movements, and always a smile on her face.