

p5, Terms of *Contents of a Dead Man's Pocket*

protagonist – The protagonist of the story is Tom Benecke. An employee of Wholesale Groceries, Tom prior to this story had been researching for several months consumer shopping patterns, and facts, statistics, and quotas related to the effectiveness of grocery store displays. After nearly two months of work, he had formulated all this work together to create an idea for a new grocery-store display method, one which he hopes will distinguish him from his peers and allow him to move up in the corporate chain at Wholesale Groceries, his ultimate goal. Tom is also married and lives with his wife, Clare, in an eleventh-story apartment building.

foreshadowing – Foreshadowing is utilized at the beginning of the story when Tom first goes over to and has trouble with opening the window next to his desk, the window which his yellow sheet of notes later blows out of.

suspense – Suspense is utilized as Tom works his way across the window ledge, as he and the reader both know that he is eleven stories high above the ground. We are left wondering whether he will fall, slip, or be thrown off by the wind and fall to the ground below, or if he will successfully complete his goal of reaching the paper.

short story – The story *Contents of a Dead Man's Pocket* is a short story, as it has few pages, few characters, and primarily focuses on a single event and theme, which is the protagonist's dangerous trek along the outside ledge.

scene – The scene of the story is Tom Benecke's apartment on Lexington Avenue in an urban setting, eleventh stories off the ground, first inside his apartment and later on the ledge surrounding the apartment building outside, where Tom tries to make his way alongside the building.