

# 27/30 April 2017



Flannery O'Connor (1925-1964)

“I have found that anything that comes out of the South is going to be called grotesque by the Northern reader, unless it is grotesque, in which case it is going to be called realistic.”

*from “Some Aspects of the Grotesque in Southern Fiction”*

Image from <http://www.sheftman.com/ewrt1a/flannery/flan2.jpg>

Greetings, Wise Fools—

Please place your copies of Flannery O'Connor's short story, “A Good Man is Hard to Find,” out where I can check your active reading while you are WEDGE-ing. Here's how we'll roll today:

1. **WEDGE**— For roughly ten minutes, record your initial analytical responses to “A Good Man is Hard to Find.” If you are feeling in a more creative mood, imagine that you are one of the characters in the story and retell the events from your own first-person perspective.

2. **Large Group Review: “The Destructors” Theme Statements**— If your section did not complete the work during the previous class meeting, we will return to this document for another look:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/ihUAclWw6gWzI\\_eKe6fpgAh7mI\\_y8BMMJOpMMgqZIJHQ/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/ihUAclWw6gWzI_eKe6fpgAh7mI_y8BMMJOpMMgqZIJHQ/edit)

**3. Small Group Work → Large Group Work: More Theme Statements**— Each group will have fifteen minutes to review the key elements of “A Good Man is Hard to Find” (plot, point of view, character, symbol & irony, etc) as steps toward crafting a theme statement for the story and then share that theme statement on the white board. We’ll review this work as a large group, probably culling the best bits from each theme statement in order to synthesize a stronger version.

**4. Getting a Jump on the Homework**— See below.

Tappa! Tappa! Tappa!—  
Mr Leo

**Homework:**

1. If you have not already done so, read the handout entitled “The Grotesque,” which you will find posted to the Moodle page. Add this literary term to your personal glossary!
2. Craft a Speedwrite that compares/contrasts any two subjects in Flannery O’Connor’s short story, “A Good Man is Hard to Find.”

Your Speedwrite must

- Be submitted in MLA ms format.
- Offer a single-sentence arguable thesis in Cause→Effect form that responds to the prompt and reveals a minimum of three (3) supporting points.
- Reveals application of the point-by-point, or “shuttle” method of comparison/contrast writing.
- Include a minimum of three (3) complete body paragraphs, each of which contains
  - a complete ¶TS (transition + claim in C→E form) clearly linked to the thesis
  - sufficient textual evidence in the form of direct quotations
  - citations for textual evidence
  - sufficient reasoning to explain the ways in which the evidence supports the ¶TS
  - appropriate literary terms
  - a concluding summary sentence that does not contain textual evidence.

N.B.: You are not writing a complete essay: Title, Intro, and Conclusion are not required.

**Length:** 400 words minimum/450 words maximum; Indicate your word count in square brackets at the bottom of your document.