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Passion Restored

A seemingly dangerous storm can cause destruction, but it can also cleanse and refresh.

Kate Chopin's "The Storm" centers around a dramatic storm that represents the passionate feelings of Calixta. She is caught between feeling worried about her husband and son, and her passion for someone else. When the storm comes, it relieves her of her worries and satisfies her intense feelings. "The Storm" shows everyone deserves passion.

"The Storm" takes place on a farm during an enormous storm while Calixta is home alone. Calixta loves her son and her husband but feels no passion for him. Instead she feels passion for her old boyfriend Alce. After he comes into her house to take shelter from the storm Calixta says, "'If this keeps up, Dieu sait if the levees goin' to stan it!'" (Chopin 8). Chopin is trying to convey how Calixta doesn't know if she will be able to hold back her passion for Alce. She is giving into her temptations of lust that she had not had in a long time.

The storm represents the old passion between Calixta and Alce. The stronger the storm gets, the stronger their passion gets. Chopin says, "They did not heed the crashing torrents, and the roar of the elements made her laugh as she lay in his arms" (Chopin 8). This shows that the seemingly dangerous storm brings Calixta and Alce closer together. It is represented as something powerful and good rather than something destructive.

When the storm ends, everything returned back to the way it was supposed to be. Calixta was grateful that her husband and son returned home safely. She was satisfied to be back with

her family, and was now more content after fulfilling her passion. In the end of the story Chopin says, “So the storm passed and everyone was happy” (Chopin 9). This shows that she thinks everyone deserves passion and a relationship, but they don’t necessarily need to go along together.

Even though Calixta slept with a man other than her husband, Chopin is trying to express her feelings that it was not a bad thing to do. Chopin thinks people should be able to balance their roles as individuals and still have the relationships they feel they need. Living out one’s passion is something everyone has the right to do. “The Storm” shows everyone deserves passion.