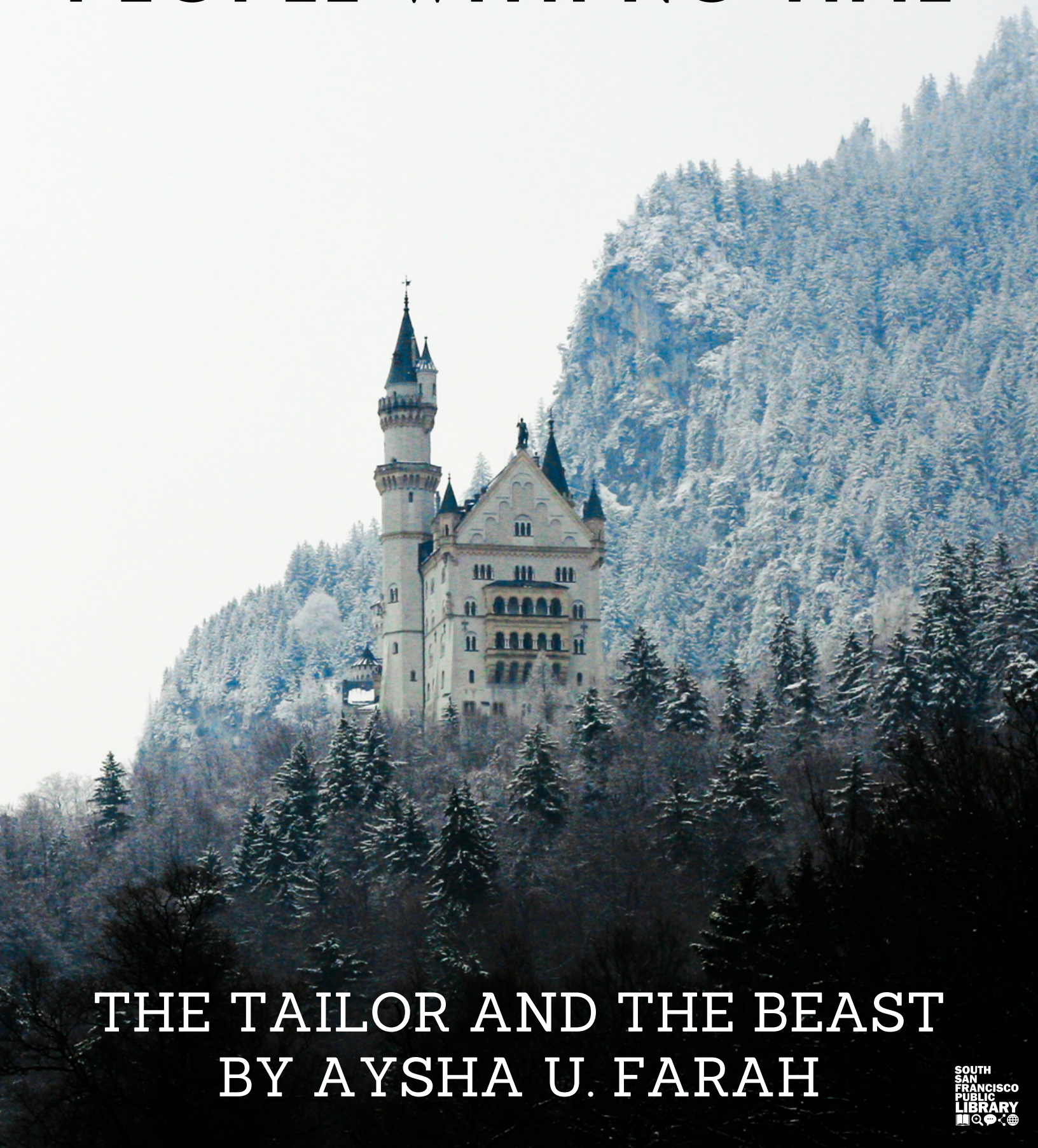


SHORT READS FOR PEOPLE WITH NO TIME



THE TAILOR AND THE BEAST
BY AYSHA U. FARAH

THE TAILOR AND THE BEAST

"A beast dwelt in the castle on the hill."

The Tailor and the Beast starts as a familiar fairy tale, with a beauty (Lucia) and a beast, but quickly takes a turn when Lucia's father, Andrea, a tailor deep in debt, offers himself in exchange for her freedom. The Beast agreeing to this request, leaves Andrea to spend his days walking the grounds and the castle's many empty rooms as he navigates his newfound confinement and isolation.

The Tailor and the Beast is a story of human connection between two very different people who are both kept from the outside world.

[Read "The Tailor and the Beast"](#)

"Aysha [Farah] is full-time freelance writer and game developer, living in the American south and slowly letting moss grow on her philosophy degree. In her spare time she used to enjoy running and urban exploration, but there is currently a plague so she plays video games instead." - bio from [Ratworm Games](#)

[Learn more about Aysha U. Farah](#)

[The Sky Left Us \(Video Game\)](#)

WRITE IT DOWN!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Andrea often thinks about the cruelty of the curse and what it must have be like for the Beast. Why do you think Andrea has so much empathy for the Beast?

Andrea starts to suspect he can ask for his freedom at any time, yet he doesn't. Why?

What does the author mean by this sentence?
"But it seemed the rules in this enchanted castle were different, even the rules that governed his own heart."

Why does the Beast bring Andrea in from the cold and care for him?

Why would Andrea test the Beast by being disruptive? Do you think he considered the possible consequences? At this point in the story, do you think Andrea suspects the Beast won't harm him?

In the capitol and in the village, Andrea could only work when he was *inspired*, often leaving projects unfinished. What changed for Andrea, allowing him to tailor a coat for the Beast?

Though released from his curse, the Beast still believes he is a monster for holding Andrea against his will. Andrea assures the Beast he isn't because he never harmed him. Do you think Andrea forgave too quickly even if he loves him? If you were Andrea, what would you do?

IMAGE AND TEXT: THE ART OF BARBARA KRUGER

“I am interested in working with pictures and words because I think they have the power to tell us who we are and who we aren't, who we can be and who we can never be.”

—Barbara Kruger

Review the artwork of Barbara Kruger.

Consider these questions:

- How would you describe Kruger's imagery?
- Why do you think the artist uses text alongside images?
- How does the text change or relate to the image it is paired with?
- How does visual media as seen in print and advertising influence perception and behavior?
- How can art be a vehicle for social critique?

Discussion questions from National Gallery of Art

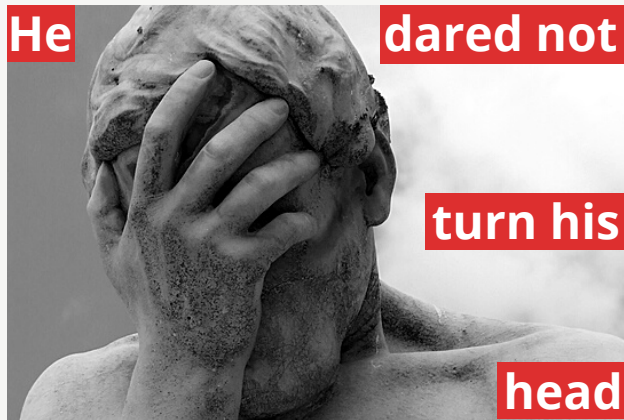
More information about Kruger is available at the Guggenheim.

IMAGE AND TEXT ACTIVITY

Create your own work of art in the style of Kruger using images found online or in magazines. Add text from the short story or makeup your own slogans or aphorisms.

IMAGE AND TEXT

EXAMPLES W/ TEXT FROM STORY



WRITE IT DOWN!

WRITING PROMPTS

SHORT SHORT STORY (100 WORDS OR LESS)

Write a story based off the characters or events of a video game. Not familiar with video games? That's cool. Write a story based on the cover art of a video game.

SHORT STORY

Using *The Tailor and The Beast* as an example, retell another fairy tale. Consider what elements, characters, settings, and plots you can twist or transform to make a new story.

SUGGESTED READINGS

AYSHA U. FARAH AND OTHER AUTHORS

Wonderland
by Aysha U. Farah

This is the Nightmare
by Aysha U. Farah

Cinderella Is Dead
by Kalyann Bayron

A Song Below Water
by Bethany C. Morrow

Cemetery Boys
by Aiden Thomas

Legendborn
by Tracy Deonn

The Hazel Wood
by Melissa Albert

Fables (Graphic Novel)
By Bill Willingham

Review content warnings before reading.



**HAVE COMMENTS OR
WANT TO SUGGEST
A SHORT STORY?**

**EMAIL US!
SSFYOUTH@PLSINFO.ORG**