2202234 Introduction to the Study of English Literature
Semester I, 2018
Monday, September 17, 2018
Handout: Literary Writing Conventions

Read the following passage carefully. Then, discuss irony in the scene. What kinds of irony is at play here? What is ironic? Why is it ironic? How is the irony presented?

> DUFFY. Unless, of course, you have some reason for thinking this call is phoney—and that someone may be planning to murder *you*?
>
> MRS. STEVENSON. *Me*? Oh—no—I hardly think so. I—I mean—why should anybody? I'm alone all day and night—I see nobody except my maid Eloise—she's a big two-hundred-pounder—she's too lazy to bring up my breakfast tray—and the only other person is my husband Elbert—he's crazy about me—adores me—waits on me hand and foot—he's scarcely left my side since I took sick twelve years ago—
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> DUFFY. Well—then—there's nothing for you to worry about, is there?