

Dr Henry Jekyll - Cheatsheet

3 Key Facts

1. Dr Henry Jekyll is a well-respected doctor, a “charitable man”, and a sociable man.
2. Jekyll decides he wants to experiment dividing the two sides of the human psyche and experiments on himself.
3. When Jekyll transforms into Hyde, he feels immense pleasure. But the long-term effects of transforming into Hyde cause him to feel shame.

Key Quotations

“A fortnight later, by excellent good fortune, the doctor gave one of his pleasant dinners to some five or six old cronies, all intelligent, reputable men and all judges of good wine” (3)	Jekyll holds dinner parties and is well-known for his reputable character. He behaves in a socially acceptable way and is very aware of how other people see him.
“He came out of his seclusion, renewed relations with his friends, became once more their familiar guest and entertainer; and whilst he had always been known for charities, he was now no less distinguished for religion” (6)	Hyde disappears for a while, and Jekyll starts to come out of his seclusion and become his old social self: he visits friends and entertains people, goes to church and acts like a religious man.
“Hence it came about that I concealed my pleasures; and that when I reached years of reflection, and began to look round me and take stock of my progress and position in the world, I stood already committed to a profound duplicity of life” (10)	Jekyll kept the sinful side of his personality repressed in favour of appearing to be a socially respectable man.

The Most Important Questions

What do the two parts of Jekyll’s name mean?	"Je" means "I" in French. When "Kyll" is pronounced, it sounds like "kill".
What quotation shows that Jekyll puts on a façade for his society?	He puts on “a more commonly grave countenance before the public”.
What does Jekyll believe about “man”?	Jekyll believes that “man is not truly one but truly two.”
What does Dr Lanyon call Jekyll’s science?	Dr Lanyon refers to Jekyll’s science as “unscientific balderdash”.

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