# FORESHADOWING & FLASHBACK

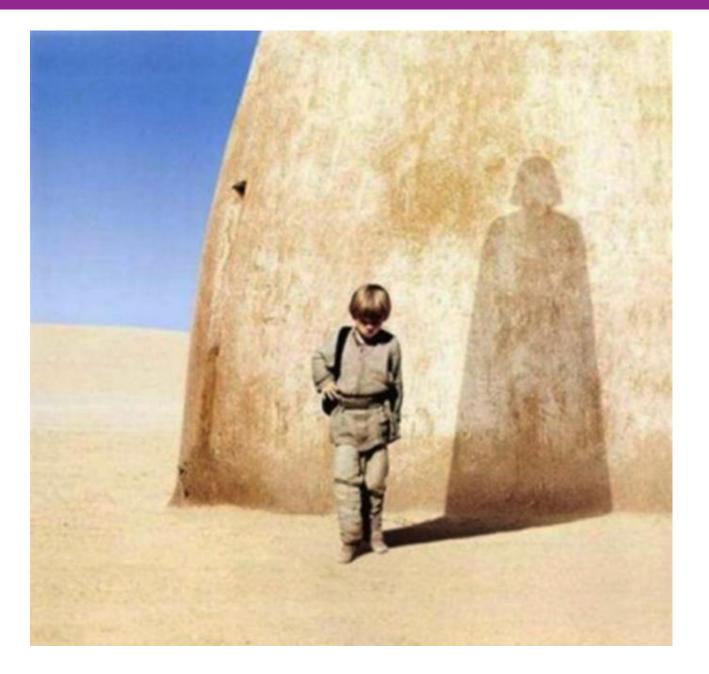
#### Foreshadowing

- When an *author* mentions or *hints* at something that will happen *later* in the story.
  - You can think of foreshadowing as a way of giving the reader a chance to make a *prediction* about what might happen in the story.
- FORE means ahead.
- A **SHADOW** is a glimpse of something without the complete details.

#### An example of foreshadowing:

•Sam wished he could rid himself of the sick feeling in his gut. He was reluctant to go on the trip. He had heard about pickpockets being a huge tourist problem but Jessica couldn't wait.

What do you think might happen next?



### Flashback

## • When an **author** refers **back** to something that already took place in the story.

- Flashbacks are often used to recount events that happened prior to the story's primary sequence of events or to fill in crucial back-story.
- Flashbacks often show what motivates a character or reveal something important about a character's past, including his or her secrets, inner or external conflicts, or significant events that affected his or her life.
- FLASH means a quick glimpse.
- **BACK** is a look back in the story at something that previously happened.

#### Flashback

- Dream Sequence—Occurs when a character has fallen asleep and dreams about events of the past.
  - Sarah was nervous about her performance. She had a dream about her performance from last year when she fell in front of everyone.

**Memory**—Occurs when the character is **interrupted** by thinking about an event in the past. The author will typically put a character in a **place** when something from the past occurs.

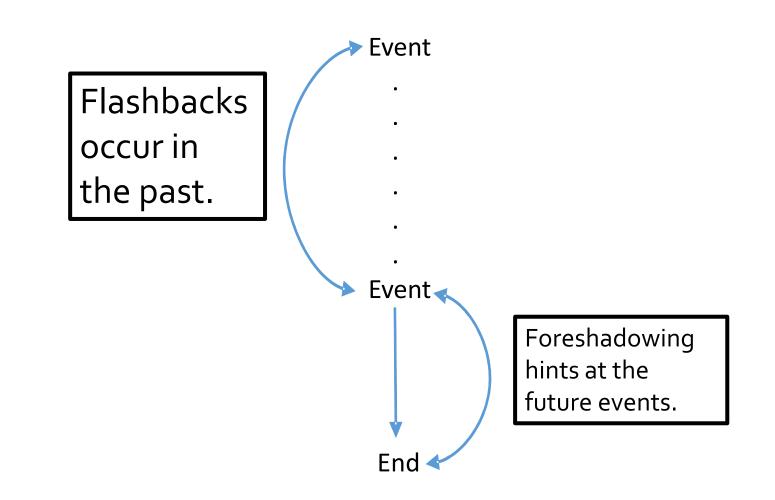
- The character may **see** something, **taste** something, or encounter a **person** who played a **role** in their past.
  - I hadn't had my grandmothers cooking in years but the moment I smelled the oatmeal, I was taken right back to being seven in my grandmothers kitchen, baking cookies.

#### An example of flashback:

Sarah closed her eyes and took a deep breath. It was exactly a year ago today that she stood in this very same spot, trying to do the very same thing. "How could I be doing this?" Sarah thought to herself. She took a deep breath and recalled that embarrassing and humiliating time.

She had sung on stage a million times, but, for some reason, that night was different. As she gazed out to the crowd, she saw them. They never came, yet there they were. Sarah's breath had quickened and her heart began to beat a mile a minute. "I can't do this," she mumbled as she fled the stage.

And now, exactly a year later, Sarah stood, ready to head out on stage. She hoped she was ready.



#### Little Red Riding Hood

 Once upon a time, there was a little girl who lived with her mother. Her mother asked her to take her old and lonely grandmother some food one day. "Don't stop along the way. Go straight to your Grandma's house and back. Don't talk to any strangers and watch out for the wolf in the woods! Now get along!"

➤ Foreshadowing



#### Foreshadowing

•The first set of underlined words is an example of foreshadowing. Little Red Riding Hood's mother is warning her about the wolf in the woods, which hints at what may happen next.

#### Little Red Riding Hood

 While she was walking through the woods, a wolf was walking past her. "I bet I could convince her to take the long way. Then I could get to her grandmother's house first and trick her into thinking that I was her grandma. That way I could have her and her grandma for a large feast," he thought.



#### Little Red Riding Hood

 The wolf went up to Little Red Riding Hood and told her that he knew a shortcut. Little Red Riding Hood thought back to what her mother told her. "Don't talk to any strangers and watch out for the wolf in the woods!" But it was too late, she had already listened to the wolf's directions.

Flashback



#### Flashback

•The second set of underlined words is an example of flashback. Little Red Riding Hood is thinking back to something that happened earlier in the story.

#### The Little Red Riding Hood

 Most know how the rest of the story ends. Little Red Riding Hood and her grandma are saved from the wolf. Hopefully you can understand foreshadowing and flashback now.



#### Remember:

- When an author mentions or hints at something that will happen later in the story, it is called **FORESHADOWING**
- When an author refers back to something that's in the past, it is called **FLASHBACK**

#### Assignment:

On a separate piece of paper, fold it down to make eight boxes. On one side you are going to draw a comic that contains a flashback and one the other side a comic that contains foreshadowing.



