**Storyteller:** Robyn Miller is young, loud, squat, brawny and muscular, but a merry, drunken jokester.

**Motive:** Making fun of the Knight's unrealistic and aristocratic worldview concerning love.

**Motif of Trickster Tricked:** Cheating clerk Nicholas gets his payback "in the end" with hot iron *kultour*.

**Merry Inebriation:** Miller states he is "dronke," and he asks his listeners to blame any bad storytelling on the ale.

**Strategy for Humor:** The Miller mirrors and inverts details in "The Knight's Tale," deflating pretensions through satire.

**Concluding Prayer:** Ends the tale with a blessing, asking God to "save al the rowte," including the Knight and Reeve.

**Sexual Humor:** Humorous location for sex (via sex in tubs hanging from ceiling) after Clerk misleads foolish carpenter through his scholarly knowledge of astrology.

**Object of Affection:** Alisoun is dark-haired, slender as a weasel, earthy, vivacious, fun-loving, and mischievous. She has agency, the power to say "No" to Absolon (if not to Nicholas).

**Antagonist:** John is elderly, thin, gullible, and jealous--physically described in a manner akin to Oswald the Reeve--though Miller claims the this similarity is accidental.

**Urination as Catalyst:** Nicholas getting up "for to piss" in the night brings about his rear-window encounter with Absolon.

**Moon and Open Window:** Alison offers the unknowing Absolon a "full moon" through the window.

**Lesson of Tale:** The Miller gives no specific moral, though the general impression of his satire is that the Knight's view of sexual attraction and courtship is unrealistic.

**Audience Reaction:** Other pilgrims "laughen at this nyce case," and speak of it "diversely." Only the Reeve dislikes it.

**Storyteller:** Oswald the Reeve is old, weak, "sclendre" in build but "colerik" in personality--sullen, quick to take offense, and easily angered.

**Motive:** Attacking the Miller for using a carpenter as the butt of the joke in "The Miller's Tale."

**Motif of Trickster Tricked:** Thieving Miller Symkyn loses his stolen grain/cakes, loses sexual control of wife and daughter, gets beaten.

**Bitter Sobriety:** Reeve describes how, in old age, his wine-barrel of life is tapped, and death has drained all life's alcoholic pleasure except lying, anger, greed, boasts.

**Strategy for Humor:** The Reeve doubles what is in "The Miller's Tale"--two clever clerks instead of one, two women seduced rather than Alisoun alone, etc.

**Opening Prayer:** Begins the tale with a curse, asking God that the Miller's "nekke mote to-breke" so the Miller would die.

**Sexual Humor:** Humorous mix-ups in sex via the "bed-trick" regarding who wanders into which bed accidentally in the dark.

**Objects of Affection:** Symkyn's wife of "noble kyn," but illegitimate birth. In behavior, as "digne as water in a dich" and full of "hoker" or pride. The 20-year old daughter Malyne is grey-eyed and blonde, but her name (Middle English for "dishrag") suggests she is plain.

**Antagonist:** Symkin the miller is muscular, ape-like, dishonest, bald, armed, and violence--with a physique reminiscent of Robin the Miller's bulky strength.

**Urination as Catalyst:** Symkin's wife "wente hire out to pisse," which triggers her mistakenly climbing into bed with John the clerk.

**Moon and Open Window:** The "moone bright" shines through a hole, giving just enough light for Symkin's wife to mistake her husband's bald pate for a clerk's night-cap.

**Lesson of Tale:** The Reeve states "a gylour shal hymself bigyled be," though the Cook interprets the tale's lesson as not to trust guests in one's house.

**Audience Reaction:** Only the Cook likes it, but Chaucer describes no other pilgrims laughing.