

Point of View

“Barracuda”

By John Gardner



I can determine the point of view of the narrator and characters in a poem.

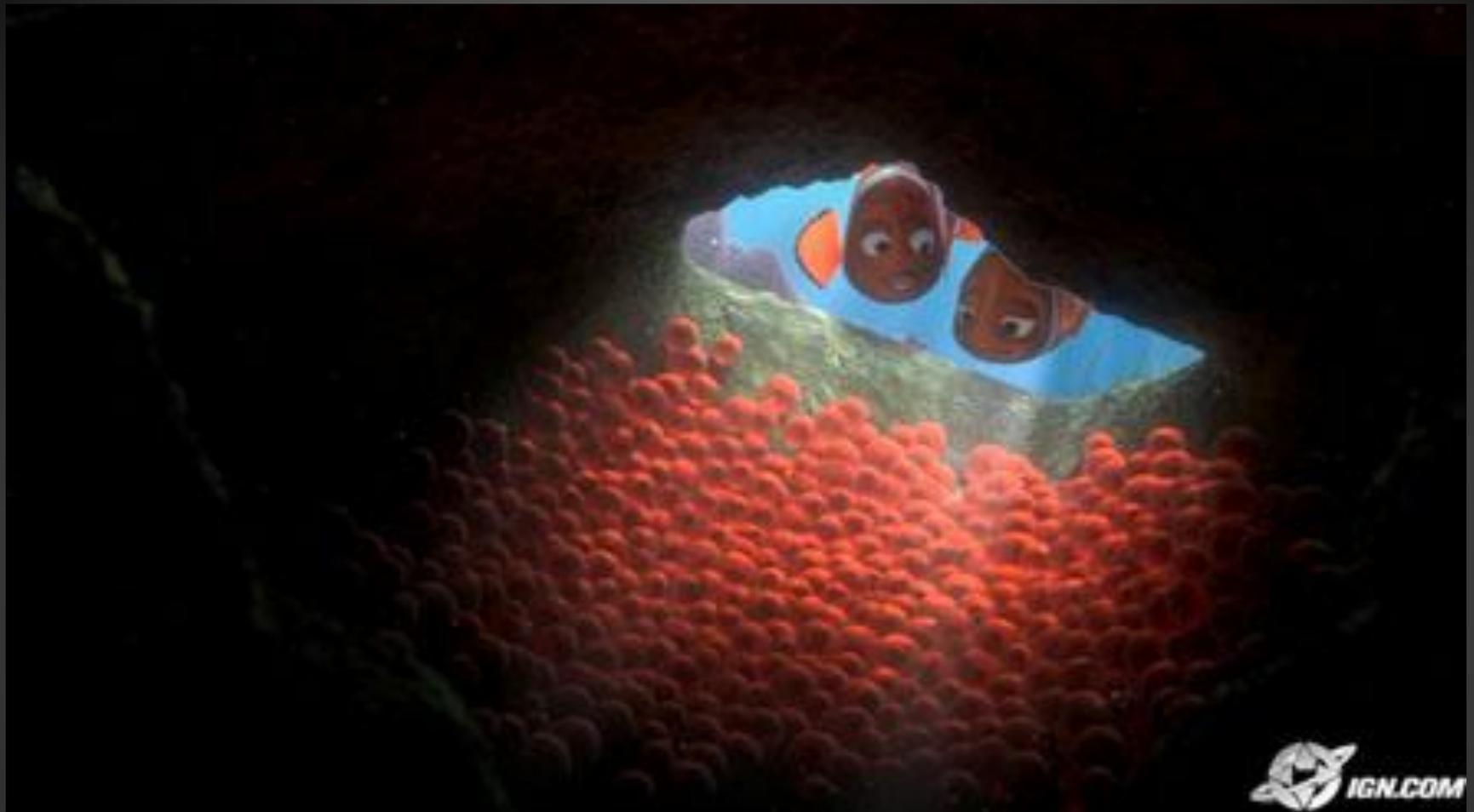
1-I am very lost.

2-I have heard of point of view, but I don't know what it means.

3-I can identify points of view in a story or poem.

4-I can identify the point of view, and I can teach it to a friend.





What happened to the eggs?
What's the name of the "villain" from
this video?

Point of View in literature

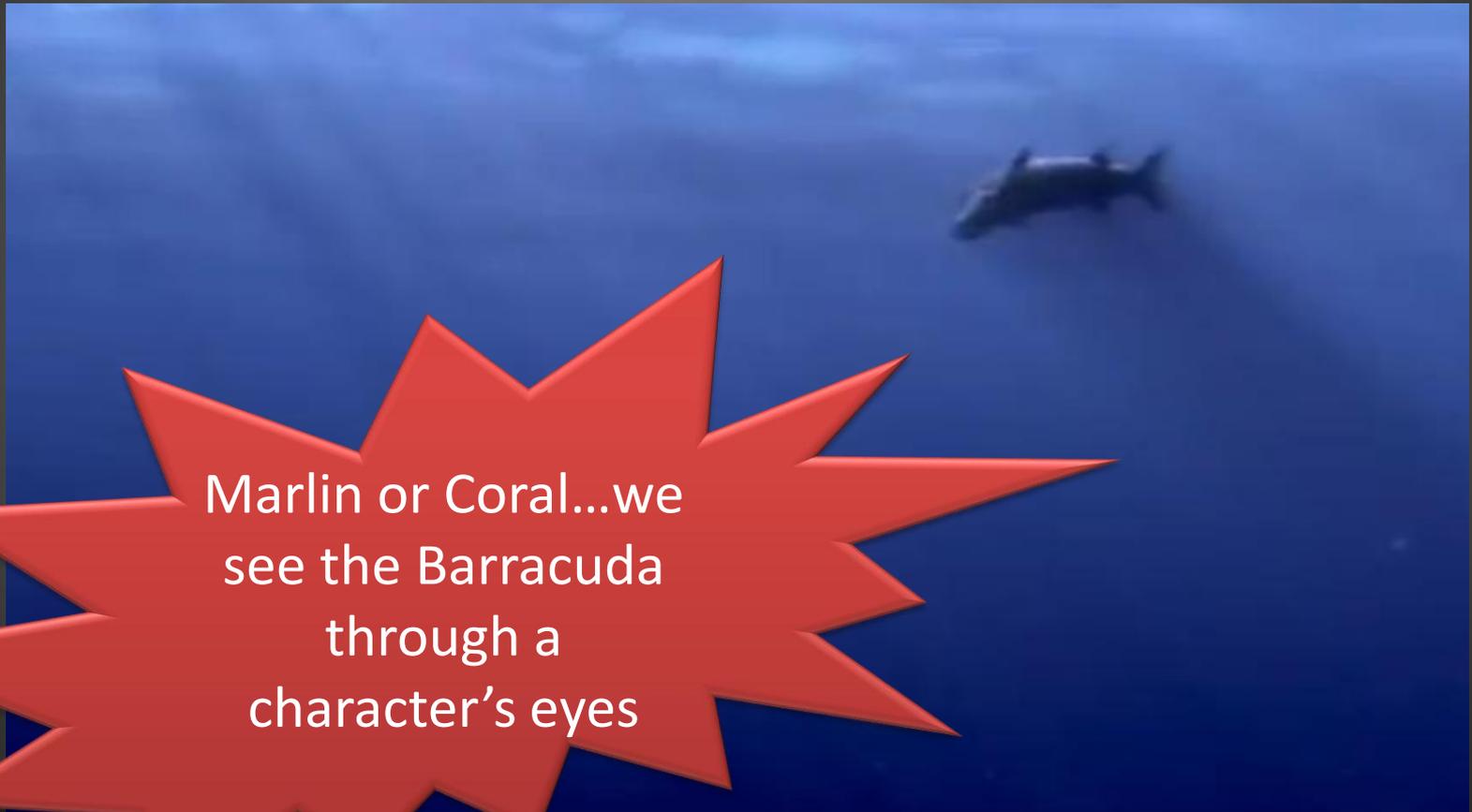
How someone sees something...their side of the story

Point of View: the perspective from which the story is told.

The narrator is the person telling the story

Character inside the story (first person)
Narrator outside of the story (third person)

Whose Point of View is this?



Marlin or Coral...we
see the Barracuda
through a
character's eyes

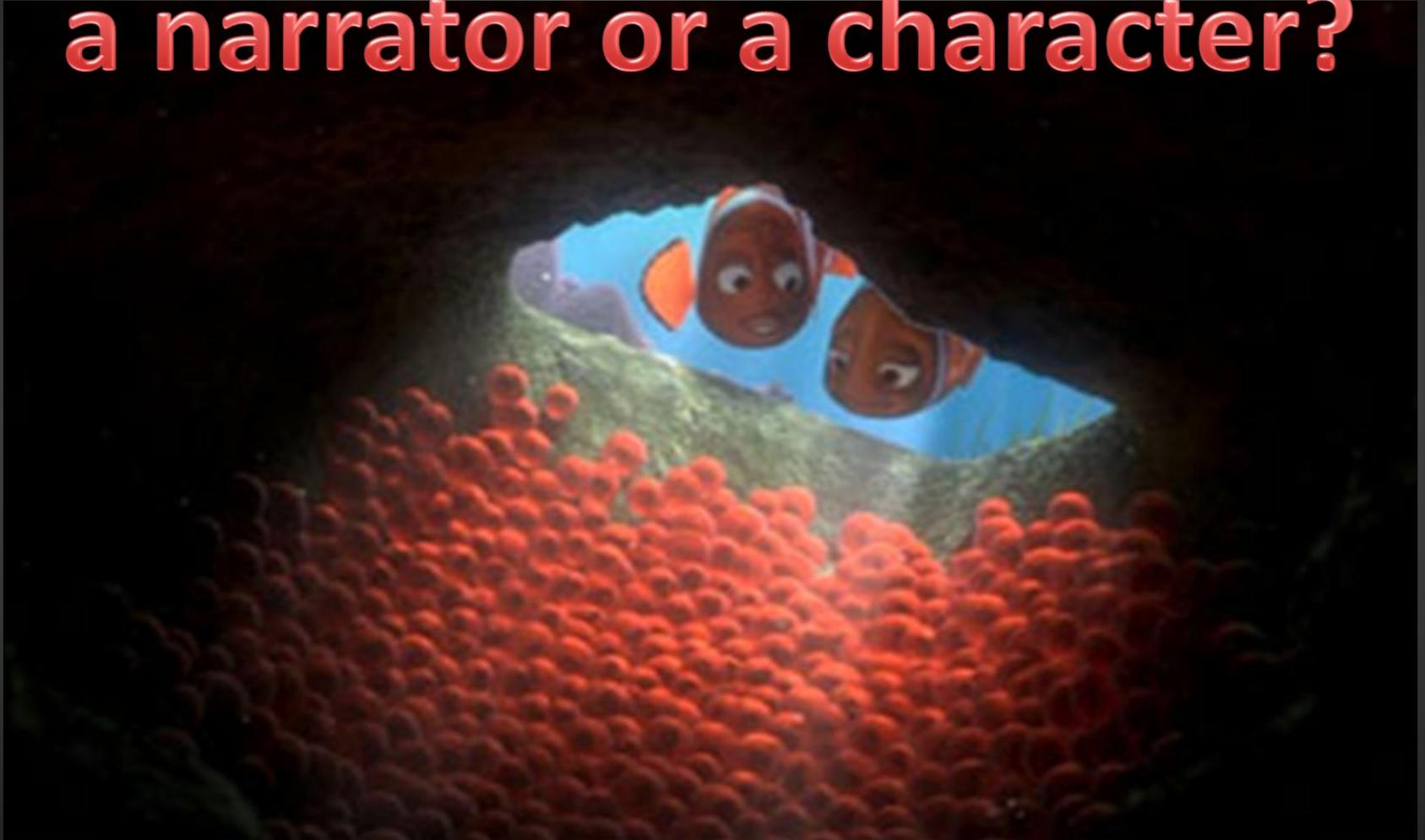
Whose Point of View is this?

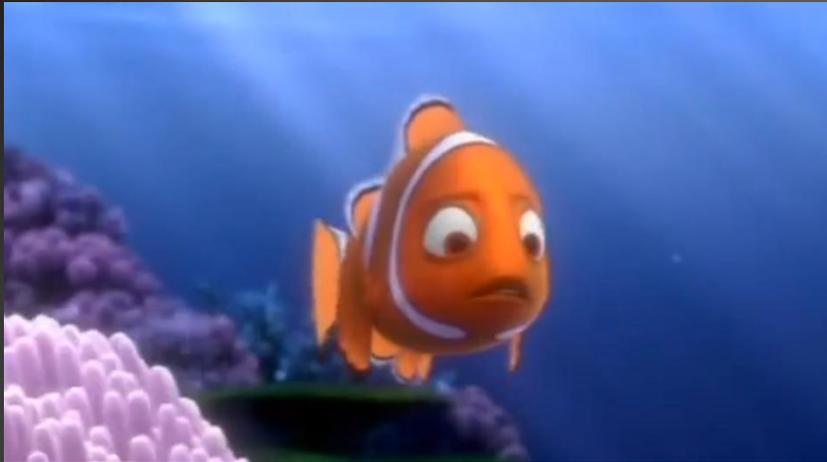


A narrator...
someone
outside the
story



**Whose Point of View...
a narrator or a character?**





Whose Point
of View...
a narrator or
a character?



A Common Mistake



The Barracuda

Slowly, slowly, he cruises
And slowly, slowly, he chooses
Which kind of fish he prefers to take this morning;
Then without warning
The Barracuda opens his jaws, teeth flashing,
And with a horrible, horrible grinding and
gnashing,
Devours a hundred poor creatures and feels no
remorse.
It's no wonder, of course,
That he really ought, perhaps, to change his ways.
"But," (as he says
With an evil grin)
"It's actually not my fault, you see:
I've nothing to do with the tragedy;
I open my mouth for a yawn and —ah me!—
They all
swim
in."

1. Identify the Point of View:
View:
Who is the speaker? Is it a character in the poem or is it a narrator? How do you know?

What other character(s) are in the poem?



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2. How does this shape the story?

How does the narrator feel about the barracuda? Which words and phrases help you to know that?



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3. Why did the author make this choice?
How would it have been different if the entire poem was told from the barracuda's point of view?



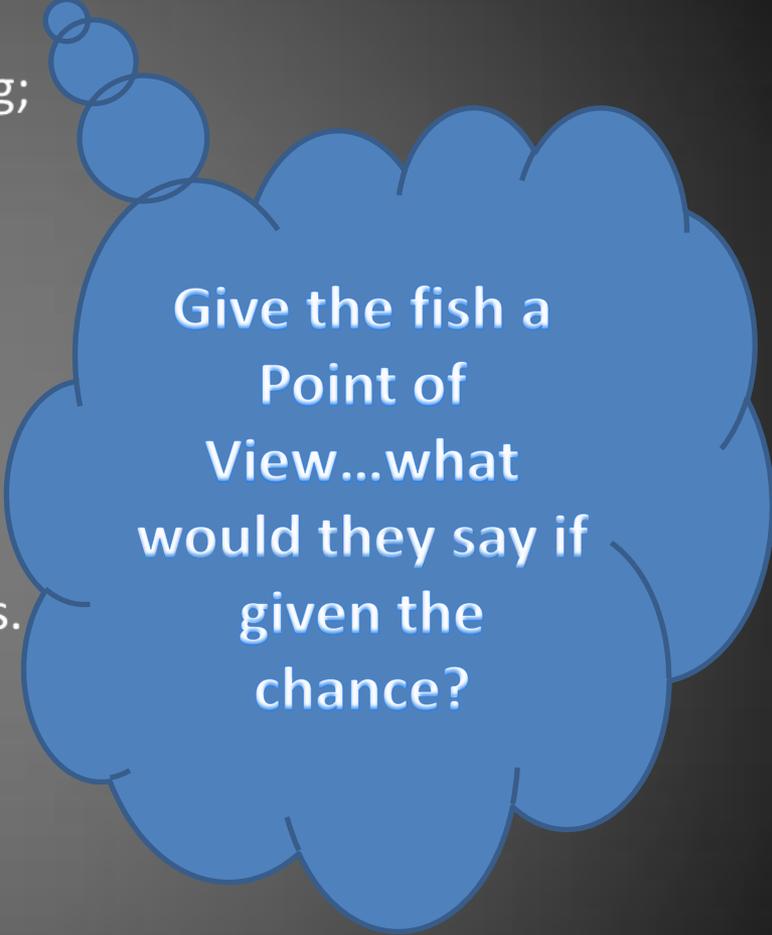
Core Lesson

- 1 Identify the point of view.
- 2 Ask: How does this shape the story?
- 3 Ask: Why did the author make this choice?

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Your Turn!!!



Give the fish a
Point of
View...what
would they say if
given the
chance?

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