Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Short Story Unit* Study Guide

**“The Lady, or the Tiger”**

Frank R. Stockton

*Plot Questions*

1. What is the setting of this story?

1. Describe the king.

1. What was the arena used for?

1. What was waiting behind each of the two doors? Explain what would happen if the prisoner opened either door.

1. In the case of the princess and her lover, why does the princess hate the woman behind the door?

*Discussion Questions*

1. Do you think the king’s method of justice is fair? Why or why not?

1. If the king loved his daughter, why did he throw her lover into the arena?

1. Why do you think that Stockton doesn't tell his reader which door the lover opens?

*Literary Devices Questions*

1. List as many conflicts you can find in this story.

* 1. Which do you think is the central conflict? Explain your answer using examples from the text to support your claim.

1. Explain how the following excerpt from the story is an example of irony: His (the king's) nature was bland and genial; but, whenever there was a little hitch, and some of his orbs got out of their orbits, he was blander and more genial still."

1. Who is the protagonist? Who is the antagonist?

1. Draw and label a plot line for this story.