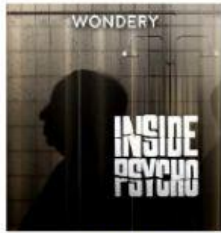


# PSYCHO 1 \_\_\_\_\_

THIS LWS-SERIES IS TAILORED AROUND THE PODCAST INSIDE PSYCHO BY MARK RAMSEY



Have you seen Psycho? Who is the director of the movie? Can you remember the plot?

## 1. Listen to the snippet and do the series of various activities:

What was the date? \_\_\_\_\_

What time of day was it?

morning      afternoon      night

Who walked into a tavern in the tiny hamlet of Pine Grove WI?

a stranger      a local doctor      a local farmer      a guy

What was he looking for?

a meal      a snack      a drink

This time of day the tavern was

always empty      never crowded      never empty      rarely crowded

Mary Hogan was

52 y.o      51 y.o.      200 pounds      300 pounds

She could XXXXXXXX in arm-wrestle half the county the male have and win.

wear a blue sweater      swear a blue streak      blow off steam

The farmer XXXXXXXXXXXX

got scared      decided to wait      reached around the bar      grabbed the money

grabbed a glass      turned on music      poured himself a tall cool glass

## 2. Listen and go on with the tasks \_\_\_\_\_

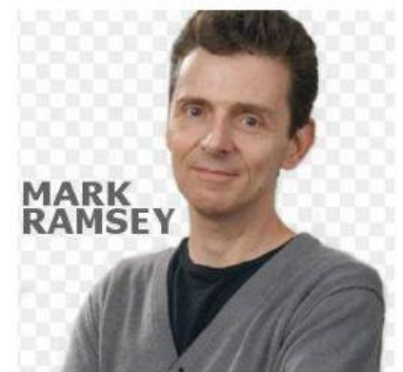
When you're sitting alone on a bar stool in a tavern that's never deserted, XXXXXXXXXXXX .

it's an ecstatic sensation      it feels all wrong      it's an odd feeling

it's an old feeling      it feels off, wrong

From the stool the man XXXXXXXX

scanned the room      scammed the room      scratched his head



His foot XXX something.  
He looked XXX to see what it was  
He reached XXX and  
picked it XXX.

hit/up/down/up

hit/down/down/up

hurt/down/down/up

It was a \_\_\_\_ caliber cartridge, spent. He looked around the bar when he saw something else on the floor.  
Something that \_\_\_\_\_ him.

**3. Listen and order the lines \_\_\_\_\_ .**

- \_\_\_ He ran down the road to the nearest farmhouse.
- \_\_\_ He followed the bloody trail outside to the parking area where it vanished and at the spot – tire tracks of a pickup truck.
- \_\_\_ Mary Hogan had vanished. She would never be seen again.
- \_\_\_ It was a large patch of blood. It was streaked as if a body had been dragged through it.
- \_\_\_ His heart started beating fast. Did something happen to Mary?
- \_\_\_ He phoned the sheriff who arrived to investigate.
- \_\_\_ But her face would be seen – skin from her skull, softened with oil and stuffed into a paper sack. Mary Hogan would become a mask.
- \_\_\_ But other than the cartridge, the blood, and the tracks, they found nothing.

**4. Listen to the clip and complete the chunks \_\_\_\_\_**

- a local saw-mill \_\_\_\_\_
- a slight, peculiar \_\_\_\_\_
- he knew how to \_\_\_\_\_ things
- was good for \_\_\_\_\_
- was \_\_\_\_\_ easy to tease about women
- was not just \_\_\_\_\_ and meek



*If you had spent more time courting Mary, she'd be cooking for you instead of being missing.*  
– What type of conditional sentence is this?

- \_\_\_\_\_ his eyes
- wiggled his \_\_\_\_\_
- she's \_\_\_\_\_ at the house now

Edie was strange, reclusive, but \_\_\_\_\_

*That's a good one, Ed, tell me another.* – What does it mean?

### Read the short but horrifying fact file

An ill and meek man who was unusually attached to his domineering mother. That's the story of Ed Gein, who murdered numerous middle-aged women in and around Plainfield, WI in the 1950's, and whose story inspired the character of Norman Bates. The story of Psycho begins in a dingy, remote cabin, where Gein collected bits and pieces of his subjects and fashioned them into chairs, lampshades, or worse. All his victims were chosen because they reminded him of his mother. When he was buried, this was engraved on the headstone beside his: "Augusta Gein: Mother." Gein's story is a chilling beginning to one of the most famous stories in movie history.

### 5. Listen to the snippet about the writer Robert Bloch and fill the gaps \_\_\_\_\_



In \_\_\_\_ Bloch gave up a promising career \_\_\_\_ an ad copywriter to devote himself full-time \_\_\_\_ spinning original tales \_\_\_\_ thrills and chills.

By \_\_\_\_ he had moved from Milwaukee to Weyauwega WI. He pounded \_\_\_\_ his typewriter day \_\_\_\_ long day, one freelance toll-tale \_\_\_\_ another. It was \_\_\_\_ his study \_\_\_\_ his typewriter that he heard the first inkling \_\_\_\_ what the papers called the Butcher of Plainfield. Now, remember, this was the late \_\_\_\_s, some news wasn't fit to print.

### 6. Listen to the clip and fill the gaps with three words \_\_\_\_\_

There were things good folks, upright folks just \_\_\_\_\_. So, only the barest outlines of the Ed Gein horrors \_\_\_\_\_ past gossip and into the headlines of the newspapers \_\_\_\_\_. Still, these thin headlines gave Robert Bloch an idea.

When Bloch immersed himself \_\_\_\_\_, there was no interrupting him; he wrote and wrote – days, weeks... Until finally – the last word of the final page. \_\_\_\_\_ it Psycho.

### 7. Order the lines, then drag and drop (or the other way around) \_\_\_\_\_

a cross dresser

the scraps of headlines

an unnatural attachment

a rundown roadside motel

the handiwork of Ed Gein

a fictional character

the specter of Ed Gein



\_\_\_ He stared at himself in the mirror: how could he know? In creating \_\_\_\_\_ he had come closer to the truth than he ever could have imagined.

\_\_\_ He runs \_\_\_\_\_. One raining night, a young woman arrives. Checks her in. Spies on her through a peephole as she prepares for a shower. The lonely man, dressed grotesquely as his mother, kills the young woman in the shower cutting off her head.

\_\_\_ See, Norman Bates was written as \_\_\_\_\_ who puts on a dress and wig of his mother to commit heinous crimes. Bloch didn't know that Ed Gein dressed up too. He didn't know about Gein's fixation on his mother or that he treated her bedroom as a shrine. And yet, these elements emerged from his own imagination in the construction of Norman Bates.

\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ Bloch had gathered about Ed Gein had been transformed into a three-dimensional character of Norman Bates.

\_\_\_ It was the story of a lonely fat middle-aged boozehound who had \_\_\_\_\_ to his mother. He killed her and stuffed her corpse.

\_\_\_ What had he revealed inside his own soul? He closed his eyes. For the next two years he could not look at himself in the mirror without seeing \_\_\_\_\_ staring back.

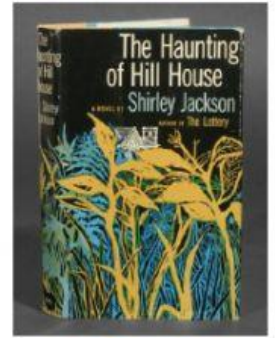
\_\_\_ Robert Bloch is at his bathroom mirror, shaving. As time passed, Bloch learned more about \_\_\_\_\_, the serial murderer of the Wisconsin heartland. And what he learned unsettled him.



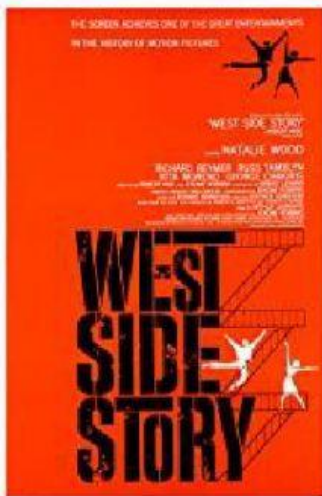
#### 8. Listen and decide whether each of the statements is T or F

1. It's Bloch's publisher on the phone. \_\_\_\_
2. It's not the first time when Bloch's writing had been optioned for the movies. \_\_\_\_
3. The blind bid was \$8000. That's more than \$74000 today. \_\_\_\_
4. For a writer that's a payday. \_\_\_\_
5. Another novel, The Haunting by Shirley Jackson was also optioned that year. \_\_\_\_
6. It would be directed by Robert Wise in 1983. \_\_\_\_
7. The rights went for \$67500. \_\_\_\_
8. More than seven times what Bloch would be paid. Almost 600 000 today. \_\_\_\_
9. Bloch didn't even know who the buyer was. \_\_\_\_
10. It wasn't one of the famous directors in Hollywood. \_\_\_\_

11. That director had just acquired the rights to what would become the most important film of his career for next to nothing. \_\_\_\_
12. Eventually, Bloch would find out but never resent it. \_\_\_\_
13. His deal with the publisher included no points on any sale to Hollywood. \_\_\_\_
14. In the end the publisher and his agent took 15% off the top. \_\_\_\_
15. After taxis, Bloch figure would wind up with about \$6000. \_\_\_\_
16. And that's when he learned that the buyer was Alfred Hitchcock. \_\_\_\_



These are posters of some Robert Wise movies. Have you watched any of them?



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com