COLLECTION 3 EXILES, CASTAWAYS, AND STRANGERS

LITERARY ELEMENT

IRONY

Title of Selection:	
Author:	

Types of Irony	Examples	Examples from the Selection
Verbal irony: A writer or speaker says one thing, but really means something completely different.	A man plans the perfect surprise birthday party for his wife. After reserving the hotel conference room, he says to her, "I am so glad we are not going out on your birthday."	
Situational irony: What is expected to happen is the opposite of what occurs.	The husband executes his perfect plan without flaw—except that the person who walks in the door turns out to be not his wife, but the hotel manager, with a note from the wife saying she has left her husband for being so insensitive about her birthday.	
Dramatic irony: The reader or audience knows something the character does not.	When the manager starts to open the conference room door, the reader knows the manager, not the wife, is about to be surprised.	