2. I believe that Patrick’s reason for wanting to end his marriage is that his wife is overbearing, needy, and clingy. The reader sees her neediness as the narrator states, “She merely wanted to satisfy herself that each minute went by made it nearer the time when he would come home” (Dahl 1). Again, we see her clinginess as she says to Patrick, “’You have to eat. I’ll do it anyways. And then you have it or not as you like” (Dahl 1). This shows the reader that Mary Maloney is constantly concerned for her husband and she smothers him with her love. This has driven Patrick to want to leave. The author does not tell us the real reason Patrick is leaving because he wants the reader to remain neutral in his/her feelings towards the characters. The reader can feel sympathy towards both Patrick and Mary.

3. I think the author used the lamb as a weapon because lambs are a symbol of innocence and she used it to kill him. She was innocent like the lamb, and when she used it to kill him, it was very ironic.