Title: An Interview with Frank Jackson's Mary, the Woman from the Black and White Room.

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Abstract: 2.20

In 1982 the philosopher Frank Jackson described a woman he called Mary who was raised from birth in a "black and white room" where she never actually saw any other colors. Mary had also learned and completely understood literally everything science knows and ever will know about the psychology of color perception and how color is processed by the brain. One day Mary escaped from the black and white room and, for the first time, actually saw "trees of green, red roses too and skies of blue." Anyone who thinks about Mary realizes that she now knew something she hadn't known before, something first person and subjective that her "complete," third person, objective knowledge of science failed to capture. This makes Mary the quintessential example of "the hard problem" of consciousness. I will show an 11 minute video in which Mary herself describes her experience of escaping from the room and also discusses what happened to her in the rest of her life and what it all meant to her. The interview with Mary is conducted by Willie Sutton, the famous bank robber from the 1920s,30s, and 40s, who, when asked why he robbed banks, said "Because that's where the money is."