Discussion

First people

There were a few different examples of foreshadowing portrayed in "A Rose for Emily" but the most obvious was when Emily bought the arsenic. What makes it the foreshadowing is that she refused to tell how she will use it even though she was required by law to do so. The foreshadowing in this story did not give away the end of the story for me because there was a lot of mystery aside from the foreshadowing. The foreshadowing did, however, heighten my interest because I desired to find out how the story ended. It made me want to see Emily's plans with the arsenic.

Second people

There were two examples of foreshadowing that helped me to piece together the story. The first was the smell coming from the house. The town was convinced an animal had been killed but when they were spreading the lime nothing was found. The smell continued for a week or so after. The second clue was the arsenic. She wouldn't tell the reason for its purchase even though the law required it. This isn't extraordinary in and of itself since she didn't follow the rules like everyone else. Yet, if you put the two together you can start to believe that she had killed someone. I had my ideas as to what she had done but, I had to finish the story to prove myself right. The story was worth the read.

Third people

The first clue that something was amiss was the smell, in the story, it was so bad the townspeople dispersed lime around Miss Emily's home to mask the smell. This was the foreshadowing concerning Homer Barron's body.

As far as the rest of the story, I had pretty well figured out Miss Emily had killed Homer Barron when Miss Emily went to the druggist to buy the arsenic and seemingly dared the pharmacist to deny her the poison. In the story, she stared him down and did not respond to the druggist's questions. Nevertheless, he still sold her the arsenic which we can infer she used to kill Homer.

In this case the foreshadowing did give away the story, however, the tale was still engaging to read. Even though I figured out the ending, the intrigue was still there. I am very curious as to why Tobe kept quiet for all of those years, and where did he go after he let the ladies into Miss Emily's home. Faulkner's foreshadowing was abundant regarding Homer's death, but it did not detract from the mystery of Miss Emily.