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The Island's Effect on Jack's Identity

In the novel, *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding, the island where the boys crashed becomes a character with an identity of its own. This island identity fundamentally changed the personality of Jack in a negative way. How did the island affect Jack, and what kind of interactions did the key have with Jack?

The identity of the island played a significant role in the story and had a major impact on the characters and their interactions. The island's identity has many characteristics, the first symbol is power, it came in with control over life and death. The key gave all the boys fruit and pigs to eat, and that gave them the will to keep living. At the same time, there was fear of the unknown, they did not know of all the things out there which gave them the fear of death. Another characteristic is hope. The island provided all the boys with the desire they could leave the island. The key gave clues to them that they would be able to survive. Lastly fire, the embers destroyed half the island almost all of it, and that signified death, luckily the boys escaped right before the key burned down.

As with the rest of the boys the island had a large impact on Jack and how he changed after crashing on to the island. Jack came to the key with a knife which gave us an idea of what he was. By the end, Jack was not afraid to kill someone. In chapter two Jack goes out to try and hunt but he did not have the confidence to kill the pig. That all changes and in chapter three with

his spear you seem the change in him as he goes on his second hunt he was not able to catch the pig but you could feel he now had the confidence to kill a pig. Later, in the book when he hunts and gets the kill he gains the courage to kill more pigs and almost anything. Then he started wanting to hurt anything in his way human or animal. The hunting is the first interaction, and most severe Jack has with the island. It's incredible how fast Jack's confidence changed and how quickly on the key everything happens.

For example, in chapter four the book gives a quote describing how the tribe started chanting, and how Jack for the first time smeared clay all over his face. The clay on Jack's face represents the tribe he makes later in the book, and how the clay hides his true identity. "Kill the pig. Cut her throat. Spill her blood" (p.69). The quote explains the way Jack influences all the kids, and how they only start chanting out of fear Jack would hurt them if they do not join. Also, the way Jack starts talking and thinking, and what he wants to do to the pig which the island provided him. Later in this book, the quote then refers to killing a human.

In conclusion, the island's affect on Jack was negative and turned him into something he might never have become if not for landing on the island. The island created a more savage and dark sided version of Jack. When Jack was put on the island, he arrived with the knife but his time on the island is what created the version of Jack that would use the knife in a way he probably never would have had he not been stuck on the island.