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### The Allegorical Significance of Simon's Identity

There remains disagreement on whether *Lord of the Flies* exists as an allegory. In truth, *Lord of the Flies* remains a book with allegorical significance but, not an allegory. Before diving into the allegorical aspects of the novel, an understanding of allegories remains needed.

Allegories stand as stories, poems, and pictures that possess a meaning not revealed without deep reflection. The allegory *Animal Farm*, by George Orwell, stands as an example. In the indicated allegory, Orwell depicts a group of animals as individuals functioning in society and governmental systems. It seems similar to a children's story with talking animals. On the contrary, the story stands as a critique of the Russian Revolution and highlights the hypocrisy of tyranny.

To relay this all back to *Lord of the Flies*, William Golding chooses to exercise allegorical devices such as foreshadowing, ulterior meanings, and themes regarding human nature. Golding contrives an allegorical identity for the character of Simon. His character exists as an embodiment of the allegorical devices in the novel. Readers gain a window into the future of the boys, or a foreshadow, through Simon's reflectiveness. The following quote stands as an excellent example, "However Simon thought of the beast, there rose before his inward sight the picture of a human at once heroic and sick." (Pg. 103) The quote serves as a prelude to the final state of the boys on the island. The youth began out as inexperienced, and they possessed enough

innocence to hesitate before killing a pig. The novel depicts the final stage of the boys as bloodlust controlled and non-hesitant to killing pigs, even fellow individuals, such as Simon and Piggy. Readers gain an insight into the aforementioned through the reflectiveness of Simon. The reference to his reflectiveness serves as a segway to Simon's character traits relating to Golding's choice to utilize allegorical devices.

It remains a fact the character of Simon possesses an introverted identity. He seeks refuge in a tiddy and dark place in the jungle to gather himself, and to reflect. Through his reflections, readers view the final stage of the boys. Along with Simon's reflectiveness, his discussions with the Lord of the Flies reveal truths in the novel in an allegorical manner. For instance, the truth that the Beast did not thrive as an entity the boys could ever hunt. It thrived as a figment to drive the youth wild with bloodlust. "Fancy thinking the Beast was something you could hunt and kill... I'm the reason why it's no go? Why things are what they are?" (Pg. 143) Although the Lord of the Flies remains a silent pig's head, the words of it vocalized in Simon's head reveals a truth not revealed without deep reflection. That aligns with allegorical principles. Simon's encounters with the pig's head also reveal a gargantuan theme: anyone remains capable of evolving into the Beast. Simon's death provides an opening to view the theme.

Simon's death serves as an aperture into the allegorical themes of the novel. The event of Simon's death occurred at an extremely untimely point. Simon acquired the identity of the Beast, a dead parachutist, and rushed to the boys to inform them of the truth. He ultimately met his tragic and savage death. The real meaning of the event exists as the boys possessed intense fear of the Beast, and when they witnessed Simon running towards them, they believed he was the Beast. Fear remains the source of his death, not necessarily the boys. The previously indicated

event remains a lesson; on how fear exists as a motivator that takes humans to do the most violent deeds. In addition, Simon's death revealed any of us, even the purest, remain capable of evolving into the Beast. Fear and paranoia remain needed, nothing else. Due to the additional reflection needed to fully understand Simon's death and to arrive at an ulterior meaning, it exists as allegorical. Despite exiting the book indefinitely, Simon still contributed to Ralph's poignant realization of the two central themes of this novel. They relate to human nature, and those themes also exist as allegorical themes.

On the final page, 202, a naval officer, encounters dirty and scarred boys on an island. Among them sits Ralph, sobbing. The reason for the theatrics exists in the quote, "...Ralph wept for the end of innocence, the darkness of man's heart..." (Pg. 202) The cause of Ralph's despair remains the amount of carnage and death that occurred on the island. Multiple pigs, the boy with the birthmark, Simon, and Piggy, stand as an example. Simon's death contributed to Ralph's final realization: evil resides in the depths of each and every human soul, and anyone possesses the capability of becoming the villain, or Beast in this case. In other words, the two main themes: the end of innocence and the darkness of man's heart. Without profound thought, readers can't understand the allegorical significance of these two themes. Although, with profound thought, readers realize every event occurring in the novel cumulate to prove those two themes. All the deaths, accusations, arguments, and power grabs highlight the darkness of man's heart. The loss of hesitance in killing and stone-face to witnessing death emphasizes the loss of innocence. Finally, there exists allegorical significance of all this. Those two themes do not merely apply to the characters; they apply to us. Every single one of us has acute wickedness in our souls that

without maintenance and ardor can manifest in our actions. We all, if left to our own devices as the boys on the island, can degrade into primitive individuals.

There exists in *Lord of the Flies* allegorical themes, devices, and especially characters. William Golding chose to portray the character of Simon as allegorical for a significant reason. The author, specifically for *Lord of the Flies*, necessitated a vehicle to convey lessons about human nature to readers. Golding chose to utilize Simon's reflectiveness and prophet-like statements to educate us all on our human nature. Via Simon, we gain an understanding of how any one of us can evolve into a villainous figure with little effort. The darkness of man's heart and the end of innocence remain embodied by Simon. The novel's message delivered through this significant character's allegorical identity stands as a warning. None of us possess an awareness of the degree of evil in our souls; we find it out the difficult way.