

Examples of THEMES in Literature

YOUR DICTIONARY

The theme is the underlying message that the writer would like to get across. This is a pivotal element, because it lingers throughout the entire story, from start to finish.

FRIENDSHIP

DON QUIXOTE tells the story of two men who, essentially, embark on an epic road trip. The ties that bond their friendship make all their adventures possible.

HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE embraces the theme of friendship. Harry, Ron, and Hermione's unbreakable friendship is strong enough to show down even the greatest of sorcerers.



COURAGE

LIFE OF PI tells the story of a young boy fighting to survive after a shipwreck in middle of the Atlantic Ocean.

WAR AND PEACE highlights the courage of the men fighting a war as well as the courage of the women who must make difficult decisions back on the homefront.



LOVE

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE explores the theme of love during a time when people didn't really date outside their social spheres.

WONDER focuses on the love the main character's family shows for him, as well as the differences between the friends who love him and the antagonists who give him a hard time.



DEATH & DYING

THE BOOK THIEF features a narrator who is Death himself, as he takes lives throughout WWII in Germany.

THE LOVELY BONES explores death from the perspective of a girl who was just murdered.



REVENGE

THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO plays with the theme of revenge from nearly every angle and character viewpoint. As soon as the count takes a position of power, he doles out revenge to those who have hurt him.

THE GIRL WHO KICKED THE HORNET'S NEST features a main character who takes revenge on those who falsely accused her in the previous book in the series, *The Girl Who Played with Fire*.

