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Calvert

English

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Who cares?

In *The Stranger*, written by Albert Camus and translated by Matthew Ward, Camus emphasizes how people become more conscious as they near death. In the prison scene, Camus uses Meursault's fluctuating level of consciousness as a microcosm of the novel. Camus uses symbols such as heat and corridors alongside motifs such as routine and sleep to represent Meursault's state of unconsciousness; Camus' use of parallelism becomes a tangible representation of Meursault's routine. However, when Meursault is "shaken awake" by his impending death, the parallelism becomes a hammer, driving nail after nail into Meursault's coffin.