

# Motifs

Difference btw

Theme & motif?

- Theme is abstract.
- motif is concrete.

we hear,  
smell, feel...

## REPETITION

of concrete elmts

Symbolic, a deeper meaning  
than what it is.

## A text

The words / the world  
in there

the physical  
thing.

the way ideas are  
described.

→ A pattern.

Ex. Dovens → love feels inside.

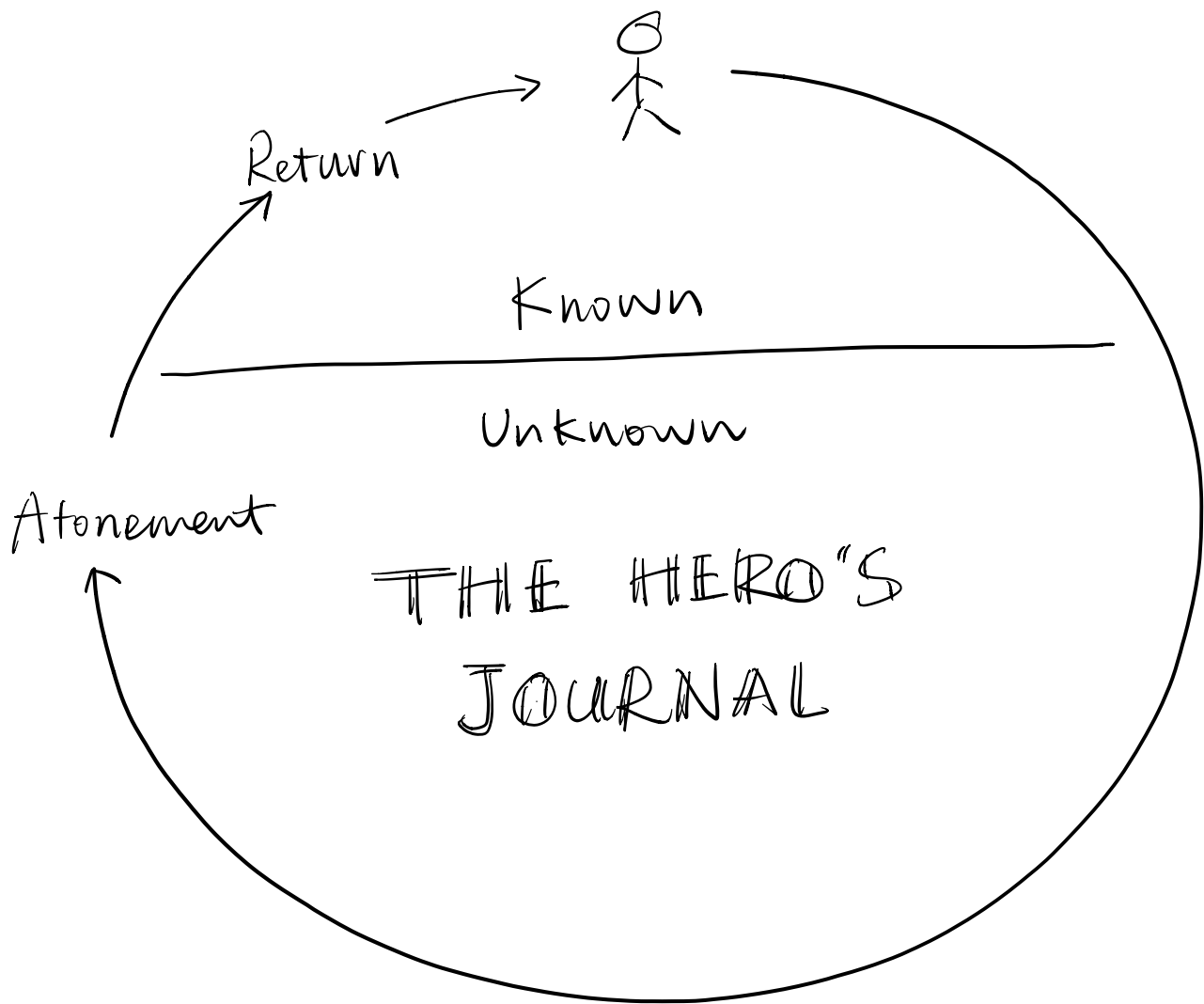
Definition:

1. A situation / incident / idea / image / character type / formula  
that is found in many different literary works.

Ex. The Hero's Journey  
Carpe Diem  
The "Love Triangle"  
Pride Brought Low.

The foolish / Diminished Hero  
Royalty in Disguise  
Coming of Age

↳ can also be a genre.



## 2. Repeating elmts that become symbolic.

imbue a.) Already symbolic.  
b.) just "motif".

⇒ Advance the Plot.  $\rightsquigarrow$  <sup>things become very different.</sup> Changing what we know  
Support Thematic Concepts and Statement.

Ex. Fun & humor juxtaposed w/ cruel & nasty reality  
(The Round House)

# Exploring MOTIFS in the Round House

## 1. Scars

Physical & Emotional & Cultural.

- Sonja : exploited by manager.  
Evidence of the , emotional scar , trauma
- Father Travis : from war . masculinity .

Similarity:

→ vulnerable , past experience .

- Cappy → boyish feature.  
makes his stand out , attract girls .
- Scar : harm that leaves evidence .
- \* How gender affects the meaning of the scars .
- scars left from colonization .
- Geraldine : emotional scar . Also to Joe .
- Round House itself is also a scar .  
Used to be of religious significance , now it is a  
reminder of the violence they suffered .

Paul: "Any thing in common in how the scars are created?" "What causes them?"

→ Violation.

Conflict btw identity groups. (Race, Gender, ...)

Ex. Sonja & manager.

Father Travis bombing

- "Colonization leaves the scars."
- Males' power → Gender dynamic.
- Father Travis' scar:  
Pompei. Freud. Sword. Male sex organ.

\* Why scar?

Even after healing, scars remain.

\* Are all scars from men?

→ Linda's mother.

↑ mentally ill?

→ Nature  
Vs  
Nurture.

## 2. Eating People

Eaten by ticks. Sucking their blood.

Metaphor, mistrust, deadliness.

Physically eaten → psychologically eaten.

Culture being consumed, people being destroyed from it.

The kinds of trauma that eat people up.

Windag

### 3. Twining / Doubling

Round House

the womb, the motherhood, where the soul is contained.

Catholic Church