

Source:

#flo

1 | One

How does Conrad relate /define darkness and insanity throughout the novel? Why does Conrad build up to Kurtz so gradually, what perception of Kurtz does Conrad want to portray?

- Nixie's conclusion
 - Madness is being removed from a place you are used to
 - Does she mean that it causes madness?
 - says that heads are the main symbol of madness
 -
- Jackson says
 - That the meeting of Kurtz is ironic
 - Builds up Kurtz, but when they meet him, it's anticlimatic
- Daniel responds
 - Talks about Marlow's changing perception of Kurtz
 - Connects back to insanity
 - nice one
- Madeline rebuts
 - Kurtz was not as expected
 - but still liked Kurtz at the end
- Nixie says
 - About Kurtz's greed with ivory?
 - not super related
- Jackson responds
 - breaks out of disillusion, "the horror! the horror!"
- Nixie interjects
 - Isolating causes Kurtz's madness
 - relates back to her original point
 - ties into subcoincidence
 - Restates original point
 - hmmmm
- Jackson
 - There is nothing at the end
- Madeline
 - About insanity:
 - Conrad uses drums to represent heart beat to make the jungle seem dangerous

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- Daniel
 - As you travel the heart of darkness, you travel into kurtz mind
 - is this true? you dont know kurtz mind till near the end
- Nixes asks
 - How does conrad define madness?
- Daniel adds
 - Mostly about kurtz,
 - caused by some sort of 'darkness'

2 | Two

How does Conrad relate /define darkness and insanity throughout the novel? Why does Conrad build up to Kurtz so gradually, what perception of Kurtz does Conrad want to portray?

- Riley explains some context
- Aime describes
 - dehumanization
 - objectifies the woman
 - because shes beautiful physically, marlow has more respect
 - the intended was viewed as emotional and docile
- Rowan adds
 - Beauty is inherently primal
 - stems from necessity
 - this is an interesting point. fits with the "Europe no better" thesis.
- anoushka
 - we dont see her often
 - juxtaposition off...?
 - hard to hear
 - strange descriptions of beauty
 - ah, the juxtaposition of beauty and savage?
- riley
 - kurtz is like a cult leader
 - described similarly in some fashions to the natives
 - seduces his follower, but gets seduced himself by the heart of darkness
 - takes priority over rational thinking
- aime says
 - that marlow is emotionally detached until the end
 - even when pointing out the horrid things that are happening
- rowan responds
 - describes violence to "his people" in much more detail
 - huge contrast in the descriptions
 - this is proof of racism(ish)! says rowan
 - framed narrative means that this is weird

3 | Four (I know how to count trust me)

1. Is the racism in Heart of Darkness a parody of European racism during colonial times or is it Conrad's inherent racism?
2. How did the different people who told Marlow about Kurtz alter his opinion on him, how much did their opinions influence Marlow and why did they hold more/less value?
 - Calder starts
 - is Conrad inherently racist
 - why do we keep talking about this? this is not related! (not what Calder said)
 - Nico says
 - Conrad is truly racist
 - because black people speak once or twice and are dehumanized
 - it's not satire
 - Calder responds
 - basically says it can be a depiction distinct from Conrad's actual beliefs
 - hard to distinguish
 - this is a good point. thx Calder
 - Isabella
 - uses the n-word, therefore, is racist!
 - Kayla
 - pattern of the n-word, therefore, n-word isn't parody, therefore, is racist!
 - an author cannot have a racist protagonist without being racist
 - uh
 - Nico says
 - that Marlow isn't portrayed as having any flaws, and therefore, Conrad is racist!
 - Isabella responds
 - actually Marlow is painted with flaws
 - Kayla adds
 - Conrad is writing about his experience through Marlow
 - hmmm
 - Nico says
 - that Conrad says that Europeans have been dragged down by Africa
 - therefore, he truly is, racist
 - Isabella asks
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