

Gilgamesh

- Love
 - Gilgamesh's love for Enkidu motivates him to go on his quest to revive Enkidu
 - Gilgamesh is also transformed from a tyrant into a good king because he comes to understand that although he might be able to approach god, he is held back by his mortality
 - Enkidu is transformed from an animal into a man as he gains self-awareness and is brought into society. He has a primal way of thinking as he lives on the Steppe and is broken into manhood as they gain a better understanding of the world around them
 - Gilgamesh and Enkidu are both dogs and gain a more nuanced understanding of the people and environments around them as they learn to process their surroundings. They are able to process their surroundings as they are granted stronger emotional intelligence
- Death
 - Death humbles Gilgamesh and Enkidu; their confidence is stripped away from them when Enkidu dies from a curse, and Gilgamesh begins to wallow in grief
 - Gilgamesh learns that death is inescapable, and although people die, the world goes on and that his quest is more about living a life to its fullest rather than trying to prolong its ending.

The Iliad

- Achilles points out that death is inevitable for everyone

The Odyssey

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Fifteen Dogs

- 15 dogs explores the human condition
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- Is the pursuit of life's meaning futile?
 - Are we doomed
- Is the pursuit of happiness futile?
 - Odysseus never gets that blissful moment where his emotions culminate into relief
- Gilgamesh and the dogs grapple with death and its meaning
- The dogs and Gilgamesh and Naruto try to find meaning in death, but in vain as if they do, they would be content - comes to terms with death

Fifteen Dogs and Gilgamesh

- Gilgamesh is a dog and becomes aware of his own mortality after Enkidu dies

Fifteen Dogs follows the lives of fifteen dogs as they are given human intelligence as part of a wager between Hermes and Apollo. Apollo bets that the dogs would be more unhappy than humans and decides with Hermes that the quality of a life is determined by their happiness at death. As some of the dogs die, Hermes realizes that he might lose, begins to question whether it is possible for anybody to be happy at the moment they die. It is this question that sparks a discussion on the human condition.

Explored throughout the book is a social hierarchy the dogs follow in an attempt to make sense of the group with their newfound intelligence. Dogs on the lowest level of the social hierarchy are regularly abused for dominance and to represent each dog's place in

the ladder. The leader also imposes his will on the pack to achieve a canine identity, forcing them to give up the language they developed and, by extension, their expression of intelligence. However, the leader hypocritically disobeys his own rule and uses his language to consult with another dog.

Power corrupts

Gilgamesh is a tyrant

His power that corrupts him such since he becomes aware of the people and environment around him, and becomes an exemplary leader.

Atticus prohibits the other dogs from using their language, but hypocritically uses it himself to consult with another dog. Atticus' rules also represent his power and allow him to exercise it freely (4 rules are: 1 - No language, 2 - Strong Leader, 3 - Good Den, 4 - The Weak in their place).

Atticus places himself above his ruling, believing that his rules do not apply to himself as his conversations were not deeply reasoned and that he confided in Rosie.