Such **McCarthy seems to imply, is divorced from any meaningful association with Christ; it merely looks down on and condemns those in physical or spiritual need. In this and comparable McCarthy scenes, God seems not so much absent as harsh and vindictive, as if looking down from an elevated space upon a desperately flawed humanity. Still, the most severe judgment on Culla comes from within; he believes that he has so violated established rules of human behavior as to stand in judgment outside the possibility of forgiveness. Most of all, it is Culla who withholds forgiveness from Culla.2 Once Culla undertakes his search for the stolen child, comparable judgments meet him at every turn.3 Sometimes they seem innocent enough on the surface, as when a for whom he briefly works lectures him that ve not got a family. It (47). Inevitably, Culla hears this pronouncement in the context of his sins of incest and child abandonment and cannot deny that he has, in fact, violated Here as elsewhere in the text, outsidersare, in some mysterious way, aware of his transgressions. Such judges exist on two levels, that of mimesis and psychological projection. The squire is a representative of class and economic superiority, of what Henri Lefebvre describes as the of vertical space and the of horizontal space, as is made manifest in the squire**as he would anything for sales dominant position in the socioeconomic hierarchy is based on the power to objectify others, to treat them as commodities that can be used and then discarded. His power is transitory, however, as he ultimately runs into the three nomadic killers who coldly and senselessly murder him. But he is also an emblematic figure who embodies Cullajudgewouldn **(117). Like the squire, the old man appears to possess some mysterious knowledge of the primal nature of Culla**He was eight foot seven inches and had seventeen rattles. Big in the middle to where ye couldn **(122). The scene recalls traditional associations of serpents with death and evil ranging from Genesis to Satan**young Goodman Browns intercourse with Rinthy. Later a man who has lost his entire family to cholera charges Culla with being a plague carrier, to which Culla responds not at all honestly, t nobody plagueds incest seems to have let loose a plague on the countryside. One also recalls Camus(mis)readinggaunt and fever-eyed with incredible rag costumes and wild hairuncleanWhats one of them old-timey people from in the bibleA hog is a hog.