

Holes
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UNIT 3 (Chapters 27-39)

Preview

Literary Analysis: Allusion (Noah's Ark)

"Forty days and forty nights," said X-ray. "Guess we better start building an ark. Get two of each animal, right?" (p. 128)

Without the right context, this sentence probably doesn't make any sense. An **allusion** is a reference that an author makes in a novel or story that depends on the reader's prior knowledge. Throughout literature, especially in the English language, many writers **allude** to the Bible--the main text of Christianity.




The reference that is made in the lines above (and is part of your reading for this week) comes from a story in the bible commonly referred to as "Noah's Ark." In it, God speaks to Noah to warn him of a global flood that is coming and tell him that he needs to build a boat (called an ark) to save human and animal life. The flood is supposed to last 40 days and 40 nights. He puts two of each kind of animal on the ark.




Here is a picture of what the ark with all of the animals would have looked like:






http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Noah's_Ark_on_Mount_Ararat_by_Simon_de_Myle.jpg

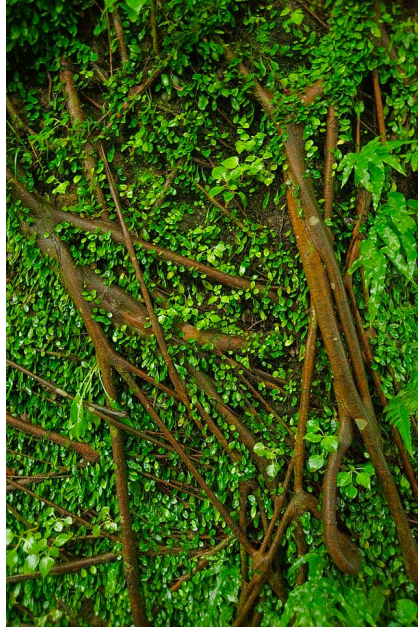
Vocabulary

Humid (adj.)	When there is a lot of water in the air. Shanghai is a very humid place.
Sweat (n.)	The water that come out of our bodies through our skin when we become very hot or nervous
Pistol (n.)	 <p>http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pistol#/media/File:Springfield_Armory_M1911A1.JPG</p>
Black eye	 <p>http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_eye#/media/File:Black_eye_2.jpg</p>
Airbag	 <p>http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Airbag#/media/File:Airbag2.jpg</p>

<p>Mirage</p>	 <p>http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mirage#/media/File:Desertmirage.jpg</p>
<p>Thumbs-up</p>	 <p>http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thumbs_signal#/media/File:Beijing_bouddhist_monk_2009_IMG_1486.JPG</p>
<p>Jar</p>	 <p>http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mason_jar#/media/File:Antique_Mason_jars.jpg</p>

Burlap sack	 <p>http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gunny_sack#/media/File:Hemp-sack,asabukuro,japan.JPG</p>
Shovel	 <p>http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shovel#/media/File:Aa_shovel01.jpg</p>
Zigzag	 <p>http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zigzag#/media/File:Regular_apeirogon_zig-zag.png</p>

Vine



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vine#/media/File:Taiwan_2009_JinGuaShi_Historic_Gold_Mine_Ancient_Alleyway_Walls_FRD_8695.jpg