**THEMES are STATEMENTS that the author makes about some truth of the world, of society, of people, etc THROUGH the text.**

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| **NOT A THEME** | **THEME** |
| **FAITH (ex. In *Night*)** | **Religious faith can sustain a person through the most dire of circumstances, yet it can also cause an even more drastic downfall.**  |
| **FATHER AND SON RELATIONSHIPS** | **When tested, fathers and sons’ relationships are often inverted and stretched until they are completely destroyed.**  |
| **SAVAGERY VS. CIVILIZATION (block 3)** | * When rules of civilization and society are removed, savagery and animalistic instincts take over.
* In every civilization, savagery is present to some extent.
* In every person, there exists both savagery and civility; it is the circumstances that determine which prevails.
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| **SAVAGERY VS. CIVILIZATION (block 4)** | * Savagery and civilization are subjective and determined by each culture.
* All humans are savage and kept in line by the ideal of civilization.
* Regardless of one’s status in society, savagery exists at the heart of one’s nature.
* Certain circumstances reveal any person’s inner savagery.
* Without civilization, human nature’s instinctive savagery is revealed.
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| **GOOD VS EVIL** | 3. Within each individual are both good and eivl, but the situation or context allows one to emerge over the other. 3. Good and evil are constructs that are not clearly delineated. 4. Restraint is a necessity for good and a hindrance for evil. 4. Both good and evil exist in every person; the individual must decide which is in control.  |
| **IDENTITY** | 3. A person’s identity is found only when they are removed form society’s constrictive nature. 4. Identity is influenced by the power of authority and environment. 4. One’s true nature is not revealed until one is pushed to the extreme.  |
| **INNOCENCE** | 3. Peeking into evil can dissolve innocence in any person. 4. Innocence is a construct of civilization, easily extinguished by greed and primitive human instinct.  |
| **RULES AND ORDER** | 3. Rules are placed on our society to keep the barbaric nature of mankind in check. 4. Rules and order are social constructs designed to keep the true animalistic nature of humans controlled. 4. Rules without consequences can lead to chaos and destruction.  |