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Finally, this paper with issues how the authors’ and readers create meaning from the text and how individual experiences by reader and writer shape his or her own interpretations. Connection between the Readings The most common connection found in the works referenced in this paper is about the internal struggle of the writers and characters. Each piece had a character that battled within him. In the case of “ Hamlet”, the character Hamlet undergoes a very difficult decision process on whether or not to kill his uncle at the order of his father’s ghost. Hamlet struggles with the fact that his has to kill the King and kill a family member. In Shakespeare soliloquy Hamlet we can also see another internal conflict when Hamlet gives his infamous to be or not to be speech. Hamlet is struggling with the thought of suicide which displays his conflict within himself. While Hughes and Lam didn’t have such a serious case on their shoulders to bear, each writer’s point of view was Just as important.

Salvation is a social narrative written by Longs Hughes in 1940, describing a young boys inner struggle with his spirituality and ultimate disappointment in a lack of the physical manifestation of Jesus. Unfortunately for Longs, he must have held his aunt and elders in high regard cause he believed in the literal sense when his aunt and elders had told him that he would be able to see, feel and hear Jesus when he was saved. In “ Who Will Light the Incense When Mother’s Gone? Andrew Lam, much like Longs Hughes, does not want to tell his mother that no one will actually light the incense to remember the dead after she passes away.

Lam is dealing with the thought of his heritage traditions coming to an end with the death of his mother and why he should continue to keep up the tradition he states, “ l had to wonder: what will, indeed, survive my mother? I wish I could assure my mother that, after she is gone, each ironing I would light incense for her and all the ancestors spirits before her, but I can’t. (Barren, Burro, & Cain, 2014, p. 1116) Andrew Lam shows us how he is dealing this his internal guilt for not carrying out his native traditions. Literary Devices and Usage Literary devices refers to specific aspects of literature, in the sense of its universal function as an art form which expresses ideas through language, which we can recognize, identify, interpret and/or analyze. (Brain, 2007) The writers in these stories use a mixture of several different literary devices to communicate with their adders. Symbolism, a well-known word in the English language, more often than not its importance is overlooked; however widely used in every day conversation. How many times has the fisherman’s tale of “ the one that got away’ described as the biggest fish caught and lost during the days fishing been told.

Longs Hughes use of symbolism in the story when speaking of his aunt’s description of being saved “ She said you could see and hear and feel Jesus in your soul. ” (Hughes, 1940/2012, p. 343). Although there is a certain calming feeling when one has as strong faith in God andJesus, the seeing, and hearing Jesus in your soul is symbolic. However, Languor’s use of that symbolism in the story does help paint a picture for the reader to draw a visualization of what salvation might look and feel like. Diction, on the other hand, is not so common in this form some might recall dictation; however, this is somewhat different in how it is used in literature.

The definition of diction according to Literary- Devices (2013): “ Diction is the distinctive tone or tenor of an author’s writings. Diction is not Just a writer’s choice of words it can include the mood, attitude, dialect and Tyler of writing. Diction is usually Judged with reference to the prevailing standards of proper writing and speech and is seen as the mark of quality of the writing. It is also understood as the selection of certain words and phrases that become peculiar to the writer. ” In this story Languor’s diction begins with hope, based on his aunt’s description of how the salvation experience is to occur. The story ends in deep disappointment and sadness that Jesus did not come to him in the literal sense.

Since “ Hamlet” was written during the Renaissance Period, this period of time had two major themes in almost all its performing arts, tragedy or romance. Shakespearean words and vocabulary really set a tone in this play. Add the feelings of revenge and an individual can almost feel the love for his mother and hatred brewing for his uncle for murdering his father within Hamlet. Just by hearing or seeing Hamlet deliver his infamous soliloquy, stirs emotions deep inside the audience; and that was Shakespearean goal. Imagery is a device also used in Lams writing when he describes his mother’s appearance. “ Her hair is still mostly black, and there is still a girlish twang in her laughter” (darner, Burro, ; Cain, 2014, p. 115) then again when he explains what is done when the incense are lit “ Every morning in my parents’ suburban home north of San Jose, with a pool shimmering in the backyard, my mother climbs a chair and piously lights a few Joss sticks for the ancestral altar which sits on top of the living room’s bookcase.

Every morning she talks to ghosts. ” (darner, Burro, ; Cain, 2014, p. 1115) Lam uses these literary devices to paint an image in the readers minds show what thoughts and emotions are felt by him to create a better experience for the readers. Meaning Writers and readers create meaning in literature in slightly different ways. It is the task of the writer to connect with the reader within the text of the literature piece. Writers must meet the needs of their readers to peak and keep their interests.

Writers often write about something they feel passionate about like spirituality or politics. Chances are, readers will feel passionate about something the writer is passionate about, and a connection is more likely. Longs Hughes writes about being saved, and the confusion when the act of begin saved doesn’t happen as thought. This story would connect with a younger reading crowd, as most children loud take the word of a family literally much like Hughes did with his auntie’s words. Andrew Lam connects with immigrant or non-American readers living in America, hoping to plant the seeds of not forgetting the traditions and heritage of where they come from.

He creates meaning from the text by simply sharing his own personal experience with his readers. Lam expresses his thoughts and feelings that readers themselves go though, whether it is through them losing touch with their cultures and traditions or even having mothers or other relatives themselves that act in a manner such as Lam’s mother did. Shakespearean “ Hamlet” created meaning based on revenge. The way this tragedy is acted out and set up really puts questions into the readers mind. Questions such as “ Is revenge worth it? ” or “ Does the benefits outweigh the losses? ” begin to arise in the audience as they start to relate the play to their own lives and personal experiences.

Interpretations Interpretations of any story can be as varied as the many readers absorbing the information. Individual experiences give the reader a reference point to draw conclusions or interpretations. Those who have experienced some of the activities in hurt that the writer is describing will, more than likely, have a clearer picture as the reader can relate to some of the descriptions. Some readers may have actually had the same experience, and conclude that although Longs was very disappointed and stated that he no longer believed in Jesus, that later in life he might have come to a better understanding as an adult and believed again. Interpretations of those readers who have not experienced a church like setting are probably less biased, and rely more heavily on the writer’s description, symbolism, and diction. Based upon a reader’s personal experiences their interpretations of Andrew Lam’s story may become skewed.

If a reader has never had any sort of cultural traditions or if their ancestors cultural traditions have already lost their importance that type of reader may not see the purpose of Lam’s story. The same may not be said for readers who have their own cultural traditions, they may see Lam’s story as a reminder for them to not lose touch with their cultures and traditions. These readers may also find an inner conflict or sense of guilt within themselves that is somewhat similar to that of “ Who Will Light the Incense When Mother’s Gone? ” “ Hamlet” would be interpreted in several different ways depending on setting, audience age, the actors and how the stage is setup. Generally, as stated above, “ Hamlet” is a tragedy.

This play does not have a happy ending, unless the audience was rooting for revenge. A younger audience might lean more on the revenge factor and feel that it was Just in the end. An older audience might sway away from the revenge line of feeling, due to the fact they may see further into the future. In either case, the delivery of the actor, especially Hamlet’s character would play the ultimate deciding factor for the audience. Even though each of the stories or plays has a different scenario and meaning, each still shows the internal struggle of the author or a character. Whether it was a motive for revenge, a religious connotation or the possible loss of a native heritage, each author shows how difficult and complex the internal decision making struggle can be.

Through their use of diction and literary devices, Hughes, Lam ad Shakespeare all paint a vivid picture of the scene, and allow the reader to delve in the emotional state that is being portrayed for the particular instance. The reader is then immersed in the story, not only for curiosity and interest, but to find their own meaning and interpretation of the work.