

# Weeds



"Save these ugly weeds that have taken upon themselves to keep him in remembrance." pg 116

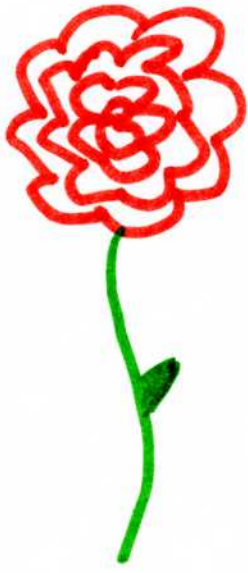
"... they shrink from displaying themselves black and filthy in the view of men; because thenceforward no good can be achieved by them; no evil of the past be redeemed by better service." pg 120

"... was a grass-plot, much overgrown with burdock, pig-weed, apple-peru, and such unsightly vegetation, which evidently found something congenial in the soil..." pg 43

The weed is a symbol of ostracism because people are constantly attempting to get rid of weeds, and Hester serves as the weed of this society. This symbol appears in the story to emphasize the metaphor of society as a garden, where everyone else is beautiful flowers, and Hester is the weed. It brings greater meaning because weeds are the flowers in



# roses



"But on one side of the porch and rooted almost at the threshold, was a wild **rose-bush**, covered, in this month of June, with its delicate gems which might be imagined to offer their fragrance and fragile beauty to the prisoner... to him." (pg. 43)

"It may serve, let us hope, to symbolize some sweet moral blossom... or relieve the darkening close of a tale of human frailty and sorrow." (pg. 44)

"The child finally announced that she had not been made at all, but had been plucked by her mother off the bush of **wild roses**... (pg. 101)

Roses are a symbol of beauty and light because it breaks through the darkness. It compares Pearl to the beauty of roses and although she is a "demon-child" the roses symbolize her true beauty through

# A

## The Scarlett Letter

• "Hester Prynne had never before been false to the symbol on her bosom. It may be that it was the talisman of a stern and severe, but yet a guardian spirit, who now forsook her..." (pg 165)."



• "The stigma gone, Hester heaved a long, deep sigh, in which the burden of shame and anguish departed from her spirit (pg 187)."

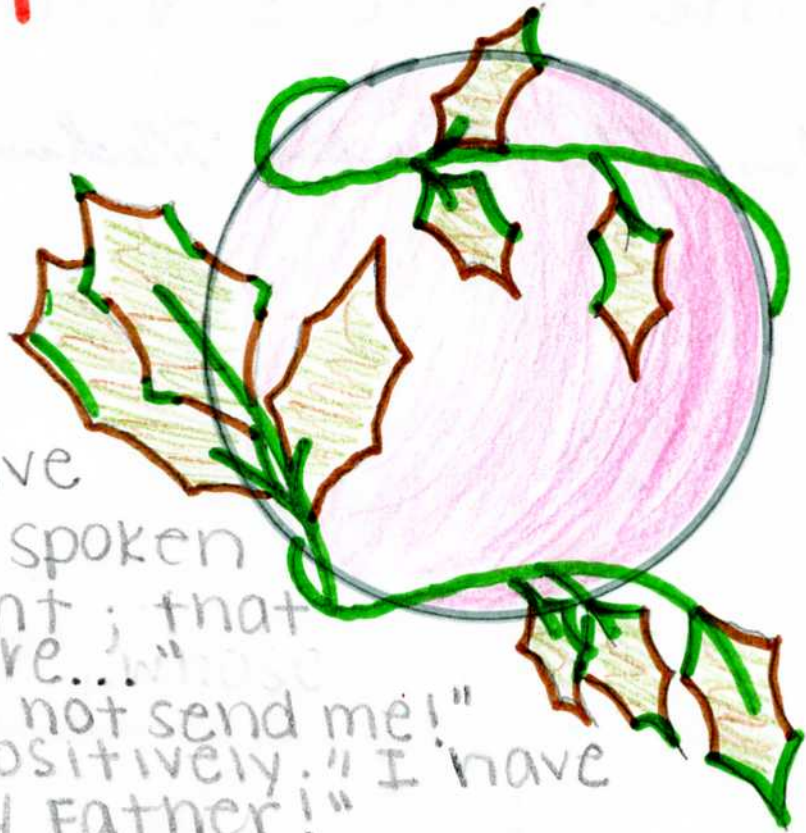
• "It imparted to the wearer a kind of sacredness, which enabled her to walk securely amid all peril." (148)."



• "Children will not abide any, the slightest, change in the accustomed aspect of things that are daily before their eyes. Pearl misses something which she has always seen me wear!"

The Scarlet Letter is based on the scarlet A. This symbol represents Hester & Dimmesdale's sin, and in ~~Hester~~ both of them carrying their scarlet letter, they carry the weight of their sin. It is a part of Hester's identity so the town connects her with it. They are so focused on Hester's sin that they forget about their own.

# Pearl



pg 81: "We have yet hardly spoken of the infant; that little creature..."

pg 89: "He did not send me!" cried she, positively. "I have no Heavenly Father!"

pg 90: "She remembered - betwixt a smile and a shudder... poor little Pearl was a demon offspring."

pg 93: "Pearl was the one... the scarlet letter in her appearance."

Pearl symbolizes Hester's infidelity.  
Pearl emphasizes the scarlet letter in her appearance.

# DARKNESS

---



## QUOTES!

... in the first place, like a black shadow emerging into the sunshine, the grim and grisly presence of the town-beadle ... (pg 18)

His face darkened with some powerful emotion ... instantaneously controlled by an effort of his will ... (pg 56).

... and how this ugly Black Man offers his book and an iron pen ... (pg 169)

## WHY?

