


☐

I'm not robot


reCAPTCHA

Continue

Cask of amontillado character symbolism

Edgar Allan Poe is known for his prowess in gothic-themed literature. In the episode The Cask of Amontillado, Poe brings out the dark side of the story using intense symbolism and irony throughout the story. The readers find the short story interesting in the midst of the juxtaposition being taken out by the heavy use of symbolic elements in the story. In The Cask of Amontillado, montresor's main character is seeking revenge amid a gothic atmosphere created by Poe. Montresor is a noble Italian who has decided to take revenge on Fortunato, a mischievous character who unknowingly walks to his death. Through the short story, it becomes clear that the evil purpose of the main character is subject to manipulation by various symbolic elements strategically laid out by the author. Nevertheless, the main character's quest for revenge remains inexplicable to the author despite dominating the events of the entire story. The only clue about the main character's uncontrollable quest for revenge comes when he claims that Fortunato is responsible for thousands of injuries (Poe 611). In Poe's story, the main character set out exactly his revenge plan by burying Fortunato while he was still alive. As a result, revenge became a central theme in Poe's story. When Montresor seeks revenge against Fortunato by taking him to his grave, the irony of the whole exercise is highlighted by various elements. Poe uses heavy symbolism to intimidate the theme of revenge on the readers. The use of this symbolic element is also responsible for horror and gothic motifs in short stories. The essay explores the various symbols of irony that Poe uses to symbolize the complexity of the situation surrounding Montresor's quest for salvation through revenge. These symbols include character names, clothing pieces, catacombs, carnivals, and essay titles, and they all relate to the main themes of revenge in the story. The character's name as a symbol in The Cask of Amontillado, the names of the characters have a meaning that contrasts with the personalities of those who bear it. In addition, the names symbolize the main character's reason for revenge against Fortunato. Although the author of the story does not reveal straightforwardly the reason behind Montresor's quest for revenge, the name of his victim (Fortunato) symbolizes the good fortune of the targeted character. The play on the name is meant to tell the reader that Montresor is disturbed by Fortunato's good fortune. As a result, Montresor sought to suppress the wealth associated with Fortunato by burying him alive. One scholar claims that through his revenge Montresor reveals his internal quarrels with luck itself (Clendenning 15). It is possible also Montresor wants and hates wealth at the same time. In short stories, short stories, is the recipient of respect and fear as a result of his good fortune. Fortunato's name is a symbol of the montresor's plan for revenge. The name also represents the inner conflict that is the root cause of the main character's drive for revenge. Montresor revealed that 'Fortunato' either in the past or in the present is responsible for the last thousand injuries. The fact that Fortunato's status made him feared among men was the trigger for Montresor's revenge plan. The love of money became the 'beginning of all evil' being the underlying motive in Montresor's plan precisely on Fortunato, whose good fortune seemed to have shaken his aggressor. Therefore, Montresor needed to suppress Fortunato as a defense mechanism to protect his soul from curses (Cooney 195). There is also an element of irony carried by the name of 'Fortunato' because what happens to this character does not represent the aspect of good fortune. Readers are given the opportunity to experience the symbolic irony brought with the name of the victim. The name Montresor is also subject to some aspects of the symbolic juxtaposition between revenge and its justification. When translated, the name Montresor, which comes from France combines the words monter (to indicate) and sort (fate) (Sweet 11). As a result, Montresor's position as a bath of fate seems to justify his revenge plans. For example, Montresor lived up to his expectations when he planned to bury the arrogant Fortunato alive. Moreover, how Montresor executes his plan shows that there is nothing out of the ordinary in terms of his actions. Poe writes that Fortunato received no word on threats in his interactions with Montresor including incidents when he was led to his grave (Poe 612). This situation indicates that revenge is connected to the fate that befell Fortunato. On the other hand, both the aggressor and his victims are fulfilling their fate (Baraban 48). For example, when Montresor carried out his revenge plan he was part of a larger plan. Throughout the story, it is possible that Montresor and Fortunato become two faces of the same coin. Another possible translation of Montresor is french 'mon Tresor', which translates to 'my treasure' (Sweet 12). The author can use this symbolic name to reveal that Montresor is another dimension of Fortunato. Therefore, Montresor tries to protect his precious personality by getting rid of his lucky side. According to the narrator, salvation is only possible when vanity is substituted for real substance. Clothing as a symbol Another symbol used in The Cask of Amontillado is the fortunato garment. The garment is a symbol of Fortunato's unknown stature as a sacrificial sacrifice. Although Fortunato held the position of in the community, the community, does not reflect this position. It's hard to explain how a respected member of the public ended up wearing a tight striped dress and his head was shuffled by cone hats and bells (Poe 614). The outfit reflects Fortunato's indulgence in the carnival season. This garment is also a symbol of the sacrificial element that applies to Montresor's revenge. Crown bells remind the reader of the crown of thorns that Jesus wore when he was crucified. Therefore, the symbolic element introduces a new dimension to fortunato's ordeal. For example, Montresor's motivation for taking revenge on Fortunato cannot be explained by most readers. As a result, Fortunato's ordeal introduces a new dimension to the engagement that is accompanied by a carnival environment. The dress was a major symbol of the ceremonial nature of Fortunato's predicaal. By carrying out his revenge plan against Fortunato, Montresor attempts to squeeze out aspects of his soul that enjoy stature and power (Baraban 49). On the other hand, Fortunato's stature puts pressure on montresor's soul. The safety that motivated Montresor's revenge plan became apparent through the ceremonial attire worn by Fortunato. It also becomes clear that Montresor's role as a revenge seeker is more complex than what the reader expects. Fortunato's dress also highlights Montresor's plans to be freed through his revenge. Carnival Symbolism the main character's outfit extends to a priestly-like montresor dress. The montresor priest-like dress is similar to the costume worn by the clergy during the funeral. Montresor intends to carry out activities such as funerals by burying Fortunato alive. Revenge is not an activity that randomly falls on the lap of Montresor. However, revenge is a ritual that Fortunato is qualified to perform. The symbolism of Montresor's ceremonial attire was also highlighted by the irony of his refusal to forgive Fortunato or by offering him a chance to repent. On the other hand, it is clear that Montresor considers Fortunato 'dead' and burying him is the ultimate right to be done obediently. Carnival symbolizes a period of carefree attitude that is one of the motives behind Montresor's revenge plan. Montresor uses carnival arrangements to carry out his revenge plan against the drunk and unsuspecting Fortunato. Through the carnival atmosphere, Montresor is able to lure its victims into its well-laid revenge plans. On the other hand, Montresor can investigate the carnival spirit by doing what he terms as a carefree and liberating act of burying Fortunato alive. Carnival is synonymous with indulging human spirit and desire. The pleasures of Montresor gave him a great setting the freedom to carry The ultimate retaliatory action against Fortunato. The sentiment of the aggressor is that he must not only punish but punish with impunity (Poe 612). The carnival atmosphere is a time when the level of indulgence is often higher than usual. As a result, Montresor's plan for revenge fits perfectly into the carnival spirit. Catacombs catacombs are another prominent symbol in The Cask of Amontillado and they intimidate us with the state of mind of Montresor. Fortunato was lured into a catacomb 'coated with human remains' with the promise that he would be able to drink the wine contained in Amontillado's skin. According to one literary scholar, the catacombs are a symbol of montresor's state of mind (Cooney 195). As a result, the dark nature and death of the catacombs indicate that montresor is in a state of mind that can only produce death and horror. On the other hand, the aggressor simply replicates his inner state of mind through his quest for revenge. According to Poe, the catacombs belong to the family. Therefore, Montresor's state of mind may indicate that his mental problems are inter-generational. The fact that the real reason behind Montresor's quest for revenge was not revealed explicitly may have something to do with the fact that it goes back generations. Cask Amontillado is a symbol of the unresolved issues that apply to montresor's plan to seek salvation through revenge. In his story, Montresor recounts the events that took place fifty years ago through a process that resembled confession. Thus, the exercise of confession includes your words, who are well acquainted with the nature of my soul (Poe 611). The fact that Montresor's practice is a confession should mean that he's guilty of something. However, she begins by admitting that she is in no way burdened by the things she did fifty years ago. The contradictory nature of Montresor's actions is symbolized by cask whose contents remain undisclosed for a long period of time. It is also clear that elements of Montresor's conscience knew that Fortunato's burial was an evil act and that is why he ended his confession 'at the speed of investigation', thus indicating that he needed forgiveness for a particular crime (Clendenning 13). Moreover, it is unlikely that Montresor received forgiveness for his underlying sins without a confession of guilt. Cask symbolizes the need for Montresor to hold on to content that cannot be released or justified. The Inference symbol is widely used in The Cask of Amontillado with views conveying the bleak and complex nature of montresor's quest for revenge. The symbols also carry a substantial element of irony as they serve to develop revenge in the story. Fortunato's good fortune was unfortunately overshadowed by the fact that he buried alive. The name Montresor symbolizes a man who gives fate, hence his involvement in a devious plan of revenge. Other prominent symbols in the story include a carnival that mimics the spirit of montresor, the dress style of the main character, and a catacomb that informs the reader of the narrator's state of mind. All these symbols develop a theme of revenge and its relationship to the narrator's obsessive need for salvation. Works quoted Baraban, Elena. Motive for Murder in The Cask of Amontillado by Edgar Allan Poe. Rocky Mountain Review of language and literature 1.2 (2004): 47-62. Print. Clendenning, John. Whatever Happens: The Comic Aspect of 'The Cask of Amontillado'. American Humor 4.2 (2013): 13-26. Print. Cooney, James. Cask of Amontillado: Some Further Irony. Study in Short Fiction 11.2 (1974): 195. Print. Poe, Edgar Allan. Amontillado shells. Perrine Literature: Structure, Sound, and Understanding. Ed. Thomas Arp and Greg Johnson. Thompson/Wadsworth, 2006. 611-616. Print. Sweet, Charles. Retapping Poe's Cask of Amontillado. Poe-Seri Lama Study 8.1 (2005): 10-12. Print. Print.