

Mood and Tone in literature (advanced)



Name:

Date:

Read the text

Mood and tone are essential components of literature that create an emotional response in the reader. In 'Little Bee' by Chris Cleave, both elements are masterfully employed to add depth and complexity to the narrative.

The mood of 'Little Bee' is often somber and intense, reflecting the difficult and traumatic experiences of the characters. The story deals with heavy themes such as violence, loss, and the struggle for survival, which contribute to the overall mood of the novel. For example, when Little Bee is hiding from the soldiers in the Nigerian jungle, the mood is one of fear and desperation. The reader can feel the tension and urgency of the situation, which creates a mood that is both gripping and unsettling.

Another example of the mood in 'Little Bee' is when Sarah visits the immigration detention center where Little Bee is being held. The mood is one of sadness and frustration, as Sarah witnesses the inhumane treatment of the refugees. The descriptions of the center's bleak and oppressive environment add to the overall mood of despair.

The tone of 'Little Bee', on the other hand, is often critical and thought-provoking. The author uses a tone that is both compassionate and incisive, as he delves into the complex issues surrounding immigration and asylum. For instance, when Little Bee is released from the detention center, the author's tone is one of indignation at the bureaucratic obstacles she faces. The tone is also one of empathy, as the author explores the emotional toll of the refugee experience on both Little Bee and Sarah.

Another example of the tone in 'Little Bee' is when Sarah reflects on her own privilege and the choices she has made in her life. The author's tone is introspective and self-critical, as he examines the moral implications of Sarah's actions. The tone is also one of hope, as the novel ultimately suggests that it is possible to find redemption and make a difference in the world.

In conclusion, mood and tone are two distinct elements of 'Little Bee' that work together to create a powerful and emotional reading experience. The mood is the overall feeling created by the events and descriptions in the novel, while the tone is the author's attitude towards the subject matter. Both elements are essential in shaping the reader's understanding and engagement with the story.

Select the correct answer

What is the predominant mood in 'Little Bee'?

- ☐ Fear and desperation ☐ Excitement and adventure ☐ Humor and light-heartedness

Which location in 'Little Bee' contributes to the mood of sadness and frustration?

- ☐ The Nigerian jungle ☐ The immigration detention center ☐ Sarah's home

What tone does the author use when discussing the refugee experience?

- ☐ Indignant and empathetic ☐ Joyful and enthusiastic ☐ Apathetic and dismissive

What emotional response is created through the use of mood in 'Little Bee'?

- ☐ Amusement ☐ An emotional and gripping reaction ☐ Apathy

How does the author's tone reflect his attitude towards immigration and asylum issues?

- ☐ Indifferent and aloof ☐ Sarcastic and cynical ☐ Compassionate and incisive

What theme contributes to the intense and somber mood of 'Little Bee'?

- ☐ Love and romance ☐ Violence and loss ☐ Comedy and entertainment

In 'Little Bee', what does the tone of hope suggest about the possibility of redemption?

- ☐ It is possible to find and make a difference ☐ It is unattainable

What does the author's introspective and self-critical tone reveal about Sarah's character in 'Little Bee'?

- ☐ Her lack of self-awareness ☐ Her reflection on privilege and moral implications of her actions

Rewrite the mood or tone

Choose a passage/paragraph from the work of literature you're reading and rewrite it in a different mood or tone.

Analyze how mood is conveyed through setting in 'Little Bee'.
