

The Vampire Diaries: A Study in Symbols and Metaphors

*UG Thesis submitted for
the partial fulfillment for the award of the
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Submitted by
Swastik Sharma
(19SAHS1030007)

Under the Supervision
Dr. Vivek Kumar
(Associate Professor)

Department of Humanities
Division of English

SCHOOL OF LIBERAL EDUCATION



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Bonafide Certificate

Certified that this project report “**The Vampire Diaries: A Study in Symbols and Metaphors**” is the bonafide work of Swastik Sharma (19SAHS1030007) who carried out the project work under my supervision.

Signature & Seal of School Dean

(Ambika Prasad Pandey)

Signature of Supervisor

(Vivek Kumar)

Approval Sheet

This dissertation entitled “**The Vampire Diaries: A Study in Symbols and Metaphors**” by Swastik Sharma (19SAHS1030007) is approved for the degree of Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in English.

Examiner(s): 1. _____

2. _____

Supervisor (s): 1. _____

2. _____

Chairman: _____

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ABSTRACT

Metaphors have long been a popular technique to demonstrate knowledge of difficult subjects, whether in the verbal form through speech or in the written form through writing. Metaphors create more than one meaning for a word in a sentence, which aids in delivering information indirectly. Metaphors indirectly hinted towards the writer's perspective on supernatural creatures, which is the show's principal theme or plot, and which also hints at the maker's opinion through figuratively discussing supernaturalism in the show. Metaphors are figurative expressions in which a word or phrase is employed to describe or do something that isn't practical. A symbol, on the other hand, is a mark, sign, or word that denotes symbolizes, or is perceived to denote a concept, object, or relationship. By generating connections between seemingly unconnected thoughts and experiences, symbols help people to transcend beyond what they currently know or observe. Symbols allow people to transcend beyond what is known or seen by generating linkages between otherwise quite diverse notions and experiences. A symbol is a sign or emblem that points to the overall meaning of something. A symbol is a clue that leads us to the full literal meaning of anything that has to be highlighted in order to be understood. The show's symbolism surrounding supernaturalism transmits the writers' point of view indirectly. There has been a lot of research done on symbols and metaphors in the past, but very few papers have focused on their significance or importance in a show and how their widespread use can convey a veiled meaning through the form of speech, action, and instance in the show, as well as how metaphoric meanings of instances in a show can question the various flaws of society.

The creators have indirectly questioned society's views in every aspect, whether by portraying vampires in a humane light or by demonstrating that humans are often more ruthless than vampires. In its own right, the show attempted to end all forms of stereotypes, whether it was discrimination, sexism, or questioning someone's decision to become a vampire from a human in the show. The importance of metaphors and symbols across the eight seasons of "The Vampire Diaries" is the main focus of this paper's research.

INTRODUCTION

The show “The Vampire diaries” showcases various metaphoric and symbolic importance through the eight seasons of the show. The Vampire diaries highlights towards the problems in the society by showcasing a plot of a supernatural fictional society. The Vampire diaries throughout the eight seasons draw parallels through act of speech in the dialogues of the characters and also through the symbols representing things through symbolism. The show being set in a small town also highlights the writers and makers lookout on small towns being the epicenter of all the problems that arise in the society. The indirectness in the shows viewpoint towards supernaturalism questioned all the norms in the society.

1.1) Rhetoric Devices

The art of persuasive writing or speaking is known as Rhetoric. When a question is asked to make a statement rather than to get an answer it is a rhetoric statement. Ex- Do you know how lucky you are in terms of your family’s wealth? Rhetoric statements are made to divert the audience or listener's viewpoint towards a perspective that the speaker wants the listener to make in terms of a specific topic. Rhetorics are used to influence the audience's perspective in a manner in which the audience develops a similar or same point of view on a certain topic by indirectly getting influenced by the speaker's way of influencing their thinking towards the topic of matter. The Person who makes the statement has only one purpose which is to influence the audience without actually convincing them to believe in the same idea as them. The indirectness of the rhetorics makes them a part of the symbolism. When a rhetoric statement is made in front of an audience they tend to have a rethink the idea. The indirectness of a statement being passed on makes them look at the subject with an unbiased opinion. Rhetorics are very effective devices that can at a single time signify two different things ask a question just for the sake of it and also make a statement which is the main

purpose of putting the question forward. The Father of Rhetoric Aristotle confined Rhetorics to an appeal in three different forms namely ethos, pathos, and logos.

Ethos

Ethos is the appeal of the Speaker/Writers which makes the rhetoric statement influence the mindset of the Listener/Reader in a manner that makes their point of view similar to the Speakers/Writers. Ethos deals with the authority with which the Speaker puts across the statement and also with what the credential of the speaker is in terms of the audience's faith in him/her. For Ex- "As a Sports Physician I have seen many similar careers ending injuries, that's why I would recommend you to do a full six-month rehab". Here the Sports Physician appeals in the form of an Ethos whose word has a credential to the audience. If a person with no credentials would have told an injured athlete the same thing he/she would have not taken his/her advice as seriously as he/she would do if a certified physician would advise him/her the same.

Logos

Logos are the statement that is made by the speaker to influence the audience. Logos is the logic behind the speaker's argument. Logos is a rhetoric statement used to persuade the audience towards a logical reason which makes them a point of view influenced by the speaker. The logos always contain a reason behind the speaker putting it in front. A rhetoric appeal that appeals to reason, scientific facts, and methodology are termed logos. For Ex- In my 15 yearlong cricketing career I have never come across a bookie.

Here the Logos is the fact that after having such a huge career in the field the person did not come across a single bookie meaning that there is no sign of a game being fixed or a player being bribed to perform according to the bookie's expectation and that there is no corruption

in the sport. *“I have never come across a bookie”* gives reason and facts to the argument put forward by the speaker.

Pathos

The Audience which is persuaded by the speaker is the pathos appeal in the form of emotion. The emotion with which the audience formulates a point of view regarding the statement is the pathos appeal. Pathos is the and there will in believing in the emotions of the speaker's way in pursuing them to believe in the same idea as the speaker. For Ex- If you don't give me that bag right away, you will be in deep trouble. Can't you see how upset I am?

Here Pathos is the anger or frustration of the speaker by aggressively making the statement of the second person getting in trouble if he/she doesn't return the bag which made the audience or listener believe in what the wants him/her to do next. Through the use of emotion in a rhetoric statement, the speaker makes the audience believes in his argument through his/her way of conveying it.

1.2) Metaphors

A metaphor is a figure of speech that helps clarify an idea or establish contrast by describing something or doing something in a way that isn't true. Metaphors are how a writer can draw comparisons between two different entities without using the words like and as. Metaphors are a figure of speech that indicates a sort of comparison between the exaggerated word and the hinted meaning in terms of using that word by their usage in a sentence. Metaphors refer to one thing by directly mentioning another. Metaphors might compare two very dissimilar things based on a single important similarity between them by highlighting that similarity properly.

Metaphors are the interlinking of two similar traits put forward by the speaker/writer to make the audience understand his/her views in terms of that particular subject of matter a speaker/writer uses metaphors to glorify the sentence in a way that the exact emotion behind the speaker/writer conveying it would be easily reachable to the audience.

Metaphors are used in a way that an object is compared to a human entity or an object is portrayed as one which connotes a human-like trait. For Ex “She shines like a star while dancing” means that she is a really good dancer and not the literal meaning. The Metaphors always possess a connotative meaning because of their indirectness in conveying the meaning of something. The connotative meaning depends on the understanding of the audience. The audience should want to know the hidden connotative meaning then only they will be able to figure it out. The urge to find out the hidden meaning should be one thing the audience should possess. Connotation can also be different sometimes in terms of how the speaker wants the audience to understand the meaning and how the audience understands meaning eventual can be different from one another.

An instance, as well as a word both, can be metaphoric depending on how they are used in a storyline and a sentence. Metaphoric instances with how an instance takes place hint towards another meaning that the person or character involved in it wants to portray. For Ex- “The aggression on a batter's face when facing a bowler” metaphorically hints at the batter’s approach towards the next bowl the bowler is going to bowl to him/her. While using the act of speech or metaphors used in a sentence through a single word can convey a different hinted meaning altogether. For Ex- in the Sentence “You are my sunshine” the word sunshine represents the meaning of happiness or goodness in regards to the second person in the first

person's life. The Usage of Metaphors in a sentence depends on the writer's way of enhancing his/her statement to make it the best-exaggerated sentence to his/her liking and also that he/she makes it in a way that highlights through the usage of the metaphor the point, feeling, the emotion he/she is trying to highlight.

Metaphors can't ever be taken as the literal adaptation because that would mean that the whole purpose of indirectly hinting towards a particular topic or thing is taken away from the audience which the writer/speaker does not want. The Speaker's intention is always to make the exaggerated statement to make the audience understand the significance of the highlighted subject he/she wants to convey. The Audience on the other hand should focus on the exaggerated statement in a way that they try to understand the highlighted metaphor used to convey to them the real meaning or purpose of the writer/speaker. There are different types of metaphors which all have different ways in which they are used in sentences for an instance there a dead, cliché, stock, and visual metaphors.

Dead Metaphor

A metaphor that has lost its original meaning or significance is known as a dead Metaphor. Dead Metaphor is one form of metaphor that by its repeated usage starts to lose its original connotation and eventually turns into a word with a different meaning altogether. The Repeated usage of the metaphor has made it unsurprisingly or unappealing to be a metaphor and thus fit into the category of a metaphor in the name of a dead one. For Ex- "He hit the nail on its head" this phrase has been used so often now that it does not sound or look like a metaphor anymore and looks more like a normal sentence.

Cliché metaphor

Cliché metaphors are the type of metaphors that once had a striking effect on the mind of the audience because of the way they are used but with time their usage became one that was very unappealing to the audience and what made them sound cliché. How Clichés were overused made them unlikeable and overrated. Whenever nowadays you hear a cliché you go like no not again another cliché. For Ex- “Laughter is the best medicine” is one of the most cliché sentences you may hear from anyone in today's world. The usage of it has just made it sound unappealing to the audience.

Stock metaphor

Stock metaphors are those which convey to the reader a substantial or conceptual concept that has an emotional impact on the reader and unlike dead Metaphor has an active aesthetic function. For example - the “The Brevity is the soul of wit” this phrase is not a cliché or dead metaphor but belongs to the stock or standard category because it conveys through its usage a substantial concept that does not sound boring.

Visual Metaphors

A visual metaphor is the representation of a person, place, thing, or idea employing a visual image that suggests a specific association or sense of resemblance. A visual metaphor is one that through its occurrence in form of a visual aid can convey to the audience their means and highlight their purpose of occurrence. A Visual Metaphor is what we see on-screen mostly in a movie or series the metaphors being portrayed in forms of instances or characters are all part of a visual metaphor. For Ex- “The Lightning bolts scar on Harry Potters’ forehead in the famous Harry Potter series of movies”. The Scar not only signifies its meaning as a metaphor but also through visual reference provides more information.

Metaphors are a type of figure of speech that compares two entities in a direct as well as indirect manner they hint towards one entity from another but don't directly convey that they are interlinked. A figure of speech is an essential component of any language, as it is used frequently not only in everyday speech but also in written and oral literature. These are words or phrases that are used in a unique way to create a rhetorical effect. To put it another way, it's a phrase that has a literal meaning but isn't the same as its actual meaning.

A variety of rhetorical techniques are used to develop and express these ideas. Humans use a variety of figures of speech in their everyday conversations, both consciously and unconsciously. It improves the quality of your writing and material. Metaphors, for example, offer vital aspects to the text that make it more relatable to the audience. Idioms make it easier to explain complicated thoughts in a short amount of time.

Language can be interpreted in two ways: literally and metaphorically. Literal language is straightforward, employing the true definitions and meanings of words and phrases. When we speak figuratively, however, the meaning of any word or phrase is determined by the context in which it is used. Figurative language and rhetoric are used in a figure of speech. Figures of speech cause words to deviate from their literal meanings to give them a more stylized and specialized meaning. Take, for example, the expression "as quick as lightning." "As quick as lightning," not "as fast as lightning," is the meaning of this phrase. Other than metaphors there are 6 other major types of figure of speech similes, personifications, hyperboles, onomatopoeia, idioms, and proverbs.

Simile

A simile is a figure of expression that expressly compares two things. To make the comparison, we employ the words like or as. The beauty of a simile is that it allows us to visualize what the author is attempting to convey. Similes are used by poets and authors to bring their texts to life. When you encounter the words like or as in a comparison, you've recognized a simile. Similes function similarly to metaphors. Metaphors, on the other hand, are not the same as similes. Famous authors, public speakers, and others who want to make their writing as thrilling as a spontaneous display of fireworks should use similes. Similes created a direct link between the feeling and the object every time they are used. The usage of similes is mostly in poems because of their direct hinted interlinking in a manner that conveys to the audience their glorified way of comparing two entities. For Ex- "Shane Warne was like the Diego Maradona of Cricket". In this sentence, the similarities between Shane Warne and Diego Maradona in their respective field of Sports have been drawn. The writer wants to highlight Warne's importance and charisma by comparing him with the late legendary footballer Diego Maradona.

Personification

Personification is a type of figure of speech that gives human-like characteristics to non-human entities be it objects or animals in their respectful right. When a writer tries to showcase human-like trait in the form of non-human entities mostly object he/she personifies that object. Personification allows writers to create life and motion within inanimate objects, animals, and even abstract ideas by assigning them recognizable human behaviors and emotions. The human-like characteristics that have been given to a non-human entity in itself are a way of interlinking two very different things on the bases of providing a similar characteristic by linking them to one another. Personification is when you treat an object the

same as you would have done with a human or when you relate the doings of an object the same way as you do with humans. For Ex-“ The tree caught the kite” This phrase personifies the tree by giving it a human-like trait which is catching here the tree in actuality has not caught the kite by himself as humans do but the kite has somehow got stuck in the branch of the tree.

Hyperboles

Hyperboles are a type of figure of speech that conveys to us the meaning of something by exaggerating it to whole another level. The word hyperbole comes from a Greek word that means "plenty." The exaggerated words which are used to make the audience under their true meanings are known as Hyperbole or Hyperboles. Examples of hyperbole can be found in literature and ordinary speech.

Hyperboles are statements that are made exaggerated deliberately to emphasize the true meaning behind them. Hyperbole is exaggerated over statements only when the writer wants to convey the hidden meaning behind the exaggerated overstatement. The writers use hyperbole to highlight the feeling that they want to convey to the audience through their figure of speech.

Onomatopoeia

Onomatopoeia is a figure of speech that is used for the readers to understand almost the literal meaning of the word used. Onomatopoeia is the word whose meaning is the same as the sound they make while they are uttered in a sentence. Unlike most of the other types of figures of speeches, onomatopoeia can be connoted in with their literal meaning if there is

one depending on the onomatopoeia used because mostly onomatopoeia is a word that is made to convey a single meaning.

Idioms

Idioms are a figure of speech that conveys to the readers a meaning which is different than the literal one. Every language has its own set of expressions and phrases. These idioms frequently have hidden meanings that aren't clear just by looking at the individual words. These are referred to as "idioms."

Idioms are used to signify the hidden meaning which has should be connotated by the readers. The phrases or sentences which convey a whole other meaning than the literal one are known as Idioms. Idioms denote through them a sort of exaggeration like in hyperboles but unlike hyperbole, idioms are not deliberately used to exaggerate a highlighted meaning but are phrases that in themselves only contain fixed expressions that have a meaning different than the literal one. For Ex- "These Pants cost an arm and a leg" is an idiom that denotes that the cost of the pants are high and they are expensive by saying that they can cost an arm and a leg the person conveys his/her emotion of shock and disbelief of the person buying the pants at the store.

Proverbs

A proverb is a short phrase that expresses a truth or gives guidance. Proverbs aren't always literal sayings; they often employ metaphorical language to make a point about life. A proverb is usually well-known due to its widespread use in everyday speech. Proverbs are a type of figure of speech that is used in a manner that conveys to the readers a message through them in the form of advice. Proverbs express truth by stating statements about life.

Proverbs will not directly give advice but through them directly question you to raise a voice against the wrongs. For Ex- “Complaining is the weak man’s weapon.” This phrase signifies that the strong man doesn’t complain about things in their life and deals with them accordingly and the man who complains about things is weak in comparison to the others.

1.3) Symbols

A Symbol is a mark, sign, or word used to signify a sort of idea, object, or relationship. A physical entity that denotes by their presence something other than them is known as a symbol. Symbols are a means through which a person tries to denote different types of meaning to the other person. Symbols are the means of connection between the idea and its representation of it. A symbol is anything that alluded to something else, usually something abstract like an idea or a belief. An object, a person, a scenario, or an action that has a literal meaning in a story but indicates or reflects other meanings is referred to as a literary symbol.

(Stone writing Center 1)

Symbols are the minor forms in which an idea is discussed in front of the audience. Symbols provide a hint of what the whole concept is but don’t talk about the whole thing through them. The definition of a Symbol should be something that stands for something else. Symbols denote through them something while they might contain an alternate meaning to that in their denotation. Symbols are a form of representation of an idea. Through their minimal occurrence symbols can convey an abstract idea very easily to the audience. A Symbol is a sort of a short form of a greater element which is the major highlight. The Major objective is conveyed through the usage of a symbol. For Ex- the Different Colour signals denote different meanings through their occurrence in a traffic light. The Green color signal conveys

to the vehicles in front to pass. The Yellow signal conveys to the vehicles to make a move towards passing while the Red color conveys to the vehicles to stop in their respective places to let the people walking on the road pass. These three representations convey that a mere change of color at the traffic signal can convey different meanings in terms of what the person driving the vehicle is supposed to do. A slight change in the representation of a symbol can change its significance altogether the understanding of the symbol as well as its denotation can change.

The Connotative meaning of the Symbol depends on the knowledge of the audience's viewpoint on understanding the true meaning and significance of the symbol used. The connotative meaning is the meaning which always depends on the willingness of the audience to learn and understand and thus it becomes an integral part of understanding the true meaning behind a symbol at the time of its occurrence

A Symbol is used to convey to the audience a particular sort of meaning which can lead the audience to think in a manner that thinking can be a little biased into the topic of matter. A Symbol can make an audience think differently in terms of how it denotes the topic of matter which is the major highlighted purpose. A Symbol is always a minor version of a representation of a greater idea or concept. The Usage of symbols is done in a way that the symbol consists of only one connotative meaning that the user wants the audience to focus upon but the connotations possessed by it are always numerous in numbers because of the nature of the usage of a figurative device making it open to more than one connotations the user wants to indicate.

Symbolism

Symbolism is the concept of a thing illustrating another thing. Symbolism is a literary device in which words, people, locations, and abstract concepts are utilized to represent something other than their literal meaning. Symbolism is a literary device that is used to create an impression by adding additional meaning to an action, an item, or a name. Symbolism is the process of associating or affixing something solid to something other in to give it a new and more meaningful significance. The Usage of Symbolism through a large part of the human race's existence can be found through the carving done by our ancestors on the walls of the caves they used to live in to convey different sorts of meanings mostly being the ones indicating the culture of that time. Symbolism discusses ideas in the form of them being depicted as a visual aid to the audience in front. Symbolism hints at concepts and ideas by a visual depiction through a mark or sign. The Benefits of Symbolism are that when a visual representation of something is put in front of an audience they understand things more easily in comparison to being made to understand the same concept or ideas through text or theories which can bore them easily.

The Visual Representation of a concept makes the concept more intriguing in front of the audience because the human psyche convinces them to believe in what they see rather than what they read about. The Visual aid not only makes it more believable but also makes it more creative in terms of the writers' way of using a representation of an idea by merely showcasing a single mark or sign. The relevance of a symbol while symbolizing a concept is the most important aspect of Symbolism. Symbolism is one technic that can denote two different entities based on a commonality put forward by the user of it. There are various types of symbolism used in our world namely metaphors, similes, allegory, archetype, personification, hyperbole, metonymy, and irony. As the terms metaphors, simile,

personification, and hyperbole have already been discussed so well jump directly to the remaining ones.

Allegory

An allegory is a narrative or visual depiction in which a character, place, or event as a literary device or artistic expression, be interpreted to reflect a hidden meaning with moral or political consequences. The Representation of a hidden idea reflected in the political or moralistic connotation is known as an allegory. An Allegory is a literary method that is used to convey huge, complicated ideas simply and understandably. Allegory can help writers put some distance between themselves and the topics they're portraying, which is especially effective when the problems are potent critiques of political or societal reality.

Primarily Allegories portray through them a story within a story. The Allegory is one type of symbolism that represents through their usage a sort of hidden meaning to the audience which can only be linked to a moralistic or political lookout. For Ex- Santa Claus is an allegory that shows how a single person can make a difference in the world by giving. Santa Claus's contribution to the world by doing his job in the form of delivering gifts is talked about here and the moralistic value it showcases is highlighted. The Delivery of the gifts is the story on the upper surface of the allegory while the moralistic value of giving is the story hidden to be highlighted through symbolism. Allegories are further divided into three parts a biblical allegory, a classical allegory, and a modern allegory.

Biblical Allegories

Biblical Allegories discuss the themes related to the Bible or the themes from Christian mythology. The usage of Biblical allegory is done to showcase the struggle of prevailing of

good over evil in our modern lives. The Referencing of Biblical ideas makes this type open to only one sort of connotation primarily which is what the Bible tells about that particular character or allegory is taken as the fact which cannot be connotated as a false statement while the connotation can also multiply in numbers due to the Bible having various adaptations of it globally which can portray different sort of ideas differently than the original form. For Ex- C.S. Lewis' The Chronicles of Narnia is an example of Biblical allegory. Aslan, the lion, portrays a Christ figure who is the legitimate ruler of the Narnia kingdom. Aslan makes the ultimate sacrifice for Edmund, the Judas figure, and is resurrected to rule Narnia once more.

Biblical Allegories are a sort of biblical reference or character creation to highlight a biblical quality or trait associated with it. Aslan's trait of dying for the sake of others' selflessness and sacrifice of Jesus Christ associated with the biblical theories has been conveyed through it. Biblical allegory hints at every aspect related to a biblical theme or character which may convey more than one trait or emotion through them. Biblical Allegory can not only be represented through a simple character but also the timeline of events in a story or a movie. Biblical allegories are a representation of God or god-like figures in the form of humans which makes it more intriguing for the audience to look at a comparison in forms of similarities has been drawn between a mere human and the Almighty himself.

Classical Allegory

Allegorical stories about animals and other things presented in classical Greece to demonstrate human existence and teach people a lesson are the basis of a Classical Allegory. The Allegories related to Greek history in terms of human existence are known as classical Allegories. The Classical Allegories takes reference from the old Greek history of how this

human race came into existence and survived through all this time by adapting to various natural elements. The References that are all available related to Greek literature in terms of human existence are all considered to be the point from which classical allegories emerge. Greek ancient history always has given references to the world in terms of humans starting with Olympus' account of how humans were created and why they were created.

For Ex- "Plato's allegory of the cave" conveys how the humans used to live their lives by depicting Plato's way of looking at the shadow from the way to connote the meaning of how the humans live and what are their ways of living inside the cave. The mere shadows of them conveyed to Plato a meaning that he believed was true. Plato only saw the shadows and believed that there were humans present there and living their lives there.

Modern Allegory

Modern allegories are not directly linked to the idea but are in a way hinting towards it by some common points between the concept and the adaptation of that concept. How they are used give a reason for the people to question that are they hinting towards some concept or idea through their occurrence indirectly without saying it. In the modern allegory, several examples of "allegories" can be discovered in the interpretation of works as allegorical without necessarily being designed that way. For example, there is continuous discussion among readers regarding whether or not J.R.R. Tolkien's The Lord of the Rings series was intended as a metaphor for World War I.

Archetype

An archetype is a phrase for universal symbols that elicit profound and sometimes unconscious reactions in the reader. Archetypes are the default setting for a particular word,

phrase, or symbol in terms of symbolism. Archetypal meaning is that meaning that a person associates directly with a concept when he/she hears about it. Characters, images, and themes in literature that symbolically reflect universal meanings and basic human experiences, regardless of time or place, are referred to as archetypes. Archetypes are the first or original form related to something or someone a person as well as a pattern of behavior can both be fitted in the box of an archetype based on it being the prototype of something. The first copy of a movie cd is the archetype of it. While how a person's behavior is from his/her childhood is his/her archetypal.

Archetypes can be also termed as the original form which is given to something at first by the person who makes it in terms of objects. The Old Personal Computers are an archetype of all computer-related be it Laptops or Gaming Laptops famous nowadays. Archetypes are the first adaptation of something from which later on further various adaptations are made. Archetypes help in figuring out the basic structure of something which is made. Archetypes being the first adaptations are always termed as the original forms of something. In literature, the "Hero" is an archetype of various other aspects but the main focus is upon the same turn of events leading up to the hero facing her/his fears and then eventually overcoming them and conveying to the audience the same idea of overcoming is the solution to all your deep in heart fears. Archetypes are a term that is used widely in the field of psychology hinting at the function of a human's behavior and the archetypal behavior humans portray.

In Symbolism, an archetype portrays the first draft of something. For Ex- In terms of nature, the tree is an archetypal emblem. The trees through their existence portray nature even in areas where there are less amount of trees or no trees at all the tree's archetypal meaning remains the same. The archetypal meaning of the prototype of a tree in symbolism remains

the same in every context and every part of the world. Archetypes can't vary in terms of how and where they are used there is always a standard or default denotation or meaning of something which is created by humans or a god who has created humans themselves.

Metonymy

Metonymies are the words that are used through indirectness for referring to another word. A Metonymy replaces the name of an entity with a word that has a strong link with it. To put it another way, you refer to something by the name of something similar to it.

Metonymy is the usage of a word instead of another word in a manner that the word used is in the place of the original word and is related to it somehow. Metonymy also aids them in giving a more complicated meaning to an ordinarily simple term. For Ex- "John began a novel" signifies that John has started writing a novel and not the literal denotation of the phrase used. The choice of the words that the user uses is the key to conveying to the audience what the metonymy is and after that what it signifies. Metonymy mostly connotated more than one meaning because a single word mostly contains more than a single meaning. Metonymy is used by poets to give a more complex meaning than usual because they try to glorify their statements or phrases to highlight something indirectly through figures of speech.

Irony

The irony is a figure of speech in which the intended meaning of the words communicated differs from their literal meaning. Irony is a powerful tool for engaging readers and adding depth to a story. The irony arises in both literature and reality when someone says or does something contrary to what they anticipate them to say or do. There are many various sorts of irony, just as there are many different ways of misinterpreting the word "Sorry". The

misinterpretation of the word “Sorry” can be on various aspects depending on how this word is used, where this word is used, in what sense this word is used by the user, in what manner does the user use it, what intention do the other convey while using it. The same logic applies to irony the usage of them and their connotation or misinterpretations can be numerous because of them trying to connotate an opposite meaning of what they stand for in literal denotation.

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THE VAMPIRE DIARIES

2.3) The Book Series “The Vampire Diaries”

L. J. Smith conceived and wrote The Vampire Diaries, a young adult vampire, romance, and horror series of novels. The Vampire Diaries is now a popular TV show on The CW. Elena Gilbert is a young, gorgeous high school student who is eventually torn between two Italian brothers, Stefan and Damon Salvatore, who are centuries-old vampires. The trilogy was first published in 1991, but reader pressure prompted Smith to produce a fourth volume, Dark Reunion, which was published the following year in 1992. Stefan Salvatore and Elena Gilbert are the major narrators and protagonists of the first four novels in the original series: The Awakening, The Struggle, The Fury, and Dark Reunion. The first three books in the original series are told from both Stefan and Elena's perspectives, but the final book, Dark Reunion, is told from Bonnie McCullough's perspective. In the First book The Awakening Elena Gilbert, a beautiful and popular high school student in the little town of Fells Church, Virginia, and her friends Bonnie McCullough, Meredith Sulez, Matt Honeycutt, and Caroline Forbes are introduced in the first novel(Smith 1). Caroline is an old friend of Elena's who is now her rival.

When school starts, Elena breaks up with her boyfriend, first love, and best friend, Matt, who is a high school football star and quarterback. Matt and Elena were dubbed the "golden pair" since he was tall, athletic, blonde, and popular, but Elena felt like their relationship lacked sparks and energy, and she was always craving for more. Elena meets a new international student from Italy, Stefan Salvatore, as their senior year begins (Smith 11) and she is instantaneously, indescribably, captivated by him. Stefan's deepest, darkest centuries-old secret is that he is a centuries-old vampire, which Elena is unaware of. He's living at Mrs.

Flower's old boarding house in the woods. Stefan is powerfully magnetically pulled to her at first, but he pushes back because he fears he will hurt her.

In the second book "The Struggle" Elena confronts Damon about Stefan's disappearance, picking up where 'The Awakening' left off. He refuses to assist Elena in finding Stefan when she rejects his amorous approaches and remains steadfastly loyal to Stefan and her love for him. Bonnie, who is said to have psychic abilities, employs magic to locate Stefan. Stefan is stuck in a well, near death, when the girls discover him. Elena feeds him her blood when they rescue him to hasten his recovery. Stefan continues to suffer animosity in the town due to the widespread notion that he has attacked residents. Elena begins to receive notes that begin with snippets from her diary, which was taken at Bonnie's residence. Elena finds that Caroline Forbes, an accomplice of Tyler Smallwood, has robbed her diary as Founder's Day approaches. Elena's diary must be returned since the contents can be used to prove Stefan is a violent criminal.

Elena has a dream that Stefan discovers the contents of her diary and gives her a disgusted, furious, and irritated expression. Elena is heartbroken, and she makes sure Stefan isn't aware of it. Bonnie, Meredith, and Elena break into Caroline's house in pursuit of the diary, but they are unable to locate it because they return home early from a night out at a restaurant. Elena scales their house's roof after becoming stuck on Caroline's parents' room's balcony. Damon promises to support Elena's cause if she gives him her blood and spends at least an hour with him freely, as he assures her he will get that time with her someday, willingly or not. Robert (Aunt Judith's fiancé) invites Damon to Elena's house for Thanksgiving. On the same night, he returns to the house, where everyone but Elena is sound sleeping. Damon tries to enter Elena's room, but the old house's living room and Elena's bedroom were all that remained.

Damon's expression shifts from astonishment to fury to calm reflection because he wasn't invited into either of the rooms. He then makes his way to Margaret's chamber. She first refuses to fall for the trap, but when he threatens to feed off her sister, Elena succumbs. Damon and Elena share blood.

Elena wakes up the next morning still alive, and she recalls Damon removing his shirt to give Elena his blood. Elena informs Stefan about the missing journal not long after. Stefan assures Elena that he will stay because of his love for her, even if Caroline publishes the contents of Elena's diary to the entire community. When Caroline prepares to read the diary in front of the class on Founder's Day, Elena discovers that Damon has replaced Elena's diary for Caroline's. Damon appreciates Elena's gratitude, but when he learns of her engagement to Stefan, he becomes enraged. Aunt Judith and Robert are enraged and forbid Elena from proceeding with the wedding. Elena storms off in Matt's car, enraged at their reactions, and soon notices that the weather is threatening. She tries to cross flowing water because she believes it will keep her safe. After all, supernatural beings are unable to do so. Elena falls in when the bridge splits while she is driving. She then drowns, rising as a newly born vampire later.

The third book "The Fury" was a satisfying end to the previous two volumes in the series. Elena's transformation into a vampire was foreseen by the audience, and they finally got to see it in this volume. The audience was given more information about what transpired in the past and witnessed a dramatic conclusion.

The Fury was planned to be the third and last installment in the Vampire Diaries trilogy, but Smith was persuaded to write a fourth installment. Because Dark Reunion would not be narrated from Elena's point of view, the audience was wondering how it would compare.

Instead, Bonnie tells the story, with a little help from the other characters. The Dark Reunion was a book that the audience was excited to read. The audience was eager to learn more about this new Evil and how they would be able to escape it.

In 2007, Smith revealed a new spin-off trilogy called *The Vampire Diaries: The Return*, starring Damon Salvatore as the narrator. On February 10, 2009, the first installment of *The Return* trilogy, *Nightfall*, was released. On March 16, 2010, the second installment of *The Return* trilogy, *Shadow Souls*, was released. *Midnight*, the third and final installment in *The Return* trilogy, was published on March 15, 2011. *The Hunters* trilogy, which follows *The Return* trilogy, is written by a ghostwriter. Stefan and Elena are once again the major narrators and protagonists of the series. When Smith began writing the first *Vampire Diaries* novel trilogy, she signed a "work for hire" contract, which implies Alloy controls the series' copyrights. Many theories have been proposed as to why Smith was fired, but neither the author nor the publishers have issued an official statement. According to reports, Smith intended Elena to pick Damon over Stefan, but the publishers disagreed; nevertheless, this has not been proven.

Smith had planned to call the books in *The Hunters* trilogy *Phantom*, *Evensong*, and *Eternity*, but she kept the term *Eternity* and will be writing a book called *Eternity: A Vampire Love Story* that is unrelated to the series. *Destiny Rising* is the title of the third and final book in *The Hunters* trilogy. *The Hunters'* new trilogy will mostly focus on Stefan and Elena, their college lives with their friends and the events that surround them. On October 25, 2011, *Phantom* was released. On March 13, 2012, *Moonsong* was released. On October 23, 2012, *Destiny Rising*, the third and last book in *The Hunters* trilogy and the final book in *The Vampire Diaries*, was released. The publishers have verified it. *Destiny Rising* was the final

book in the Vampire Diaries trilogy, according to Harper Teen. The Vampire Diaries: Stefan's Diaries series, like The Hunters trilogy, is written by a ghostwriter. It is a book series based on the CW television show presented from Stefan's point of view. A new trilogy was released in 2013. The Salvation: Unseen, the first novel, was released on May 2, 2013. The Salvation: Unspoken, the second novel was released on November 7, 2013. The trilogy's third and final installment was released in 2014. Aubrey Clark, a ghostwriter, wrote the Salvation trilogy.

2.2) The show “The Vampire Diaries”

The Vampire Diaries is a show based on the novel *The Awakening* written by J.L. Smith which takes supernaturalism as the main basic plot. The show started in the year 2009 and after completing 8 whole seasons ended in the year 2017 it was a well-renowned show among the youth at that time and gained huge popularity when it aired and after that as well. The show aired on American television The CW as well on ott platform on Netflix first and then on Amazon prime videos which made it easier for the audience to reach. The pilot episode attracted the largest audience for The CW of any series premiere since the network began in 2006 first season averaged 3.60 million viewers. It was the most-watched series on the network before being supplanted by *Arrow*. The show has been nominated for several awards and has won four People's Choice Awards as well as multiple Teen Choice Awards. The Vampire Diaries is the most popular vampire show of all time. The Vampire Diaries, unlike *True Blood* and *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, which both lasted seven seasons, is the longest-running vampire series, with eight seasons.

The Vampire Diaries, unlike *True Blood* and *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, which both lasted seven seasons, is the longest-running vampire series, with eight seasons. The series' concepts

and characters sparked a media franchise that now encompasses various television shows, online series, novels, and comic books. The show extended in the year 2013 when the show started its second installment called “The Originals” which showcased the stories of the characters of The Original Vampire Family introduced in the second season of the Vampires Diaries and it became another major hit for the franchise along with the first installment at the same time. On May 10, 2017, The CW renewed the series for a fifth season. On July 20, 2017, it was announced by the series creator Julie Plec ahead of Comic-Con that the series' fifth season would be its last. The final season began airing on April 18, 2018, and finished on August 1, 2018, after which in the same year came to the show named Legacies which was the third and final installment of the franchise. The show gained so much popularity till the time it ran that after its completion as well the show is one of the most recommended shows for viewers to watch on the online platform. The thing that attracted the audience the most was the idea of supernaturalism being shown in a very humanly form in the show. Although every age group was fond of the show the most attracted were the young age going to schools and colleges because of the subplot of the show is showcasing the age group of a high schooler in the show.

The show was set in a small town named Mystic Falls in Virginia a state in the United States of America. The show revolved around the central character of Elena Gilbert played by the Canadian Actress Nina Dobrev who played her role with so conviction that the audience got connected to her character. Nina Dobrev not only played the character of Elena Gilbert but also the Character of Katherine Pierce who was the main antagonist and the Doppelganger of Elena Gilbert. Nina Dobrev Portraying two different characters from one another made the

audience like her more in terms of them recognizing her as a Versatile Actress who can pull off a cold-blooded vampire as well as a normal high school girl in the same show.

Nina Dobrev presents both characters in a shade of grey making them both not completely wrong or right was one thing because of which the number of praises she got from the audience. Elena Gilbert was the daughter of Grayson and Miranda Gilbert who died in a car crash when she was only 17 and had two years younger brother Jeremy with her. Later on, in the show, it was revealed that Elena was adopted and her real parents were John Gilbert and Isobel Flemming. John Gilbert being Jeremy's uncle meant Elena and Jeremy were first cousins. The revelation also conveyed that Elena and Katherine were related in the sense that they both belonged to the same chain of the family. The fact that Elena and Katherine were doppelgangers leads to Elena and the other finding out about her real parents. Elena first feared that when she tells Jeremy that they are not real brothers and sisters he would just freak out about this but on the contrary dealt with it with utmost maturity and things remained the same between the two siblings. Katherine and Isobel belonging to the same family made Elena and Katherine related in a manner that Elena was the first doppelganger of Katherine. The tiff between Elena and Katherine continued throughout the whole show. On one hand, Katherine tried to kill all the people Elena cared for while on the other Elena also wanted to kill Katherine for all the bad deeds she had committed in the past and to save her loved ones.

The show not only showcased the character of Elena Gilbert but also her two love interests throughout its duration being the Salvatore Brother Stefan and Damon. Stefan Salvatore was the 150-year good vampire who was trying his best to overcome his past action While Damon his Brother was the archetypical version of a vampire who killed people and never use to bother anyone else than him he was mean and selfish, to begin with. Stefan was Played by an

American actor named Paul Wesley who in his real life is the complete opposite of Stefan which he has admitted that the only thing that is common between him and Stefan is their hair and nothing else.

Paul Wesley's portrayal of Stefan was so globally loved that people used to believe that he is Stefan in real life and that his lifestyle and personality is like Stefan but in actuality, it was the other way around. Stefan would always have guilt about his dreadful past as a vampire in which he became the ripper who would just thrive on human blood and kill people for fun and would drink all the blood from their bodies and not stop till he finishes the last drop of blood in a humans body past as a vampire in which he became the ripper who would just thrive on human blood and kill people for fun and would drink all the blood from their bodies and not stop till he finishes the last drop of blood in a humans body . Stefan and Elena were the two characters who used to write in a diary about their day which was one of the central ideas of the show being named “The Vampire Diaries”. Stefan not having the best of childhood only loved his elder brother more than anyone in their family and so did Damon.

While Damon Salvatore the heartthrob of the show was played by another American actor Ian Somerhalder who was the Character everyone shipped with the character of Nina Dobrev from the start. The Bad vampire falling for the God girl was portrayed through their relationship. This love story by some part of the audience is regarded as the ideal love story of two imperfect characters finding perfection in each other's imperfections. The Character development of Damon throughout the show is commendable from being the selfish vampire to turning into a selfless human being was portrayed through him.

Stefan and Damon are by far the most loved brother duo in the history of TV because of the show being first airing on TV and then switching to the digital platform afterward. The ending scene also indicates how right Rebekah was when she made the statement about the Salvatore's Stefan and Damon we're both running to die to save the other back and again. Stefan and Damon originally had a small family only consisting there parents and them. For the large part of their human lives, they both spend their time with their father only because of their mother not being with them for reasons later revealed on the show. Their father was one person who tried to kill every vampire in town but found out in the process of finding the vampires that one of his sons is already been bitten by a vampire and the other has decided to side with the vampires rather than humans because of his love for Katherine Pierce.

2.3) Differences and Similarities between the show and the books

The characters, storyline, and events in the book and its adaptation as shown are not the same in every aspect but have various sort of differences. In the books, Elena and Katherine are half-sisters who shared the same mother but in the show, Elena is a descendent of the same family Katherine belonged to. This change in the relationship between Elena the Female Protagonist and Katherine the Female Antagonist of the show played a very vital role in the storyline of events that took place between them. In the show, Katherine mentioned various times that Elena has happiness that is not hers but Katherine's or Elena stool Katherine's happiness.

Stefan who was a vampire in the shows who for the large part only drank animal blood and choose not to feed on humans is similar but a little different from the books. In the books, he does drink animal blood most of the but also drinks human blood more than he did in the

show. In the show, it was seen that he drank human blood in only a few situations of crises but in the books, he, drank human blood in other situations as well.

The experiences that shaped Elena's character in the program are likewise depicted in the books. Elena's parents are killed in a vehicle accident in both versions. As a result, she and her sibling are left in the care of their aunt. Damon's relationship with his father was another little aspect that was preserved from the books. Flashbacks in the program suggest that Damon and his father had a tense relationship. When Damon was blamed for missing money, his father had him eat his pet turkey and hurt him. This is correct based on what fans have learned from the novels.

In the show, there were only Hybrids, Vampires, Werewolves, and Witches shown as Supernatural beings in the main plot but in the books, there are supernatural creatures like Angels also present which were represented as nothing else we have been before in cinema. Angels were portrayed as then mystical sources that wisdom to the other characters by their mere presence. Elena's bond with her younger brother Jeremy is one of the strongest and most distinguishing in the television series. Elena and Jeremy reside with their aunt Jenna after their parents die until she dies in season two, at which point Elena takes custody of her brother. In the literature, there is no Jeremy Gilbert. Elena, on the other hand, has a younger sister named Margaret, who is only a toddler and only plays a tiny role in the series. Margaret and her older sister are thought to have a significant likeness.

In the show, the mind-related powers of a vampire are very narrowed down in comparison to the powers that they have in the books. In the books, vampires have mind-reading powers and the power of communicating with one another without speaking whereas in the show except

for the power of compulsion no other power is showcased. The mind compulsion power showcased in the show can also potentially be blocked by the use of vervain on a person. In the books other than mind-related powers vampires also have the power of changing into an animal which is not touched upon in the show.

Meredith Fell appears in the show as a supporting character. She was originally featured in the show's third season as a doctor at the Mystic Falls hospital, where she develops an interest in Alaric. Meredith and Alaric had a brief romantic relationship until Alaric's slide into darkness pushed them apart. In the books, Meredith plays a considerably larger part. Meredith Sulez is Elena's best friend and her full name is Meredith Sulez. Meredith is an important member of the group and one of the few characters who can withstand Damon's allure.

Tyler was never intended to be a main character in the books, as fans of the series know. Tyler's last name was changed, and the show's creators chose to include him in the main cast. This required giving him a considerably more elaborate and accelerated plot than the books – such as becoming a hybrid. There was one important alteration Tyler needed to make for him to be suitable for the little screen. Tyler is depicted in the books as a much more aggressive and predatory figure, who even attempts a direct approach to Elena. It was one of the best modifications because this Tyler wouldn't work for the show.

In the show the friendship between Elena and Caroline is one loved and cherished by the starting from “Frenemies” both characters evolve and became the best of friends by helping each other out in every situation. Whereas if we have a look at the Source material for their friendship being the books it is really hard to believe that in the books Elena and Caroline are not friends at all by any means. In the books, it is conveyed that they used to be friends when

they were young but after growing up their friendship turned into dust. Elena and Caroline hated each other and always looked to beat each other in the race for becoming the number girl in the school who headlines almost every event. Caroline in the books even steals Elena's famous diary and threatens to reveal the truth about Stefan being a vampire to the others.

In the Books, Elena's appearance is different from what we saw in the show. Elena is blonde with blue eyes whereas in the show her look is the complete opposite. The fans of the books also raised questions about aboutting Nina Dobrev as Elena due to her appearance being different from the one they read about in the books. Elena's Outer appearance as well as her personality in the show is way different than the one mentioned in the books. Elena is mean and doesn't look like a female protagonist whom every audience will end up liking in the books whereas in the show she takes the whole one-eighty degree spin and turns into the perfect female protagonist likable in terms of all the fronts.

Elena's transformation into a vampire is shown both in the program and in the literature. Elena is turned into a vampire after dying with Damon's blood in her system in the season three finale. Elena transforms into a vampire after ingesting Stefan and Damon's blood in the books, with *The Fury* concentrating on her adaptation to the undead...

In the Books, Elena eventually ends up with Stefan and not Damon. The whole Vampire diaries revolve around the love triangle between Elena and the Salvatore brother. In the show, the relationship between Damon and Elena has portrayed in a manner that the audience loves them to bits whereas in the books Elena ends up with Stefan keeping their promise to each other of being eternal soulmates but because Nina Dobrev left the show after the sixth season the writers had to change the ending in terms of Elena not going back to Stefan.

While the show introduces the concept of Prison Worlds, The Vampire Diaries books frequently take place in alternate dimensions. When Stefan is kidnapped, Damon and Elena go from Earth to the Dark Dimension via the Demon Gate to save him. This realm is home to mystical creatures like kitsunes and phantoms, which do not appear in the show. It is ruled by the Celestial Court Guardians, who report to the Summit Court. The Summit Court is all-powerful and capable of practically anything, including the reanimation of the dead.

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STUDY OF METAPHORS AND SYMBOLS IN *THE VAMPIRE DIARIES*

The show “The Vampire Diaries” is based on supernaturalism in which characters and incidents give multifarious meanings like the raven which is the symbol of the character of Damon, bad omen, loss and represents prophecy and insights. The show uses a number of metaphors and symbols which are as follows.

3.3) Study of Metaphors in *The Vampire Diaries*

The metaphor used in the show throughout the eight seasons has conveyed to the writers a hidden meaning through them. Vampires, as one of the most appealing and enduring figures in Gothic literature, have progressed from being a peripheral element to a position near the Centre, capable of generating their huge tradition. They have already been adopted to play the role of a rebel against moral, societal, religious, and even sexual taboos in modern literary history. Simply put, vampires have become a metaphor for humans in modern society and life.

Vampires have conveyed through their existence in the show a hidden meaning that the writers want to convey to the audience. The show is set in a society full of supernatural creatures and is a metaphor for human society. Through characters and instances in the show, the writers have wanted to highlight the problems in human society indirectly. This indirectness in their approach towards highlighting the subject of matter creates scope for the audience to understand things on the bases of their understanding and willingness to understand hidden meanings which are always connotative and the denotation is only there hint of the connotation that that writer wants to hint towards.

In the show, the character of Klaus Mikaelson is a metaphor for the show itself. The Vampire and werewolves are a metaphor for human society but the character of Klaus Mikaelson is a

metaphor for vampires and werewolves themselves. Klaus Mikaelson being “The Hybrid” who yielded the powers of both a vampire and a werewolf conveyed through its existence in the show a metaphor to the supernatural society in a way that in the show the society displayed consists of supernatural creatures vampires, werewolves, witches and also humans. Whereas there was only one Hybrid displayed who doesn’t fit into this system so he is always in danger because of all other supernatural entities wanting to kill him. The Hybrid in the supernatural society in the show is the same in terms as a vampire and a werewolf in the human society that we live in. Klaus’s character possessed powers beyond any other werewolf’s reach that’s another reason because why it is a metaphor for the supernatural society in the show (“Hybrid”, S3EP2).

In human society vampire, werewolves are all mystical creatures that people have only heard or read about, and from the facts available we know that werewolves and vampires possess powers that we humans should fear in the show the hybrid was portrayed in the same mannerism. The Town Council (previously known as the Founder's Council) was a group of high-ranking Mystic Falls civil workers who were in charge of honoring the town's founding. Their true mission, unofficially, was to protect the town against vampires. The Town Council in the show is represented as a metaphor for human society because they portray the role of human beings who live in a world where they know supernatural creatures exist. The Town Council was a group of people belonging to the five founding families of the town which historically somehow related to the supernatural beings because of them being aware of their existence in the show. The Town Council consisted of members only from the six founding families The Gilberts, The Lockwood’s, The Salvatore’s, The Fells, The Bennet’s, and The Maxwell’s. The Town Council did whatever possible to kill all the vampires they know of in the town. The Town Council represented the human society that we live in by showcasing the

mindset of the human society that irrespective of vampires or any other community harming them they try to make the move to get rid of them. In Human society, we live in us as humans see lots of ups and downs in our life. In the real world if a person is born into a family which belongs to a caste or religion that is marginalized or discriminated against in comparison to the others. The person would for sure form a biased opinion that is in trying to get equal status he/she would like to remove the ones from their positions who were termed as superiors to their caste or religion before. This mentality is displayed through the council in the show.

When two of the important council members Sheriff Liz Forbes and Mayor Carol Lockwood betrayed them by hiding the identity of their children being supernatural creatures the council removed them from all of their duties immediately ("Sunset", S3EP21). This signifies that the council doesn't change their outlook about the supernatural creatures, especially vampires no matter what happens which is again a biased sort of mindset. The Town Council's job was to get rid of the vampires and the idea of vampires living peacefully with them in the town didn't make them rethink for once about their decision.

The Town Council consisting of only the members from the six founding families meant that the existence of supernatural creatures in the town was to be only told to reliable people who would only side with the idea of killing the creatures. The Council's main motive being kept a secret meant that the other people of the town didn't have a say in terms of how these supernatural beings existing with them in the same society can be managed or dealt with.

Bonnie eventually being all alone at the end of the show is metaphorically portrayed in the scene where she looks at Caroline and Stefan getting married in the last season ("Wedding",

S8EP15). Bonnie after seeing them being happy with each other reminded her of the love she once shared with Enzo. Enzo being killed by Stefan recently made the scene more emotional for the audience (“Choice”, S8EP11). The look in Bonnie’s eyes when she realized that this is the thing Enzo and she could have had if it weren’t for Stefan. The scene is hinting towards the happiness and anger Bonnie had in her heart after Enzo died. On one hand, she was, really angry at Stefan for the deed he had committed recently but on the other, she was happy for her best friend Caroline being able to marry the guy she loves with her whole heart. Bonnie from the start of the show was a character who had to suffer for the sake of others from the time her ex-boyfriend Jeremy Gilbert was killed multiple times to her sacrificing her life for the sake of her best friend Elena. Bonnie facing yet another heartbreak at the hands of the people she has sacrificed everything for at the end of the show summed up the story of her character throughout the eight seasons.

The scene in which Bonnie and Damon hold hands before entering the prison world was a metaphor hinting they're together ("Home", S5EP22). Before that very scene, we had never seen any sense of togetherness between the two characters. They never bonded in the show before that and they hold hands signifying to the audience start of something between the two may be as a couple or as best friends. A mere holding hands can convey metaphorical meanings that the writers want to convey to the audience. The setting scene being set at the time of crisis made the audience look at the gesture as a narrative that could either be the start of something great or just a one-time thing at the time of crisis for both the characters. Damon and Bonnie becoming best friends later on in the show made this scene even more likable to the audience the bond they shared afterward was the reason because of why the audience started loving this scene even more. The hinted hidden meaning in the actions in the

scene is conveyed in the best manner possible to the audience the exact meaning that the writers wanted to convey was conveyed in this scene.

In the season finale of the last season of the show, Bonnie used all of her mystical powers to divert the path of hellfire. Directing it towards the place where Katherine was to stop the hellfire from being unleashed on the town and also to kill Katherine (“Epic”, S8EP16). This scene contains the metaphoric meaning of the triumph of the good over the evil by their will and unity. In the scene, it was portrayed that Bonnie was not able to divert the path of hellfire at first but then the souls of all the dead witches of her family came to add a helping hand to her and she eventually did what she had to save the town of Mystic Falls. This scene conveyed the good prevailing over the bad. The good side is Bonnie and the witches while the bad is the newly crowned ruler of hell Katherine. Katherine was killed in the next scene after the one which is talked about here. Bonnie’s sheer will and determination are also conveyed through this scene her never giving up attitude is portrayed through her trying to divert the path of hellfire which came straight from hell. Bonnie gave her all in the scene is using all of her mystical powers to the entire toll that her body can take. The assistance of all the previous witches in the show signifies the unity between them to save the town they used to live in they protected the town from being destroyed through their unity.

The metaphors in the dialogues of the characters in the show have been of greater significance the dialogue said by Lexi Branson and Stefan Salvatore “*I was feeling epic*” signified a greater meaning through the usage of some words. This dialogue was said by Lexi at first depicting the zest of good she spoke in front of Elena about Stefan and also how love between a human and vampire can also work out. Lexi in this conversation with minimal words conveyed to Elena what that she is doing is not wrong and she just has to go with the

flow. The conversation between Elena and Lexi is summed up in this dialogue (“Candles”, S1EP8). The dialogue was a metaphor that conveyed to Elena the feeling of not being insecure about the fact that Stefan is an immortal and might live life longer than her. Lexi did her job as a best friend while conveying through her dialogues in the scene perfectly. While Stefan used this same dialogue when he met Lexi in the afterlife conveying to her the love and joy he felt at that very moment while seeing her soul wait for his to come to the other world (“Epic”, S8EP16). This dialogue was loved by the of the show because of its significance in the ending of the show Where every set of the audience recalls what Lexi had said in the very first season after Stefan repeats the same when they met for the last time in the show.

Stefan and Lexi use the same dialogue and still convey to the audience two different meanings from the original meaning being the zest of a conversation between two characters to the connotative meaning understood by the audience the second time usage of it being the love and happiness of one character after meeting his best friend.

The time when Stefan uses the dialogue is also a metaphor in terms of the sentence hinting at the path that they would take together as best friends in the life after. Stefan saying “*I was feeling Epic*” just after stepping into the afterlife with his best friend made the dialogue open to more than the right connotation because of the show being an open end on that front. Lexi and Stefan being one of the most popularly loved friendships in the show glorified the usage of this dialogue even more. The dialogue is used in two different settings giving the dialogue a scope for hinting at two different hidden meanings or connotations. The dialogue is a metaphor for more than one hidden intended meaning because it is used more than a single time and also because it is used by two different characters in two different situations.

The show is set in a society consisting of supernatural beings and humans at the same time meant for the character of Matt Donovan to become a metaphor for the humans in the show. From the main core group of the show, Matt Donovan was the only character who didn't die or become a supernatural being ever. Matt Donovan's character depicted how a human would survive in the surrounding of no humans and how a human can manage not to be killed by a supernatural creature irrespective of being aware of their identities.

The dialogue said by Damon *"I won't change who I am. I can't"*. The dialogue here is hinting toward the feeling that the character is trying to convey which is the feeling of being angry ("Grayson", S5EP10). The character is saying I can't change which means I am one person who can't change his/her personality and not that I can't change myself because I am a good person or I am a perfect person. The dialogue here is said in anger and not by a person who believes he is perfect. The character's frustration is being shown here in the form of metaphor in the dialogue the writer has written.

The character of Damon has described the feeling that every single vampire in the series has gone through the duration of the show. This dialogue conveys to the audience the anger and frustration that the character of Damon is going through to explain to the others a reason for being his shadow self which only wants to portray in front of the others the bad side of their personality because of the reason later revealed by Damon himself in the show of not living up to the expectation of others when they see the good in you.

"One minute I think I'm fine, the next minute I feel like I'm dying," said by the character of Stefan Salvatore is a metaphor hinting at the mental struggles that the vampires feel through their time as vampires ("Dead Man", S5EP8). They feel everything is okay one moment with

being like this and the other moment they don't know what to do with the struggle this state of Vampirism brings to them. Vampirism is shown as a roller coaster journey of time which the character has to go through and also how Vampirism can make you feel the most extreme of emotions at times is not giving any importance to anything in life to thinking about minor things. The metaphor here is focusing on the feeling of helplessness and frustration.

The fact that Stefan said this dialogue meant that he related to the beliefs behind this dialogue or the emotions behind this dialogue which talks about mental health. In human society, the subject of mental health has always been taboo and people don't talk about this subject very openly. The writers adding dialogue that hints at mental health are their way of indirectly highlighting the importance of the mental health of a human in real life or a vampire in the show. Human-like problems are again talked about here indirectly by the writers through the usage of a metaphor which is the purpose with which a fictional story or characters are always written to convey through them a hidden or hinted meaning than the literal one which they display. The denotative meaning is not the one they want the audiences to focus upon but want the audience to understand all the connotations possible.

"I feel okay and it sucks!" said by the character of Damon Salvatore ("Descent", S2EP12). This dialogue is a metaphor here as well shown through communication in which the character is trying to tell us his feelings about feeling things like a vampire which is not easy to be handled because as we hear the word vampire the things which come to our mind is a creature which doesn't feel anything but the thirst of feeding on human blood and we don't think they can also feel things and through this, the writers are trying to tell us about how they feel about the vampires by using this metaphor in a dialogue. The character of Damon has in a way described the feeling that every single vampire in the series has gone through the

duration of the show. This dialogue conveys to the audience the whole set of different emotional up downs that a vampire feels in the show and the fact that like humans are also capable of feeling things. Human-like traits are being displayed through an act of speech by the character that possesses them to the other characters and the audience.

3.2) Study of Symbols in *The Vampire Diaries*

Symbols from the Cave of Lockwood

The Lockwood's Cave is named after the Lockwood family, who founded the town. The cave's walls are covered in antique archaic symbols. Native Americans used these paintings to express and record major occurrences during the period. Many of these symbols' meanings were undiscovered and remained a mystery. Alaric uncovered these symbols during his research in the series ("People", S3EP8). Some of these symbols signify life and death, vampires, werewolves, witches, and humans, among other things. By painting an image in two ways, one of the symbols used in the painting was life and death. When the drawing is looking upwards, it represents a living entity. A witch is shown as an object illustration. Animals are also represented in the paintings in addition to these motifs. Animals were displayed solely based on their appearance. Humans are typically depicted as having arms, legs, a body, and a round head. Because of the idea of human supremacy, this basic image is used. The vampire and werewolf are depicted separately and together as well as in the representation of the hybrid in the cave.

The Hybrid Symbol

The Hybrid Symbol is found in the Lockwood cave. Hybrids are cross-breeding of two or more different supernatural species. The term is commonly used to describe a werewolf turned into a vampire since they were the first supernatural hybrid to be introduced in the

show. However, other cross-breed hybrids have been discovered in the series' universe since the development of the werewolf-vampire hybrid, such as Siphoner transformed witch-vampire hybrids, werewolf-witch hybrids, and, in the unusual case of Hope Mikaelson, a witch-werewolf-vampire tribrid.

Due to their mixed ancestry, hybrids have both the strengths and flaws of their parent races, as well as powerful abilities that are unique to them alone. This includes day walking and the ability to shift into a wolf without the influence of the Full Moon for werewolf-vampire hybrids. For Siphoner-vampire hybrids, they retain their ability to siphon magic and their vampirism as a limitless power source for their use in witchcraft; as they did not possess their magic as humans, this is a skill that makes them immensely powerful. The sun and two fangs are used to signify vampires in these pictures, which is humorous. Because it was employed in Esther's spell, the Sun is included as part of the vampire insignia. For the vampires' survival, their fangs are the most important attribute.

Symbolism through a sun sign is not the first time done here the sun is a symbol which denotes wholesomeness, self, and a manifestation of God for the major part but the sun denoting vampires here is also apt because of the vampires being these creatures in the show that are not able to walk in the sunlight and only were able to counter it with rings which are possessed by a spell which help them to go out in the sun without getting themselves burned by the rays of the sun. The moon and two fangs are used to represent werewolves in these illustrations. Due to their proclivity for turning on the full moon, the moon is included as the symbol for werewolves. The moon is a feminine emblem that embodies the cycle of time and is therefore universally associated with it as its first denotative meaning. Werewolves are

known for their fangs, which are their most distinguishing trait and that's the reason why they are used here in this symbol denoting werewolves correctly.

The Hybrid is represented here through a combination of both the vampire and werewolf symbols put together. The sun symbol denoting the vampires is joined somehow with the symbol that denotes werewolf. The hybrid in the Lockwood cave denoted Klaus Mikaelson the only hybrid at the time of the symbol's occurrence in the show. The symbol denotes the vampire and werewolf powers put together to create a supernatural creature on top of the supernatural power chart of the character in the show. The symbol hinted towards the fact of the hybrid is the one who killed the original witch the connotation of the symbol alongside other Lockwood cave symbols was this. The Hybrid containing both Werewolf and Vampire is represented by putting the sun and the fangs together with the moon and the other fangs to form a symbol that denotes a hybrid.

The Pentagram

The Pentagram, a five-pointed star within a circle is one of the most prevalent symbols used by witches in the series. It is a representation of the five fundamental elements of the world: Air, Earth, Fire, Water, and Spirit. Pentagrams were employed as a symbol of faith in ancient Greece and Babylonia, and many Wiccans still use them today as a symbol of faith, similar to how Christians use the cross. The Pentagram is an archetype that appeared in numerous episodes of the show as a source for strengthening the magical power of a spell used by the witches. Several powerful witches in the series employed the pentagram to enhance their abilities or to eliminate a threat. The Pentagram symbol is used in the show to add authenticity in terms of the witches using this source for strengthening their power.

The show being all about creatures including witches represents the symbol of a pentagram made by a particular type of sand on the land in a manner that covers a large amount of area within which different people can be placed at different spots to stand to perform a certain kind of magical spell by the witch in charge. This sort of classical representation of the symbol conveys the writer's reference point being somehow related to real life. The writer's way of portraying this symbol in the show conveys to the audience some references being taken from the human world we live in.

The Representation of this Symbol in the show tries to indicate the myths of witchcraft existing in our human world in somewhat manner or indicates the writer's point of view regarding magical practices associated with the witches in the fictional world. The writers may want the audience to make the audience decide for themselves while seeing these practices that they hundred percent fictional or are there some real-life facts that he/she has taken into consideration before portraying this sort of practice in a new generation show which started in the twenty first century. The audience has been put in front of a symbol that can indicate an idea depending on their understanding do they think that the symbol pentagram stands for the five elements of witchcraft or any other connotative meaning of it in the show. The audience is hinting at a concept but the concept that they want to hint towards by themselves is the purpose of this symbol being used here.

The first witch to utilize this emblem to prevent the tomb vampires from being released was Emily Bennett. She destroyed her talisman with the pentagram and the magic of her descendent ("Memory Lane", S2EP4). The power which this symbol can generate is shown in this instance. The Power which can be used to form a spell that can lock away twenty-

seven vampires inside a tomb for an eternity describes appropriately the emblem's significance.

The pentagram was used to open the tomb's door, however, the first spell was canceled due to the tremendous work and magic required to keep the seal down, and the seal was broken, releasing the vampires ("Fool", S1EP14). This scene portrays what a witch may have to go through if he/she is not able to control the power of a spell that is cast in the presence of a pentagram. The suffering of Sheila Bennett is conveyed after not being able to control something uncontrollable from the start. The spell needs the pentagram's assistance to generate more mystical power which on the contrary leads to the downfall of the witch herself who was casting that spell. When Esther sought to employ a spell to reverse the vampirism in the Original Vampires, she used this symbol. Each of the pentagram's points, according to her, represents one of her children: Elijah, Finn, Niklaus, Kol, and Rebekah. Esther's lookout on the five points is an updated version of the archetypical symbol of a symbol.

The Adaptation that Esther believed in was that the pentagram which she used for her spell signified her five children making the symbol's connotations being varying from person to person depending on the idea that you as an audience understand after the occurrence of a symbol in the show. Esther molded the connotation according to her beliefs and her powers which would justify her argument. Esther being the original witch herself gave another meaning to a symbol that is always somehow associated with and only a witch can exactly give the audience the correct meaning behind the term is displayed by the writers in the show. The pentagram being used by different witches for various reasons in the show denotes that the symbol has various connotations. The connotation changing from one witch to another

gives the audience a large number of connotations that can be formed. Ester signifying her children through this symbol also highlights towards their importance in the show which the writers might want to convey indirectly again through some characters.

The Expression Triangle

An expression triangle from an esoteric book can be found on Atticus Shane's bookcase. Twelve human sacrifices, twelve demons (hybrid) sacrifices, and twelve witches' sacrifices are depicted in triangle-shaped locations in the Expression Triangle. In the book that explains the Expression Triangle ("Night", S4EP17), the triangle contains a flower and two skeletons, and species are represented by three planets in the solar system. The human symbol for Earth includes a cross of matter in the middle, encircled by a circle of spirit that contains all life. In the form of a crescent of soul speared on a cross of matter, Neptune represents the devil. As the soul ascends, matter penetrates or traps it. It depicts the soul's grief when encased in matter, as well as its desire to be free and return to the source - the witches' sign represents the spirit "Uranus." By arranging arcs of soul on different flanks facing each other, the past and the future, the cross of the matter reflects the mind's power to harness natural forces.

The expression triangle hints at three different types of supernatural communities in the show taken into consideration for the fulfillment of a purpose. The writers through this symbol's depiction tried to portray some sort of equal sacrifice from every different community in the society for the greater good. In the show, twelve witches, twelve werewolves, and twelve humans were the three steps to complete the ritual needed to draw out the power from the expression triangle. The witches, werewolves, and the humans in the show portrayed three very different communities in show their sacrifice hinted towards the real-life society we live in in a way that it represented the need of every different part of the society to do a big thing

or simply to make a change which is very smart of writers to do by indirectness they conveyed the meaning through supernatural creatures without getting into the trouble of being questioned for having a direct approach by saying this is wrong or this should stop. The writers depicting through a symbol a greater meaning that the audience might want to understand here is remarkable.

The expression triangle in some way united three different communities in the show which very not very fond of each other the writers through this representation may want to convey that should happen in the real world as well. The unity that the communities lack between them in society is being highlighted and a supernatural fictional symbol is connotated with a connotation that relates to real-life references.

The Triquetra

The greek term triquetra means “three-cornered” and has a strong link to the power of three. Although the principles of interconnection and infinity appear to be universal, they are interpreted differently by different religions and cultures. The maiden/mother/crone is depicted in a pagan setting. Triquetras is a symmetrical triangular construction with three interlaced lobes wrapped around a circle. It's a symbol that's commonly used to connect three objects or people for various reasons. A point on the triquetra represents each of the three things being bound.

The Triquetra is a symbol that represents the archetypical concept of connecting three doppelgangers to achieve mystical power unrivaled by any other. The usage of Triquetra as a symbol in the show connecting three different people who share the same face represented a connotation that the writers might want the audience to look at. The connotation that the

writers want to convey is that the linking of three different but similar people to fulfill a purpose for the greater good is being indirectly linked in terms of the real world. The writers might just have the mindset of uniting people through this indirectness of uniting characters through force to fulfill a purpose greater than anything.

The witch who cast the spell could transfer the anchor's power from one person to another. The anchor served as a link between the human world and the universe constructed by Qetsiyah to contain the dead magical beings. Qetsiyah was the only witch who used this emblem ("Death and The Maiden," S5EP7), which she did when she gathered power with Amara, Elena, and Katherine to finish the anchor transference rite to Bennett.

Ouroboros

The fabled creature known as the Ouroboros is a mythical creature. A snake is depicted chewing its tail in the emblem. The archetypal meaning of the Ouroboros is the continuing of the life cycle from birth to death. The first depiction of the Ouroboros was of Silas, the first immortal ("Little", S4EP6). The logo portrays a snake or dragon swallowing its tail in a never-ending cycle of re-creation. For Silas and his doppelgängers, this is suitable. Nature created the doppelgängers to create something that could die in Silas' place. Doppelgängers were a mystically reoccurring phenomenon that served as the only means of attaining true immortality. Apart from Silas; Qetsiyah also cursed Amara, Silas' love interest in the show, with immortality. This symbol in the show represented Silas and his doppelgängers Stefan Salvatore and Tom Avery's never-ending cycle.

The Ouroboros representing the life cycle of a character has some hinted meaning in regards to real life society. In real-life, humans go through a lot to accomplish things but eventually

they end up harming themselves in the process the same as in the show Silas had done to get some things he eventually ended up harming himself. The snake eating its tail is Silas's representation in the show the harm that he had unknowingly done to himself is being showcased in the show. The writer's view of the concept of people harming themselves in the process to achieve something is being conveyed through symbolism. The eternity of misery through a character's life span has been showcased. Silas being the character who shared the same face with Stefan Salvatore has hinted towards the fact that the misery that Silas has got into because of Qetsiyah is the sole reason for Stefan's existence.

The Protagonist being dependent on any other character showcases a relatable context in terms of real-life society. The Cliché saying which is used in our society that "*You're the hero of your own stories*" is conveyed through the actions Stefan committed being nothing like Silas. In the show Silas was destined to be with Amara and after their love story was left incomplete due to Qetsiyah's intrusion. Since Stefan was Silas's doppelganger and Elena was Amara's they were both destined to end up together as partners but Stefan's actions contradicted the destined path and choose Caroline Forbes as his life partner. Stefan denied destiny by choosing the path that Silas didn't choose and the symbol Ouroboros through its occurrence signified all different meanings that it could consist because of it being linked to Silas. The Ouroboros contains all the connotations related to Silas, the people related to Silas, the history of Silas, etc.

The Hunters Mark

The Hunter's Mark was an insignia that, once completed and placed on Jeremy Gilbert's chest, became a power source from which Jeremy gained the abilities of a vampire hunter. The emblems of the Hunter's Mark are quite similar to those of the Icelandic Vegvsir, except that

the Vegvsir had eight arms, whilst the Hunter's only had six. This insignia, which appears to be tied to the Supernatural Hunter, appears as a form of map anytime one of the five hunters kills a vampire or hybrid while on their way to the tomb of the Immortal Silas ("View", S4EP12). A hunter or a potential hunter is the only one who can see the insignia ("Memorial", S4EP2) the fact that Jeremy was the only person who could see the hunter mark displayed symbolism through an object only being visible to a particular set of people only the hunter or potential hunters were able to see the mark in the show. The hunters mark provided power to the person who gained it. The fact that Jeremy obtained the mark was linked to him being part of the gilbert family and there links to the hunters. The hunters mark gave Jeremy the powers which were never seen or heard of in the show as of the time of its occurrence. In the show later on Jeremy became a hunter and also helped his friends against the foes they faced. The power that the mark possessed was one only which can be yielded by a gilbert.

The Mark of Arcadius

The Mark of Arcadius is a magical eight-armed sign with four points and a triangle at the end, which has direct links to Hell. Georgina Dowling first noticed it during a brief excursion to hell, where she had a tattoo of the same symbol placed on her right belly. On Arcadius' Staff, the emblem appeared once more with the correct conditions, Seline demonstrated that it can be used in a ceremony to summon Arcadius or pay tribute to him.

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CONCLUSION

The show attempted to highlight questions about cultural standards and values indirectly. Because supernaturalism and teen drama are the central themes of the show, it serves as a metaphor for society. The writers and directors have attempted to indirectly question all of these things in every way possible because, as we all know, whenever you question any social norm, belief, or stereotype, there will be people who will simply not allow you to question by saying whatever they can or doing whatever they can to stop you.

This is because people are told or made to believe that this is right and this is wrong, and directly questioning something is not something that society accepts. However, when you try to divert attention away from the main topic and then gradually return to it, the audience or society tries to understand your viewpoint, or they simply understand things at a very slow pace, so they need someone to tell them things indirectly, which is the slower of the two praxes. The direct method involves grabbing someone by the throat, but the indirect method involves grabbing someone by the throat after warning him twice to stop poking you in the back.

The show is a metaphor for society because it depicts things in the form of supernaturalism without directly stating that this is wrong and that it should be stopped. They are attempting to portray things in the form of supernaturalism and their existence, as well as the numerous problems they face in their daily lives. The concern is the same; the difference is that instead of stating that this is a problem in human society, they have shown similar issues in a fictional supernatural society that includes both humans and supernatural beings.

The show's symbols have given the audience both an archetypical and a modern meaning, demonstrating their importance throughout the show. Regardless of the symbol, from the pentagram to the Lockwood cave symbols, they have all revealed a crucial plotline. In the context of the show, the significance of these symbols is significant. In my perspective, the presentation implicitly hinted at several elements using symbols. Because the audience understands that the symbols are a way of implying a big highlight, they are the nominal interpretation implying the paramount.

The show's symbolism, which was presented through archetypes, was extremely important. By examining more than a simple indicated interpretation of a sign, the authors will seek to bring out the topic of social norms residing in human civilization. The complexity of the symbols employed throughout the presentation demonstrates to the audience the importance of precision in the creation and application of each symbol. As a result, the stereotype that the society comprises has been highlighted, as well as the fact that they are unwilling to upgrade from the default configuration to the updated version.

Real-life references were used by the writers and makers to link their notions indirectly. The viewer can infer multiple meanings from these references due to their indirectness. The writer's portrayal of the story heightens the audience's desire to learn more about the subject matter. The show's conclusion in which some main characters die is open to many sorts of interpretations in terms of how the characters' lives went after that turn of events at the end of the play, leaving the audience with an open ending("Epic",S8EP16).

The show, in my opinion, has attempted to explore stereotypes in society using symbols. Adaptations and alterations are carved later on from archetypical symbols, which are known

as prototypes or default setups. The show is metaphoric in every sense because it is a metaphor for humankind as a race. Other races were showcased as the main focus, such as vampires and other supernatural creatures, while humankind has shown as secondary, which is not true in the context of the real-life society we all reside in. In the society we live in humans are regarded as the most superior species, which does not include supernatural beings. The makers showed the audience the jump ending, in which they showed what happened after several significant characters died, but they also left away for the audience to speculate about what transpired between the conclusion and the leap after it. After the conclusion of the eighth season, how Elena, Damon, Bonnie, and Caroline conducted their lives.

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