

**SYMBOLIC MEANING IN ANTOINE DE SAINT-  
EXUPERY'S NOVEL *THE LITTLE PRINCE***

**A THESIS**

**BY:**

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**SUBMITTED TO  
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## APPENDIX

### 1. **Biography of the author.**

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, a French aviator and writer, was born in 1900 in Lyon, France. People best know French writer and aviator Antoine de Saint-Exupéry for his fairy tale *The Little Prince* (1943). He joined the French air force in 1921 and later became a military pilot. He worked as a test pilot, publicity attaché for Air France, and reporter for *Paris-Soir*. In 1939, he became a military reconnaissance pilot. After the fall of France in 1940, he left for the United States and resumed flying in the Mediterranean theatre.

In 1944, his plane was found in Corsica, possibly shot down by an enemy fighter. Saint-Exupéry found aviation as a source for heroic action and a new literary theme, exalting perilous adventures at the cost of life as the highest realization of man's vocation. His works include *Courrier sud*, *Vol de nuit*, *Terre des hommes*, *Pilote de guerre*, *Lettre à un otage*, and *Le Petit Prince*. His views on man were influenced by his belief in the values of civilization and his growing sadness and pessimism.

### 2. **Summary of the novel *The Little Prince*.**

The narrator, an airplane pilot, crashes in the Sahara Desert and is left with little food and water. He is approached by a serious little boy named the little prince, who asks him to draw him a sheep. The prince comes from a small planet called Asteroid 325, which people on Earth call Asteroid B-612. One day, a mysterious rose sprouted on the planet, and the little prince fell in love with it. However, he fell in love with it and became lonely.



Despite reconciliation with the rose, the prince set out to explore other planets to cure his loneliness. During his journey, he encounters a strange world of grown-ups, including a king, a vain man, a drunkard, a businessman, a lamplighter, and a geographer. The little prince learns that flowers do not last forever and misses the rose he left behind.

On Earth, the little prince encounters a snake who hints that its lethal poison can send him back to the heavens if he wishes. The prince ignores the offer and continues his explorations, eventually finding a rose garden. He befriends a fox and learns that the important things in life are visible only to the heart. The prince's mind is fixed on returning to his rose, and he plans to return with the snake. The narrator is able to fix his plane on the day before the prince's arrival on Earth, but the snake bites the prince, and he falls to the sand. The narrator takes comfort when he cannot find the prince's body the next day and is confident that the prince has returned to his asteroid.

### 3. Type of Symbolism found in *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint Exupery.

#### 1. Symbol of animal

No.	Quotes	Forms	Pages	References	Comments
1.	<p>"It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye."</p> <p>Then the <b>fox</b> says that every time he misses the little prince, he sees a cornfield as bright as his hair. Additionally, it claims that the Little Prince's footsteps will forever be heard in its heart. That's why in <i>The Little Prince</i> novel fox means cleverness.</p>	Mono- logue	36	According to Jean Chevalier's theory, fox symbolizes slyness and cleverness, and fox is part of the symbol of nature (1996: 50).	The fox was the one who teaches the little prince an understanding of what it is to have a connection with someone. The fox tells him that this interaction creates a vital link between the tamer and the tamed; rather than being unlike anything else, a thing or person's relationship to another thing or person makes it special.

## 2. Symbol of natures

No.	Quotes	Forms	Pages	References	Comments
1.	The aviator narrator of <i>The Little Prince</i> novel experiences an aircraft crash in the Sahara <b>Desert</b> . Sadly, he was flying alone when his plane's engine failed. To avoid dying, the pilot works alone to fix his aircraft. Only select animals and plants can withstand the harsh temperature of the Sahara, therefore there isn't much for people to eat and drink there. If they stay there for too long, they can die of thirst and hunger.	Mono- logue	65	According to Jean Chevalier's theory the desert is a symbol of natures. It is a remote area where not many people go. Desert symbolizes loneliness. (1996: 45) The desert typically represents a location that is mysterious and dangerous.	Therefore, when a reader of <i>The Little Prince</i> imagines a desert, they imagine death. desert as the symbol of loneliness is broken by the Little Prince's presence, and desert as the symbol of death is broken by good things that keep coming from the Little Prince presence.
2.	"One could not die for you. To be sure, an ordinary passerby would think that my rose looked just like you– the <b>rose</b> that belongs to me. But in herself alone she is more important than all the hundreds of you other roses: because it is she that I have watered; because it is she that I have put under the glass globe; because it is she that I have sheltered behind the screen; because it is for her that I have killed the caterpillars (except the two or three that we saved to become butterflies); because it is she that I have listened to, when she grumbled, or boasted, or even sometimes when she said nothing. Because she is my rose."	Mono- logue	60-61	According to Jean Chevalier's theory, the rose symbolizes love, the rose is part of the symbol of nature (1996: 78).	The rose is the plant that recurs until the end of the story. The flower language of the rose is not only the plant that the prince wants to protect, but also the plant that the prince loves the most.

3.	“there is no harm in putting off a piece of work until another day. But when it is a matter of <b>baobabs</b> , that always means a catastrophe.”	Mono- logue	16	According to Jean Chevalier’s Theory (1996), baobabs in <i>The Little Prince</i> classifies as nature symbol and it stand for positive qualities like growth, generative power, and constancy.	
4.	“And at night you will look up at the stars. Where I live everything is so small that I cannot show you where my star is to be found. It is better, like that. My <b>star</b> will just be one of the stars, for you. And so you will love to watch all the stars in the heavens. . . they will all be your friends. And, besides, I am going to make you a present. . . ”	Mono- logue	73	According to Jean Chevalier’s Theory (1996), stars in <i>The Little Prince</i> are a type of nature symbol and it represent guidance and enlightenment.	According to the author, stars stand for the homes of purer spirits. The book's interpretation of stars is consistent with the idea that they are souls from another realm. Although the author stresses how the "home" in the narrative feels, it depicts people's belief that the universe is the other world, and that souls or spirits originate from stars.