

The

ABC_S

of Lord of the Flies





Is for

Allegory.

An allegory is where the places, people and events are symbolic. Lord of the Flies is an allegory of the Garden of Eden.

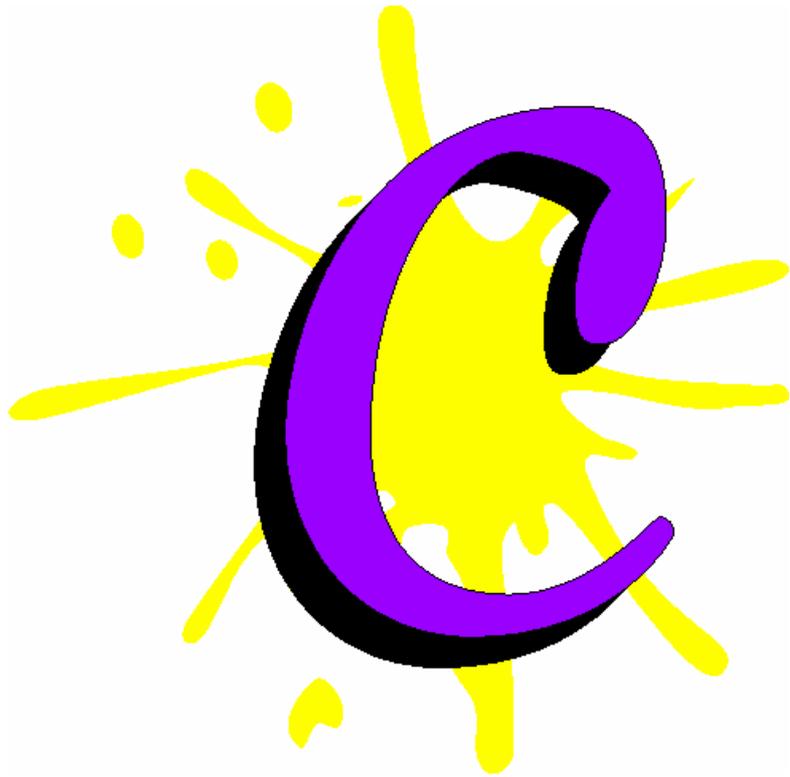




Is for
BEEELZEBUB.

BEEELZEBUB is
the devil; he is the
BEAST in mankind.





Is for the
CONCH.

The conch is a
symbol for
democracy.

When it is crushed so
is all order in their
society.





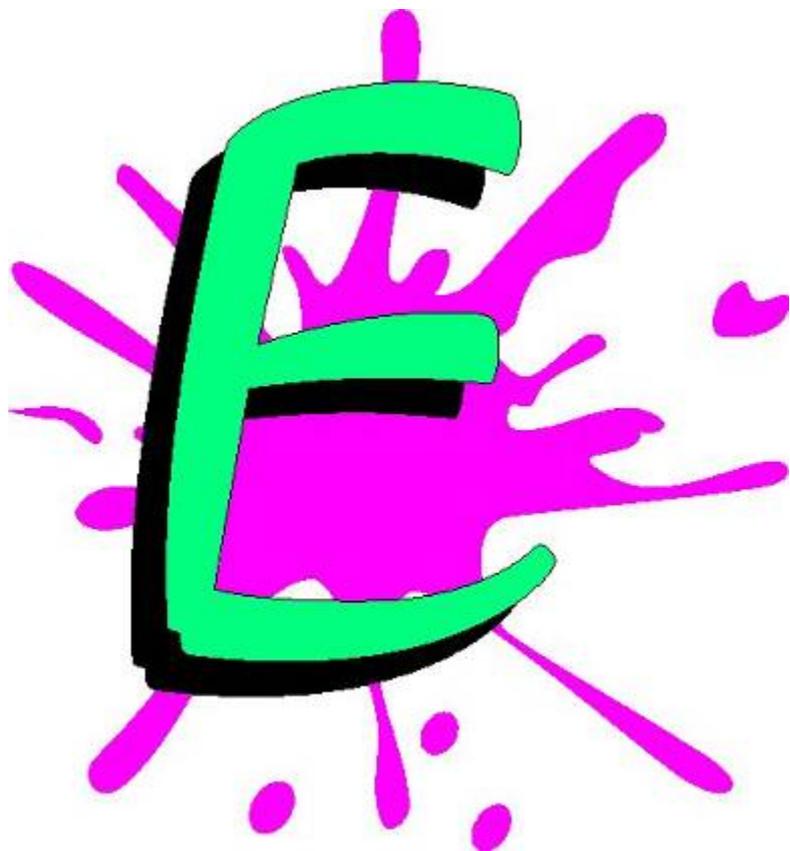
Is for the

DECAY.

Lord of the Flies
shows the decay
of civilization.

The flies are drawn
to the rotting away
of man's humanity.



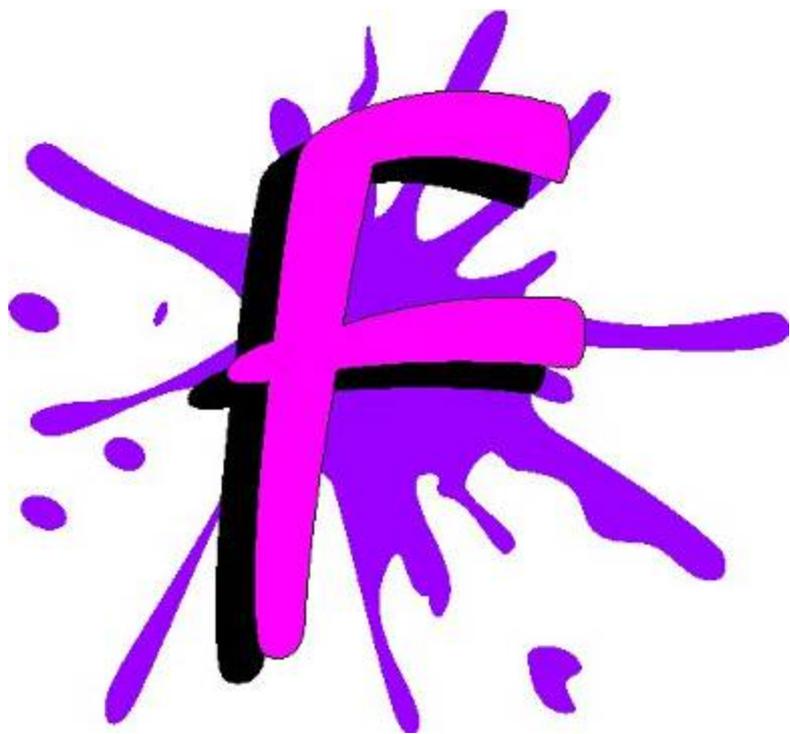


Is for the **EVIL.**

The boys are responsible
for bringing evil
to this perfect island.

As Simon pointed out,
maybe the evil is within
ourselves.





Is for the **FIRE.**

Fire was their hope
of rescue and
ironically fire did
save them in the
end—or did it?





Is for Piggy's

GLASSES.

These glasses
represented
intelligence.

They are at first broken
and then stolen
by Jack.



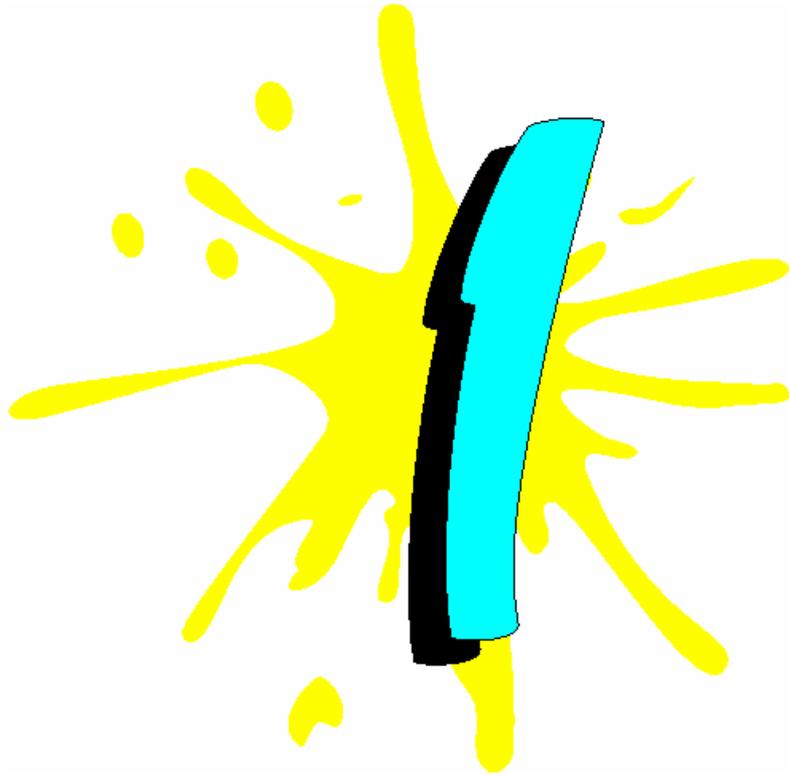


Is for the

HUTS.

Ralph, Simon, Piggy
and the Littluns try
to create a civilization.
As Jack takes over, the
boys leave their huts
on the beach and
move into caves.





Is for

ISOLATION.

The boys crash on an island that is perfect but isolated from society (Garden of Eden). Now without the constraints of civilization, the boys reveal their darker side.





Is for **JACK.**

Jack is the
head of the chorus
and in competition
with Ralph
for leadership.
Jack slowly
descends into
savagery.



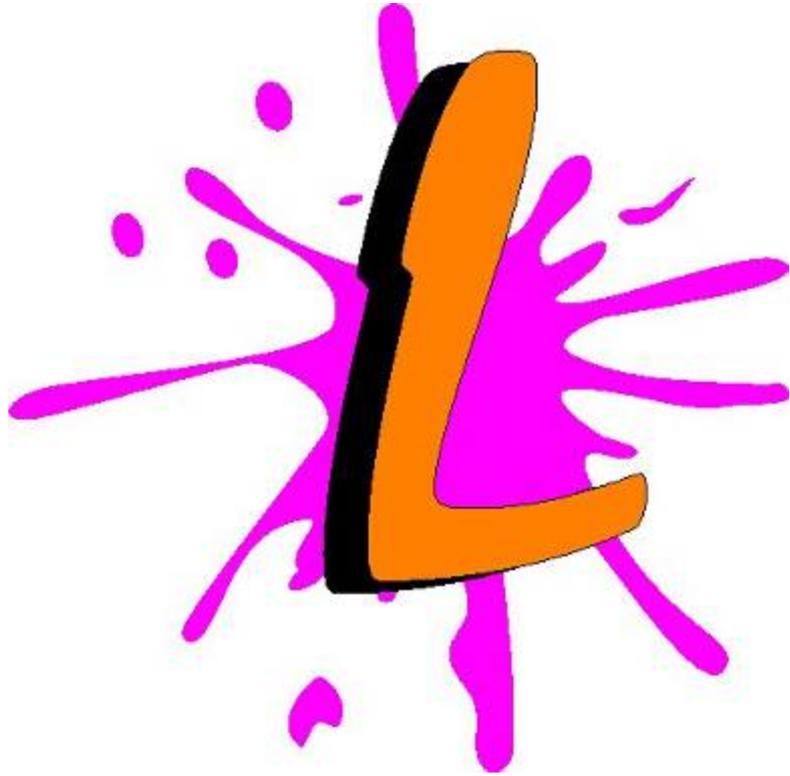


Is for the

KNIFE.

Jack is the only one on the island who has a knife. This knife symbolizes Jack's violent nature.





Is for their

LOSS

of innocence.

“Ralph wept for the
end of innocence,
the darkness
of man’s heart...”

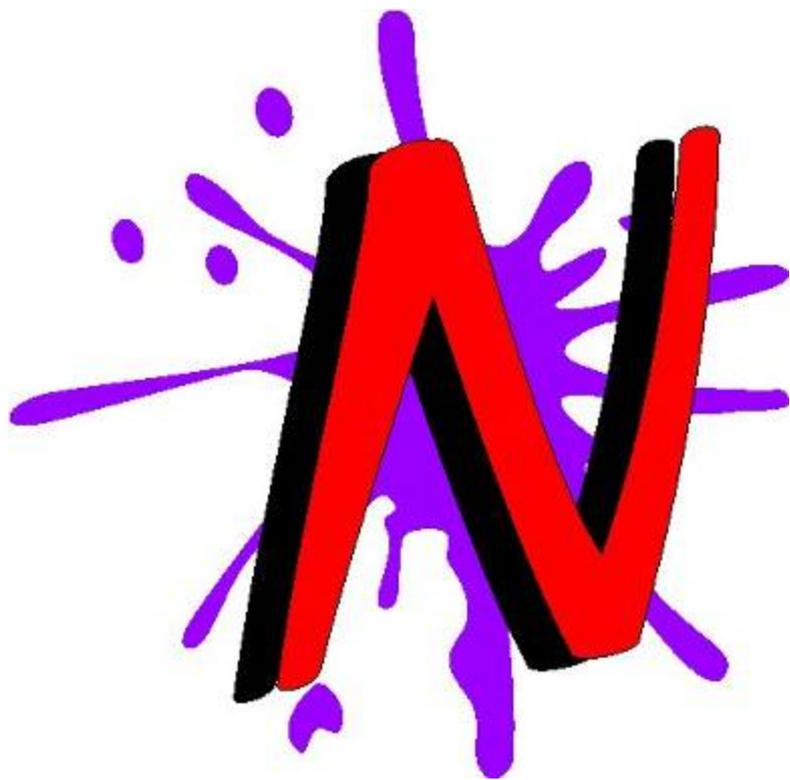




Is for **MAN.**

The novel explores
man's inhumanity
to man. The boys are
a **MICROCOSM**
of the evil within the
larger world.





Is for the

NASTY

people that the boys
have become.

Golding believed that
the defects of society
could be traced back
to the defects
of human nature.



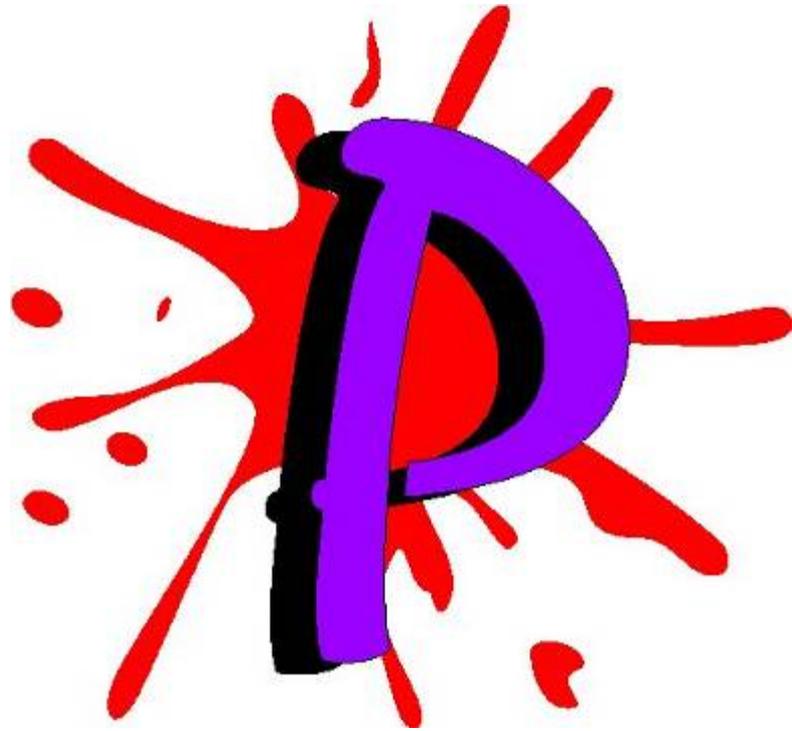


Is for

ORIGINAL Sin

Using the allegory of the Garden of Eden, “original sin” is the defect that Golding believed mankind carried within itself.





Is for the

Parachutist.

He was the “beast” and represented the message or sign from adult world.

The message was one of death and reflected the evil that the boys feared.





Is for

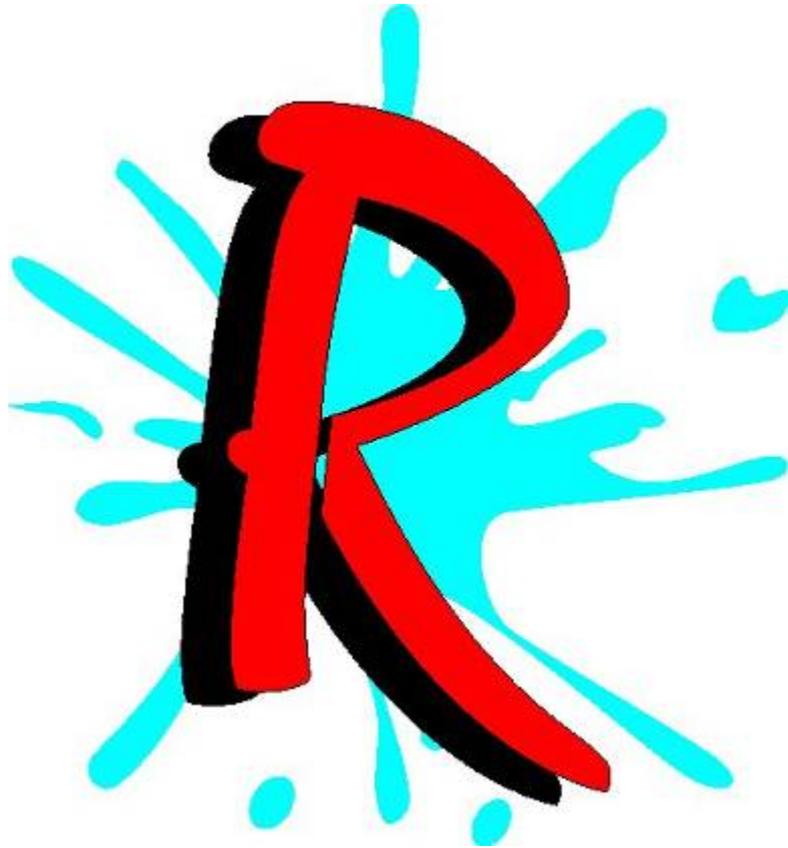
QUAINT

Manners.

Piggy tries to keep his world from losing its rules and traditions.

Piggy and Ralph represent order and civilization.





Is for **RALPH**
and **ROGER.**

They are two sides of the
same coin. They
represent two of the
many sides of man.
Ralph is order. Roger
is anarchy.





Is for the

SAVAGENESS

that overtakes all the boys.

The caves, the face paint,
the hunting, and
the sacrifice all are
symbols of how savage
the boys are becoming.



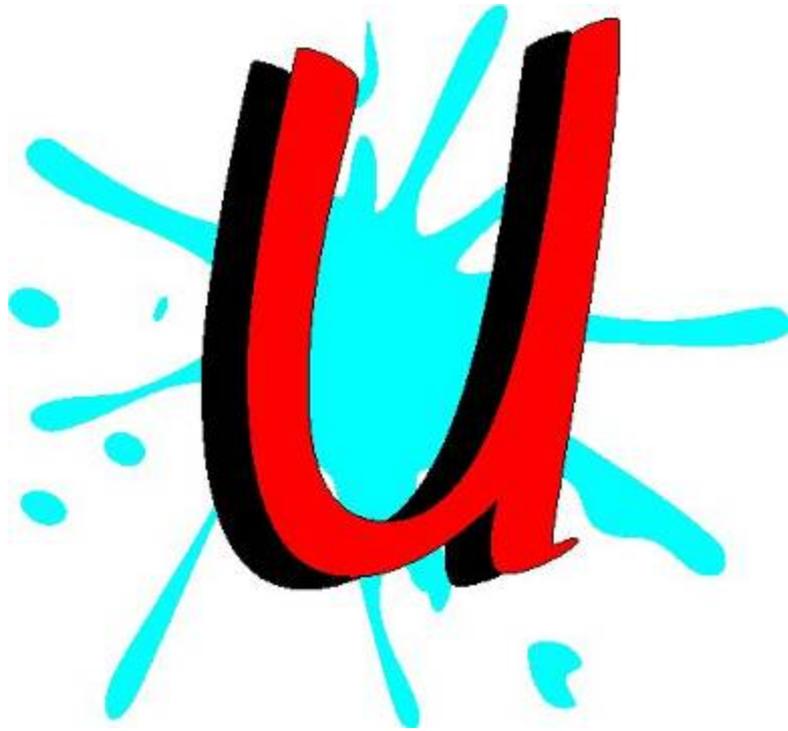


Is for

TOLERANCE.

Golding's book is not one of despair. He hopes mankind will heed his message and save itself from destruction. Golding was touched by war and saw the Cold War as the beginning of the end.





Is for **UNITY.**

The darker side
of man breaks
down the boys'
unity as they spend
more time on the
island.





Is for

VICTORY.

The hunters are
victorious over Ralph,
Simon and Piggy.
Ralph's leadership
is broken and the evil
of men wins.





Is for the **WEAK** who
were destroyed.

All of those killed on the
island were marked
with a defect, for
example, the boy with
the mulberry birthmark,
Simon's fainting spells
and Piggy's asthma
and poor eyesight.

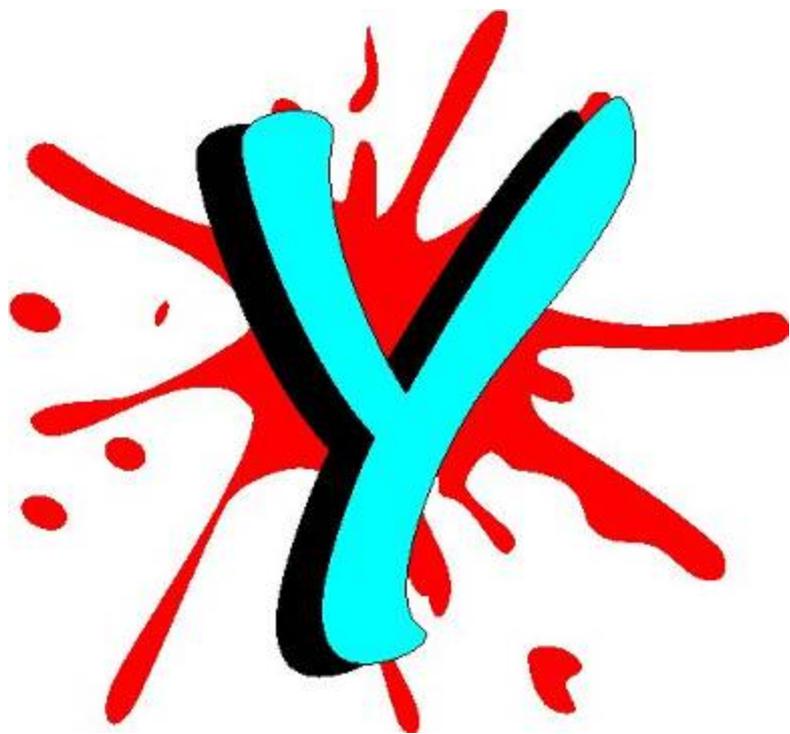




Is for the

e**X**TRAORDINARY
circumstances that
the boys faced.
Golding believes it
is easy for man to
be good when they
are not tested.





“Y is man like this?”

This is what Golding wants us to ask ourselves when we finish reading the novel. And, how do we avoid our own destruction.





Is for the **ZEN**-like
behavior of Simon.
Simon can see and
feel what others
cannot. He even
sees his own death.



The
BASICS
of Lord of the Flies



Who is Golding?

- ★ William Golding was born on September 19, 1911 in England.
- ★ In 1940 Golding joined the Royal Navy and participated in D-Day
- ★ His experience in WWII had a profound effect on his view of humanity and the evils of which it was capable.
- ★ His first and greatest success came with *Lord of the Flies* (1954)



What is the LotF?

- ★ *The Lord of the Flies* is the pig's head in the book.
- ★ The more the boys' descend into evil and savagery – the more the head decays – the more it attracts flies.



What is the BEAST?

- ★ At first, it is seen as a real object on the island which frightens the boys.
- ★ The parachutist is initially seen as a beast because the boys expect to see a physical form of it.
- ★ The pig's head is meant to be a gift for the beast.
- ★ Actually, the *beast* is a metaphor for something internal to all men.



What is the BEAST?

★ The beast represents the way in which man will try to convince himself that there is no evil inside of him by making someone or something else seem to be the cause for the evil.



What is the BEAST?

- ★ Simon discovers the parachutist is dead but the beast is still alive.
- ★ Simon has a break down and interviews the Lord of the Flies.
- ★ Simon tries to tell the others about the beast and is killed because of it.
- ★ Simon represents Christ in the Garden of Eden, trying to warn man of its inner evil. While Jack and Ralph symbolize both Cain and Able.



Important Symbols

- ★ The Island = Garden of Eden
- ★ Parachutist = Adult Supervision
- ★ Pig's Head = Lord of the Flies
- ★ Beast = Internal Evil of Man
- ★ Glasses = Reason/Logic
- ★ Conch = Leadership/Speaking



THE END

