

# Literary Theme





# What is a theme?

- Themes can be found everywhere: **literature, art, movies** etc...
- The theme of a piece of literature is its view about life and how people behave.



# Theme & Meaning





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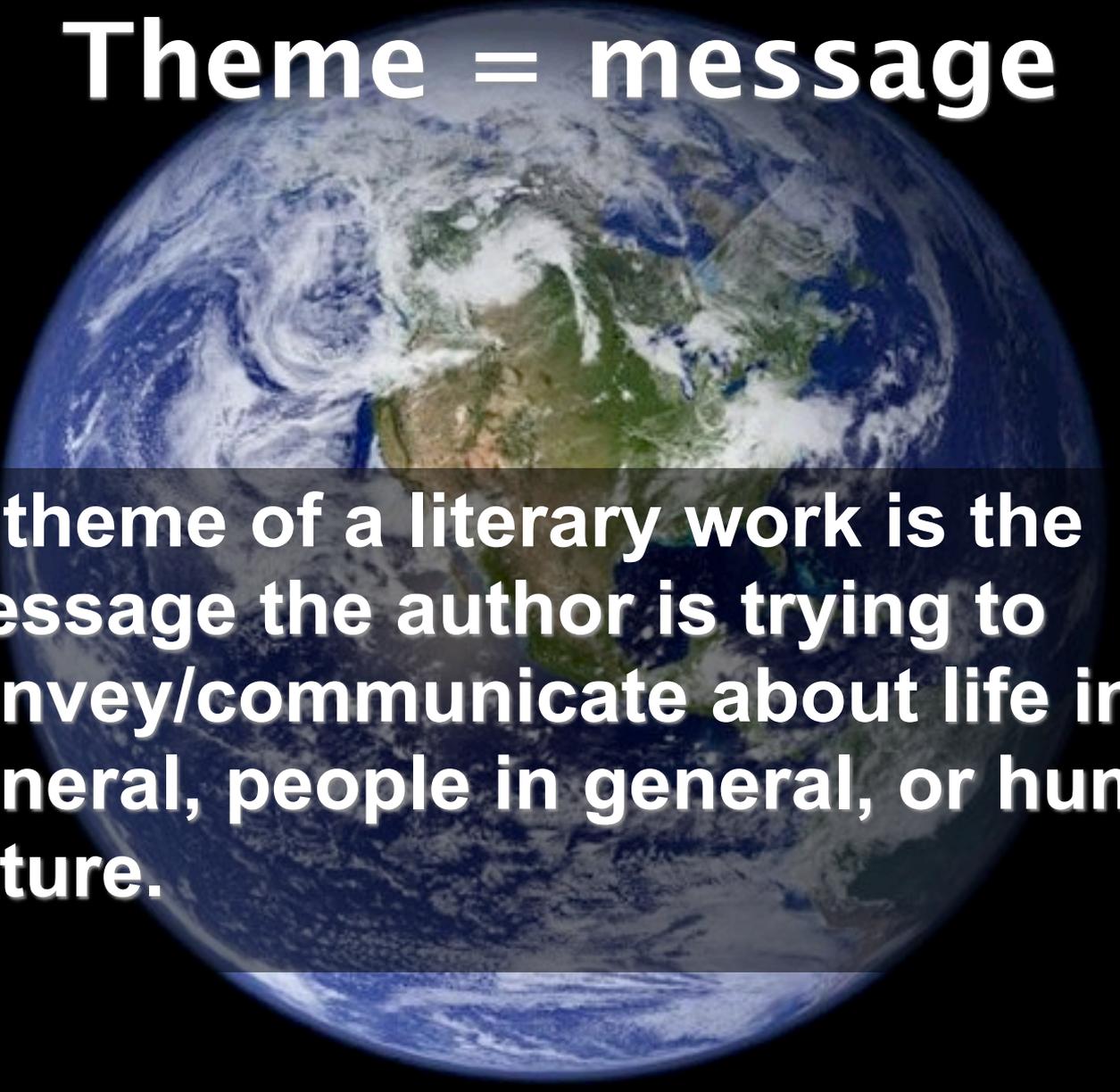


# Theme & Meaning

## Theme is...

- underlying meaning of the story,
- a universal truth,
- a significant statement the story is making about society, human nature, or the human condition.

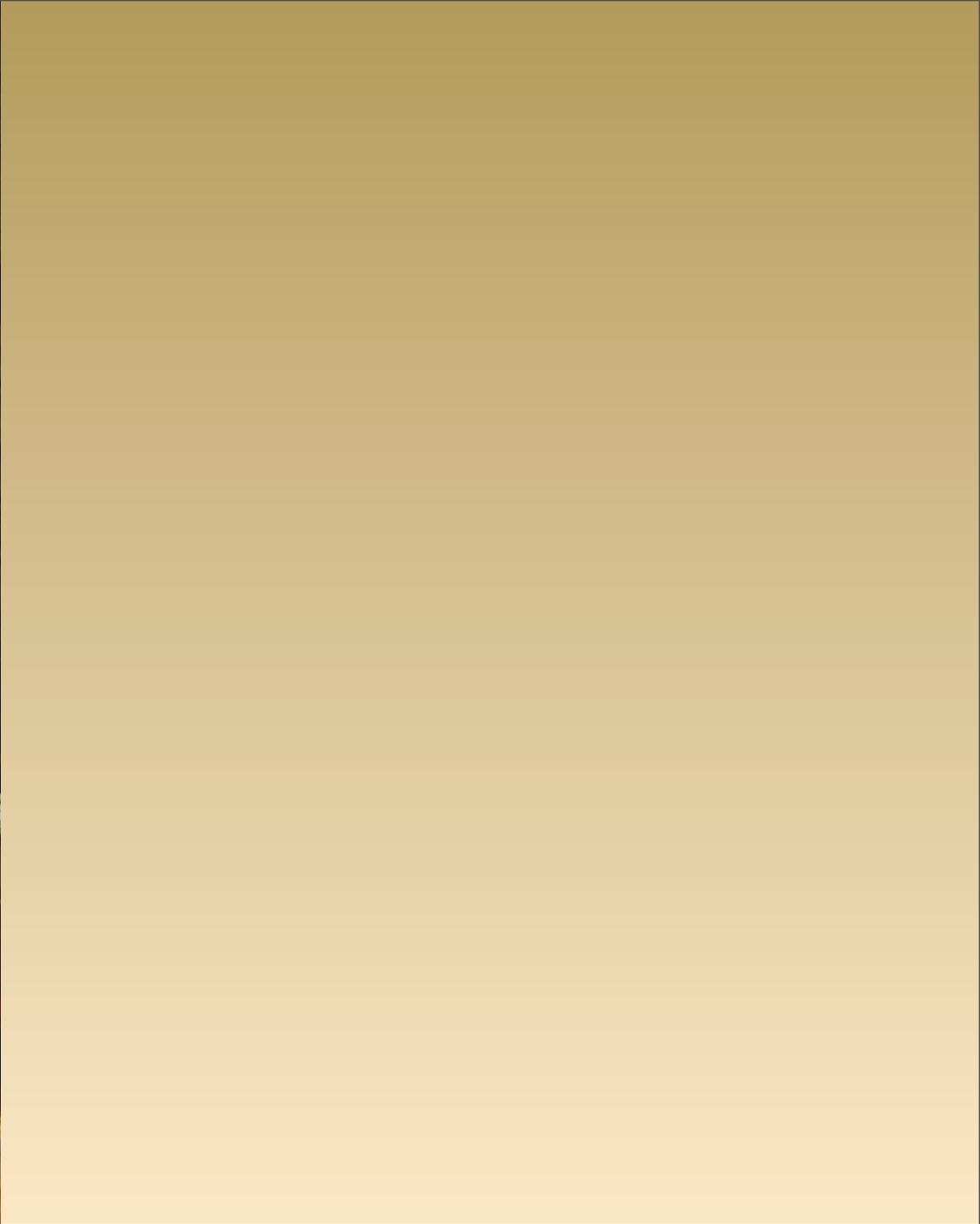
# Theme = message

A satellite view of Earth from space, showing the Americas and surrounding oceans. The image is centered on the Americas, with North America and South America visible in green and brown, surrounded by blue oceans and white clouds. The Earth is set against a black background.

**The theme of a literary work is the message the author is trying to convey/communicate about life in general, people in general, or human nature.**

**At times the author's theme may not confirm or agree with your own beliefs.**

**Even then, if skillfully written, the work will still have a theme that illuminates some aspects of true human experience.**



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**At the same time, theme in literature can expand one's understanding of life (learn from someone else's mistakes).**



Thursday, December 12, 13

A photograph of a stone wall made of irregular, greyish-brown stones. A large rectangular area in the center of the wall is highlighted with a bright green tint. Inside this green area, the text "Be aware that the theme never completely explains the story--" is written in white, bold, sans-serif font. The text is centered within the green area and spans across several rows of stones.

Be aware that the theme never  
completely explains the story--

A photograph of a stone wall with a green translucent text box overlaid in the center. The wall is made of irregular, greyish-brown stones, some of which are covered in green moss. The text box is a vibrant green color and contains white text.

Be aware that the theme never completely explains the story-- it is simply one of the elements that make up the whole.

A close-up photograph of a stone wall made of irregular, greyish-brown stones. A large, semi-transparent green rectangular box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing white text. The text is arranged in two paragraphs. The background shows the texture of the stones and some moss growing in the crevices.

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**Many works of literature have secondary themes as well.**



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- Now, consider conflicts, their resolutions, character and plot development of “The Crucible.” What do you think is the central theme of the play?