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Abstract: This scientific article is aimed at studying the commonality and uniqueness of motifs in the epic plot, their role in conveying themes, enhancing character development, and strengthening the overall structure of the story. A deeper understanding of the power and versatility of motifs in an epic plot can be gained by studying famous epic works from different cultures and eras.

Keywords: epic plot, motives, genre, epic.

In the field of literature, epic plots have long attracted readers with their rich and complex narratives. It is worth noting that one element that often stands out in these epic stories is the presence of motifs. Motifs are recurring ideas, symbols, or patterns that contribute to the overall thematic development of a work of literature. They are important building blocks for understanding the deeper meanings and nuances of a story. Although motifs can be found in a variety of literature, they play a specific role and importance in epic plots.

In addition to providing a basis for understanding the complexity and depth of the epic plot, motifs also serve as powerful tools for enhancing the overall thematic coherence and meaning of the story. Recurring throughout the story, motifs can create connections between different characters, settings, and events, reinforcing the epic's main themes and messages. For example, in Homer's *Odyssey*, the mask motif serves to emphasize the theme of deception and reveal the true nature of the characters. The repeated use of this motif not only adds layers of intrigue and suspense to the plot, but also emphasizes the importance of appearances and hidden identities in the epic world. In addition, motifs can contribute to the characterization of heroes and heroines, providing insight into their personalities, motivations, and moral dilemmas. In this way, motifs play a crucial role in enriching the story and drawing the audience into a deeper exploration of the universal human experience within the epic plot.

In epic literature, certain motifs constantly appear in different cultures and periods. One recurring motif is the "hero's journey," a narrative structure first popularized by Joseph Campbell. This motif involves a protagonist embarking on a transformative adventure, facing various challenges and overcoming obstacles to achieve a greater goal. A hero's journey is often characterized by stages such as a call to adventure, supernatural assistance, and a final return. Another common motif in epic plots is divine intervention or the intervention of supernatural beings. These interventions often act as catalysts for the hero's journey or contribute to the hero's success. In addition, the theme of fate or destiny appears frequently in epic plots, emphasizing the notion that the characters' actions are controlled by forces beyond their control. Despite the wide range of epic narratives, these motifs serve as the main elements that connect the stories of different cultures and eras, emphasizing the enduring importance of certain thematic patterns in the genre.

In addition to common motifs in epic plots, there are also unique motifs that add depth and uniqueness to the narrative. One such unique motif can be observed in the medieval epic poem "Beowulf". In this epic, the motif of the monstrous mother figure is the traditional motif of the monstrous father figure. A terrifying mother figure acts as a formidable adversary for the

THE MULTIDISCIPLINARY JOURNAL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

VOLUME-4, ISSUE-1

protagonist and adds a layer of complexity to the plot. This motif is not only unique, but also serves to challenge the traditional gender roles often found in epic literature. Another example of a rare motif is Virgil's Aeneid. The motif of fate and divine intervention is explored in great detail in this epic. Gods play an important role in the lives of heroes, determine their destinies and shape the outcome of their actions. These unique motifs not only distinguish the epics from each other, but also contribute to their enduring importance and influence in the field of literature.

Analyzing the commonality and uniqueness of motifs in epic plots reveals the complexities and complexities of these literary works. While various epics have several recurring motifs, such as the hero's journey and the battle between good and evil, each epic has unique motifs that reflect the specific cultural, historical, and social context in which it was written. These unique motifs serve to differentiate each epic and provide valuable insight into the values, beliefs, and concerns of the respective cultures. Furthermore, by examining the ways in which common motifs are used and modified, it becomes clear that these narratives serve as tools for exploring universal themes that transcend time and place. By studying the patterns and diversity of motifs in epic plots, scholars can gain a deeper understanding of the human experience across cultures and periods.

Summary

In short, the analysis of motifs in epic plots reveals their commonality and uniqueness, which enhances the understanding of the narratives as a whole. The presence of recurring motifs such as battles, quests, and supernatural creatures across different epic traditions provides evidence of common themes and cultural universality. These motifs serve as building blocks in the construction of an epic plot, allowing for a cohesive structure that resonates with diverse audiences. However, the specific characteristics of motifs in specific cultures also emphasize the uniqueness and individuality of each epic tradition. They contribute to the overall richness and variety of epic stories, and demonstrate the creativity and imagination of different societies throughout history. Therefore, the study of motifs in epic plots not only deepens our appreciation for these ancient texts, but also reflects the human need for storytelling and continuing.

References:

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