

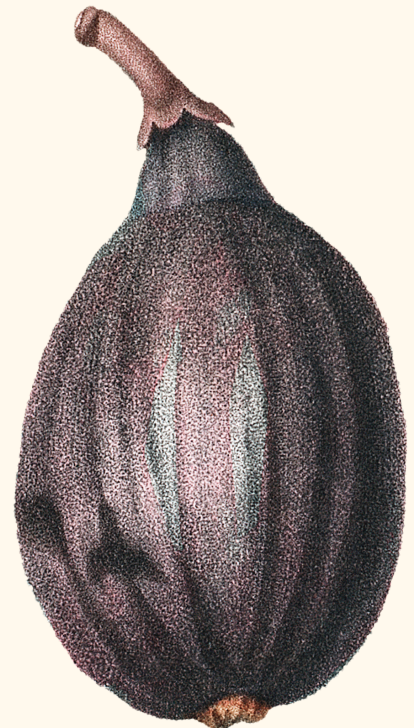
Nature in Fahrenheit 451

Prose

- A symbol of peace + innocence
- A symbol of truth and honesty in contrast to the fakeness of society

Nature Symbols in F451

- Blood: even a very human concept can be corrupted
 - Ev. *'The bloodstream in this woman was new and it seemed to have done a new thing to her'* -> shows that the most human thing can be replaced
 - Highlights the commodity that humans have become
- Dandelions: Nature tells you the truth you do not want to hear
 - Ev. *'You're not in love with anyone.'* (when Clarisse rubbed the dandelion on his neck)
 - Shows how people in this society lie to themselves + the truth that nature can provide
- Hearth: things that should bring comfort in this society don't (the concept of a home)
 - Ev. *'coming into the cold marbled room', 'the room was cold'*
 - Hearth: is a traditional symbol of the home, meant to provide warmth and comfort



- the perversion of relationships + feelings in this society

Animals

- Associated with death (ironically)
 - *'(the books) fell like slaughtered birds'* -> death of the books, death of knowledge + personification of books increases the disgust the audience should feel about the firemen destroying living things
 - *'A book lit, almost obediently, like a white pigeon, ... wings fluttering.'*

Makes it seem much more impactful by comparing the books to something living, also as

- *'In the trees, the birds that had flown away now came back and settled down.'* -> associated with freedom, knowledge = freedom
- When animals are corrupted with technology -> terrifying, corruption of life
 - Ev. *'slid down into your stomach like a black cobra'* -> terrifying, perverse
 - *'a man in a black shirt with an orange snake stitched on his arm'* -> foreshadowing of Beatty as a bad guy
 - *'The Mechanical Hound slept but did not sleep, lived but did not live'* -> is not alive, eerie
 - *'gripped in gentling paws while a four-inch hollow steel needle plunged down'* -> the contrast of the soft and affectionate way the paws held him down + the technology being extremely destructive



Fire

- Candles: loving connotation, related to the warmth one can provide
 - *'One time, when he was a child, in a power-failure, his mother had found and lit a last candle and there had been a brief hour of rediscovery, of such illumination'*

that space lost its vast dimensions and drew comfortably around them' -> shows how fire is illuminating + comforting

- *'the strangely comfortable and rare and gently flattering light of the candle.'* -> compares Clarisse to a candle, says she is more comforting than the 'hysterical light of electricity'
- Presented as a destructive force, as a means of gross destruction (usually of books)
 - *'With this great python spitting its venomous kerosene upon the world'* -> symbolism of a poisonous snake shows the lethal capabilities of fire + uses hyperbole to exaggerate and show the extreme damage that the fire can inflict
 - 'Amazing conductor playing all the symphonies of blazing and burning to bring down the tatters and charcoal ruins of history' -> likens music to destruction and shows how the society in F451 views burning to be an artform + the alliteration of 'blazing and burning' creates a harsh explosive sound that reinforces the violent nature of the firemen's work + shows how fire is used in destroying monumentally large things like the concept of history
- Goes through its own development from /negative to /positive, from harming people to helping people
 - 'She was as rational as you and I, more so perhaps, and we burned her' -> shows how ruthless society is, how destructive the capabilities of fire are
 - You could feel the war getting ready in the sky that night. (..) and the feeling that the sky might fall upon the city and turn it to chalk dust, and the moon go up in red fire; that was how the night felt.' -> shows how much fire could destroy if it could destroy something as large as the moon
 - 'It was not burning; it was warming' -> the campfire Granger set up being the few times when fire is depicted as kind and soft
 - There was a silly damn bird called a Phoenix back before Christ: every few hundred years he built a pyre and burned himself up. (..) And it looks like we're doing the same thing, over and over, but we've got one damn thing the



Phoenix never had. We know the damn silly thing we just did.' -> shows how the excessive fires the government set were not actually fixing the problem

Clarisse

- Advocates for the freedom nature provides
- Only one in the book who celebrates nature
 - ' And sometimes, I tell them, I like to put my head back, like this, and let the rain fall into my mouth. It tastes just like wine' -> appreciation for nature, brings her joy as she is genuine + not glued to a screen
 - "Bet I know something else you don't. There's dew on the grass in the morning." -> nature highlights her observance and her attention to detail