

CHAPTER THREE

CONCLUSION

Having analyzed the symbols in Madeleine L'Engle's A Wrinkle in Time, I come to the conclusion that the characters and things in the novel can be interpreted as something more than their actual meaning, and successfully conveyed the theme, which is 'The evil can be defeated by divine faith, love and knowledge'. I am able to conclude this theme after analyzing the deeper meaning through the major characters, The Black Thing, The Man with Red Eyes, The three Mrs, Meg, Calvin, Charles Wallace, The Beautiful creatures and also by the things that are given or used by the characters such as the Declaration of Independence, Calvin's gift, St Paul Epistle and the Nursery rhymes.

The Black Things and The man with Red Eyes here act as the major antagonists in the novel that I have symbolized as the devil and his assistant because The Black Thing destroys planets without any compassion for the inhabitants and leaves it in the hand of The Man with Red Eyes that controls the planet and its inhabitants with iron hand by brainwashing their brain so that he may have total control of their actions and their minds.

The Three Mrs. that is Mrs. Which, Mrs. Who, Mrs. Whatsit are the opposite of the evil force. They are acting as guardian angels for the children in their journey to rescue their father. Their total devotion in constantly helping the children and reminding them of their faults makes them as a symbol of God's love that is always by our side to help us whenever we are in trouble and reminds us of our mistakes.

The Declaration of Independence that is a human statement against monarchy and communist is used in this novel as a symbol of human knowledge against the force of evil that tries to seduce them to surrender to their command.

Calvin is the only boy that never doubts the reason and action of the three ladies, he is the one who always has faith and surrenders his fate to the grace of God; because of that the three ladies give Calvin the gift to communicate with all kinds of people of different races. This gift reminds us of Jesus' gift when He resurrects to earth and gives His apostles the same gift.

From all the children that join the journey Meg is the most skeptical and pessimistic of this journey and of her own strength. She has always been fooled by people and loses her confidence. Therefore, Mrs. Who gives Meg the gift of excerpt from St. Paul's Epistle to the Corinthians. This excerpt is meant to be a reassurance that she is not alone and powerless, that God will always help the weak and the foolish in their journey it is the gift of protection of God's word that she must believe that God will take care of her no matter who or what her enemy is. This gift is a symbol of God's protection.

The beautiful creatures on the planet Uriel are the representation God's believers, which symbolize faith. They are the example of God's creation that believe in Him and become the manifestation of God's perfections

Having studied the novel, I conclude that these symbols are connected with each other, creating a balance of science and religion in their quest of fighting the evil force.

The symbol of evil that is represented by the Black thing and The Man with Red Eyes have same similarity and characteristics with the devil in the Bible that represented the power of evil and always tries to enslaved human into His control. In the Bible the power of evil are in contrast with the power of light that is God, Jesus, Holy Spirit and His believers. The power of light is this novel are represented by the three ladies, Calvin, Meg and Charles Wallace, that fight the power of evil not with their physical power but by their faith in God and their God's given knowledge.

The symbols in the book are highly related to the Bible because the characters, the name of place and the things used by the characters are mostly taken from the bible like the name of planet that is taken by the Black Things' Camazots, it is the name of Mexican deity that worship the devil and makes all her followers go into hells.

The novels also used many quotations taken from the bible such as the songs that are sings by the beautiful creatures are translated into the verse of Isaiah and Meg's gift are taken from St Paul epistle. But none of the characters mentioned as a Christians. This fact shows the author strong Christians backgrounds. Beside the theological symbols, this novel also contains strong element of science fictions that

sometimes hard to be understand because I believe the author tries to remind the readers that in order to survive against the power of evils, religion and faith alone are not enough if they do not have knowledge. This is shown by when Meg's father urges her to name the elements of the periodic table to escape the dark forces of IT and spontaneously she begins reciting, "Hydrogen, Helium, Lithium, Beryllium, Boron, Carbon, Nitrogen, Oxygen, Fluorine.. etc. Throughout A Wrinkle in Time, the universe is in a struggle with the Black Thing that can be interpret as the black holes, which suck up everything around them. And the universe is composed of invisible dark matter and dark energy.

In many ways L'Engle creates a parable in her novels, she speaks about biblical and fictional and express deep universal principles without being factual as a metaphor to convey her spiritual beliefs to the reader, and to demonstrate the similarities between these two concepts. Although L'Engle writes from a Christian background, the text offers support to liberal spiritual interpretation.