

Allusion and Allegory

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WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

- Allusion: A reference in a literary work to a person, place, a historical thing, or another work of literature.
 - Indirect or brief shout-outs to something else
- Allegory: A narrative that serves as an extended metaphor.
 - Allegories convey messages that lie outside the story itself.



ALLUSION: PIXAR



- Pixar often likes to hide “easter eggs” of their upcoming or older movies in each film.



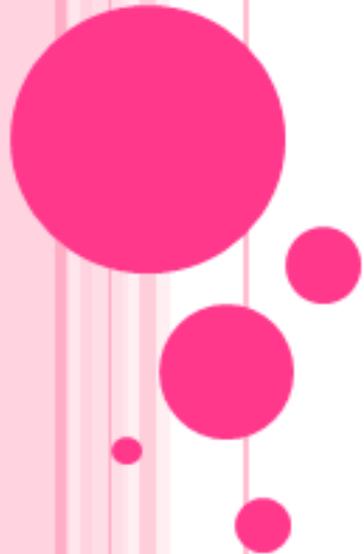
ALLEGORY: THE LION KING



- Tells a story about Simba, Mufasa and other African animals
- But it also tells about:
 - The circle of life
 - Coming of age
 - Love between parents and their children

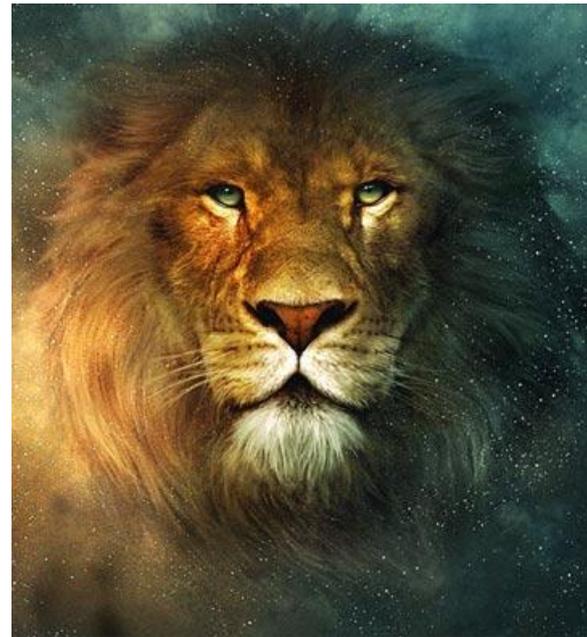
OTHER LITERARY ALLEGORIES:

- Pilgrim's Progress
 - Most famous allegory in English literature
- Aesop's Fables
 - Animals represent human beings to teach a lesson



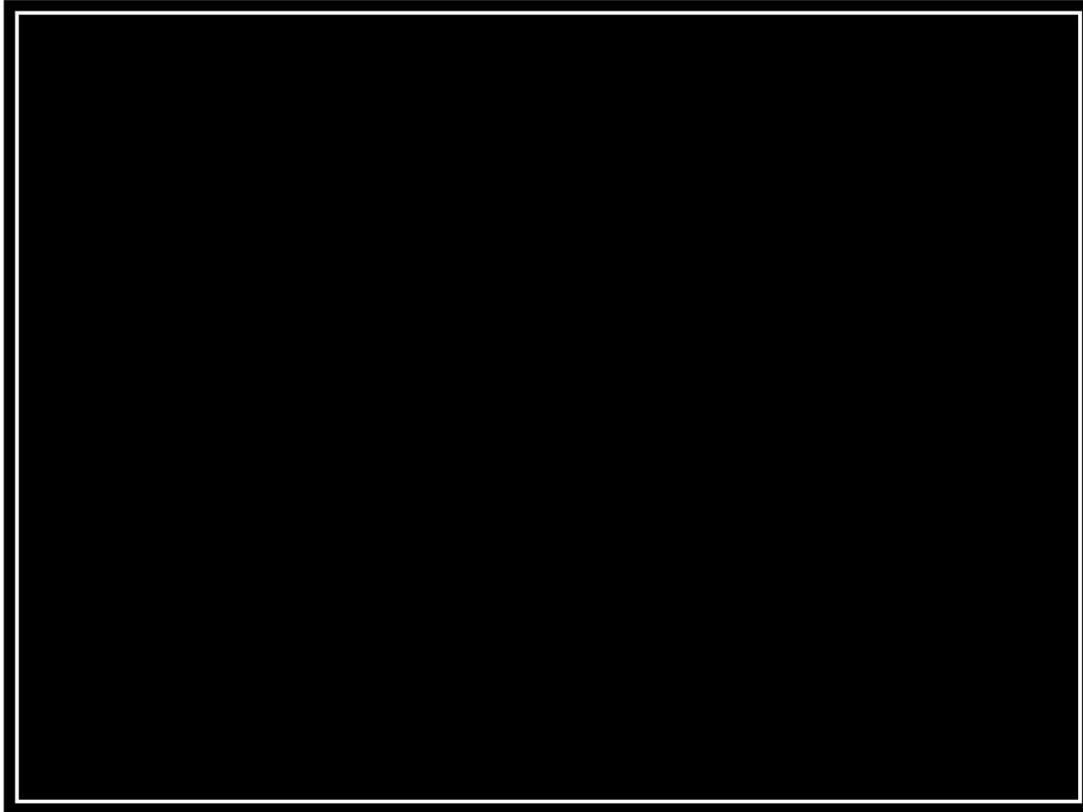
ALLUSION OR ALLEGORY?

- The Chronicles of Narnia



ALLUSION OR ALLEGORY?

- [The North Wind and the Sun - YouTube Clip](#)



ALLUSION OR ALLEGORY?

- Pixar's *Monsters Inc.*



ALLUSION OR ALLEGORY?



Pieter Bruegel- "Landscape with the Fall of Icarus"

ALLUSION OR ALLEGORY?

William Carlos Williams- "Landscape with the Fall of Icarus"

- According to Brueghel when Icarus fell it was spring
- a farmer was ploughing his field the whole pageantry of the year was awake tingling with itself
- sweating in the sun that melted the wings' wax
- insignificantly off the coast there was a splash quite unnoticed this was Icarus drowning



THE GIFT OF THE MAGI

- Look at the last paragraph: is this allegory or allusion?
 - Can it be both?
 - Cite at least one passage of text that supports your answer.
- Remember:
 - Allegory conveys a message outside the story itself
 - Allusion refers to another work
- The magi were wise men – wonderfully wise men – who brought gifts to the Baby Jesus. They invented the art of giving Christmas gifts. Being wise, their gifts were wise ones. And here I have told you the story of two young people who most unwisely gave for each other the greatest treasures of their house. But in a last word to the wise of these days, let it be said that of all who give gifts, these two were the wisest. Everywhere they are the wisest. They are the magi.

YOUR TURN!

- Write down one of your own experiences where you saw allusion or allegory used.
 - These can occur in poems, movies, books, and many other places!
- Share your experience with a partner.
- Let your partner guess whether the experience used allusion, allegory, or both characteristics!