

Themes, motifs, symbols etc

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Below are some of the themes, motifs, symbols, ideas and issues that are often discussed in relation to *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*. As you read the novel see if you can identify these within it and consider which you think are particularly important:

Importance of society / social class

Marriage

Animals (particularly birds)

Role / power of women

Farming / Employment

Justice

Fate

Religion

Childhood / Children

Fire / Firelight / Candlelight

Weather

Nature

Journeys / Migration

Family

Tradition

Love

Death

Role / power of men

Setting

Sunlight / Moonlight