

One intense human relationship in Tim Winton's Cloudstreet, is between Quick, and his brother Fish. This relationship is extremely important to the novel as a whole because it explores important themes such as spirituality, and family. These themes are consistently being expressed with the aid of Winton's unique use of language, and the setting in which his story takes place.

Spirituality is one of the ~~most~~ strongest themes in Cloudstreet, it is the basis for nearly every event which takes place in the novel, however it is strongest within the relationship between Quick and Fish. The river is seen as being a spiritual connection between all the characters in ~~the~~ the novel, and many significant events take place on, or near it. For example the circular structure of the story begins and

end with Fish drowning in the river. Quirk is the only character in the story who ~~lets~~^{takes} Fish out into the river with him, against his mother and's wishes. He does this because he recognises Fish's spiritual connection with the water. Fish's spiritual connection with the water is proven when he ~~drowns~~^{drowns} for the second time, and is reunited with his spiritual half. He says, "and for those few seconds that it took me to die, I was Fish Lamb." This is why Fish is constantly drawn to the water throughout the entire book. Quirk understands Fish on a different level to any other character, and this allows Winton to explore the large amount of spirituality between the two characters.

The second largest theme in the novel Cloudstreet, is that of family, and yet again, the relationship between Quirk

and Fish expresses it strongly. Fish's dependence of Quick is huge, and the love for family is demonstrated. At one point, towards the conclusion of the novel, Quick helps Fish clean himself up after being an accident in the car.

Quick goes on to increase the ~~own~~ numbers of his family, and to create the larvae and the pickles through his ~~own~~ marriage to Rose. At this point, the theme of family is at its strongest, and Fish is treated as a man child, ~~the~~ bond between Rose and Quick. This is especially significant to the novel as a whole, as the child that Rose and Quick have, Max Henry, is actually Tim Winton ~~himself~~ himself. This shows the significance of family within the novel, as it was a Tim Winton's own family which the story is about.

The theme of place is also thoroughly explored by the relationship between Quirk and Fish. Various important events that occur between these characters are in significant places. For example the house and the river. Wenton's careful use of language allows the reader to gain a detailed picture of the landscape.

In considering the relationship between Quirk and Fish is ^{invaluable} ~~available~~ when studying Clash of Titans. Their relationship explores all of the main themes in the novel and is the backbone for understanding the novel as a whole.