



# THE HUNGER GAMES

## THE LUNA MOTH AND OTHER SYMBOLS FROM THE HUNGER GAMES

All references to the novel are referring to the following edition(s):

*The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins

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## Teacher's Notes

These activities may be used as a supplement while reading *The Hunger Games*. They could be completed as group activities, individual projects, and/or as writing prompts.

The symbolism is highly interpretive, therefore take the suggested answers as purely speculative. Students may find additional information or have different interpretations. I use this as an "open" assignment based more on completion (and effort) than matching what I may believe is "correct."

I began working on this over a year ago (in the early spring of 2010) and found it very time consuming to finish. I set it aside and decided to finish it this summer. Though I wanted to discuss even more symbols in the novel, I feel as though I could go on forever and never finish this! Therefore, I left off at eleven and thought perhaps your students could try to find their own. I think these make for lively class discussions at any level.

Thank you! -Tracee

### Common Core Standards for ELA

#### Reading (Literature):

##### Craft and Structure

4. Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone.

#### Writing:

##### Text Types and Purposes

1. Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.

- 1.a. Introduce claim(s) and organize the reasons and evidence clearly.

##### Research to Build and Present Knowledge

7. Conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources and refocusing the inquiry when appropriate.
9. Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

#### Speaking & Listening:

##### Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

4. Present information, findings, and supporting evidence such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

#### Language:

5. Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.
  - 5.a. Interpret figures of speech (personification, symbolism) in context.





# THE LUNA MOTH AND OTHER SYMBOLS FROM THE HUNGER GAMES

For each symbol, research its literary symbolism. Find the connection with the symbol to the text. Ask yourself the following questions:

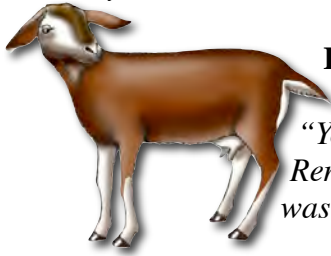
- Does it foreshadow events?
- Does it reveal information about a character?
- How might it be significant to the story?

## Prim's cat (Buttercup) and Prim's goat (Lady) Reference in text: Chapter 1, page 3 (Buttercup) and Chapter 20, pages 268-273 (Lady)




**Buttercup:** Katniss describes Prim's cat on the first page of the novel.

*"Sitting at Prim's knees, guarding her, is the world's ugliest cat. Mashed-in nose, half of one ear missing, eyes the color of rotting squash. Prim named him Buttercup, insisting that his muddy yellow coat matched the bright flower."*



**Lady:** Katniss tells Peeta about her happiest day ever--the day she bought Prim her goat.

*"You should have seen Prim's reaction when we walked in with that goat. Remember this is a girl who wept to save that awful old cat, Buttercup. She was so excited she started crying and laughing all at once."*

 **Research & Write:** Prim has a fondness for living things and is a natural healer. Research both goats and cats as symbols in literature. Go one step further and research her cat's name, Buttercup. Then comment on whether you think your findings apply to Prim and her pets.

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# THE LUNA MOTH AND OTHER SYMBOLS FROM THE HUNGER GAMES

## What other symbols can you find in the novel?

List them below and write what you think they may symbolize. Then research and compare with your notes.

**Symbol:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Chapter:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Page(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

I think this might represent...

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After researching, I found that it could represent...

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**Symbol:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Chapter:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Page(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

I think this might represent...

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After researching, I found that it could represent...

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# THE LUNA MOTH AND OTHER SYMBOLS FROM THE HUNGER GAMES

## Possible answers (& sources) for symbolism:

### 1. Luna Moth:

A symbol of sensuality, the moth demonstrates the ability to transform, to change in ways that make the best of the circumstances we have been given. Representing optimism and spiritual growth, the moth embodies success, both outside and within.<sup>1</sup>

**Relating to the text:** Katniss is going through her own transformation. Not only has she transformed from a girl in the Seam who hunts to feed her family into a “girl on fire” popular tribute, but she is transforming from a self-serving individual (or selfish for her family & their needs) into a selfless person who cares about others’ well-being, putting them first. At the beginning of the Games she would have never sacrificed herself for Peeta, and yet, here she is risking her life to save his. The loss of Rue has changed her, realizing the bigger picture: suffering will continue in Panem and children will continue to die. Children just like Prim. She’s no longer OK with that. (Not that she was before, but she couldn’t think about others because her family’s needs were too great.)

### 2. Strawberries & Mr. Undersee:

- To symbolize perfection and righteousness, medieval stone masons carved strawberry designs on altars and around the tops of pillars in churches and cathedrals.
- The strawberry was a symbol for Venus, the Goddess of Love, because of its heart shapes and red color.
- The delicate heart-shaped berry has always connoted purity, passion and healing. It has been used in stories, literature and paintings through the ages.
- The ancient Romans believed that the berries alleviated symptoms of melancholy, fainting, all inflammations, fevers, throat infections, kidney stones, halitosis, attacks of gout, and diseases of the blood, liver and spleen.<sup>2</sup>

- Symbol of purity and sensuality, fertility and abundance, humility and modesty.

The strawberry's fruit is made the symbol of perfect goodness because of its delicious flavor and fragrance.

- Strawberries have been associated with goodness and purity in Christian history. The strawberry was once believed to be a holy symbol of the Virgin Mary. In paintings of Mary, many artists used strawberries in the detail of the picture or as border.<sup>3</sup>

**Relating to the text:** This implies or symbolizes that Mayor Undersee is an upstanding and ethical person, unlike mayors in other districts, such as 11. The rules seem to be more lax in district 12, which may be attributed to the mayor’s sense of justice and dignity.

Another connection may be to the healing properties of strawberries. Obviously Mrs. Undersee is in need of help for her depression, so perhaps he buys them for her in hopes of treating her “melancholy.”

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<sup>1</sup> Luna Moth: <http://www.lunaguitars.com/fauna.php>

<sup>2</sup> From University of Illinois Extension: Strawberries and More: History & Folklore  
<http://urbanext.illinois.edu/strawberries/history.html>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.forever-bloom.com/site/619770/page/285214>

# THE LUNA MOTH AND OTHER SYMBOLS FROM THE HUNGER GAMES

## 3. Prim's cat (Buttercup):

### Buttercup Flower Symbolism

- The flower symbolism associated with buttercups is humility, neatness, childishness.
- In the Pacific Northwest (USA) the buttercup is called 'Coyote's eyes.' The legend is that a coyote was tossing his eyes up in the air and catching them again when an eagle snatched them. Unable to see, coyote made eyes from the buttercup.<sup>4</sup>
- Even though cats seem to symbolize evil or the underworld, they also represent cunning, forethought, and ingenuity.<sup>5</sup>

**Relating to the text:** The buttercup description seems to also describe Prim. The coyote legend is interesting, given the wolf tributes at the end and their eerie human-like eyes. Is it significant? Probably not. More importantly, Prim is shown as a lover of all living things--not able to let this cat die and nursing it back to health. Katniss sees many living things as either food for her family or another mouth to feed. It sets up the distinct difference between Katniss, the hunter, and Prim, the healer.

### Prim's goat (Lady):

- Goats are extremely curious and intelligent. They are also known for escaping their pens. Goats will test fences, either intentionally or simply because they are handy to climb on. If any of the fencing can be spread, pushed over or down, or otherwise be overcome, the goats will escape. Being very intelligent, once a weakness in the fence has been discovered, it will be exploited repeatedly.
- The goat is one of the twelve-year cycle of animals which appear in the [Chinese zodiac](#) related to the [Chinese calendar](#). Each animal is associated with certain personality traits; those born in a year of the goat are predicted to be shy, introverted, creative, and perfectionist. Children are often referred to in English as *kids*, but not long ago that word was used exclusively for the offspring of the goat. To *kid around*, then, is to behave like a baby goat, gamboling and interacting in the playful manner of an experimenting and high-spirited animal. <sup>6</sup>
- The female goat is the *nanny*, another word that today may even surprise students of English with its connection to the mothering behavior of female goats. She is kept for milking, and goat cheese is made from the milk, too. However, the kids are usually slaughtered for their meat [often confusingly referred to as *veal* since there is no other 'food word'] so that there will continue to be milk for human consumption.<sup>7</sup> Interestingly enough, there is a plant called "goat's rue" which is grown for the consumption of goats.

**Relating to the text:** Many students may find the description of a goat to also describe Prim, in particular: "curious and intelligent" and "shy, introverted, creative, perfectionist".

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<sup>4</sup> <http://www.livingartoriginals.com/infoflowersymbolism.htm#buttercup>

<sup>5</sup> Chevalier, J. & Gheerbrant, A. (1996). *The Penguin Dictionary of Symbols*. New York: Penguin.

<sup>6</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Goat>

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.khandro.net/animal\\_goat\\_ram.htm](http://www.khandro.net/animal_goat_ram.htm)

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## 4. Primrose:

Its name, primrose, is derived from the Latin *primus* meaning first, and it's one of the first flowers to bloom in springtime. Primrose symbolism includes courage because it takes moxie to blossom in the face of stark cold conditions -it also takes gumption to be the first to come out in the open. Primrose symbolism also includes renewal, love and devotion. Primrose is also a sacred symbol of Freya, the ancient Norse goddess of beauty, refinement, fertility, love purity and youthfulness. Ancient Celtic wisdom cites the primrose affiliated with fairies, its presence being a gateway into the fairy lands. If you pay homage to the flowers, you will achieve happiness.<sup>8</sup>

**Relating to the text:** Prim is courageous, even though she seems very fragile and helpless. Being a healer like her mother, she must have courage. Prim also loves very dearly--not just her family, but animals and all living things, as well. She is devoted, as well. Unlike Katniss, she did not harbor ill feelings toward her mother when her mother was depressed. Prim is pure, young, beautiful, and may even resemble a delicate fairy. The symbolism for Primrose seems to fit her very well.

## 5. Rue's flowers - Wildflower Symbolism

Wild flowers symbolize spontaneity and thoughtfulness. The receiver of wild flowers is thought of as someone very special who deserves the time and effort it takes to gather the flowers.<sup>9</sup>

## 6. Katniss's Contradiction of Girl on Fire with Katniss Root Identity Symbolism of Fire & Water (in alchemy)

**FIRE:** The colors of fire are traditionally [red](#), [orange](#), and [yellow](#). These create the aspects of flames and rays. These rays are always moving, whereas water has different states and colors related to its love. Fire represents divine energy, purification, revelation, and transformation.

**WATER:** **Water** is often used to [symbolize](#) things in [literature](#). Since water is often a sign of life, many times water represents life. Water can also be broken up into two categories: fresh water and bad/polluted water. Fresh water can represent good health, and bad water symbolizes bad health.

### Symbolism of katniss root

## 7. The Willow Tree

### Willow Tree Symbolism:

The Willow is the tree most associated with the moon, water, the Goddess and all that is feminine. It is the tree of dreaming, intuition and deep emotions. The willow has always been known as a tree of dreaming and enchantment, and it was associated in Celtic legend with poets and with spells of fascination and binding. This is the willow moon energy, which puts us in touch with our feelings and deep emotions, and it is the ability of the willow to help us to express these, let them out, own them and charge them in fantastical leaps of inspired eloquence and understanding.

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<sup>8</sup> <http://www.whats-your-sign.com/february-meaning-and-symbolism.html>

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.flower-meaning.info/wild.php>

# THE LUNA MOTH AND OTHER SYMBOLS FROM THE HUNGER GAMES

Willow tree meanings includes magic, healing, inner vision and dreams. The leaves and bark of the willow tree have been mentioned in ancient texts from Assyria, Sumer and Egypt as a remedy for aches and fever. Native Americans across the continent relied on it as a staple of their medical treatments. This is because they contain acetylsalicylic acid, also known as aspirin. The willow grows in hardiness zones 2-9.

The willow is a famous subject in many East Asian nations' cultures, and the image has been employed in a variety of Korean poetry. The willow was also part of mourning pieces created in the 19th century (and earlier) by women to commemorate the death of a loved one. These pieces always included one or more mourners in dark dresses bent over a burial vault, tombstone or urn with a willow tree--a symbol of death, tears, mourning, and reflection. Perhaps this is the origin of the term "weeping willow".

## 8. Katniss's Birthday: May 8th

### Katniss's Birthday (May 8<sup>th</sup>) Taurus - The Bull

Students may find the connection between the **Minotaur** (which had the head of a bull) and Katniss; did Collins purposefully make Katniss a Taurus to have that connection with the mythical animal which inspired the novel? (Remember the Theseus and the Minotaur story from beginning.)

#### Here's additional info.:

**Taurus** is today the second constellation in the Western hemisphere, in the spring. Many different cultures have seen the red-eyed bust of a bull in the arrangement of stars, and the notion of a **Bull of Heaven** is very ancient.

In a way, it is the opposite of the heavenly cow, for in Mesopotamian myth, it was the embodiment of a terrible drought created by Anu for the goddess **Ishtar**.

The Mediterranean island of Crete was the legendary home of the **Minotaur** -- a bull-headed monster according to the Greeks, but [archaeologists of the 19th century revealed](#) a misunderstanding. Ancient Cretan culture is called Minoan after *Minos*, the legendary ruler of the island. The largest building on the site was found by Sir Arthur Evans to be extremely complex in its layout -- a veritable maze. Add to these two facts the discovery of the emblem of the Minoans, a double-headed axe or *labrys* (not unlike a flattened [dorje](#)) that was found carved into stone pillars and we have a *Laby-rinth* and a *Mino-taur*.

The Minoans did have a sacred relationship with the bull, and bull-leaping youths depicted on the walls of the palace at Knossos indicate some elaborate ritual associated with it. This involved dancing or tumbling between the sharp horns of unrestrained bulls. Horned altar stones similar to contemporary abstract sculptural pieces were also found there.

Sadly, other aspects of this seem to have a root in reality. Legend has it that offerings of youths were made regularly to the Minotaur, and indeed human remains were recently found that indicate the intentional butchering of human beings.

As a punishment for murder, the step-child of Hera [Hera-cles] was condemned to a series of trials or labours by King Eurystheus,. The seventh was to capture the fierce marauding bull of Crete who some say was Zeus himself in his role as the shape-shifting trickster that carried off the Phoenician maiden, Europa. It is more likely that the ferocious beast had been the animal lover of the queen of Crete, for when King Minos insulted Poseidon, that god avenged himself by inducing in the Queen , a near-deadly lust for a bull.

According to the Greeks, this relation engendered the **Minotaur**, a bull-headed monster who was kept in a "[labyrinth](#)" and to whom the youths of the land were sacrificed.

Later, Herakles made a lasso, and chasing the beast until it weakened, finally succeeding in throwing the lasso over the bull's head. Having pacified the beast, Heracles leapt on its back and rode it across the sea back to the Peloponese. He presented it to Eurystheus, who thought to sacrifice it to Hera, queen of heaven. But Hera continued to bear a grudge against the hero who, through no fault of his was the offspring of her husband Zeus and the earthly woman Alcmene. She refused the offering, and so the bull was released to run wild in Greece.

While serving in Persia, the Romans encountered the cult of **Mithras**, *Sol Invictis*, vanquisher of the Bull, and that religion became exceedingly popular among legionnaires of the Empire stationed everywhere.

They prayed, "Spirit of Spirit, if it be your will, lend me immortal life so that I may be reborn, and the sacred spirit breathe in me again."

# THE LUNA MOTH AND OTHER SYMBOLS FROM THE HUNGER GAMES

Mithraism vied in popularity with Christianity to the extent that several of the important aspects of its mythology were assimilated to Christianity by the late 4th century. One of these is the important date of 25th December, the winter solstice which marks the birth of the Lord of Light, who is essentially a solar deity. It was customary to mark the day with gift-giving. Mithras can also be said to have been born of a virgin, and to have lived among shepherds. His priests were the Magi.

[http://www.khandro.net/animal\\_cow\\_bull.htm](http://www.khandro.net/animal_cow_bull.htm)

## 9. The Silver Parachutes

**Silver/Grey** symbolizes security, reliability, intelligence, staid, modesty, maturity, conservative, old age, sadness, and boring. <http://www.three-musketeers.net/mike/colors.html>

Silver often symbolizes riches, just as gold does. Associated with these words: glamorous, distinguished, high tech, industrial, graceful aging, telepathy, clairvoyance.

**PARACHUTES** : Parachutes have an obvious link to survival. They show us wanting to get out of some tricky situation that can happen. <http://www.unclesirbobby.org.uk/dreamdictionaryparachute.php>

**Regarding the use of parachutes in war (or, in this case, in an arena of killing):** The author juxtaposes opposites with this symbol: the parachutes represent survival in an arena where only one can live. They may carry a deadly weapon to use to kill or healing balm to help survive. The contradiction of the item itself further shows the irony of the situation. (Here, we'll help you survive, but we really want to see you die.)

## 10. The Dandelion

### Dandelion Flower Symbolism

The flower symbolism associated with the dandelion is love me, affection returned, desire, sympathy, faithfulness, happiness and love's oracle. The dandelion is native to Europe and Asia, and has been introduced to many other places. In northern areas and places where the dandelion is not native, it has become a weed, exploiting disturbed ground in human environments.

<http://www.flowers-cs.com/dandelion.html>

***DANDELION.** The word dandelion comes from the French dent de lion, meaning lion's tooth. This name was given to the plant because of the toothed margins of its leaves. When the leaves are young, healthful salad or as greens. The plant has medicinal value. Its roots, like those of its relative the chicory, are sometimes dried, roasted, ground, and mixed with coffee or used as substitute for it.*

## 11. The Meadow Song - Daisy Flower

### Daisy Flower Symbolism <http://livingartoriginals.com/flower-daisy.htm>

The flower symbolism associated with the daisy is purity, innocence, loyal love, beauty, patience and simplicity. Daisies are often depicted in meadows in Medieval paintings, also known as a "flowery mead." Daisies are believed to be more than 4,000 years old and hairpins decorated with daisies were found during the excavation of the **Minoan\*** Palace on the Island of Crete. Even further back, Egyptian ceramics were decorated with daisies. Daisies were used in Mary Gardens. The daisy is also symbolically connected to St. John.

\*Do you think this is just a coincidence that daisy hairpins were found in the **Minoan** Palace?? Yes, this is the same home as the Minotaur. I am really blown away by this; Suzanne Collins really is a literary genius.

# THE LUNA MOTH AND OTHER SYMBOLS FROM THE HUNGER GAMES

## OTHER SYMBOLS TO CONSIDER:

### Rue the Flower

Rue, *Ruta graveolens*, repentance and everlasting suffering

<http://www.huntingtonbotanical.org/Shakespeare/ophelia.htm>

### CORNUCOPIA SYMBOLISM (ALSO IN FOOD SYMBOLISM)

-The word "cornucopia" is derived from two Latin words, "cornu," meaning "horn" and "copia," meaning "plenty."

-The Horn of Plenty, shaped like a curved goat's horn, overflows with fruit, vegetables and nuts, symbolizes abundance. It became associated with several deities, especially the Greek Tyche and the Roman, Fortuna, Goddess of riches and abundance, Greek Dionysus Roman Bacchus, Gods of Fertility, Wine and Growth, Greek Demeter and Roman Ceres, goddesses of agriculture and Greek Zeus and Roman Jupiter the Kings of the Deities.

[Cornucopia - Pagan Symbol of Abundance: Horn of Plenty's Roots are in Ancient Greece Paganism http://paganismwicca.suite101.com/article.cfm/cornucopia\\_pagan\\_symbol\\_of\\_abundance#ixzz0tkliOr2t](http://paganismwicca.suite101.com/article.cfm/cornucopia_pagan_symbol_of_abundance#ixzz0tkliOr2t)

#### **Zeus and the Cornucopia Legend**

When the Greek God was born, his mother Rhea sent him to Crete to be cared for, to hide him from his father, Cronus, who would have eaten him. Melisseus, King of Crete, had several daughters who tended to Zeus. They hung him in a cradle from a tree branch, so that he couldn't be found in heaven, on earth or in the sea.

Amalthea, their nanny goat, provided milk. As a gift to thank them, Zeus broke off one of the animal's horns, filled it with harvested crops and bestowed the horn with the power of being filled with whatever its owner desired. The cornucopia became a symbol of prosperity and signified that its owner would never starve.

[Cornucopia - Pagan Symbol of Abundance: Horn of Plenty's Roots are in Ancient Greece Paganism http://paganismwicca.suite101.com/article.cfm/cornucopia\\_pagan\\_symbol\\_of\\_abundance#ixzz0tkvllIq](http://paganismwicca.suite101.com/article.cfm/cornucopia_pagan_symbol_of_abundance#ixzz0tkvllIq)

#### **Greek Cornucopia Legend - Hercules and Achelous**

The man and River God were rivals wrestling for the beautiful Dejanira's, daughter of King Oeneus of Calydon's affections. Achelous was able to shapeshift into a snake, then into a bull in order to gain the advantage.

While he was in the form of a bull\*, Hercules tore off one of his horns and in doing so, diverted the Achelous River's flow. The Naiads, water-nymphs, treated the horn as a sacred object and filled it with fragrant flowers. The Goddess of Plenty, Copia, later adopted the horn as her symbol. Later, the Roman legend was that the Goddess Abundantia embraced the horn, calling it cornucopia. (\*Some legends say it is the horn of a goat. See Goat symbolism.)

[Cornucopia - Pagan Symbol of Abundance: Horn of Plenty's Roots are in Ancient Greece Paganism http://paganismwicca.suite101.com/article.cfm/cornucopia\\_pagan\\_symbol\\_of\\_abundance#ixzz0tklXty3K](http://paganismwicca.suite101.com/article.cfm/cornucopia_pagan_symbol_of_abundance#ixzz0tklXty3K)

### Orange Backpack

**Color Orange:** It represents the changing seasons so in that sense it is a color on the edge, the color of change between the heat of summer and the cool of winter.

Orange is vibrant. It's a combination of red and yellow so it shares some common attributes with those colors. It denotes energy, warmth, and the sun. But orange has a bit less intensity or aggression than red, calmed by the cheerfulness of yellow.

#### **Nature of Orange:**

As a warm color orange is a stimulant — stimulating the emotions and even the appetite. Orange can be found in nature in the changing leaves of fall, the setting sun, and the skin and meat of citrus fruit.

<http://desktoppub.about.com/cs/colorselection/p/orange.htm>

### Waterfowl Eggs Rue Collected for Breakfast (Also in Food Symbolism)

(Duck eggs) The yolk is prized and is used in [Chinese mooncakes](#) to symbolize the [moon](#).

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salted\\_duck\\_egg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salted_duck_egg)

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Perhaps the eggs were swan eggs; swans represent the fragility of life and man's immortality. (Think of a "swansong.")

Eggs also represent hope & resurrection (think of the symbolic meaning of Easter eggs to mark Christ's resurrection).

**Relating to the text:** This could be foreshadowing Rue's death, or the fragility of all the tributes' lives. It could also foreshadow Rue's transformation into a mockingjay in Katniss's dream (in *Catching Fire*). It may also mark Katniss's transformation as a person from self-serving to sacrificial in upcoming chapters.

## Weather Symbolism

**Rain** is probably the most common symbolic weather element. It is used as a plot device to force people together, seeking shelter, who might not otherwise come together or choose to be together. Rain is mysterious, isolating, and causes miserable conditions. Rain has a paradoxical side, it cleanses the earth and brings re-birth and new life (literally and symbolically) while at the same time creating mud, muck and disasters, and ushering in chills, colds, pneumonia and death. It is an equalizer, falling on both the just and the unjust.

**Fog** is used to symbolize confusion, a mental barrier, stoppage of time, an omen. Wind, snow, fire, clouds, no clouds, sunshine, darkness...there is no limit to the imagery weather can conjure up in our minds.

<http://utahchildrenswriters.blogspot.com/2010/07/symbolism-in-literature-2.html>

## ANTS (When Katniss hallucinated after being stung by tracker jackers)

Since **ants** live in colonies, they symbolize organization and planning in a group. Ants are also a symbol of strength and energy, and patience and perseverance. <http://symbolism.wikia.com/wiki/Ant>

## Water as in Stream, Lake, and Ponds (in alchemy)

**The river** is a sign of ease, grace and fluidity; as expressed by its meandering form. Often times it is used to represent the calm beauty of nature. In Feng Shui (the ancient Chinese art of placement to improve *qi* flow), certain types of rivers are often described as auspicious and healthy.

A fast-flowing river can often be used to symbolize strength; sometimes calamity. Calamity can be represented through rushing, chaotic rivers that tend to flood.

**The ocean** is a sign of power and strength, dominating all other symbols of water--due to its immensity. All life was ocean-born and life still exists in the ocean; therefore the ocean represents life.

<http://www.whats-your-sign.com/animal-alchemy-symbols.html>

## The Moon (in alchemy):

Alchemically speaking, the moon represents Silver, the Lesser Work, or Mercury. It conjoins with the sun, or Gold in the Greater Work. In more practical terms, the moon represents fertility, resurrection, occult power, immortality and intuition. The moon is a feminine property and alchemists would incorporate it with the sun (gold) to assure balance.

# THE LUNA MOTH AND OTHER SYMBOLS FROM THE HUNGER GAMES

## **Lily Flower Symbolism**

The flower symbolism associated with the lily is chastity, virtue, fleur-de-lis, Holy Trinity, faith, wisdom, chivalry, royalty sweetness, virginity, purity and majesty. The flower symbolism of lilies is associated with the annunciation of the birth of Jesus by the angel Gabriel. Lilies were used in the flower symbolism of Mary Gardens. In both Christian and pagan traditions, lilies symbolize fertility. In Greek marriage ceremonies, the bride wears a crown of lilies.

Water lily = pure of heart

### **Fleur-de-lis**

(For Katniss-alchemy: under the sign of the moon) <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fleur-de-lis>

In the [Middle Ages](#) the symbols of lily and fleur-de-lis (*lis* is French for "lily") overlapped considerably in religious art. [Michel Pastoureaux](#), the historian, says that until about 1300 they were found in depictions of [Jesus](#), but gradually they took on Marian symbolism and were associated with the [Song of Solomon's](#) "lily among thorns" (*lilium inter spinas*), understood as a reference to Mary. Other [scripture](#) and religious literature in which the lily symbolizes purity and chastity also helped establish the flower as an iconographic attribute of the Virgin.

It has consistently been used as a royal emblem, though different cultures have interpreted its meaning in varying ways.

In [French](#), *fleur de lis* literally means "lily flower". It is widely thought to be a stylized version of the species [Iris pseudacorus](#). Decorative [ornaments](#) that resemble the fleur-de-lis have appeared in artwork from the earliest human [civilizations](#).

The use for ornamental or symbolic purposes of the stylised flower usually called fleur de lis is common to all eras and all civilizations. It is an essentially graphic theme found on [Mesopotamian cylinders](#), [Egyptian bas-reliefs](#), [Mycenean](#) pottery, [Sassanid](#) textiles, [Gaulish](#) and [Mameluk](#) coins, [Indonesian](#) clothes, [Japanese](#) emblems, and [Dogon](#) totems. The many writers who have discussed the topic agree that it has little resemblance to the lily, but they disagree as to whether it derives from the iris, the [broom](#), the [lotus](#), or the [furze](#); others believe it represents a [trident](#), an [arrowhead](#), a [double axe](#), or even a dove or a pigeon.

In the movie [The Three Musketeers](#) (1993) and the novel written by Dumas, a traitor is branded with a fleur-de-lis.

## **Honeysuckle Flower Symbolism**

The flower symbolism associated with the honeysuckle is bond of love and I love you. Wood cuttings from honeysuckle are sold as cat toys. The wood contains nepetalactone, the active ingredient found in catnip. Honeysuckle is a twining flower grown in China, Europe and North America. Many species have sweetly scented, bell-shaped flowers.

## **Nightshade (Perhaps inspiration for the deadly "Nighlock" berries)**

The species usually called nightshade in North America and England is *Solanum dulcamara*, also called bittersweet and woody nightshade. Its foliage and egg-shaped red berries are poisonous, the active principle being solanine, which can cause convulsions and death if taken in large doses. The black nightshade (*S. nigrum*) is also generally considered poisonous, but its fully ripened fruit and foliage are cooked and eaten in some areas.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nightshade>

## **Tree Symbolism**

<http://www.livingartsoriginals.com/infoforests.htm>

## **Pine Tree Symbolism**

Pine tree symbolism includes creativity, life, longevity and immortality. Pine trees are recognizable by both their needle-like leaves and cones. Pines are commercially among the most

# THE LUNA MOTH AND OTHER SYMBOLS FROM THE HUNGER GAMES

important of species used for timber and wood pulp in temperate and tropical regions of the world. Some species have large seeds, called pine nuts, that are harvested and sold for cooking and baking.

**[lamb](http://www.houseofnames.com/xq/asp/keyword.lamb/qx/symbolism_details.htm)** ([http://www.houseofnames.com/xq/asp/keyword.lamb/qx/symbolism\\_details.htm](http://www.houseofnames.com/xq/asp/keyword.lamb/qx/symbolism_details.htm))

The lamb is a symbol of gentleness of character and patience under suffering. It signifies purity, meekness and sacrifice. The lamb is also often borne as a symbol of Christ. The paschal or holy lamb is a lamb depicted carrying either crossed staffs, or a banner inscribed with the cross of St. George and a halo above its head. It is an emblem of faith. The holy lamb was granted to a brave, resolute spirit, who would even undertake war in Christ's cause.

## **Symbolism of the numbers 7 & 14**

Katniss forms an alliance with Rue on Day 14 in the book, or Day 7 in the arena.

## **PINE NEEDLE BEDDING IN CAVE:**

The Scandinavians used pine branches in saunas, and many cultures **stuffed mattresses with pine needles to repel lice, fleas,** and other insects. In fact, pine-needle mattresses are still used today in the Swiss Alps, however now their purpose is as a remedy for rheumatism.

<http://www.awakeningblog.com/pine-needles.html>

# THE LUNA MOTH AND OTHER SYMBOLS FROM THE HUNGER GAMES

Plant Symbolism from: <http://photovault.com/Link//Food/PlantsHerbsSymbolism.html>

<b>Acacia:</b> Protection, Psychic Powers	<b>Bachelor's Buttons:</b> Love	<b>Blueberry:</b> Protection	<b>Cattail:</b> Lust
<b>Adam &amp; Eve Roots:</b> Love, Happiness	<b>Balm, Lemon:</b> Love, Success, Healing	<b>Blue Flag:</b> Money	<b>Cedar:</b> Healing, Purification, Money, Protection
<b>Adders Tongue:</b> Healing	<b>Balm of Gilead:</b> Love, Manifestations, Protection, Healing	<b>Bodhi:</b> Fertility, Protection, Wisdom, Meditation	<b>Celandine:</b> Protection, Escape, Happiness, Legal Matters
<b>African Violet:</b> Spirituality, Protection	<b>Bamboo:</b> Protection, Luck, Hex-Breaking, Wishes	<b>Boneset:</b> Protection, Exorcism	<b>Celery:</b> Mental Powers, Lust, Psychic Powers
<b>Agaric:</b> Fertility	<b>Banana:</b> Fertility, Potency, Prosperity	<b>Borage:</b> Courage, Psychic Powers	<b>Centaury:</b> Snake Removing
<b>Agrimony:</b> Protection, Sleep	<b>Banyan:</b> Luck	<b>Bracken:</b> Healing, Rune Magic, Prophetic Dreams	<b>Chamomile:</b> Money, Sleep, Love, Purification
<b>Ague Root:</b> Protection	<b>Barley:</b> Love, Healing, Protection	<b>Brazil Nut:</b> Love	<b>Cherry:</b> Love, Divination
<b>Alfalfa:</b> Prosperity, Anti-hunger, Money	<b>Basil:</b> Love, Exorcism, Wealth, Flying, Protection	<b>Briony:</b> Image Magic, Money, Protection	<b>Chestnut:</b> Love
<b>Alkanet:</b> Purification, Prosperity	<b>Bay:</b> Protection, Psychic Powers, Healing, Purification, Strength	<b>Bromeliad:</b> Protection, Money	<b>Chickweed:</b> Fertility, Love
<b>Allspice:</b> Money, Luck, Healing	<b>Bean:</b> Protection, Exorcism, Wart Charming, Reconciliations, Potency, Love	<b>Broom:</b> Purification, Protection, Wind Spells, Divination	<b>Chicory:</b> Removing Obstacles, Invisibility, Favours, Frigidity
<b>Almond:</b> Money, Prosperity, Wisdom	<b>Bedstraw/Fragrant:</b> Love	<b>Buchu:</b> Psychic Powers, Prophetic Dreams	<b>Chili pepper:</b> Fidelity, Hex Breaking, Love
<b>Aloe:</b> Protection, Luck Aloes, Wood: Love, Spirituality	<b>Beech:</b> Wishes	<b>Buckthorn:</b> Protection, Exorcism, Wishes, Legal Matters	<b>China Berry:</b> Luck
<b>Althea:</b> Protection, Psychic Powers	<b>Beet:</b> Love	<b>Buckwheat:</b> Money, Protection	<b>Chrysanthemum:</b> Protection
<b>Alyssum:</b> Protection, Moderating Anger	<b>Belladonna:</b> astral projection <b>*DEADLY POISON!!</b>	<b>Burdock:</b> Protection, Healing	<b>Cinchona:</b> Luck, Protection
<b>Amaranth:</b> Healing, Protection, Invisibility	<b>Benzoin:</b> Purification, Prosperity	<b>Cabbage:</b> Luck	<b>*Cinnamon:</b> Spirituality, Success, Healing, Power, Psychic Powers, Lust Protection, Love
<b>Anemone:</b> Health, Protection, Healing	<b>Bergamot, Orange:</b> Money	<b>Cactus:</b> Protection, Chastity	<b>Cinquefoil:</b> Money, Protection, Prophetic Dreams, Sleep
<b>Angelica:</b> Exorcism, Protection, Healing, Visions	<b>Be-Still:</b> Luck	<b>Calamus:</b> Luck, Healing, Money, Protection	<b>Citron:</b> Psychic Powers, Healing
<b>Apple:</b> Love, Healing, Garden Magic, Immortality	<b>Betony/wood:</b> Protection, Purification, Love	<b>Camellia:</b> Riches	<b>Cloth of Gold:</b> Understand animal languages
<b>Apricot:</b> Love	<b>Birch:</b> Protection, Exorcism, Purification	<b>Camphor:</b> Chastity, Health, Divination	<b>*Clove:</b> Protection, Exorcism, Love, Money
<b>Arabic Gum:</b> Purify negativity and evil	<b>Bistort:</b> Psychic Powers, Fertility	<b>Caper:</b> Potency, Lust, Luck	<b>Clover:</b> Protection, Money, Love, Fidelity, Exorcism, Success
<b>Arbutus:</b> Exorcism, Protection	<b>Bittersweet:</b> Protection, Healing	<b>Caraway:</b> Protection, Lust, Health, Anti-theft, Mental Powers	<b>Club Moss:</b> Protection, Power
<b>Asafoetida:</b> Exorcism, Purification, Protection	<b>Blackberry:</b> Healing, Money, Protection	<b>Cardamon:</b> Lust, Love	<b>Coconut:</b> Purification, Protection, Chastity
<b>Ash:</b> Protection, Prosperity, Sea Rituals, Health	<b>Bladderwrack:</b> Protection, Sea Spells, Wind Spells, Money, Psychic Powers	<b>Carnation:</b> Protection, Strength, Healing	<b>Cohosh, Black:</b> Love, Courage, Protection, Potency
<b>Aspen:</b> Eloquence, Anti-Theft	<b>Bleeding Heart:</b> Love	<b>Carob:</b> Protection, Health	<b>Coltsfoot:</b> Love, Visions
<b>Aster:</b> Love	<b>Bloodroot:</b> Love, Protection, Purification	<b>Carrot:</b> Fertility, Lust	<b>Columbine:</b> Courage, Love
<b>Avens:</b> Exorcism, Purification, Love	<b>Bluebell:</b> Luck, Truth	<b>Cascara Sagrada:</b> Legal Matters, Money, Protection,	<b>Comfrey:</b> Safety during travel, Money
<b>Avocado:</b> Love, Lust, Beauty		<b>Cashew:</b> Money	
		<b>Castor:</b> Protection	
		<b>*Catnip:</b> Cat Magic, Love, Beauty, Happiness	

# THE LUNA MOTH AND OTHER SYMBOLS FROM THE HUNGER GAMES

<b>Copal:</b> Love, Purification	<b>Dulse:</b> Lust, Harmony	<b>Ginger:</b> Love, Money, Success, Power	<b>*Honeysuckle:</b> Money, Psychic Powers, Protection
<b>Coriander:</b> Love, Health, Healing	<b>Dutchmans Breeches:</b> Love	<b>Ginseng:</b> Love, Wishes, Healing, Beauty, Protection, Lust	<b>Hops:</b> Healing, Sleep
<b>Corn:</b> protection, luck, divination	<b>Ebony:</b> Protection, Power	<b>*Goats Rue:</b> Healing, Health	<b>Horehound:</b> Protection, Mental Powers, Exorcism, Healing
<b>Cotton:</b> Luck, Healing, Protection, Rain, Fishing Magic	<b>Echinacea:</b> Strengthening Spells	<b>Goldenrod:</b> Money, Divination	<b>Horse Chestnut:</b> Money, Healing
<b>Cowslip:</b> Healing, Youth, Treasure Finding	<b>Edelweiss:</b> Invisibility, Bullet-Proofing	<b>Golden Seal:</b> Healing, Money	<b>Horseradish:</b> Purification, Exorcism
<b>Crocus:</b> Love, Visions	<b>Elder:</b> Exorcism, Protection, Healing, Prosperity, Sleep	<b>Gorse:</b> Protection, Money	<b>Horsetail:</b> Snake Charming, Fertility
<b>Cubeb:</b> Love	<b>Elecampane:</b> Love, Protection, Psychic Powers	<b>Gotu Kola:</b> Meditation	<b>Houndstongue:</b> Tying dogs tongues
<b>Cuckoo-flower:</b> Fertility, Lover	<b>Elm:</b> Love	<b>Gourd:</b> Protection	<b>Houseleek:</b> Luck, Protection, Love
<b>Cucumber:</b> Chastity, Healing, Fertility	<b>Endive:</b> Lust, Love	<b>Grain:</b> Protection	<b>Huckleberry:</b> Luck, Protection, Dream Magic, Hex Breaking
<b>Cumin:</b> Protection, Fidelity, Exorcism	<b>Eryngo:</b> Travelers Luck, Peace, Lust, Love	<b>Grains of Paradise:</b> Lust, Luck, Love, Money, Wishes	<b>Hyacinth:</b> Love, Protection, Happiness
<b>Curry:</b> Protection	<b>Eucalyptus:</b> Healing, Protection	<b>Grape:</b> Fertility, Garden Magic, Mental Powers, Money	<b>Hydrangea:</b> Hex Breaking
<b>Cyclamen:</b> Fertility, Protection, Happiness, Lust	<b>Euphorbia:</b> Purification, Protection	<b>Grass:</b> Psychic Powers, Protection	<b>Hyssop:</b> Purification, Protection
<b>Cypress:</b> Longevity, Healing, Comfort, Protection	<b>Eyebright:</b> Mental Powers, Psychic Power	<b>Ground Ivy:</b> Divination	<b>Indian Paint Brush:</b> Love
<b>Daffodil:</b> Love, Fertility, Luck	<b>Fennel:</b> Protection, Healing, Purification	<b>Groundsel:</b> Health, Healing	<b>Iris:</b> Purification, Wisdom
<b>Daisy:</b> Lust, Luck	<b>Fenugreek:</b> Money	<b>*Hawthorn:</b> Fertility, Chastity, Fishing Magic, Happiness	<b>Irish Moss:</b> Money, Luck, Protection
<b>Damiana:</b> Lust, Love, Visions	<b>Fern:</b> Rain Making, Protection, Luck, Riches, Eternal Youth, Health, Exorcism	<b>Hazel:</b> Luck, Fertility, Anti-Lightning, Protection, Wishes	<b>Ivy:</b> Protection, Healing
<b>*Dandelion:</b> Divination, Wishes, Calling Spirits	<b>Feverfew:</b> Protection	<b>Heather:</b> Protection, Rain Making, Luck	<b>Jasmine:</b> Love, Money, Prophetic Dreams
<b>Datura:</b> Hex Breaking, Sleep, Protection	<b>Fig:</b> Divination, Fertility, Love	<b>Heliotrope:</b> Exorcism, Prophetic dreams, Healing, Wealth, Invisibility	<b>Jobs Tears:</b> Healing, Wishes, Luck
<b>Deerstongue:</b> Lust, Psychic Powers	<b>Figwort:</b> Health, Protection	<b>Hellebore, Black:</b> Protection	<b>Joe-pye weed:</b> Love, Respect
<b>Devils Bit:</b> Exorcism, Love, Protection, Lust	<b>Flax:</b> Money, Protection, Beauty, Psychic Powers, Healing	<b>*POISON*</b>	<b>Juniper:</b> Protection, Anti-theft, Love, Exorcism, Health
<b>Devils Shoestring:</b> Protection, Gambling, Luck, Power, Employment	<b>Fleabane:</b> Exorcism, Protection, Chastity	<b>Hemlock:</b> Destroy sexual drives <b>*POISON*</b>	<b>Kava-Kave:</b> Visions, Protection, luck
<b>Dill:</b> Protection, Money, Lust, Luck	<b>Foxglove:</b> Protection	<b>Hemp:</b> Healing, Love, Vision, Meditation	<b>Knotweed:</b> Binding, Health
<b>Dittany of Crete:</b> Manifestations, Astral Projection	<b>Frankincense:</b> Protection, Exorcism, Spirituality	<b>Henbane:</b> <b>*POISON*</b> Not used	<b>Ladys mantle:</b> Love
<b>Dock:</b> Healing, Fertility, Money	<b>Fumitory:</b> Money, Exorcism	<b>Henna:</b> Healing	<b>Ladys slipper:</b> Protection
<b>Dodder:</b> Love, Divination, Knot Magic	<b>Fuzzy Weed:</b> Love, Hunting	<b>Hibiscus:</b> Lust, Love, Divination	<b>Larch:</b> Protection, Anti theft
<b>Dogbane:</b> Love	<b>Galangal:</b> Protection, Lust, Health, Money, Psychic Powers, Hex breaking	<b>Hickory:</b> Legal Matters	<b>Larkspur:</b> Health, Protection
<b>Dogwood:</b> Wishes, Protection	<b>Gardenia:</b> Love, Peace, Healing, Spirituality	<b>High John the Conquerer:</b> Money, Love, Success, Happiness	<b>Lavendar:</b> Love, Protection, Sleep, Chastity, Longevity, Purification, Happiness, Peace
<b>Dragons Blood:</b> Love, Protection, Exorcism, Potency	<b>Garlic:</b> Protection, Healing, Exorcism, Lust, Anti-Theft	<b>Holly:</b> Protection, Anti-Lightning, Luck, Dream Magic	<b>Leek:</b> Love, Protection, Exorcism
	<b>Gentian:</b> Love, Power	<b>Honesty:</b> Money, Repelling Monsters	<b>Lemon:</b> Longevity, Purification, Love, Friendship
	<b>Geranium:</b> Fertility, Health, Love, Protection		<b>Lemongrass:</b> Repel snakes, Lust, Psychic powers

# THE LUNA MOTH AND OTHER SYMBOLS FROM THE HUNGER GAMES

<b>Lemon Verbena:</b> Purification, Love	<b>May Apple:</b> Money	<b>Orris:</b> Love, Protection, Divination	<b>Pomegranate:</b> Divination, Luck, Wishes, Wealth, Fertility
<b>Lettuce:</b> Chastity, Protection, Love, Divination, Sleep	<b>*Meadow Rue:</b> Divination	Palm, Date: Fertility, Potency	<b>Poplar:</b> Money, Flying
<b>Licorice:</b> Love, Lust, Fidelity	<b>Meadowsweet:</b> Love, Divination, Peace, Happiness	<b>Pansy:</b> Love, Rain Magic, Love, Divination	<b>Poppy:</b> Fertility, Love, Sleep, Money, Luck, Invisibility
<b>Life Everlasting:</b> longevity, Health, Healing	<b>Mesquite:</b> Healing	<b>Papaya:</b> Love, Protection	<b>Potato:</b> Image Magic, Healing
<b>Lilac:</b> Exorcism, Protection	<b>Mimosa:</b> Protection, Love, Prophetic Dreams, Purification	<b>Papyrus:</b> Protection	<b>Prickly Ash:</b> Love
<b>Lily:</b> Protection, Breaking Love spells	<b>Mint:</b> Money, Love, Lust, Healing, Exorcism, Travel, Protection	<b>Parosela:</b> Hunting	<b>*Primrose:</b> Protection, Love
<b>Lily of the Valley:</b> Mental Powers, Happiness	<b>Mistletoe:</b> Protection, Love, Hunting, Fertility, Health, Exorcism	<b>Parsley:</b> Love, Protection, Purification	<b>Purslane:</b> Sleep, Love, Luck, Protection, Happiness
<b>Lime:</b> Healing, Love, Protection	<b>Molukka:</b> Protection	<b>Passion Flower:</b> Peace, Sleep, Friendship	<b>Quassia:</b> Love
<b>Linden:</b> Protection, Immortality, Luck, Love, Sleep	<b>Moonwort:</b> Money, Love	<b>Patchouly:</b> Money, Fertility, Lust	<b>Quince:</b> Protection, Love, Happiness
<b>Liquidamber:</b> Protection	<b>Moss:</b> Luck, Money	<b>Pea:</b> Money, Love	<b>Radish:</b> Protection, Lust
<b>Liverwort:</b> Protection	<b>Mugwort:</b> Strength, Psychic Powers, Protection, Prophetic Dreams, Healing, Astral Projection	<b>Peach:</b> Love, Exorcism, Longevity, . Fertility, Wishes	<b>Ragweed:</b> Courage
<b>Liverwort:</b> Love	<b>Mulberry:</b> Protection, Strength	<b>Pear:</b> Lust, Love	<b>Ragwort:</b> Protection
<b>Looestrife:</b> Peace, Protection	<b>Mullein:</b> Courage, Protection, Health, Love, Divination, Exorcism	<b>Pecan:</b> Money, Employment	<b>Raspberry:</b> Protection, Love
<b>Lotus:</b> Protection, Lock-Opening	<b>Mustard:</b> Fertility, Protection, Mental Powers	<b>Pennyroyal:</b> Strength, Protection, Peace	<b>Rattlesnake Root:</b> Protection, Money
<b>Lovage:</b> Love	<b>Myrrh:</b> Protection, Exorcism, Healing, Spirituality	<b>Peony:</b> Protection, Exorcism	<b>Rhubarb:</b> Protection, Fidelity
<b>Love Seed:</b> Love, Friendship	<b>Myrtle:</b> Love, Fertility, Youth, Peace, Money	<b>Pepper:</b> Protection, Exorcism	<b>Rice:</b> Protection, Rain, Fertility, Money
<b>Lucky Hand:</b> Employment, Luck, Protection, Money, Travel	<b>Nettle:</b> Exorcism, Protection, Healing, Lust	<b>Peppermint:</b> Purification, Sleep, Love, Healing, Psychic Powers	<b>*Roots:</b> Protection, Power, Divination
<b>Mace:</b> Psychic Powers, Mental Powers	<b>Norfolk Island Pine:</b> Protection, Anti Hunger	<b>Pepper Tree:</b> Purification, Healing, Protection	<b>Rose:</b> Love, Psychic Powers, Healing, Love, Divination, Luck, Protection
<b>Maguey:</b> Lust	<b>Nuts:</b> Fertility, Prosperity, Love, Luck	<b>Periwinkle:</b> Love, Lust, Mental Powers, Money, Protection	<b>Rosemary:</b> Protection, Love, Lust, Mental Powers, Exorcism, Purification, Healing, Sleep, Youth
<b>Magnolia:</b> Fidelity	<b>Oak:</b> Protection, Health, Money, Healing, Potency, Fertility, Luck	<b>Persimmon:</b> Changing Sex, Healing, Luck	<b>Rowan:</b> Psychic Powers, Healing, Protection, Power, Success
<b>Mahogany, mountain:</b> Anti-Lightning	<b>Oats:</b> Money	<b>Plot Weed:</b> Protection	<b>*Rue:</b> Healing, Health, Mental Powers, Exorcism, Love
<b>Maidenhair:</b> Beauty, Love	<b>Olive:</b> Healing, Peace, Fertility, Potency, Protection, Lust	<b>Pimento:</b> Love	<b>Rye:</b> Love, Fidelity
<b>Male Fern:</b> Luck, Love	<b>Onion:</b> Protection, Exorcism, Healing, Money, Prophetic Dreams, Lust	<b>Pimpernel:</b> Protection, Health	<b>Saffron:</b> Love, Healing, Happiness, Wind Raising, Lust, Strength, Psychic Powers.
<b>Mallow:</b> Love, Protection, Exorcism	<b>*Orange:</b> Love, Divination, Luck, Money	<b>Pine:</b> Healing, Fertility, Protection, Exorcism, Money	<b>Sage:</b> Immortality, Longevity, Wisdom, Protection, Wishes
<b>Mandrake:</b> Protection, Love, Money, Fertility, Health	<b>Orchid:</b> Love	<b>Pineapple:</b> Luck, Money, Chastity	<b>Sagebrush:</b> Purification, Exorcism
<b>Maple:</b> Love, Longevity, Money	<b>Oregon Grape:</b> Money, Prosperity	<b>Pipsissewa:</b> Money, Spirit Calling	<b>St.Johns Wort:</b> Health, Power, Protection, Strength, Love, Divination, Happiness
<b>Marigold:</b> Protection, Prophetic Dreams, Legal Matters, Psychic Powers		<b>Pistachio:</b> Breaking Love Spells	<b>Sandalwood:</b> Protection, Healing, Exorcism, Spirituality
<b>Marjoram:</b> Protection, love, Happiness, Health, Money		<b>Plantain:</b> Healing, Protection, Strength, Snake Repelling	
<b>Master Wort:</b> Strength, Courage, Protection		<b>Plum:</b> Healing	
<b>Mastic:</b> Psychic Powers, Manifestations, Lust		<b>Plumeria:</b> Love	
		<b>Poke:</b> Courage, Hex Breaking	

# THE LUNA MOTH AND OTHER SYMBOLS FROM THE HUNGER GAMES

**Sarsaparilla:** Love, Money

**Sassafras:** Health, Money

**Savory/Summer:** Mental Powers

**Scullcap:** Love, Fidelity, Peace

**Senna:** Love

**Sesame:** Money, Lust

**Shallot:** Purification

**Skunk Cabbage:** Legal Matters

**Slippery Elm:** Halts Gossip

**Sloe:** Exorcism, Protection

**Snakeroot:** Luck Money

**Snakeroot/black:** Love, Lust, Money

**Snapdragon:** Protection

**Solomons Seal:** Protection, Exorcism

**Sorrel Wood:** Healing, Health

**Southern Wood:** Love, Lust, Protection

**Spanish Moss:** Protection

**Spearmint:** Healing, Love, Mental Powers

**SpiderWort:** Love

**Spikenard:** Love

**Squill:** Money, Protection, Hex Breaking

**Star/anise:** Psychic Powers, Luck

**Stillengia:** Psychic Powers

**Straw:** Luck, Image Magic

**\*Strawberry:** Love, Luck

**Sugar Cane:** Love, Lust

**Sumbul:** Love, Luck, Health, Psychic Powers

**Sunflower:** Fertility, Wishes, Health, Wisdom

**Sweetgrass:** Calling Spirits

**Sweetpea:** Friendship, Chastity, Courage, Strength

**Tamarind:** Love

**Tamarisk:** Exorcism, Protection

**Tansy:** Health, Longevity

**Tea:** Riches, Courage, Strength

**Thistle:** Strength, Protection, Hex Breaking, Healing

**Thistle/holy:** Purification, Hex Breaking

**Thistle/milk:** Snake enraging

**Thyme:** health, Healing, Sleep, Psychic Powers, Love, Purification, Courage

**Ti:** Protection, Healing

**Toadflax:** Protection, Hex Breaking

**Toadstool:** Rain Making

**Tobacco:** Healing, Purification

**Turmeric:** Purification

**Turnip:** Protection, Ending Relationships

**Uva Ursa:** Psychic Workings

**Valerian:** Love, Sleep, Purification, Protection

**Vanilla:** Love, Lust, Mental Powers

**Venus Flytrap:** Protection, Love

**Vervain:** Love, Protection, Purification, Peace, Money, Youth, Chastity, Sleep, Healing

**Vetch/Giant:** Fidelity

**Vetivert:** Love, Hex Breaking, Luck, Money, Anti-Theft

**Violet:** Protection, Luck, Love, Lust, Wishes, Peace, Healing, they represent being shy, as the flowers often hide behind the large leaves of the plant. They also represent faith, as alluded to in Shakespeare's Hamlet.

**Wahoo:** Hex-breaking, Courage, Success

**Walnut:** Health, Mental Powers, Infertility, Wishes

**Wax Plant:** Protection

Wheat: Fertility, Money

**\*Willow:** Love, Divination, Protection, Healing

**Wintergreen:** Protection, Healing, Hex Breaking

**Winters Bark:** Success

**Witch Grass:** Happiness, Lust, love, Exorcism

**Witch Hazel:** Protection, Chastity

**Wolfs Bane:** Protection, Invisibility

**Wood Rose:** Luck

**Woodruff:** Victory, Protection, Money

**Wormwood:** Psychic Powers, Protection, Love, Calling Spirits

**Yarrow:** Courage, Love, Psychic Powers, Exorcism

**Yellow Evening Primrose:** Hunting

**Yerba Mate:** Fidelity, Love, Lust

**Yerba Santa:** Beauty, Healing, Psychic Powers, Protection

**Yew:** Raising the Dead

**Yohimbe:** Love, Lust

**Yucca:** Transmutation, Protection, Purification

# THE LUNA MOTH AND OTHER SYMBOLS FROM THE HUNGER GAMES

One of my far-fetched theories that never amounted to anything in Mockingjay...but it was fun to speculate! The following excerpt was written in the summer of 2010 while waiting for Mockingjay to come out:

Since you all have read *The Hunger Games & Catching Fire*, I wanted to pitch my theory to you & see what you think!

I've been doing a little research into the symbolism of the plants & food in *The Hunger Games & Catching Fire* and the more in depth I search, the more signs I am getting that Cinna is related to Katniss. Perhaps her father (who has been surgically altered as a disguise??) or maybe an uncle she never knew of.

Her first meal with Cinna (when she first meets him) is chicken with oranges on "pearly" white grain, peas & onions, flower-shaped roll, and honey-colored pudding. Here's what I found when researching the significance of each food item:

**chicken**=coming together of families; good wishes; the phoenix

**oranges**=good luck or good fortune; fruit of knowledge

**"pearly" white grain**=abundance; security..."pearls" symbolize transmutation, protection, purity, wisdom

**peas**=good-bye; associated with young children

**onions**=member of lily family (as is the Katniss root); infinity, ultimate truth, immortality, ultimate wisdom

**the honey colored pudding**=honey means from the heart; pudding represents truth

Then I came across a recipe for "arrowroot pudding" and the picture of it was honey-colored. I read the description, and, low and behold, it said: "Arrowroot, or arrowhead, produces edible tubers that Native Americans have been eating for hundreds of years. Powder from the root can be used as a thickening agent for puddings, jellies, biscuits, noodles, cakes, etc. It is easily digestible and has, for centuries, been given to children for upset stomachs. The arrowhead plant is also known as duck potato, **katniss**, kuwai, swan potato, and wapato.

So, the pudding, for me, was the clincher. Remember the quote Katniss's father said to her: "As long as you can find yourself, you'll never starve." I know it seems a stretch, but knowing that Suzanne Collins had symbolism in so many things in the book, I'm thinking it can't be coincidental. Maybe it just foretells Cinna working with the rebellion, but I just think there's more to it.