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English III Honors

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Young Goodman Brown Socratic Seminar Notes

1. A) How does the protagonist's relationship with God and religion change throughout the text?

B) What might Faith's ribbons be a symbol for? Why is the fact that she lost them significant and how does it affect her relationship with Goodman.

C) Note the characters' names. What can we conclude off of their society based solely off of their names?

D) What archetype might Goodman's companion fit into?

1. The story often references a snake and compares the steed that Goodman's companions uses. According to HTRLLAP, snakes are usually an **allusion** to the snake that convinced Adam and Eve to eat the apple which led to their demise. Since the companion uses a snake-like steed as a guide, it is probably a **symbol** that shows that this companion is taking Goodman in a direction where he will suffer. In addition, Goodman Brown's story also fits into the **archetype** of the fall because in his society's eyes, pious people are in high standing and by losing his faith in God, Brown has fallen from grace. This is especially obvious in the last few lines of the story which states "they carved no hopeful verse upon his tombstone for his dying hour was gloom". Finally, the people gathering in the forest represented the idea of disease in literature from HTLLAP except this disease was mental instead of physical.