

Literary Elements

Jubal's Wish by Audrey and Don Wood

In the book Jubal's Wish author Audrey Wood and illustrator Don Wood use many literary elements. For example, the three that we found most notable are illustrations, mood, and theme. These help us understand the story and get the readers' attention.

Throughout the story the illustrations helped us visualize and see what the author was imagining and what the text looked like to her. Don Wood, the illustrator, used bright, vivid, and colorful pictures all the way through the book. They show the emotions of the characters and what the page is going to be about. The pictures also help summarize the main points of the pages.

For example, on the first page, you can tell by the fact that Jubal is smiling and skipping that he was happy and that page was basically about Jubal and a picnic.

The mood of this story changed from happy and carefree in the beginning Jubal was skipping down and the flowers were vibrant. The author portrays this mood when she writes, “Once upon a bright and sunny day...He was so happy his feet barely touched the ground.” The illustrations show this mood with beautiful bright flowers and a light blue sky.

The mood in the middle of the story changes to sad, mournful, and disappointing. The illustrations become dark, rainy, and gloomy because of the color and the expression on Jubal’s face. Jubal says, “What has happened to my happy sunny day?”

At the end of the story, the mood returns to happy and cheerful. The pictures go back to bright colors with a rainbow and a bright sky. There were joyous expressions on the faces of all characters when they were sailing on the boat and Jubal realized his wish came true.

We felt that the theme of the book was directly stated by the wizard at the beginning and by Jubal at the end. “Dreams and wishes, wishes and dreams..... Sometimes they work, and sometimes they don’t. You never know how they turn out in the end.” In other words, sometimes wishes come true even when you doubt them.

By using these literary elements, Audrey and Don Wood make a great team. They help you see things clearly, understand the text, and have fun while you’re reading.

