

## Crash

**Theme** - main idea of the work of fiction. It is the author's point of view regarding how humans should behave and issues (like war, environmentalism, how to run a government, how to work with others, etc.) in general. Themes are usually not spoken by a character in the story aloud, but must be pieced together from the characters and situations in a story.

### **Strategies on how to go about finding a theme in a novel:**

- Review what happened to the **main character**. Did he/she change during the story? What did he/she learn about life?
- Look for **sentences** that say something important about life or people in general.
- Think about the **title** of the story. Does it have a few different meanings?
- Themes are closely related to a **moral or lesson** of a story, only shorter.
- How do **symbols** relate to the theme? (animals, water, relationships)
- Examples of themes: good vs. evil, individual vs. society, isolation vs. social connections, humility, importance of friendship, people's responsibility of others who are less fortunate, the value of independence, etc.

