

Symbolism in the book

Allie's baseball mitten

The next symbol is Allie's baseball mitten, which Holden introduces in the composition he writes for his roommate. For Holden, this is not only a mitten, it's much more. It represents Allie himself, Allie and his major role in Holden's life. The reader can recognize through the book that Holden was really attached to his younger brother, and since the day Allie died, Holden finds no peace in himself. He is grief-stricken. He can't really face the fact that his brother is dead. Holden keeps walking in the past, and he often thinks of Allie. His younger brother's image presents only the positive things to Holden. In Allie, Holden sees only kindness and intellectuality. So we could say, that this mitten, symbolizes Holden's younger brother, Allie.

Jane Gallagher

Jane is Holden's intimate friend. She means a great deal to him. They know each other for a long time, and she also always awakes the best in Holden (like Allie). Holden cares for her, although he sometimes does not want to admit that. For example, take the fight, when Holden goes totally mad, because Stradlater is provoking him with Jane. For Jane we could say, that she is another bright character. For Holden she, represents innocence and happiness from the time they were kids, when everything was nice; pure, untouchable snow, which haven't been soiled yet, by the cruel influence of modern society.