

Bitter Harvest Writing Assignment

Often in literature and film, we see water used symbolically. Think about what water symbolizes in its different forms. For example, water may represent purification, regeneration, or rebirth - sometimes into a new world. The movie, *Bitter Harvest*, begins with a scene where Uri and Natalka are submerged under water in an innocent blossoming of love. The film ends with them submerged once again, this time with young Lubko, under quite different circumstances.



I would like you to write an essay on the symbolic use of water in *Bitter Harvest*. What message is the filmmaker conveying? Can either (or both) underwater scenes be considered a baptism, and if so, how? Consider seriously whether or not you think they made it to Poland, based on the scene and what you know about the Holodomor. Use historic facts about Ukraine and the Holodomor to help build the argument in your essay. I have posted a brief paragraph on Heraclitus below. If Heraclitus's philosophy helps your thought process, you may use it in your essay; if it does not help you, by all means don't use it.

Your papers should be two pages, typed and double-spaced. Use a 12 pt. font and follow MLA guidelines for formatting.

The ancient Greek philosopher, Heraclitus (535 – 475 BC) , was committed to the idea that the world consisted of a unit of opposites. He was most famous for his insistence on ever-present change, or flux or becoming, as the characteristic feature of the world, as stated in the famous saying, “No man ever steps into the same river twice” as well as “Panta rhei,” everything flows. (Wikipedia)