The Luna Moth and Other Symbols from The Hunger Games

For each symbol, research its literary symbolism. Find the connection with the symbol to the text. Ask yourself the following questions:

- Does it foreshadow events?
- Does it reveal information about a character?
- How might it be significant to the story?

The Green and Silver Moth: Luna Moth Symbolism

Reference in text: Chapter 21, page 289



Katniss returns to the cave after obtaining the life-saving medicine for Peeta.

> *"The last thing I remember is an exquisitely beautiful green-and-silver moth landing on the curve of my wrist."*

✍ **Research & Write:** The "green-and-silver moth" she is describing is most likely a luna moth. Research the luna moth and what it symbolizes in literature. Then comment on whether you think your findings are significant to Katniss in the story.

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Rue's Wildflowers

Reference in text: Chapter 18 , pages 236-237

Katniss searches for a way to make a statement about Rue's death to try to make the Capitol viewers feel as awful and sad as she does. Then she finds the wildflowers.

"I want to do something, right here, right now, to shame them, to make them accountable, to show the Capitol that whatever they do or force us to do there is a part of every tribute they can't own...

"A few steps into the woods grows a bank of wildflowers. Perhaps they are really weeds of some sort, but they have blossoms in beautiful shades of violet and yellow and white...Slowly...I decorate her body in the flowers."

✍ **Research & Write:** Wildflowers come in all different shapes, sizes, and colors. See what you can find about the symbolism of wildflowers and perhaps the significance of the three flower colors Katniss picks to decorate Rue's body. Also, research the practice of decorating the graves of loved ones with flowers. Since religion is absent in Katniss's world, do you think she would have been aware of this practice?

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