

# SYMBOLISM CHART

"Through the Tunnel" contains a number of symbols – people, places, and things that stand for themselves but also for something else. The chart below lists some passages from the story. In the right-hand column, identify the symbol in each, and write what you think it means. Then, use the lines at the bottom to write your own interpretation of the story's symbolic meaning.

Passage From the Story	Symbol/Meaning
"Contrition sent him running after her. And yet, as he ran, he looked back over his shoulder at the wild bay; and all morning, as he played on the safe beach, he was thinking of it."	
"...he began the steep descent to the bay. From where he was, high up among red-brown rocks, it was a scoop of moving bluish green fringed with white. As he went lower, he saw that spread among small promontories and inlets of rough, sharp rock, and the crisping, lapping surface showed stains of purple and darker blue. Finally, as he ran sliding and scraping down the last few yards, he saw an edge of white surf and the shallow, luminous movement of water over white sand, and, beyond that, a solid, heavy blue."	
"After they had dived and come up, they swam around, hauled themselves up, and waited their turn to dive again. They were big boys, men, to Jerry."	
"He could see the hole. It was an irregular, dark gap; but he could not see deep into it...He knew he must find his way through that cave, or hole, or tunnel, and out the other side."	

Symbolic Meaning of the Story \_\_\_\_\_

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