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#### The Little Prince

“One sees clearly only with the heart. Anything essential is invisible to the eye.” (Saint-Exupéry - 48 ) Antoine de Saint-Exupéry wrote a work of fiction titled The Little Prince. The Little Prince, portrayed as childhood, originates from a miniature planet and travels across space on an adventurous journey. He meets a crashed pilot, who's portrayed as adulthood. Both the Little Prince and the pilot discuss the hardships & beauties of life and build a strong & beautiful friendship. In Chapter 21, the universal theme is that relationships are powerful is shown through the connections between the fox and the humans, the fox, and the prince, finally, the prince and the rose.

To begin with, the relationship between the fox and the humans is powerful because they depend on each other to survive. The humans supply the fox with his food, the chickens. The only downside is that the fox gets hunted by the humans for eating their chickens, “I hunt chickens; men hunt me.” ( Saint-Exupéry - 46 ). Though the fox and the humans may not have the greatest of relationships, for the fox eating the humans livestock and the humans trying to kill the fox, they all depend on each other in some way or another. The foxes only interest is the chickens and one of the humans as well, “ They also raise chickens. These are their only interests. Are you looking for chickens?” ( Saint-Exupéry - 46 ). The humans help keep the population of foxes at a normal level, and the foxes keep the population of chickens in control by eating them. Which leads to a relationship in between the two. On the other hand the relationship between the prince and the fox are much brighter. This defies Descartes

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philosophy that that the purpose of life is to think. As explained in the cycle above, relationships and interactions of others are large portions of life.

In addition, The fox and the prince's relationship are powerful. After the prince meets the fox, he invites the fox to play with him to cheer him up. However, the fox admits to not be "tamed" therefore, neglects to play with him. Confused, the prince asked him what "tamed" means and the fox responds and tells him why he must be tamed before he can play with him. "To me, you are still nothing more than a little boy who is just like a hundred thousand other little boys. And I have no need of you. And you, on your part, have no need of me. To you, I am nothing more than a fox like a hundred

thousand other foxes." ( Saint-Exupéry - 46 ) The fox wants the prince to tame him so they can play and become friends. Then the prince will seem like the only boy for the fox and the fox will seem as if he is the only fox in existence. "But if you tame me, it will be as if the sun came to shine on my life. I shall know the sound of a step that will be different from all the others. Other steps send me hurrying back underneath the ground. Yours will call me, like music, out of my burrow." ( Saint-Exupéry - 46 ) It's obvious that the fox wants a strong friendship with the prince. He wants to know the prince well to the point where he could tell if his steps are his or one else's. The friendship between the fox and the prince is surely an odd relationship as they do not play but talk. However, the fox has taught the prince a lesson of the friendship of the prince and the rose.

Finally, relationships are powerful is explored through the strong connection between the prince and his rose. After the fox teaches the prince the special connection between him and the prince, the prince learns about how friendships are formed by taming one another. "I am beginning to understand," said the little prince. "There is a flower...I think that she has tamed me ...." ( Saint-Exupéry - 46 ) In the previous chapter the prince finds a rose garden. The Prince became upset. His rose on his planet had

told him that she was the only one of her kind and seeing those roses stung. Luckily, the fox explained what "tame" means. The prince gained a new perspective of his own rose, the rose bush...and everything. "You are not at all like my rose," he said. "As yet you are nothing. No one has tamed you, and you have tamed no one." ( Saint-Exupéry - 48 ) This relates to existentialism. According to *Jean Paul Sartre : Existentialism* "...Sartre's existential phenomenology, whose purpose is to understand human existence rather than the world as such." Existentialism is about humanity freedom and humans build their lives. The Little Prince learned that the roses he stumbled upon earlier are not like his rose and he is not affiliated with the roses. This is a simple fact of life. This applies to everyone and everyone truly values something more than someone else. "...an ordinary passerby would think that my rose looked just like you--the rose that belongs to me. But in herself alone she is more important than all the hundreds of you other roses: because it is she that I have watered; because it is she that I have put under the glass globe; because it is she that I have sheltered behind the screen; because it is for her that I have killed the caterpillars (except the two or three that we saved to become butterflies); because it is she that I have listened to, when she grumbled, or boasted, or ever sometimes when she said nothing. Because she is my rose." ( Saint-Exupéry - 48 ) The prince lists some of the various reasons why his rose on his planet means the world compared to a cluster of hundreds of roses. The rose and the prince have a very odd yet strong & positive relationship. This whole chapter was about relationships are powerful.

In Conclusion, The connections between the fox & humans, fox & prince, and prince & rose have been explored through this short chapter. Relationships. Everything has a value to someone including you and I. It's the reason why we have friends. If it weren't for us to "tame" others no one would have friends. "Tame" in the dictionary means to civilize or to remove dangerous factors. The fox's

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version means to make a connection, to friend someone or thing. Relationships are powerful, that is inevitable.

Work cited

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