

# LOVE IN THE TIME OF CHOLERA

By Gabriel García Márquez

## AUTHOR NOTES:

-Cholera had a 50% mortality. Previous treatment: Bloodletting and purging by inducing. Nowadays treatment: Hydration

- “Don’t fall into my little trap” by García

-Patriarchal society = controlled by men

-Political War tension

SYMBOLS: Yellow flag of Cholera/ Cholera/ birds

GENRE: Magic Realism= Exaggerations everywhere, Youth beauty = raging hormones, People’s need of Love.

Narration : -3rd person narrator/ omniscient

-details

-seems to retain or disclose information >> create suspense

CHARACTERS:	STATUT / CONTEXT	QUOTE	SITUATION/ EXPLANATION	STYL E/ THEM E	LINKS
Fermina Daza	Dr. Urbino’s ‘stubborn’ wife and first and last love of Florentino Daza. Strong	-p.33“it was not an idle threat: she really did want to leave and did not care about the scandal, and her husband realized this in time”	-She reflects on marriage and high society, realizing that both are merely social systems that one must learn to navigate.	Theme: -Marriage Style : -Metaphore, Irony	Characters: -Miranda (a.Her father decided to who marry her-fate decided by a man for his own interests

	<p>personality</p>	<p>-“I told your daughter that she is like a rose.” “True enough”, said Lorenzo Daza, “but one with too many thorns.”</p>		<p>Theme: Nature/F lowers, Love/Be auty, Hurt/Suf fer</p>	<p>b. She was newly experimenting a young love relationship</p> <p>c. Her love for Ferdinand was compared to a sickness and a type of power over someone else; see p.37</p> <p>d. Disobeys her father sometimes; ex: p.81)</p> <p>-Heavenly (a. She was dehumanized, used and manipulated by her father for influence, power and reputation. Ex: p.56 “You’re going to wear a stainless white of a virgin”</p> <p>b. She defies her father; ex p.54 “in your heart you always wished to defy me” “(defiant) Papa, I’m not going to do it”)</p>
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<p><b>Florentino Ariza</b></p>	<p>Obsessed with Fermina and the idea of being in love. He suffers from lovesickness as one would suffer from Cholera, enduring both physical and emotional pains as he longs for Fermina Daza.</p>	<p>- ‘There is no greater glory than to die for love’ (p.97)</p> <p>- ‘I have waited for this opportunity for more than half a century, to repeat to you once again my vow of eternal fidelity and everlasting love.’ p.59</p> <p>- “the day he met Fermina Daza [...] his innocence came to an end.”</p> <p>- “It was in this innocent way that Florentino Ariza began his secret life as a solitary hunter.” p.65</p>	<p>-Florentino enjoys the suffering he endures for love; his suffering sustains him, for he sees his anguish as a gratifying, strengthening experience that will lead him to his ultimate desire: Fermina.</p> <p>-He is determined to claim Fermina once again as his own.</p>	<p>Theme:</p> <p>-Obsessive love</p> <p>-Suffering love</p> <p>Style:</p> <p>-Hyperbole</p> <p>-diction of love and passion</p>	<p>Characters:</p> <p>-Chance (a. In an illusion of his ideal reality. Ex: p.62 Aunt Nonnie to Chance “Why do you live on nothing but wild dreams now[...]?” p.65 Aunt Nonnie to Chance “What you want to go back to is your clean, unashamed youth. And you can’t.”</p> <p>b. Uses addictions to fill the void in his perforated soul. Ex: p.62 “I took a wild dream and - washed it down with another wild, Aunt Nonnie, that’s my life now...” (drug pill and alcohol)</p>
<p><b>Dr. Juvenal Urbino</b></p>	<p>Meticulous doctor who does not believe in love until he becomes old.</p>	<p>- ‘I love you above all else. More than anyone else in the world. The important thing in marriage is not happiness but stability’</p>	<p>-Marriage is not to be happy but to have stability and offspring.</p>	<p>Theme:</p> <p>-Marriage + Love</p>	<p>Character:</p> <p>-THMT. The commander (a. He does not believe in love)</p>

<p>Tránsito Ariza</p>	<p>Florentino's caring mother.</p>	<p>-“No woman is worth all that.’ She could not remember ever having known anyone in such a state of unbridled passion.”p.81</p> <p>- “Tránsito Ariza was moved to tears by her son’s innocence in matters of love, and she tried to guide him with her own knowledge” p.66</p> <p>- “She reminded him that the weak would never enter the kingdom of love, which is a harsh and ungenerous kingdom, and that women give themselves only to men of resolute spirit, who provide the security they need in order to face life.” p.76</p>			<p>Characters:</p> <p>-Mrs. Dickson (She behaved like Esther’s mother)</p>
<p>Leona Cassiani</p>	<p>The only female friend of Florentino.</p>	<p>-“he knew, in truth, that he was not the man she was looking for, and he was glad to know it. ‘Bravo lionlady’ he said when he left, ‘We have killed the tiger’”</p>	<p>When, in Chapter 5, Florentino announces that he and Leona Cassiani have “killed the tiger”, he implies that they have overcome any remaining sexual tension between</p>	<p>Metaphor and/ or indirect images of sexuality</p>	<p>Intimate Apparel. Theme: Sexual tension between Esther and Mrs Marks.</p>

			them, the 'tiger' representing that tension.		
<b>Don Pius V Loayza</b> <b>And Lotario Thugut</b>	The first one is Florentino's biological father and the second one is his 'friend'/ grandfather/influencer	p.61 Florentino's biological father p.62 Florentino's 'father'			
<b>Lorenzo Daza</b>	Aggressive and authoritarian father of Fermina	- 'Don't force me to shoot you' p.97-8 - "he took off his belt with its hammered copper buckle, twisted it around its fist, and hit the table with a blow that resounded through the house like a rifle shot" p.98	Lorenzo does not shoot Florentino, but instead, cruelly forces Fermina to make a long journey through the mountains so that she will forget him.	- Violent diction - authoritarian diction - sexism and dehumanising	Character link: Boss in Sweet bird of youth.
<b>Aunt Escolástica</b>	The love mediator between Florentino and Fermina when young; and aunt who raised Fermina 'since the	- "Aunt Escolástica was a refuge of understanding and affection for the only child of a loveless marriage." p.67 - "she behaved more like an accomplice than an aunt" p.67		- Simile - Aunt Escolástica = the mother's figure	Characters; - SBoFY. Aunt Noonie (a. Helped Chance with his young love relationship) - THMT. Aunt Lydia (Contrast link a. Prevented the Handmaids to have

	death of her mother'. p.67	- p.80			any love relationship, and 'guided' them into 'official/ legal' sexual relationships)
IMPO RTAN T QUOT ES		<p>1- "Florentino Ariza wrote everything with so much passion that even official documents seemed to be about love"</p> <p>2- "Florentino Ariza had met her at a time when she would have received any man who wanted to be with her"p.348</p> <p>3- "In reality they were distracted letters, intended to keep the coals alive without putting her hand on the fire, while Florentino Ariza burned himself alive in every line."</p> <p>4- "But Florentino Ariza did not accept: he was a virgin, and he had decided not to lose his virginity unless it was for love."</p>	5. Meeting of Florentino and Fermina at Urbino's funeral: love declaration	Theme : 1.3- Diving need of love	

		5- p.59			
<b>THEMES</b>	<p>1.Marriage</p> <p>1.5Aging/old Love</p> <p>2.Love as an Emotional &amp; Physical Plague</p> <p>3.The Fear and Intolerance of Aging and Death</p> <p>4.Suffering in the name of Love</p> <p>BINARY OPPOSITIONS:</p> <p>4.5Feminism vs the role of a woman in a society</p> <p>5. Colonialism vs Independence</p> <p>6. Peace vs War</p>	<p>11. p. 74-5</p> <p>10. Death p.49, 50</p> <p>4. -‘The only regret I will have in dying is if it is not for love’</p> <p>-’Shoot me, there is no greater glory than to die for love’</p> <p>10. “He did not have the impression that he was seen, he could not detect any sign of interest or rejection, but in her indifference there was a distinct radiance that encouraged him to persevere.”p. 69</p> <p>9. “that casual glance was the beginning of a cataclysm of love that still had not ended half a century later.” p.63-4</p> <p>9. p.72</p> <p>7.p.47“The only consolation, even for someone like</p>	<p>9. End of Florentino’s order in his life</p> <p>7. Dr.Urbino as an old man.</p> <p>6.When Fermina accepted Florentino’s marriage proposal and Transito Ariza, Florentino and his Godfather were discussing the date for their marriage and the war’s influence on it.</p> <p>2.Lovesickness of Florentino for Fermina</p>	<p>OTHER THEMES BESIDE THE PRINCIPAL ONE:</p> <p>7.Sex/Love and passion</p> <p>1.5 Everlasting love</p> <p>STYLE:</p> <p>10. Antithesis</p>	<p>7.R. Frost “To earthward”</p> <p>4.5 The Tempest. Miranda to Ferdinand “It would become me As well as it does you; and I should do it With much more ease”</p> <p>2. Women poems. “III”</p> <p>2. The Tempest Act</p> <p>3. Scene 1. p.81 “Poor worm, thou art infected”</p>

	<p>7. Childhood/ Youth vs Old age</p> <p>8. Wealth vs Poverty</p> <p>9. Order vs Disorder/Chaos</p> <p>10. Love vs Indifference/ Death</p> <p>11. Passion/sexual love</p>	<p>him who had been a good man in bed, was sexual peace: the slow, merciful extinction of his venereal appetite.”</p> <p>6.p87“‘The war is in the mountains,’ he said. ‘For as i can remember, they have killed us in the cities with decrees not with bullets’”</p> <p>6.p.99 “Another constant fear was the war</p> <p>6. p.100</p> <p>4. p.75-6/ “devastating love” p.79</p> <p>3. p.381 “Even in his youth Florentino Ariza climbed up and down stairs with special care, for he had always believed that old age began with one’s...</p> <p>2. “Florentino Ariza wrote every night. Letter by letter, he had no mercy as he poisoned himself with the smoke from the palm oil lamps [...], and his letters became more discursive and more</p>			
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		<p>lunatic [...] approaching eighty volumes.”</p> <p>2. “Desperate to infect her with his own madness, he sent her miniaturist’s verses inscribed with the point of a pin on camellia petals.”</p> <p>2. p.71-72/</p> <p>1. “The problem in public life is learning to overcome terror. The problem in marriage is learning to overcome boredom.”</p> <p>1.5 “he promised [...] his perfect fidelity and his everlasting love.”p.71</p> <p>1.5 p.50</p> <p>1./4.5 p.316“For women there were only two ages: the age for marrying, which did not go past twenty-two, and the age of being eternal spinsters: the ones left behind.”</p>			
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<p>MAIN STYLIS TIC DEVIC ES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sensory Imagery</li> <li>- Diction of death (could be euphemism)</li> <li>- Diction of love</li> <li>- Diction of sickness</li> <li>- Diction of passion/sexuality</li> <li>- Stormy weather</li> <li>- Diction of violence/chaos</li> <li>- Foreshadowing</li> <li>- <u>Religious diction</u></li> </ul>	<p>-“ He was awakened by sadness. [...] the sadness he had felt [...] [in] the invisible cloud that would saturate his soul after his siesta and which he interpreted as divine notification that he was living his final afternoons.”p.46</p> <p>“Once the stormy years of his early struggles were over”</p> <p>“The sun began to shine in a cloudless sky, but the storm had been so evident that several trees were uprooted and overflowing stream had turned the patio into a swamp”</p> <p>“There was no greater glory than to die for love” Foreshadowing and religious diction</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- THT : The memories of Offred with Luke</li> <li>- Tempest</li> <li>- THT : Offred’s relationship with Nick</li> <li>- THT : biblical allusions</li> <li>- Intimate Apparel</li> </ul>
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<p><b>SYMBOLS &amp; MOTIFS</b></p>	<p>1-Yellow flag of cholera</p> <p>2-The 'Tiger'</p> <p>3-A Camellia Flower</p> <p>4-Flowers (general)</p> <p>5-Water</p> <p>6-Birds</p> <p>7-Letters</p>	<p>2- "We have killed the tiger."</p> <p>3- "She almost snatched the letter away from him [...]. Then he offered her the camellia he wore in his lapel. She refused: 'It is a flower of promises.'" p.71</p> <p>3- "On several occasions during the preceding six months he had sent her a white camelia, but she would return it to him in her next letter so that he would have no doubt that she was disposed to continue writing to him, but without the seriousness of an engagement" p.83</p> <p>3-p.85 Florentino's marriage proposal with a camellia</p> <p>4- "on her head she wore a garland of fresh gardenias that made her look like a crowned goddess"p.69</p> <p>4- "It was enough for Fermina Daza to see her cousin's</p>	<p>1- symbol of completely giving oneself over to something, whether it is love or a disease, willingly or unwillingly.</p> <p>2- He implies that they have overcome any remaining sexual tension between them, the "tiger" representing that tension.</p> <p>3-Camellia: promise</p> <p>4- Gardenia: Hope, Trust, Purity, Dreams, Intuition, Renewal, Friendship, Innocence</p> <p>5- Water represents : bearers of cleansing and change</p> <p>7- Questioning the readers. A personal way to express yourself. The letters are unique, they can leave a "print" (essence) of the writer of the letter in the letter, but they not always contain the truth or easily hide true intentions.</p>	<p>7*- STYLE: Antithesis and Hyperbole</p> <p>Theme : consuming love</p>	<p>4- link to the Handmaid's Tale</p>
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expression of radiant malice for the pensive scent of white gardenias to grow again in her heart's memory, and then she tore the red sealing wax with her teeth and drenched the eleven forbidden telegrams in a shower of tears until dawn."p.102

5-'The water was iridescent with the universe of fishes floating on their sides, killed by the dynamite of stealthy fishermen, and all the birds of the earth and the water circled above them with metallic cries.'

6-"He chose for him the little birds he thought best, he discussed their price and style with them and offered to pay in advance with his own money for their services."

7- 'After all, letters belong to the person who writes them. Don't you agree?'

7\*- "She had put into it all the fury of which she was

		capable, her cruelest words, the most wounding, most unjust vilifications, which still seemed minuscule to her...”  7-Letter of Urbino to fermina p.147-8			
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## Quotes :

- ‘Fermina Daza bathed her husband just as if he were a new born child’  
**Childhood/Youth**
- ‘On the eve of old age this physical difficulty inspired Dr Urbino with the ultimate solution’ **Old age**
- ‘His less savage critics thought he was just an aristocrat enraptured by the delight of the Poetic Festival while the Nation bled to death in an endless civil war.’ **War**

P. 226

Florentino and urban face to face  
p.227-9 stormy weather

Sick love p.348  
young girl p.351

Link  
Urban p.144 funeral bells

Dr. Urbino being a doctor p.131

p.93 Letter