

The background of the entire page is a light yellow color with a pattern of white-outlined hexagons, resembling a honeycomb. The pattern is most prominent at the top and bottom edges, fading slightly towards the center.


# Secret Life of the Bees

Symbols & Archetypes

By Alessia Redwine



# The Beehive

- Beehive represents the community August Boatwright has created in her home
    - Their queen bee is the Black Virgin Mary statue. August and her sisters are the worker bees because they create honey
  - As Lily learns more about bees she also learns more about August's community/life at the same time
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# Photographs

- Symbolizes the strength of a relationships with Mothers
  - Lily only has one picture of her mom
  - The picture of Black Mary on front of honey jars
- Symbolizes immortality
  - Lily's mother lives through the photographs she gets at the end of the book, they are the few physical objects she has directly from her before she died mother.

# Mother Mary

- Represents mothers
  - The Daughters of Mary believe she is the origin of all humanity, that life was birthed from her
- August tells Lily stories about Mother Mary
  - Before meeting August, Lily was only used to hearing stories from books, but now August tells her stories that will teach her life lessons

# Earth Mother

- Mother Mary
  - \*a religious statue that the Daughters of Mary praise and worship.
  - \*statue is used as a symbol for Black communities to worship instead the white Virgin Mary



# Mentor

## August Boatwright

August is a mentor for Lily. She teaches Lily how to care for the bees and she offers her wise stories that will help her grow into a the person Lily wants to be.

August gives Lily the pictures of her mother





# Star-Crossed Lovers

## Zachary Taylor and Lily Owens

Zach is August's God-Son, he is a black thirteen year old boy who wants to be a lawyer. The Boatwright sisters play a key-role in his life and he helps take care of the bees. Eventually he meets Lily, and despite their difference in race, he falls in love with her.

Society looks down upon the two being together.

