**ZEENA AND MATTIE**

Her real name is Zenobia, the name is important because without it you haven’t got an identity; the writer does not tell his surname but only her marriage name and she is older than her husband Ethan.

The reader know nothing about her family, it seems that because she is alone she have a marriage.

The reader perceive that she’s vindictive.

Her way of thinking reflects the thoughts (mentality) of everyone in that historical period.

Profession: nurse.

In the novel the rider finds two women, one functional to the other, they are in contrast; the forts thing that the intelligent reader see is that the sound of the name Zenobia in different from the sound of the name Mattie, Zenobia is a classical name whereas Mattie is more colloquial and sweet.

**ETHAN**

Ethan is the main character , is the more complex, he made the easiest choice.

The reader understand that Ethan is submitted through his actions, feelings and behaviour.

The reader understand that Ethan cannot make a decision by faith and by society.

He likes abstract ideas, in an idealist, he give up her nature for the circumstances, because he fears to be alone.

The stars represented his desire. He and Mattie talk about them, in fact Mattie represents his desire.

Ethan is affect by people opinions, since his was born the situation always put him in a subjective position, from her mother to Zeena.

Ethan is not able to make a decision, he fears what he do not know. He does not have the courage to go over the bounds.

When he was little he depended form her mother, she was the real one who had the power.

He studied a lot, but he work in a farm.

Ethan is in halfway, he wants to change, but he didn’t. He is a flat character talking about actions, but round form a mental point of view.

He has not emotional strength, he is weak because he is afraid of what he does not know, that is the life with Mattie.