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**McBromden Bromance**

In the beginning of Kesey’s novel, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*, we are shown a handful of diverse characters with different personalities than one another. Although we are introduced to many different characters, there are only a few interesting characters that stand out from the rest. One of these interesting characters includes McMurphy and another character includes the narrator—Chief Bromden.

Chief Bromden is the narrator who tries to lay low in the ward and keep to himself most of the time. In fact, he keeps to himself so well that everyone is convinced that he is “deaf and dumb” (Kesey, 3). It is said to be true that people who observe more than partake are usually some of the most intellectual beings on the planet. Kesey created Bromden in a way that the audience believes he isn’t crazy because he’s so smart for laying low, but later on in the book it’s hard to differentiate from what Bromden is saying that is real or a hallucination. The way Chief describes the nurse and the Combine creates a dream-like reality when he says, “So she really lets herself go and her painted smile twists, stretches to an open snarl, and she blows up bigger and bigger, big as a tractor, so big I can smell the machinery inside the way you smell a motor pulling too big a load” (5, Kesey). Chief thinks of the situation with the nurse and the Combine in a mechanical perspective; every piece of equipment has their placement.

McMurphy is a very unforgettable character. Even Chief Bromden who stands at six feet seven inches tall considers McMurphy to have “big and beat up hands” (Kesey, 12). This is symbolism that shows how powerful McMurphy’s character really is. It’s like they almost have a secret bromance going on. McMurphy brings rebellion into the ward—more like a symbol of hope for some. Even though all the patients knew that the lever wouldn’t budge, McMurphy still tries so hard that there was “blood on the levers where he tore his hands” (Kesey, 125). Just the idea that he tried when nobody else didn’t lets us infer that he will do the same throughout the entire book.

Chief Bromden is one of the most interesting characters in this novel because we are able to see the events that take place through his perspective and McMurphy is the other most interesting character in the novel because his character will bring conflict towards the nurse, but hope for the patients. Many characters in this novel have proven to be interesting characters, but McMurphy and Chief Bromden stand out the most.

Works Cited:

Kesey, Ken. *One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest*. New York: New American Library, 1990. Print.