Summer of Fear Themes

One of Summer of Fears themes is deception. Sarah was able to deceive all of the Bryant family. She pretended to be Julia so she could live her life to the fullest. She didn’t want to live her life as a maid or a housewife. Sarah was able to trick everyone, but eventually Rachel figured it out. Even though Rachel had her suspicions, she never thought that Julia really wasn’t Julia. The whole novel is based on deception. It just goes to show that even those we trust can be the ones to deceive us.

Another one of our novels themes is family bonds. The strain on Rachel’s relationship with her family is shown throughout the story. The antagonist, Julia, disturbs the relationship between Rachel and her family. She forces them apart gradually, so she can wiggle her way in. To Rachel, who is close with her family, being torn apart is the worst suffering. To Rachel, family is everything.

Maria