

1984: Understanding the Final Third

- 1) What happens to the glass paperweight in Chapter Ten, and why is this significant?
- 2) Why has Ampleforth been jailed?
- 3) Who turns Parsons in, and how does that person do it? How does Parsons feel about it?
- 4) Which themes does Bumstead's futile action reinforce?
- 5) How does the Skull-Faced Man react when he is about to be taken to Room 101?
- 6) What's "wrong" with Winston? What does O'Brien argue in Chapter II, and what are Winston's counterarguments?
- 7) Why does Winston maintain his bizarre faith in O'Brien, even during his torture sessions?
- 8) Why are people really brought to the Ministry of Love? How does the Party ultimately beat those who oppose it?
- 9) What are the "three stages" of Winston's "re-integration" in Chapter III?
- 10) What does O'Brien show Winston – visually – that helps break his spirit in the "last man" scene?
- 11) What horrible "mistake" does Winston make in his sleep, and why does O'Brien take Winston into Room 101 shortly thereafter?
- 12) What happens to Winston in Room 101, and why does it ultimately "work"? (Think carefully...)
- 13) What happens during Winston's final meeting with Julia? What does she say about what happens to people when they're threatened with their worst fears?
- 14) Explain the significance of the following: "Under the spreading chestnut tree, / I sold you and you sold me: / There lie they, and here lie we, / Under the spreading chestnut tree."
- 15) Where is the last place we see Winston? What is he doing as the final update comes through the telescreen, and how does he react?