

1984: Understanding the Second Third

- 1) How is Julia able to first contact Winston? What does she tell him?
- 2) How does Winston react before reading Julia's message? What does he do with it after he reads it? How does Julia's message "change" Winston's thoughts and actions?
- 3) Describe what happens during Winston's various attempts to get back in touch with Julia (without anyone noticing him, of course).
- 4) What's the cause of the crowd that allows Julia and Winston to meet?
- 5) What important moment happens at the end of Part Two's first chapter?
- 6) Why does Julia believe one should "always yell with the crowd"?
- 7) Winston is startled by one of the places he sees after meeting with Julia. What's noteworthy about that specific place, and why is Winston startled?
- 8) What event captures Julia's and Winston's attention? Why is this moment significant?
- 9) Why does Winston think to himself that "no emotion is pure" at the end of the second chapter?
- 10) What do Winston and Julia do (or try to do) in order to communicate or meet after their first meeting?
- 11) Much of Chapter III is dedicated to fleshing out Julia. What do you think are the most important things we learn about her? Summarize your "critical character study" of Julia in a few sentences.
- 12) What's Julia's theory regarding the Party's "sexual Puritanism"?
- 13) What does Winston wish he had done after showing Katharine the flowers? Why is/isn't he sorry about his actions?
- 14) Why does Winston say "We are the dead" at the end of Chapter III?
- 15) Where do Winston and Julia decide to meet regularly? Why is this risky?
- 16) Why have Julia's and Winston's work schedules changed?

- 17) What are some of the things Julia brings to the meeting place, and how did she get them?
- 18) Why is the proletarian woman's singing important to Winston?
- 19) What great fear of Winston's is revealed in Chapter IV?
- 20) What does Winston think about while looking into the glass paperweight at the end of Chapter IV?
- 21) Who has "vanished"? What's the prevailing reaction to the disappearance?
- 22) What's happening during Hate Week – both from a preparatory and military perspective?
- 23) What's interesting about the way Julia thinks about the Party and its actions relative to the way Winston thinks about them? For example, how do the two differ regarding Winston's destruction of the Jones/Aronson/Rutherford "proof"?
- 24) Describe the scene where O'Brien contacts Winston.
- 25) What is the terrible dream/memory that Winston has of his family? What was his family like?
- 26) Why are the proles "human beings"?
- 27) Describe Julia's and Winston's "confession/betrayal" conversation. How does Winston ultimately decide to defeat the Ministry of Love?
- 28) What does Winston profess he's willing to do for the Brotherhood while speaking with O'Brien? Why does Julia refuse, and how does Winston react?
- 29) Which actions does O'Brien claim the Brotherhood can take? Will any of the three live to see the Party overthrown?
- 30) Describe what happens from the beginning of Chapter IX to the moment when Winston opens *The Theory and Practice of Oligarchical Collectivism*.