

The Book Thief

Segment 1 Vocabulary Words (Section 1 - 2)

hindered	amiable
affable	suffices
genially	spectrum
intonations	alluding
increments	perpetual
bluster	abhorrence
versatility	trepidation
legion	trundle
innocuously	stature
echelons	illustrious
hiatus	communist
eventuated	vehement
prolific	castigate
berate	deluge
perverse	cannier
stupefying	ponderous
atrocious	brute
deciphered	incense
auspicious	commenced
raucous	summation
cameo	

Segment 2 Vocabulary Words (Section 3 - 4)

staunch	catalyst
misogynistic	nefarious
lacerated	infamy
conceded	implicit
propaganda	prelude
culminating	spurred
submission	elated
prodded	luminary
morbidity	atypical
steadfast	cynicism
flanked	scythe
mediocre	melancholic
lamented	seethe
obliterated	

Segment 3 Vocabulary Words (Section 5-6)

flippant	apprehend	admonish
crux	overzealous	discrepancy
bigots	ire	forlorn
succumbing	adhering	consummate
caricatures	obscene	machinations
prolific	castigated	deplorable
fervent	amiably	culpability
foreboding	accrued	jocular
fruition	animosity	metaphoric
partisans	commemorate	melee
propaganda	incinerate	dilapidated
swastika	calamity	rendered
infernal	decrepit	
proverbial	transgressor	
corroding	futility	

The Book Thief

Segment 4 Vocabulary Words (Section 7 - 8)

penned	irrefutable
brandished	volatile
affability	oblivious
loitering	evade
euphoric	benign
surreal	sedated
rebuke	attributes
seizure	despondently
exemplify	rendered
innate	deciphered
pensive	debutant
pfennig	corroded
contempt	lollid
havoc	repertoire
diabolical	conglomerate
incongruous	aptitude
proffer	secretion

Segment 5 Vocabulary Words (Section 9 - 10)

fathom	platoon
affront	serial
malignant	eccentric
apex	rheumatism
dubious	antagonized
hemispheric	girth
morose	Gestapo
ostracism	trounced
akin	capitulate
gallantry	proffered
emulate	looted
grotesquerie	tirade
quelled	morose
opaque	dormant
bemused	inaugural
concurrred	placidity
immutable	callous
venue	fabricated
prudently	abrasive
beleaguered	epically
repertoire	hiatus
trepidation	

Segment 6 Vocabulary Words (Section 11 - 12)

envisaged	vociferously	plethora
dissipated	castigated	debilitate
fruition	pallid	toiled
mystification	disheveled	litany
buoyantly	forlornly	perused
fumigated	rhetoric	charisma
deviants	helm	microcosm
tyrannical	exile	desecrated
emaciated	toupees	berated
repugnant	nostalgia	blatant
accosted	epitome	idyllic
prudently		

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Segment 7 Vocabulary Words (Section 13 - 14)

sickle	abridged
suffice	surly
adamant	paradox
resurgence	serpentine
antithesis	copiously
resolute	lilting
scouring	

Segment 6 Vocabulary Words (Section 17 - 20)

rogue	arid
cannier	marooned
abject	disconcerting
compulsory	conglomeration
miscreants	dais
summit	cantered
blaspheme	pensive
prologue	detonation
extermination	insolent
forlornly	desecrated

Segment 8 Vocabulary Words (Section 15 - 16)

reprieve	competence
glut	epitome
advisory	nonplussed
gargantuan	formidable
frothy	insignia
animosity	acquittal
loathsome	infernal
recoiling	bulbous
anvil	castigating
pulpy	stoic
feigning	regimented
foreboding	desolation
temerity	derision
rue	vindication

Segment 7 Vocabulary Words (Section 21)

insufferable	lustrous
chlorinated	feigned
detriment	apocalyptic

The Book Thief

Character Sketch

As you read *The Book Thief*, you will be introduced to many characters. As you read, use the following pages to keep notes of the characters you meet.

Death



Liesel Meminger



Werner Meminger



Paula Meminger



Hans Hubermann



The Book Thief

Character Sketch

Rosa Hubermann



Hans Junior



Trudy



Frau Holtzapfel



Rudy Steiner



The Book Thief

Character Sketch

Sister Maria



Ludwig Schmeickl



Wolfgang Edel



Ilsa Hermann



Arthur Berg



The Book Thief

Character Sketch

Max Vandenburg



Walter Kugler



Otto Sturm



Erik Vandenburg



Franz Deutscher



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Character Sketch

Andy Schmeikl



Viktor Chemmel



Barbara Steiner



Frau Diller



Sergeant Boris Schipper



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Character Sketch

Reinhold Zucker



Michael Holtzapfel









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Section 1

DEATH AND CHOCOLATE
BESIDE THE RAILWAY LINE
THE ECLIPSE
THE FLAG

- 1) As Death is introducing himself, he talks about colors. What do the colors represent?
- 2) Why does Death need a vacation from the survivors?
- 3) Death summarizes what this story is about. What is this summary?
- 4) What does Death mean when he says "I am all bluster - I am not violent. I am not malicious. I am a result."?
- 5) Describe the two guards and their significance to the events of Liesel.
- 6) What mistake allows Death to be severely disappointed in himself?
- 7) What do we know so far about the book thief?
- 8) At what three times does Death see the book thief? How is the color different each time? What does this symbolize or represent?
- 9) What is Death talking about when he talks about an eclipse?
- 10) Why do you think Death is drawn to Liesel?



The Book Thief

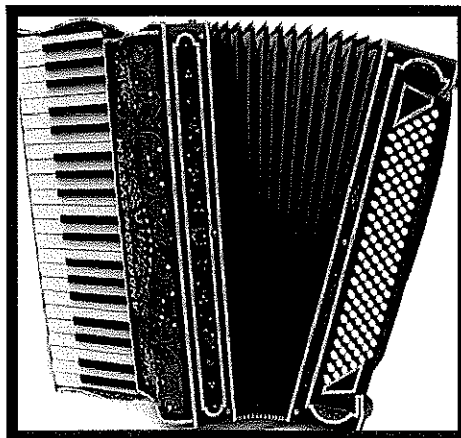
Section 2

THE GRAVE DIGGER'S HANDBOOK

GROWING UP SAUMENSCH

THE WOMAN WITH THE IRON FIST

- 1) What might the significance be of Liesel dreaming of Adolf Hitler?
- 2) What is the irony in Himmel Street? Describe Himmel Street in your answer.
- 3) What do you think kept Liesel from getting out of the car? How was Hans Hubermann able to get her out of the car when Rosa could not?
- 4) What differences does Death describe between the first and second books the book thief stole?
- 5) There has been quite a bit of foreshadowing thus far in the story. Predict what might happen as the story continues.
- 6) "You didn't really want brown eyes in Germany around that time" Why?
- 7) Why was Liesel not comforted by the idea that she was being "saved"?
- 8) Death describes Hans as someone "barely visible" and "an un-special" person, yet this description was very misleading. Why was this description misleading? Who do you know that could be compared to Hans?
- 9) Why is Liesel having nightmares? What good comes from these nightmares? Why did the accordion become a sign of safety?
- 10) What did *The Grave Digger's Handbook* mean to Liesel?



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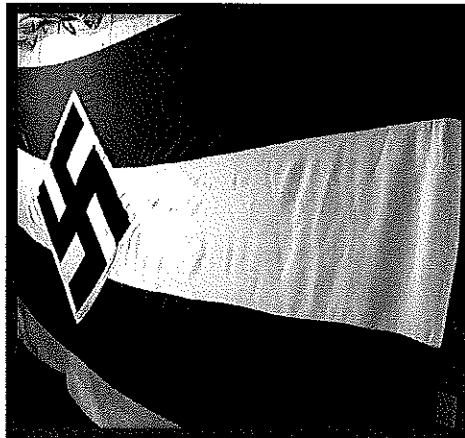
Section 3

THE KISS

THE JESSE OWENS INCIDENT

THE OTHER SIDE OF SANDPAPER

- 1) What types of characters lived in Molching?
- 2) Why did the rise of the economy under Hitler's reign not pertain to all the citizens?
- 3) What does Rudy show and teach Liesel?
- 4) What is Frau Diller's golden rule? What does this tell us about her character?
- 5) Why are some of the shops abandoned and labeled with yellow stars and racial slurs?
- 6) What is the Road of Yellow Stars? What is the Star of David?
- 7) What bet did Rudy and Liesel make before the race? Who won?
- 8) How was Alex Steiner contradictory in his political beliefs? Why was Alex afraid to "scratch the itch in his heart"?
- 9) "You shouldn't want to be like black people or Jewish people or anyone who is not...us." What does this mean during this place and time period? "You've got beautiful blond hair and big, safe blue eyes." What does this mean during this place and time period?
- 10) What was the difference between the people lining the streets for the parade?



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Section 4

THE SMELL OF FRIENDSHIP

THE HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION OF THE SCHOOL-YARD

- 1) How does Hans get Mama to agree to the Reading lessons?
- 2) How was Hans Hubermann's accordion a story?
- 3) How do Hans and Liesel end up in the basement?
- 4) How does Hans find unique ways of teaching Liesel with limited supplies?
- 5) What is the smell of friendship that Liesel loves so?
- 6) What is Hans' reaction to Hitler taking Poland? What does this tell us about him and his political views?
- 7) How does Ludwig Schmeikl cause Liesel to lose her temper? Why was this such a sensitive topic for Liesel?
- 8) What is a *Watschen* and how does Liesel earn it?
- 9) How does Rudy prove himself to be a good friend to Liesel?
- 10) Death is the narrator of this story. How does having Death narrate impact the story?



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Section 5

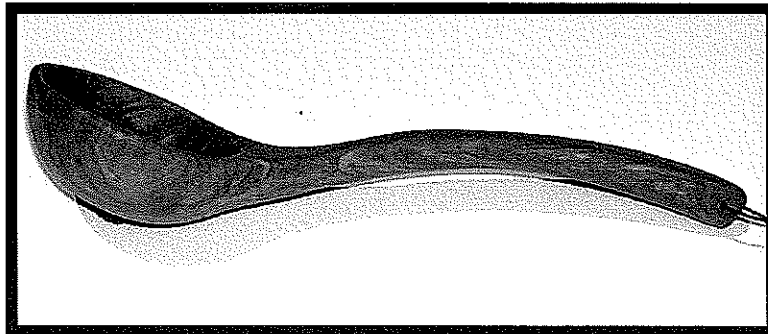
A GIRL MADE OF DARKNESS

THE JOY OF CIGARETTES

THE TOWN WALKER

DEAD LETTERS

- 1) How was the stealing of the second book a pivotal point in what was to come?
- 2) What activity do the Germans love to do? Why?
- 3) How and why was Liesel a girl made of darkness?
- 4) How was Papa able to get Liesel the books? How did Mama feel about this?
- 5) Why does Mama insist Liesel pick up and deliver the washing?
- 6) Why does Liesel write?
- 7) What causes Liesel to spend Mama's money? What awaits her at home?
- 8) What are your feelings towards Mama after seeing her beating Liesel? Explain.
- 9) What is significant about the "yellow tear"?
- 10) What are Liesel's feelings towards the light vs. the dark?

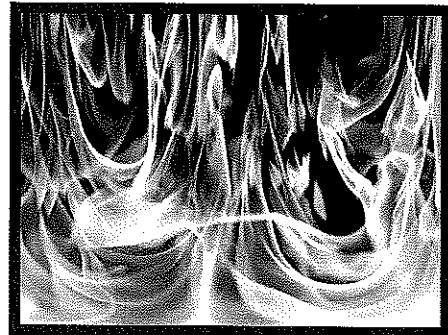


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Section 6

HITLER'S BIRTHDAY, 1940
100 PERCENT PURE GERMAN SWEAT
THE GATES OF THIEVERY
BOOK OF FIRE

- 1) Why were the Hubermann's so concerned when they couldn't find their flag?
- 2) Describe the relationship between Hans Hubermann and his son.
- 3) What two words does Hans Junior tell her father that will change their relationship forever? Predict what possible chain of events these two words might trigger.
- 4) Does Hans Hubermann think of himself as a coward? What is his internal struggle regarding this label? Do you consider him a coward? Why or why not?
- 5) Why does Liesel feel a swell in her chest as she marches to the town hall? How does this swell signify the innocence of the German youth?
- 6) Something inside of Liesel told her the burning of books and other collectibles was a crime? Why would she feel this way?
- 7) How does Liesel connect the word *communist* to her past and her family?
- 8) Who and what is Death talking about when he says, "I can only tell you no one died from it, or at least, not physically. There was, of course, the matter of the forty million people I picked up by the time the whole thing was finished, but that's getting all metaphoric."
- 9) What conversation causes Hans Hubermann to physically harm Liesel? Why did Hans feel he must do this? Who do you think was more hurt by the action? Why? Why was it harder for Liesel to take *watschen* from Papa than from anyone else?
- 10) "Hans Hubermann was contemplating one of the most dangerous dilemmas a German citizen could face." What dilemma is this?

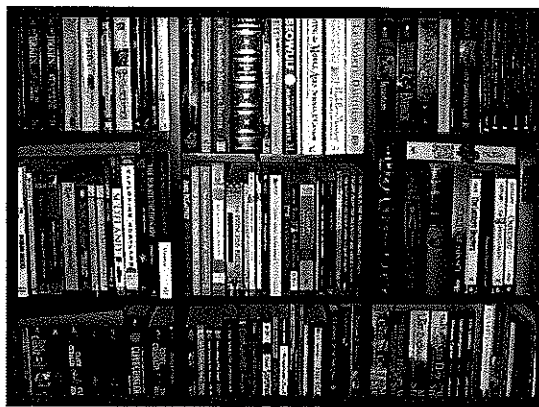


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Section 7

THE WAY HOME ENTER THE STRUGGLER

- 1) Death informs us that Hans has an idea, one that could be dangerous. What might this idea be?
- 2) Describe the paranoia that Liesel was feeling.
- 3) Why does Liesel think that the woman had possibly not seen her steal the book after all?
- 4) Why could Liesel not wipe the smile off her face while in the mayor's library? Why do you think the mayor's wife showed her this room? Why did Liesel first touch all the books?
- 5) Who is "the struggler"? Describe him.
- 6) Why had the book Liesel stole been thrown in the burn pile?
- 7) "Sometimes [Liesel] watched Papa as he slept, knowing both more and less about him than either of them realized." What does this phrase mean?
- 8) Who is Johann Hermann?
- 9) How had Ilsa Hermann made "suffering her triumph"? Why does Liesel say, "I'm sorry" to Ilsa?
- 10) "She was a girl. In Nazi Germany. How fitting that she was discovering the power of words." What does this mean?



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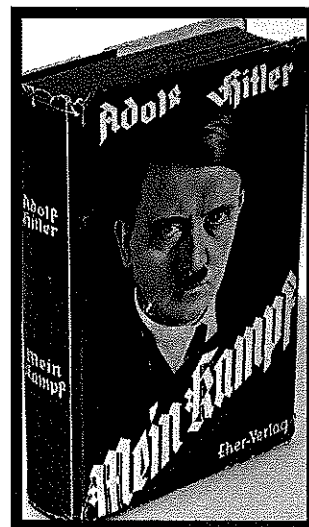
Section 8

THE ARYAN SHOPKEEPER

TRICKSTERS

THE STRUGGLER, CONCLUDED

- 1) What does Walter give to Max? Why were these items important?
- 2) “[Max Vandenburg] walked out German. Hang on a second, he *was* German. Or more to the point, he *had* been.” What does this mean?
- 3) What is the irony in Max using a copy of *Mein Kampf* to save him?
- 4) Compare the life of Liesel to the life of Max? Who has it easier and better? According to Death, Liesel has it better because anything is better than being a Jew? What are your thoughts?
- 5) Why do you think Liesel and Rudy felt some loyalty to Arthur Berg?
- 6) Do you think it is okay for Rudy and Liesel to steal because Rudy is so hungry? Why or why not?
- 7) How will Rudy be an example of “proof again of the contradictory human being”?
- 8) “The struggler: If they killed him tonight, at least he would die alive.” What does this mean as it portrays to Max?
- 9) Truly put yourself in Max’s shoes. Would you be able to show up at someone’s house you don’t know and ask them to risk their lives to save you? Why or why not?
- 10) Make a prediction on what might happen to Max? To Liesel? To Hans?



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Section 9

THE ACCORDIONIST

A GOOD GIRL

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE JEWISH FIST FIGHTER

- 1) What two questions are asked? What is the significance of these questions?
- 2) Describe the friendship between Erik Vandenburg and Hans Hubermann.
- 3) Who does Hans Hubermann have to thank for his survival of the war? Why?
- 4) There is some foreshadowing that Hans' help will be needed desperately in the future. Predict how his help might be needed.
- 5) "He was not well-educated or political, but if nothing else, he was a man who appreciated fairness." Who is this describing and what does this tell us about him?
- 6) What is Hans not "a member" of and why is this such a big deal?
- 7) What two major mistakes did Hans Hubermann make?
- 8) What did watching his uncle die make Max vow? Why?
- 9) What conflicting emotions were going through Max as he was leaving his family behind? Does this affect the way you look at Max? Why or why not?
- 10) Would you help Max if you were in Hans Hubermann's shoes knowing that such a risk could cause death to your family? Why or why not?



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Section 10

THE WRATH OF ROSA

LIESEL'S LECTURE

THE SLEEPER

THE SWAPPING OF NIGHTMARES

PAGES FROM THE BASEMENT

- 1) What kind of people are Rosa and Hans Hubermann?
- 2) What similarities between herself and the stranger is Liesel noticing?
- 3) When Papa apologizes for Max's sleeping arrangements, he replies that it is better than he deserves. Do you think he really believes this? Why would he say this? Don't we all deserve the same? Explain your thoughts.
- 4) "Imagine smiling after a slap in the face. Then think of doing it twenty-four hours a day. That was the business of hiding a Jew." What does this mean?
- 5) How had Rosa changed since the arrival of Max and why did this shock Liesel?
- 6) How was Rosa a good woman for a crisis?
- 7) Why is Max moved upstairs for the night and how does this cause a new routine to be born?
- 8) What might cause Max to be perplexed by his new home?
- 9) What does Max mean when he explains that besides being a Jew in a upbringing and blood, he was now a label?
- 10) Why does Max resolve to give something back to Liesel? What kind of relationship is being formed between Liesel and Max? Describe *The Standover Man*. "They breathed. German and Jewish lungs." Why is this such an iconic statement?



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Section 11

THE FLOATING BOOK

THE GAMBLERS

RUDY'S YOUTH

THE LOSERS

SKETCHES

- 1) What are the seven sides to the die?
- 2) "What great malice there could be in allowing something to live." What does this mean?
- 3) How does Liesel bring interest in life again for Max?
- 4) Max wonders if pushing himself to stay healthy is even worth it. Why would he be wondering those things? What would you say about Max's spirit? Explain.
- 5) Describe the relationship between Liesel and the mayor's wife. Why is Liesel so angry when the mayor fires her Rosa?
- 6) Why did Liesel continue to do push-ups after Max advised her she had done too many?
- 7) Why might it be said that Hans Hubermann was a true expert at only one thing...Liesel?
- 8) What is Rudy's triple-tiered problem?
- 9) How did Viktor Chemmel have it all?
- 10) How does Max scare Liesel?

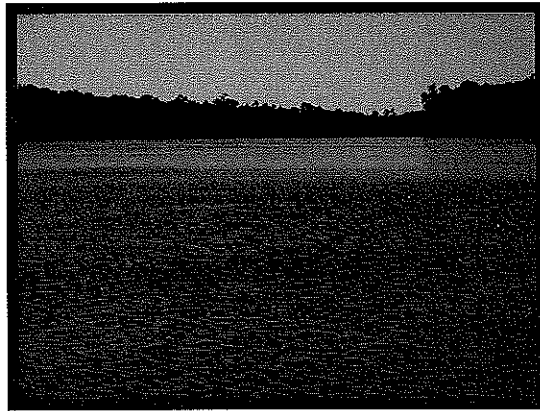


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Section 12

THE WHISTLER AND THE SHOES
THREE ACTS OF STUPIDITY BY RUDY STEINER
THE FLOATING BOOK (PART II)

- 1) Why was Rudy in desperate need of a triumph?
- 2) Why were Rudy and Liesel have a hard time finding someone to steal from?
- 3) While looking for a place to steal from, Liesel is presented with a decision? Explain this.
- 4) Why did Liesel feel relief when finding the window shut?
- 5) How was Rudy secondary to her plan? What was her plan? Why did Liesel feel at home in the mayor's library?
- 6) How does Liesel show loyalty towards Rosa? Why is she loyal?
- 7) Why do you think it was impossible for Liesel to be angry with Rudy for a long period of time?
- 8) Describe the first time Liesel was given the title, "book thief".
- 9) What were the three acts of stupidity done by Rudy Steiner?
- 10) Why did Rudy not attempt to leave the very cold water after retrieving the book?



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Section 13

DEATH'S DIARY: 1942

THE SNOWMAN

THIRTEEN PRESENTS

- 1) Why does Death feel a need to describe what he saw during the year of 1942? What three examples does he give of the death he saw? What do these visions represent? What colors?
- 2) Why does Death describe war as being like a new boss who expects the impossible and stands over your shoulder repeating over and over again to get the job done?
- 3) What holiday was Trudy going on and why was this a “holiday for a very different class of Germany”?
- 4) Even though the snowman melted, it was still upright in each of them. What is the significance of the snowman?
- 5) What do you think was Max so ill? What thoughts run through Papa, Rosa and Liesel’s mind as to what is making Max ill?
- 6) What is the paradox between Max and the snowman?
- 7) What is the irony in Papa telling Liesel not to get caught stealing books?
- 8) Why are the gifts Liesel gives to Max so important? How are these insignificant gifts giving comfort? How does Liesel give Max a piece of the sky? What was the significance of the toy soldier?
- 9) Why is it so important to Liesel to finish reading *The Whistler* to Max?
- 10) Do you think Liesel could trust Rudy with their secret about Max? Why or why not?



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Section 14

*FRESH AIR, AN OLD NIGHTMARE, AND WHAT TO DO WITH A JEWISH
CORPSE*

DEATH'S DIARY: COLOGNE

THE VISITOR

THE SCHMUNZELER

DEATH'S DIARY: THE PARISIANS

- 1) What is Rudy's weakness? How?
- 2) Why does Liesel choose *The Dream Carrier*?
- 3) Do you think the library window is being left open on purpose? Explain.
- 4) What cracks in the Hubermann family are beginning to appear?
- 5) Why is a Jewish corpse a major problem?
- 6) When was the only time Max's illness didn't hurt? How did this make the family feel?
- 7) Describe Liesel's dream and how it is similar and different to those before?
- 8) What are they collecting in the rubble of Cologne?
- 9) Who visits the Hubermann home and causes the longest three minutes in history?
- 10) What does Death mean when he says, "They were French, they were Jews, and they were you"?

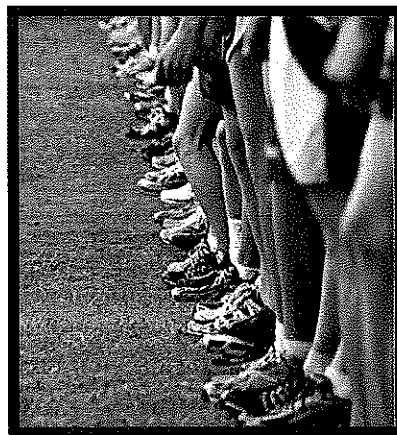


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Section 15

CHAMPAGNE AND ACCORDIONS THE TRILOGY

- 1) How has the small town of Munich changed since it has become a possible enemy target?
- 2) How has Papa's painting business changed since Munich has become a possible enemy target? How does Papa's business choices show us he is a good man?
- 3) Where is Papa most alive? Why does Papa insist on bringing his accordion?
- 4) How does Papa mix the paint?
- 5) Why was Rudy constantly running laps at Hubert Oval?
- 6) What made Liesel realize that the day of the race was all Rudy's?
- 7) Why did Rudy lose the race on purpose?
- 8) Why, when Liesel was stealing *A Song in the Dark*, did she steal alone?
- 9) Describe the letter to Liesel from Ilsa Hermann and the impact it had on Liesel.
- 10) Liesel tells herself that she doesn't deserve to be this happy. Why would a young girl like Liesel have such thoughts?



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Section 16

THE SOUND OF SIRENS

THE SKY STEALER

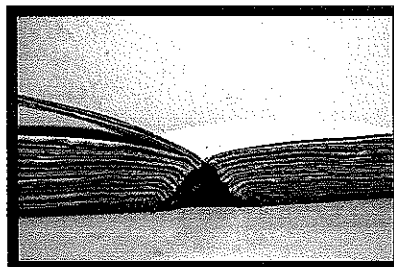
FRAU HOLTZAPFEL'S OFFER

THE LONG WALK TO DACHAU

PEACE

THE IDIOT AND THE COAT MEN

- 1) What does Hans spend his extra earned money on? Why was this felt to be necessary?
- 2) While in the basement during a possible raid... "Did they deserve any better, these people? How many had actively persecuted others, high on the scent of Hitler's gaze, repeating sentences, his paragraphs, his opus? Was Rosa Hubermann responsible? The hider of a Jew? Or Hans? Did they all deserve to die? The children?" This is such a powerful paragraph. What are your thoughts on this?
- 3) How does seeing the stars for the first time in over twenty months affect Max?
- 4) "War clearly blurred the distinction between logic and superstition." What does this statement mean?
- 5) What is Liesel's "accordion"?
- 6) What deal does Rosa and Frau Holtzapfel strike? Liesel writes later, "Two weeks to change the world, and fourteen days to ruin it." What does this mean?
- 7) Describe the men and women marching to Dachau.
- 8) What did Hans Hubermann do that will forever change his life? Do you think him a stupid man? Describe your answer.
- 9) "Silence was not quiet or calm, and it was not peace." Explain this.
- 10) Why does Hans need vindication?

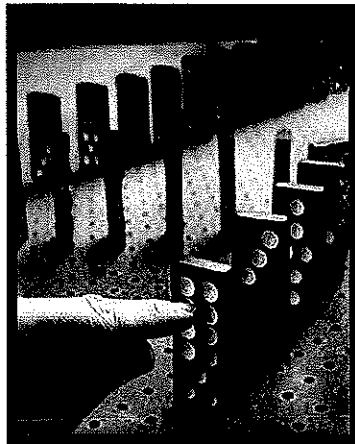


The Book Thief

Section 17

DOMINOES AND DARKNESS *THE PROMISE KEEPER'S WIFE*

- 1) Who does Rudy begin to blame for the men visiting his home? In the end, who does he blame? Why?
- 2) "...while the dominoes were falling like dead bodies in the living room." What is the significance of this phrase?
- 3) What does the nurse refer to when she speaks of creating a new future?
- 4) What were Hans Hubermann's punishments for his foolish actions?
- 5) What were the signs that the German army was growing desperate?
- 6) Why is Rudy's father being shipped off to war?
- 7) What does Papa mean when he says, "I played an accordion, Liesel. Someone else's." It brought the house down."
- 8) What is the significance in Papa feeling like he doesn't deserve Max's mattress?
- 9) How does Himmel Street change as Papa and Alex Steiner are away at training? Why does Rudy take off? Where is he going and what are his plans? How does Liesel convince him to come home?
- 10) What image of Rosa does Liesel witness? What does this tell us about her character?

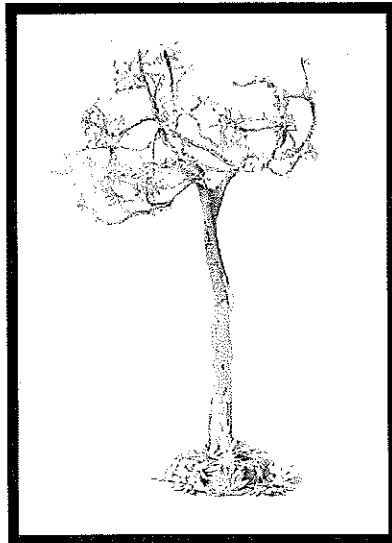


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Section 18

THE COLLECTION
THE BREAD EATERS
THE HIDDEN SKETCHBOOK
THE ANARCHIST'S SUIT COLLECTION

- 1) Where was Alex Steiner sent to for the war?
- 2) Where was Hans Hubermann sent to for the war?
- 3) "Just remember that the enemy here is not in front of you." Where is the enemy?
- 4) Why does Hans need to perfect the art of forgetting?
- 5) Who are the three desperate men Liesel is constantly thinking about? Why are they desperate?
- 6) Why does playing the accordion only make the room feel emptier for Liesel?
- 7) How had things changed in Rudy?
- 8) What does Mama have for Liesel? How will this gift affect her?
- 9) What is the difference between a fable and a fairy tale? Which one is *The Word Shaker*?
- 10) Describe *The Word Shaker*. What are the hidden meanings within this book?



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Section 19

THE NEXT TEMPTATION

THE CARDPLAYER

THE SNOWS OF STALINGRAD

THE AGELESS BROTHER

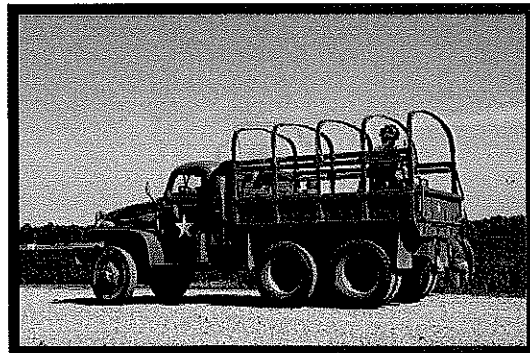
THE ACCIDENT

THE BITTER TASTE OF QUESTIONS

ONE TOOLBOX, ONE BLEEDER, ONE BEAR

HOMECOMING

- 1) Who does Liesel meet and what impact does he have on her?
- 2) “Certainly, war meant dying, but it always shifted the ground beneath a person’s feet when it was someone who had once lived and breathe din close proximity.” Do you believe this to be true? Why or why not?
- 3) How is Death’s definition of “home” different from those of the soul’s he takes?
- 4) Whose footprints is Death speaking of?
- 5) How does Reinhold Zucker save Hans Hubermann’s life?
- 6) How does a broken leg become something to celebrate?
- 7) What is in Rudy’s toolbox? Why?
- 8) How does Liesel get Frau Holtzapfel to the basement?
- 9) How does the book thief continue to carry on her Papa’s wishes in the basement?
- 10) How do Rudy and Liesel comfort the dying pilot?



The Book Thief

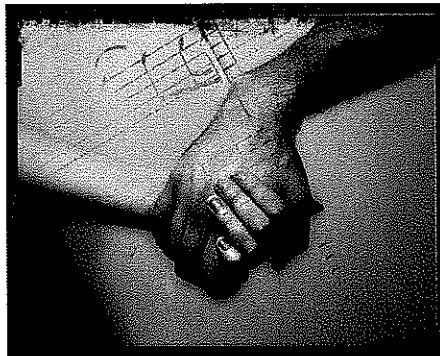
Section 20

THE END OF THE WORLD

THE WAR MAKER

WAY OF THE WORDS

- 1) Who survives the bombing of Himmel Street? Why?
- 2) What horrible thought does Liesel have while scanning the parade of Jews?
- 3) How does Michael Holtzapfel die? Why? Who is to blame for this death?
- 4) What does it say about Hans that he sat right next to Frau Holtzapfel when everyone else watched from a distance?
- 5) Why is it still snowing in the kitchen of 31 Himmel Street for Death?
- 6) When and how did Max become captured?
- 7) How does Liesel try and comfort Max? What is her punishment?
- 8) Liesel finally tells Rudy about Max. Do you think he could have been trusted with this information earlier? Why or why not? Do you think his feelings were hurt that he didn't know sooner?
- 9) How was Rudy different now than several years ago?
- 10) At the beginning of the book, Rosa seemed to be a mean spirited woman. But as the book goes on, we found the soft spots in her character? What causes her to change?



The Book Thief

Section 21

ILSA HERMANN'S LITTLE BLACK BOOK

THE RIB-CAGE PLANES

THE END OF THE WORLD (PART II)

- 1) What is slowly happening to Liesel's spirit?
- 2) What trials has Liesel suffered thus far in her life? What death has she witnessed?
- 3) Why doesn't Liesel want to pray that Max or Alex Steiner is alive?
- 4) Why does Liesel hate the words?
- 5) What gift does Ilsa give to Liesel?
- 6) How does Ilsa not want Liesel to be like her?
- 7) 'There are lines on his cheeks. They look drawn on, and for some reason, when I see them, I want to cry. It is not for any sadness or pride. I just like the way they move and change. Sometimes I think my papa is an accordion. When he looks at me and smiles and breathes, I hear the notes.' Describe this paragraph.
- 8) What is the book thief's last line? What is the significance of this line?
- 9) What do the best souls do at time of death? Whose souls did this on Himmel Street?
- 10) What is the significance of Liesel kissing Rudy after his death?



The Book Thief

Section 22

DEATH AND LIESEL
WOOD IN THE AFTERNOON
MAX
THE HANDOVER MAN

- 1) Why didn't Liesel bathe herself after the losses on Himmel Street?
- 2) How are Liesel and Max reunited?
- 3) What does Death mean when he says, "I am haunted by humans."
- 4) What is the mystery of Max and Liesel's relationship after their reunion? What do you think happened after the end of the war?
- 5) What questions are you left with after the book ends?
- 6) Would you have liked the story better had it been told from a different character's point of view? Who? Why?
- 7) Was this story believable? Were the characters believable? Explain your answer?
- 8) How did this story affect your thoughts and opinions on World War II?
- 9) How did this story affect your thoughts and opinions on war in general?
- 10) Write a new ending to this story.

