CHAPTER SIX

Vocabulary:

Obstinately

Proffered

Blasphemy

Voluptuous

Cajolery

Archness

Arresting

Unabashed,

Solecism

Intrinsically

Reminiscence

Indecorous

Anecdote

Malignant

Decorum,

Brachycephalic

Indefatigable

Inconspicuously

Serenely

Inexorably

Appalled

Stoicism

Carrion

Fulminated

1. Why does Lenina have second thoughts about going to the Savage Reservation with Bernard? Why does she decide to go?
2. Why does Bernard dislike soma?

1. Contrast Bernard’s response to nature with Lenina’s response.
2. What does Bernard believe about the effects of conditioning? Does Lenina agree with him?
3. Why is Bernard disappointed that he slept with Lenina on their first date? How does Lenina respond to his suggestion that it would have been better to have waited?
4. Why doesn’t the Director approve of Bernard traveling to the Savage Reservation? What happened to him when he visited the reservation in his youth?
5. How does the Director threaten Bernard? What effect does the threat have on him? Why do you think Bernard responds this way to being threatened? How does his response help develop his character?
6. What upsets Bernard when he is at the Reservation? What does this suggest about his values and the effectiveness of his conditioning? Is he really that different from Lenina?
7. How does Bernard respond to the news that the Director is planning to transfer him to Iceland when he returns from the Reservation? How does his response help develop his character?
8. Explain the meaning of Lenina’s adage: “Was and will make me ill, I take a gramme and only am” (104). How does Huxley’s comment that after taking soma “roots and fruits were abolished” relate to Lenina’s adage?

CHAPTER SEVEN

Vocabulary:

Precipitous

Reciprocated

Sullen

Contemptuous

Precipice

Diadem

Indignant

Incredulity

Emaciated

Indecent

Tactfully

Unorthodox

Innocuous

Semblance

Incarnadine

1. How does Lenina respond to the things she sees on the Reservation? What aspects of the life of the savages are particularly distressing to her? How does Bernard respond to her criticisms?
2. Summarize the religious ceremony that Lenina and Bernard witness. What do you think the purpose of the ceremony is? Which religions does it seem to be based on?

1. What does Bernard realize when he meets the young blonde savage named John?

1. How does John’s mother, Linda, respond when she sees Bernard and Lenina? What has life on the Reservation been like for Linda?

CHAPTER EIGHT

Vocabulary:

Inconceivable

Treacherous

Lecherous

Averted

Patronizing

Profoundly

Squeamish

Cordiality

Perplexed

1. Summarize John’s memories of his childhood. What keeps them from being accepted by the other savages?
2. What did Linda tell John about the Other Place? How does John mix up the stories his mother tells him with the mythology from the pueblo?
3. How does John respond to being taught to work with clay? Contrast his experience working with clay to his mother’s description of her work in the Other Place.
4. What ceremony is John excluded from participating in? How does he respond to his exclusion? Why does his experience help him discover “Time and Death and God” (136)?
5. What is Linda able to teach John? What does Popé give John shortly after his twelfth birthday?
6. What do Bernard and John have in common? How do the ways that they deal with pain differ?
7. What does Bernard offer to do for John and Linda? How does John respond to his offer?