

Reading journals

In Cold Blood part 1

The novel begins in Holcomb, a sleepy town in Kansas. Mr. Clutter wakes up and eats his usual breakfast and prepares to begin the work for the day, later he'll be killed along with the rest of the Clutters. Capote the author tells us ahead what is going on but the characters are oblivious to their fate. The murder is said to have happened but the graphic details are not described. Capote never states that Dick and Perry were the murders either, but it is implied that they are. The book has several plotlines which foreshadow what is to come. One of the most significant of these, which we also discussed in class, is the part where Wilma went to Bonnie's room to talk to her because she was crying. Bonnie's bookmark was in the bible with "a stiff piece of silk upon which an admonition had been embroidered: [it said] take ye heed, watch and pray, for ye know not when the time is." That was like someone said be careful that you live life to the fullest because you could die at any time. This was weird because Bonnie had worried about what her kids will do when she dies. We also wonder why anyone would kill the Clutter's because they live so far out in the middle of a rural area that no one would be that close and it's also a small town so everyone knew each other and a lot of people like them.

In Cold Blood part 2

This section of the book chronicles what happens after the murders are committed. The police are investigating leads, and are getting nowhere. Meanwhile Dick and Perry are planning where they will run. They pick Mexico and begin to prepare to flee. The people of Holcomb started rumors about the murders and everyone was really scared and wondered if they would be next to die or be attacked. When the scene was investigated they found Nancy's watch hidden, so she knew someone had come into the house. This made me wonder why she didn't try to get away, she just waited in her room to die. She should've jumped out the window and ran. People wondered why the Clutters were killed because everyone had liked them, and they didn't have any enemies, this led some people to want to leave the town. When the story catches back up to what Dick and Perry are doing, we are shown how Paranoid Perry has become. There was a part where they were at a diner and Perry was so guilty he couldn't eat. Perry just couldn't shut up about how bad he felt and how he was just waiting to get caught. Dick drove nearly insane. Dick began to wonder if Perry had lied about the "nigger" that he had killed. He thought Perry had made it up. At this point it seemed like all the focus was on Perry, that's why I am writing my essay on him, there's not much about Dick.

In Cold Blood part 3

This is the climax of the book in my opinion. The clues finally add up and the investigators figure out that Dick and Perry killed the Clutters. They have to track down Dick and Perry and then they take them into different interrogation rooms and ask them questions. I was shocked he actually did it but not so much surprised when Perry says they both did it 50/50 and Dick pins

the whole think on Perry and throws him under the bus. It really goes to show that Perry was simply a victim of Dick's control. When they get back to Kansas people were happy that the murderers had been caught and they all wanted to get revenge on Dick and Perry. Dick found pleasure in seeing them all mad, he was proud of himself. The two were not together the entire time. They were put into separate cells. Dick was in the regular cell, Perry, the women's cell. Perry seems to be taking on an innocent characterization at this time, he is almost pitied.

In Cold Blood part 4

The part begins by discussing the characteristics of the Finney County Courthouse. We are introduced to the characters Wendle and Josephine Meier. We are told that the Meier's have been together more than 20 years. Mrs. Meier is described as serene and very kind. She thinks of others before herself. The Meiers have an adult daughter who lives in Kansas city. It is revealed to us that Perry stayed in the ladies cell, because they wanted to keep him isolated from Hickock preceding the trial. An important quote is when Mrs. Meier said "I never met the clutters but from everything I've ever heard...they must have been very fine people." That goes to show that they were well liked, or even popular. The chapter goes on to portray the way in which Mrs. Meier had a softened view of Perry, she made him food, they discussed a movie, the weather, and she went and told her husband Wendle how "gentle" he was, it seems as if Perry has realized he has ruined his life, he is becoming remorseful, has no purpose to live, and is withdrawn. Perry lonely, for companionship, lured a squirrel through the bars of the cell and named him Red. Thanksgiving week Jennie Marie and Lowell Lee were home with their parents. Lee had finished reading and shaved, suited and loaded a semi-automatic 22 caliber rifle and a Ruger 22 caliber revolver. Placed the revolver in the holster and put the rifle on his shoulder. He went to his sister and shot her in between the eyes with the Rifle. She was died. He then shot his mother three times and his father two times. His mother was trying to talk to him but he told her to "shut up". Mr. Andrews was crawling his way to the kitchen when Lee took out his revolver and released every chamber on his father twice. Mr. Andrews took 17 shots. Lowell was destroying everything to make everything seem like someone else committed the crime. He threw the weapons and ammunition into the Kansas River. Created an alibi saying "because of the bad weather the trip from Wolcott to Lawrence had taken two hours."(313) Once Lee arrived home he called the police and sat on the porch awaiting the police. When the police arrived Lee pointed to the door. The police listened to his story but because he was emotionless as if nothing happened they were suspicious. The Andrews family minister was called to talk to Lowell. The minister went to the question Lowell, he was making conversation and the asked him if it was him who killed his family. He told him if he would take a lie detection test to prove him not guilty. Lee confesses murdering his family. The reverend's speech gave him the death penalty.

Breakfast at Tiffany's Response

This story was the epitome of vintage glamour. The book had a narrator who was never given a name so that made it rather complicated to understand. The story took place around the time of the war and it was in New York City. The male lead character lived in an apartment and he wanted to be a writer, then he met Holly Golightly, who he would later write about. Holly Golightly was the main character, it was also confusing because I wasn't sure if she was a prostitute or not. The narrator saw her a few times and she would always wake him up to let her in because she never took the key. They met when she went to his room to get away from someone, she had been watching the narrator guy through the window. She tells him basically her life story, then proceeds to get into his bed and starts calling him Fred and not his real name because he looks like her brother. I was confused because it seemed like they were going to get together, like she was flirting with him and he was interested in her, but then she said he reminded her of her brother so that was like the end of it. They gradually start being together more often like at parties, and he meets her friends and realizes how stuck up she is and how men just do things for her. It was really strange that she would go see that guy in prison for money named Tom, because I wondered if she was getting paid for sexual favors, even though it didn't say that. Later she was arrested for that and she seemed really ditzy. She didn't even know that he had been using her as a middle man for his drug trafficking, which is a thing that was common among mobsters and organized crime groups. The story was good, but it was weird and unpredictable, especially when Holly left at the end.

Revolt of The Cockroach people part 1

The novel begins in Los Angeles, where Chicano people are trying to get into a church on Christmas Eve. Just when they think they'll finally get in, a red haired usher tells them it's full. They didn't know until later that he was really a cop. In the parking lot there is a SOC squad with clubs ready to reprimand the unruly crowd. They get in, and the carrot top usher tells them to leave although there seems like there is enough room for them. Gilbert reaches for the panic bar and the usher grabs him, and hits him in the mouth. This is when they realized he wasn't an usher, he was a cop. Then a full riot breaks out because the crowd realizes that the ushers are all police. Duana Doherty, a red haired nun, joins the Chicanos. Gloria Chavez bursts through the doors in a black dress yielding a gold club. Buffalo came to LA in 1968 and he stayed at the Belmont motel which was cockroach infested. Later on Buffalo calls his journalist friend at 3 am on Christmas and tries to explain what happened at the church so he could write an article on it. Later on Buffalo visits his sister he has not seen in five years. She's 25 and married to a guy named Dave Hurley. Wilkie made Mexicans walk together at graduation. Later on Buffalo goes to see people he knows named Frog, Gilbert, and Ruth about getting the article published. Then there is a riot at a school and students initiate a walkout after the alarms started going off. Buffalo gave cigarettes to a young boy, which made him question his morality. Later on he went

to see Caesar and discussed the situation he was in with his article and the riots. Ruth called Buffalo and told him that the cops arrested Mangas, Gilbert, and Risco. The charge was “conspiracy to disrupt schools.” Then they rounded up everyone they knew including the wives and girlfriends of the men arrested and conducted a protest outside of the glass house. Buffalo also spoke to people on Olvera Street. Kennedy was assassinated, they left with Buffalo driving, because they were afraid they would be blamed for the shooting because they were Hispanic. Later on McCarthy gave the Chicanos ten thousand dollars.

Revolt of The Cockroach people part2

This section of the book was very interesting, the book reached its climax and all of the characters were altered and reached resolutions. The main idea was the court case and the historical components of racism towards Chicano people back then, and how they suffered. Brown was able to help the Chicanos and win them the respect that they deserved. Buffalo Brown was a great person and will always be remembered for helping those people gain respect. It's sad that people are still racist today though and treat minorities differently just because of their background and skin color.

Chicano Poetics response

This poem described nature and it was in English and Spanish. When we had the group led discussion in class, it was a lot easier to understand because the people who gave the GLD were Chicano and explained. I know a bit of Spanish, but not much, so I interpreted it as best as I could. It sounded like it described life and nature. They were talking about immigrating to America when they began speaking about an island and later they said America. Later on the poem sounded like it was describing climatic regions, cactus is desert, ocean is by the beach etc. they described California as well when they said San Diego and Los Angeles.

The Wizard of Oz part 1

The wizard of Oz followed the general plot of the film but there was a lot of things which differentiated the two and the film was a lot more child oriented. There wasn't so much gore. Also the book makes more messages obvious like that the yellow brick road represented the gold standard, and emerald city represented money. I thought the dictating wizard might represent corporate America and the government. In the book Dorothy was a lot younger but she seemed more independent than the Dorothy from the film. She was more independent yet she did some unintelligent things. I thought the story about how the tin woodman loved a girl but then the witch hexed him to chop off his limbs was pretty interesting. The backgrounds of the scarecrow and lion were cool to read as well.

The Wizard of Oz Part 2

They had a lot of problems to conquer on their way to emerald city like narrow pieces of the road and the poppies. When they get to the city they put on green glasses and they all see the wizard differently. One sees a head, the other a beautiful woman etc. the wizard says he will give them all what they want if they kill the wicked witch of the west. They are capture by the witch, and she gets one of Dorothy's shoes. Then they witch gets hit with water and melts. Dorothy and her companions make the journey back to Emerald city but the wizard won't help them. Then they figure out he's a sham. After Dorothy misses the hot air balloon, they have to journey to Glinda's palace and then she eventually gets home. It was cool that in the book, "munchkin land/magical land" really did exist, in the movie, she just wakes up.

Wicked part 1

In this part of the book we are introduced to Frex and Melena. Frex is a priest and his wife stays home while he works. She has affairs with many men but we don't find out about this until later. The clock time dragon is a puppet show which exhibits things that humiliate people. Melena gives birth while she is unconscious and her baby is green and is a bit of a demon. The baby bites off a woman's finger. When Elphaba was growing up he parents were ashamed of her and when her nanny and mother took her to play with other kids, they stared and thought she was ugly. Melena was mean to her own daughter and considered killing her. Once Melena said "Elphaba, let's go to the lake and maybe you'll drown." Melena used drugs and alcohol and slept with lots of random men while Frex was gone. Turtle heart was a guy Melena started an affair with and Frex was so stupid he didn't even know it was happening, or he pretended not to know. At the end Elphaba got lost when no one was watching her and when they found her under the dock she kept saying "horrors," like it foreshadowed what was to come.

Wicked part 2

In this part of the book Elphaba is in college. She makes friends such as Galinda, but they are secretly mean to her, and talk bad about her because she is different. At an event Galinda was next to Elphaba, and told her, "Don't talk to me," it was really cruel. Galinda and other girls would make fun of Elphaba and laugh and whisper whenever she was in the room. Elphaba was a good person, she was an animal rights advocate and Oz was bad place. Galinda was pretty mean, this guy Boq liked he and she didn't even try and be a little nice to him like a friend, she treated him bad. We also see in this part of the book that Elphaba is defensive. She said some guy was "sacrificed to the time dragon," and beat him to the punch before he could make fun of her skin.

Wicked part 3

Elphaba lived in Emerald City and was working to help with animal rights. Fiyero and Elphaba get together and have an affair while he is married. Elphaba is really happy then decides to kill

Madame Morrible. She can't do it because some kids get in her way and then the police are looking for her. Fiyero goes to wait for her and they find him and haul him away. She thinks he's dead, and it overwhelmed with guilt.

Elphaba was in love with Fiyero and thinks she might have been responsible for his death. She was mute for 6 years. She is very quiet now and she wonders if Liir is her son. Fiyero's family crumbles, and they, Elphaba and nanny become a family. Elphaba finds a Grimmerie which is a spell book only she can read. Later Elphaba gets a letter from FRex and goes home to help her family. She is promised Nessa's shoes after she dies.

Wicked part 4

This part of the book consists of the beginning of the Wizard of Oz story. Galinda sends Dorothy to the wizard to avoid a conflict with Elphaba for killing her sister. Elphaba is furious that the shoes were given away. The clock of the time dragon shows Elphaba the Wizard is her father. The Witch sends out killjoy to greet Dorothy and the rest and the tin man kills the dogs. The Wicked Witch of the West tells Dorothy that she kills things everywhere she is. When Dorothy tries to apologize for killing Nessa, the Witch was a broom at her that is on fire. They throw water on the witch and kill her. They take the broom and Elixer to the Wizard, he realizes it was his daughter and he is devastated. The wizard plans to leave and commit suicide.