

Submit your answers to the daily reading questions on a piece of paper or in Canvas.

*I Am Legend* by Richard Matheson Chapters 1, 2 & 3 (Part 1: January 1976)

Day 1

1. Who is the main character? Describe him.
2. Sunset, garlic, mirrors, stakes, cross... what does all this imply?
3. Where is Robert Neville's workshop?
4. What is the name of his street?
5. What does he grow in his hothouse?
6. Define "sepulcher." (page 4)
7. What kind of music does Robert Neville like?
8. How long has he been hiding in his house every night?
9. Why do the women particularly bother Robert Neville?
10. Kathy & Virginia - two names - what can they mean?
11. What kind of car does Robert Neville drive?
12. June, 1975 - what's the significance?
13. Where does Neville dump the bodies?
14. During the day, Neville searches in shadows for "them." Describe "them."
15. What does he do when he finds them?
16. What had Robert Neville "done all afternoon?"
17. How would you describe Robert Neville's general mood and mindset?
18. Define anathema.
19. What clever name does Robert Neville have for cigarettes? (page 19)
20. Who's Ben Cortman?

*I Am Legend* by Richard Matheson Chapters 4 & 5

Day 2

1. Angry, fed-up, about to burst, Robert Neville drives away from his house. Where'd he go?
2. Who is Virginia? Who is Kathy?
3. What happened to the vampire man Robert Neville threw out of Virginia's crypt?
4. What discovery does Robert Neville make concerning sunlight?
5. Chapter 4 ends in panic. Why?
6. What did Robert Neville discover as he turned onto Cimarron Street?
7. What was Robert Neville thinking about? What did he fear?
8. How did Neville use his car effectively?
9. What happened with the keys?
10. Tell about Ben Cortman's role in the excitement of Chapter 5.
11. What happened once Neville got inside the house?
12. What did they do to his car?
13. Why didn't the lights work in his house?
14. Neville loses his temper. Describe his actions.
15. How does the chapter end for Robert Neville?

*I Am Legend* by Richard Matheson Chapter 6, 7 & 8 (Part 2: March 1976)

Day 3

1. How'd Robert Neville get a new car?
2. What type of car did he get? Why?
3. What was the damage to the generator?
4. Was anything else damaged?
5. What did he do to make his house nicer? List at least two things:
6. What are some of the health benefits of these months of work for Robert Neville?
7. "It tore his heart out to go back. There had been another..." Explain this transition on page 39.
8. What insect infestations arrived about the same time as the sickness?

9. What did they theorize caused the dust storms?
10. Who was Robert Neville's carpool buddy?
11. What scientific work is he doing with garlic & onions? What does he discover?
12. Describe Robert's experiment with the cross and the vampire woman.
13. What's Robert Neville trying to discover through the water experiment?
14. Who does Ben Cortman remind Robert Neville of? How does Neville react when he realizes this?
15. Robert Neville is neglecting his work and is very unnerved about something. What's bothering him?

I Am Legend Chapters 9, 10 & 11

Day 4

1. What tune does the doorbell at Ben's house play? Look it up. What's the actual name of the song? Who wrote it & when?
2. Robert Neville went into Ben's house after Virginia died. What had happened to Ben & Freda Cortman?
3. What had happened to Kathy's body after she died?
4. What did Robert Neville do with his wife's body?
5. How does Chapter 9 end?
6. What books does he get from the LA Public Library?
7. How did he get into the library?
8. What discovery does Robert Neville make with the microscope?
9. What does he theorize about the dust storms?
10. What does this investigative thought and work seem to be doing for Robert Neville's overall well-being?

I Am Legend Chapters 12 & 13

Day 5

1. Of garlic, the cross, soil, running water, sunlight, mirrors, the stake – which one kills the vampire bacteria? How does the bacteria react to the other elements?
2. What causes Robert Neville's fit of violent frustration? What damage does he do?
3. What discovery brings Robert Neville out of his drunken & stubborn depression?
4. What does he pray for?
5. "...one of the living ones." (p. 79) Speculate about Neville's discoveries. How and why are some of the vampires "living?" These are your interpretations and thoughts; Matheson does not give us much detail.
6. How does Robert Neville know the dog has been in his yard?
7. What does Robert Neville pick up at the market? What does this reveal about his hopes?
8. The dog's survival makes Robert Neville briefly think of what other possibility?
9. How does Robert Neville try to win the dog's trust?
10. For many weeks, the dog visits every day. Then, it misses one day. When it returns, what does Robert Neville notice about the dog? How does the story with the dog end?

I Am Legend Chapters 14, 15 & 16 (Part 3: June 1978)

Day 6

1. Define the following words from the first section of Chapter 14: **debauch, nadir, derring-do, pate**
2. Another flashback, before everyone died – What was going on in the tent?
3. What theory does Robert Neville develop to explain why the vampires fear the cross?
4. Besides being infected, what else does Robert Neville believe is wrong with the living vampires?
5. Describe Robert Neville's state of mind and mood as Part Two ends.
6. Two years have passed between Part 2 and Part 3. What is Robert Neville's new hobby?
7. If Robert Neville finds Ben Cortman, he thinks he may hesitate. Why?
8. What effect have these two years had on Robert Neville? How has he changed? Describe Robert Neville now – both physically & emotionally.
9. Robert Neville sees something in the same field where he'd first buried Virginia. What does he see?
10. Describe her. List at least five items in your description.

11. What did Robert Neville suspect for just a moment when he very first saw the woman?
12. How does Robert Neville treat the woman?
13. How does he test her?
14. What does she say in Chapter 16? What does she tell him?
15. What test would he like to perform?

I Am Legend Chapters 17 & 18

Day 7

1. What is Robert Neville finding difficult to believe? What does Ruth say to make Robert Neville continue to doubt her? What are his doubts? How does Robert Neville feel about Ruth?
2. What does Ruth agree to do? When will this take place? What does he fear if she is not infected?
3. Robert Neville knows why bullets don't work on vampires. What is the explanation?
4. Why is Robert Neville immune?
5. What method has replaced stakes for Robert Neville's daily disposal of the vampires?
6. Robert Neville wakes up to discover....
7. What does Neville suspect Ruth was doing?
8. How had he dealt with Virginia when she had returned from the grave?
9. How does the relationship between Ruth & Robert Neville change suddenly?
10. What did Ruth do after Robert Neville looked into the microscope?

I Am Legend Chapters 19, 20 & 21 (Part 4: January 1979)

Day 8

1. What did Robert Neville discover when he regained consciousness?
2. Who is Ruth really? What is her real story? What are the pills?
3. What does the note tell Robert Neville to do?
4. What was up with her tan? Why did she do that?
5. Describe "her people" from what we know so far.
6. How much time has passed between Part 3 & Part 4?
7. What weapons does Robert Neville have in the house?
8. What did the men do to the vampires in front of Robert Neville's house?
9. What's Neville's feeling about the men attacking Cortman? How does he react when they shoot Ben?
10. Robert Neville decided how he would react to this invasion. What is his plan?
11. What do they do to Robert Neville and his house?
12. What are Robert Neville's injuries?
13. Where does he wake up?
14. What is Ruth's position in the new society?
15. How does the story end for Robert Neville?

**Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury**

Day 9

**Part One: The Hearth and the Salamander pages 1-21**

1. How does Montag feel about burning and his job? (p. 1-2)
2. What does he burn? (p. 1-2)
3. What feeling does Montag have after getting off the train? (p. 2-3)
4. Describe the girl. Give her name, too. (p. 3-7)
5. What do the salamander and phoenix represent? (p. 4) *Hint: look up symbolic meanings of both on the web. Wikipedia has an article on "Salamanders in folklore" and search for "mythical creatures, phoenix"*
6. How old is Montag? (p. 5)

7. Millay, Whitman, Faulkner. (p. 6) Look them up. Edna St. Vincent Millay. Walt Whitman. William Faulkner. What were their professions? Where and when did they live and work? What clues might this give us about the setting of the story?
8. What **do you think** is hidden behind the ventilator grill? (p. 8)
9. What impression does the girl have on Montag? (p. 8-9)
10. What does he kick? (p. 10-11)
11. What do the two men wearing coveralls and smoking cigarettes do? (p. 12-13) If two similar men came to a home today, what might their purpose be?
12. What happened to Mildred the night before? Why isn't Montag able to talk to her about it? (p. 11-17)
13. Based on the time he got home & the time he prepares to leave, what are Montag's hours? (p. 14 & 17)
14. How is Mildred spending her afternoon and evening? (p. 17-18)
15. What observations has Clarisse made of Montag? (p. 21)

### **Fahrenheit 451 pages 21-45**

**Day 10**

1. What is the Mechanical Hound? Describe it & give your interpretation. (p. 21-25)
2. What does Montag suspect someone at the firehouse has done? He thinks of the ventilator grill for a third time (p. 8, 17, 24). What do you think he has hidden there?
3. What is this future world's school system, according to Clarisse's description? (p. 27)
4. What do people (besides Clarisse) do with their free time in this world? (p. 17, 18, 27, 28, 29)
5. "Firemen of America, 1790, Benjamin Franklin." What does it all mean? (p. 32)
6. Research the words the woman speaks. Who said these? When? What happened to him? (p. 33, 37)
7. What is different about this call & this house? (p. 34-37)
8. What are the "small, soft sounds" Montag is making? Why? (p. 38-39)
9. Analyze Montag & Mildred's marriage. (p. 38-45) How does she spend her time? Why can't Montag relate to her?
10. What has supposedly happened to Clarisse? What **do you think** happened? (p. 44-45)

### **Pages 45-65**

**Day 11**

1. What is the TV parlor? Who are the "relatives"? (p. 17, 18, 41, 42, 43, 45, 46, 47)
2. Why is Montag feeling sick? (p. 45-49)
3. Captain Beatty describes an alternate history. How did this world come to be? (p. 51-58)
4. What **do you think** Mildred will do now that she knows about the book? (p. 53, 54, 56, 57)
5. **Do you think** Montag will go back to work? What will happen to him? (p. 60)
6. Why did Clarisse's uncle believe society had done away with front porches? (p. 60)
7. How do people apparently take out their frustrations and emotions with "beetles"? (p. 61)
8. How does Mildred react when she sees what Montag has been hiding? (p. 62-63)
9. **Do you think** Montag is able to get Millie to understand him? (p. 63-64) Will she help him?
10. Who **do you think** was at the door? (p. 64-65) What did they want?

### **Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury**

**Day 12**

#### **Part Two: The Sieve and the Sand pages 67-88**

1. Explain and analyze Mildred's resistance as Montag reads and talks to her. (p. 67-73)
2. What does Montag hope these books can do for him? (p. 67-70)
3. Faber. Who is he? How does Montag know him? Describe. (p. 8, 31, 70-72)
4. Describe Montag's experience on the subway air train. (p. 73-76)

5. What does Montag want to do with the words in the Bible he has & why? (p. 74) Why can't he do it?
6. What are the possible meanings of Montag's statement to Faber, "My wife is dying."? (p. 77)
7. "History will have to record that the greatest tragedy of this period of social transition was not the strident clamor of the bad people, but the appalling silence of the good people." (Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., 1963) How is Faber saying something similar? (p. 77-78)
8. What are the three things Faber says are missing in their world? (p. 79-81)
9. Faber and Montag fall upon an idea and a plan. What is it? (p. 81-84) Do **you think** it will work?
10. What's the little device Faber shares with Montag? How will they use it? (p. 86-88)

## Pages 88-106

## Day 13

1. Why have Mrs. Phelps and Mrs. Bowles come to Montag's house? (p. 89-90)
2. Given their talk, what is important to Mrs. Phelps, Mrs. Bowles and Mildred? (p. 89-95)
3. What kind of mother does Mrs. Bowles seem to be? (p. 92-93)
4. Who continually warns Montag to keep his cool? (p. 90-98)
5. Why **do you think** Phelps is crying after hearing Montag read the poem "Dover Beach"? (p. 96-97)
6. Montag regrets the error or mistake of losing his temper with the women. Why? (p. 99-101, 106)
7. What does Faber tell Montag? (p. 99-104)
8. What does Beatty say to Montag? (p. 101-106)
9. The firehouse receives a call. Where do they go? (p. 105-106)
10. Who **do you think** called in this address?

## Part Three: Burning Bright pages 107-130

## Day 14

1. Look over pages 36-37, 83, 107 & 111. Why do people come out of their houses when the firemen arrive? What words does Bradbury use to describe these scenes?
2. Beatty says that Montag "wanted to fly near the sun" and "burnt his damn wings." (p. 107) This refers to the myth of Daedalus and Icarus. Research the myth. What's the story?
3. What terrible action does Montag take on pages 112 & 113, and what specifically triggered this action?
4. "*Beatty wanted to die.*" (p. 116) Given all you know about Beatty, why would he wish to die?
5. Montag needs to figure out where to go & what to do. What is the rough plan he's forming? (p. 118-119)
6. Does "war" have the same meaning in this world as in our world? (p. 119, 125) Explain & analyze.
7. Crossing the road is a bit of an ordeal for Montag for several reasons. (p. 119-123)
8. What did Montag do at Fireman Black's house? (p. 123-125)
9. What is the irony in the phrases "hobo camps" and "Harvard degrees" on page 126?
10. Another Mechanical Hound has been brought to hunt Montag. What precautions will he have to take now? What does he tell Faber to do? (p. 126-130)

## Fahrenheit 451 pages 130-148

## Day 15

1. What happens when the Hound reaches Faber's house? (p. 131) How does Montag see this?
2. How is Montag almost caught? (p. 131-132)
3. What does Montag do to cover his tracks? (p. 133)
4. How does Montag feel about the river? (p. 133-135)
5. He thinks of Millie. Why? What does he think? How does he feel? (p. 135)
6. As Montag adjusts to being away from the city, what does he remember from his childhood? (p. 135-136)
7. He thinks he sees the Hound, but what is it? (p. 137)

8. Montag's senses seem to be reawakening as he goes farther into the river and deeper into the countryside. What does he feel, see, smell, hear and taste? (p. 133-138)
9. He thinks again of Clarisse. (p. 138)
10. **Do you think** Montag safely got away from the helicopters and the Hound?
11. There have been a few more reminders of how futuristic this world is. Look back at pages 118 & 119, and tell about this science fiction detail. Then, tell about the sci fi fluid on page 140.
12. What does Montag find? (p. 138-140)
13. Describe the television coverage. What happens? (p. 141-143)
14. How are the books being kept? (p. 144-146) What will happen when the war is over? (p. 145-146)
15. Who is Granger? Describe him & the other men. (p. 139-148)

## **Pages 148-158**

## **Day 16**

1. Montag thinks again of Millie. What does this tell us about his true feelings for her? Was she happy? What does he think is happening to Millie? (p. 148-153)
2. What wisdoms did Granger's grandfather share with his grandson? (p. 148-151)
3. The war is quick. Describe. (p. 151-155)
4. What is Granger's rather poetic and hopeful message on pages 156-157?
5. What are the men going to do now? (p. 156-158)