

**Faulkner, *The Sound and the Fury*, Pp. 93-153 Quentin
Wesley Advocates 29 April 2018**

When and where does the action occur? How old is Quentin, and what is his situation?

Who is Shreve? Why does Faulkner portray him as Canadian? (You perhaps remember Shreve from *Absalom, Absalom!* in which he served as a ficelle for Quentin as he reported what he learned from Miss Rosa Coldfield about the Sutpens). What does Shreve contribute to our view of Quentin here?

Why are the flatirons and their weight important?

What is significant about Quentin's watch? What does he do to destroy it? Why? Besides the watch, how does Faulkner use nature and timepieces to remind us of Quentin's rush to death?

Why does Quentin conflate "little sister" and death? What does he mean in quoting Father (Jason III): ". . . Christ was not crucified; he was worn away by a minute clicking of little wheels. That had no sister" (p. 94)?

Why does Quentin recall Caddy's wedding roses in particular? Again, and again, we have the dichotomy of Eve and Mary: Quentin longs for Caddy to be Mary, but she is always Eve. What evidence does Faulkner provide to help us see Caddy as Eve?

Why did Quentin confess to Father that he committed incest with Caddy? Did he? Why does Quentin wish he had committed as grave a sin as incest with Caddy? What would it gain him?

See p. 96: "In the South you are ashamed of being a virgin. Boys. Men. They lie about it. Because it means less to women, Father said. He said it was men invented virginity not women . . . I said, Why couldn't it have been me and not her who is unvirgin and he said, "That's why that's sad, too; nothing is even worth the changing of it, and Shreve said if he's got better sense than to chase after the little dirty sluts and I said Did you ever have a sister? Did you? Did you?" What is the significance of Quentin's obsession with Caddy's virginity?

See p. 99: what careful preparations do we observe in Quentin? What are the two envelopes Quentin prepares? For whom?

What do we learn about Quentin's views of the South and North? About his home and the family there?

What differences do we and Quentin remark when he crosses the Charles from Cambridge into Boston? How far from bridge surface to water? Why important?

Who is Gerald Bland? Describe him and his mother. What is her significance to Quentin's story?

How often do we observe something about Quentin's or someone else's shadow? Why? Of what symbolic significance? How often does Quentin think about his own or someone else's sister? How often does he judge someone for not having a sister and therefore being unable to understand his own dilemma?

What do we learn about Dalton Ames from Quentin? About Sydney Herbert Head from Quentin? Indeed, what kinds of empty promises did Head offer the Compsons? Why is SHH surprised when he meets Quentin given the way Caddy talked to him about Quentin?

In ways does Quentin simultaneously idolize and denigrate Caddy?

On p. 124, Shreve meets Quentin, "Say, what're you doing today, anyhow? All dressed up and mooning around like the prologue to a suttee. Did you go to Psychology this morning?" What is wonderful and ironic here?

Who was Semiramis? Why is she relevant?

See p. 139:

Caddy.

Dont touch me just promise.

If you're sick you cant.

Yes I can after that it'll be all right it wont matter don't let them send him to

Jackson promise

I promise Caddy Caddy

Don't touch me don't touch me

What does it look like Caddy

What

That that grins at you that thing through then

And p. 142-143:

Got to marry somebody

Have there been very many Caddy

I dont know too many will you look after Benjy and Father

You don't know whose it is then does he know

Dont touch me will you look after Benjy and Father

What are Quentin and Caddy discussing?

See p. 144:

If it could just be a hell beyond that the clean flame the two of us more than dead. Then you will have only me then only me then the two of us amid the pointing and the horror beyond the clean flame

What does Quentin long for here?

Why was SHH expelled from school? Why is he a blackguard? What do Quentin's accusations and Caddy's responses concerning Sydney reveal about their notions of honor and practicality?