

Book II, Chapter 7: "Monseigneur in Town"

- 1 Why does Dickens heap verbally ironic sarcasm (e.g., "his sanctuary of sanctuaries" on p. 134) on Monseigneur?
- 2 Why had Monseigneur taken his sister from a convent and married her off (below her social station) to a very rich Farmer-General?
- 3 What is the moral climate created by Monseigneur's guests?
- 4 How does the Marquis rationalize the accident?
- 5 In classical myth the three Fates spun, wove, and cut the thread of a person's life — how does Dickens connect Madame Defarge with these supernatural beings from the accident scene to the end of the chapter?

Book II, Chapter 8: "Monseigneur in the Country"

- 1 The setting sun's blush on the Marquis' face suggests what fate awaits him?
- 2 What accounts for the apathetic conditions of the crops, the village, and its people?
- 3 In the last chapter the Marquis thought of the peasants as rats and dogs, and here he addresses the road-mender as "pig" (p. 145) why is his rudeness ironic here?
- 4 How does this chapter confirm a connection between Charles and the Marquis?

Book II, Chapter 9: "The Gorgon's Head"

In classical myth the gorgons were creatures so repulsive that the very sight of one would turn the beholder to stone — indeed, the hero Perseus uses the head of the gorgon *Medusa*, whom he has slain by looking into his polished shield rather than directly at her, to turn the Titan Atlas into a mountain (Gibraltar).

- 1 How does this title seem appropriate for the chapter?
- 2 Though closely related, how do the Marquis and his nephew from England

radically differ?

- 3 What intentions does the Marquis imply he has towards Dr. Manette and to his nephew?
- 4 How does the note around the murder weapon explain why the Marquis was killed?
- 5 Why is the Marquis, uncle to Charles Darnay, actually his enemy?

Book II, Chapter 10: "Two Promises"

- 1 What is the chronological setting relative to Chapter 9?
- 2 How does Darnay, having renounced his family inheritance, earn his living?
- 3 Why is it ironic that Dr. Manette refuses to listen when Charles tries to tell him his real name?
- 4 Why does the Doctor suffer a relapse and return to his cobbler's bench?
- 5 What is particularly noble about Charles' profession of love for Lucie, made to her father?

Book II, Chapter 11: "A Companion Picture"

- 1 Why does Stryver continually criticize and belittle Sydney Carton for his social lapses?
- 2 Why does Carton endure such abuse?
- 3 In what sense is this chapter's title ironic?
- 4 How does Dickens suggest the cause of Carton's alcoholism?

Book II, Chapter 12: "The Fellow of Delicacy"

- 1 Why does Dickens have Mr. Lorry rather than Lucie herself reject Stryver's repulsive, egotistical absurd proposal?
- 2 Why did Stryver go to Mr. Lorry before actually proposing?