**Lord of the Flies**

***Chapter 10 - Notes***

* (171) Only Ralph and Piggy remain.
* (172-173) Ralph mocks the conch when Piggy suggests an assembly be called. *Ralph is filled with guilt and revulsion at what happened to Simon. Piggy tries to* ***rationalize,*** *giving reasons why it wasn’t really murder (“...it was dark...lightning and thunder...he had no business crawling like that...”) Piggy* **is** *being rational here: He sees that Ralph is close to breaking down altogether, and if that happens, they will all be finished. But he also displays a fearful, stubborn streak.*
* (176) Large rock poised on the cliff: a trap set by Jack’s tribe. Jack has a tribe member tied and beaten for some unknown reason. *He is a true dictator now, ruling with fear and force.*
* (177) Jack is paranoid, saying they must always beware of the “others” (Ralph and Piggy) and the beast. *They will not confront the fact that Simon was murdered. Jack claims the beast can disguise itself. Hunting, violence and lies keep them from confronting the truth, and thus evil is maintained.*
* (179-180) The “double function of the fire.” *Fire is a powerful symbol; representing civilization on 2 levels: the hope of rescue, as well as comfort.* Ralph is shocked by Eric’s questioning of the need for fire. “Ralph tried... to remember. There was something good about a fire.” *It was, of course, the hope of rescue. The memory of civilized life is fading.”*  Sam ‘n’ Eric cannot see the “big picture.”
* (181) “Then, at the moment... been driving at.” *Ralph’s weakness displayed: He finds it difficult to focus.*
* (182)”... the attraction of wildness had gone.” *The idea of wilderness exploration has ceased to be a romantic idea for Ralph****.*** *The expectation of what ‘wild’ places were like differed from reality.*
* (184-185) The hunters attack.
* (186) Piggy’s glasses are stolen.

***Chapter 11***

* (187-188) Jack has stolen Piggy’s glasses. *The power of evil distorts rational thought.*
* (189-190) Piggy’s plan for approaching Jack. *Very moving, poignant display. Piggy, who was already weak and now even weaker, holds on to his principles”... what’s rights right.”*
* (190) Piggy’s tears splashing “like a star” on the “fragile and white” conch: Powerful imagery. Tears=the helpless pain of one who knows what is right, the conch=the now useless symbol of equality.
* (190-191) The four boys wish they could go and meet Jack looking as they did when they first arrived (a contrast to Jack’s painted body).
* (194) They confront Roger and the other “savages.” Roger throws a rock at the twins, “aiming to miss.” This excites him. *In chapter 4, Roger’s restrained from throwing rocks by the “taboo of old life.” That taboo is almost gone.*
* (196) Ralph and Jack battle at castle rock.
* (197) Jack’s tribe laughs when Ralph reminds them of the need for a signal fire.
* (198-199) Jack has the twins tied up, proving his power to Ralph. They both fight again, while Piggy, holding the conch tries to speak. Roger is throwing stones.
* (200-201)Roger pushes the rock over the cliff: Piggy is killed, the conch is destroyed. *This symbolized the death of intellect and reason on the island. No one valued reason more than Piggy. He was the driving force of democracy and civilized debate , and the conch symbolized this.*

***Chapter 12***

* (204) Though he wants to believe differently, Ralph knows that he will never be left alone, that they will hunt *him* soon enough.
* (205) Ralph sees the pig’s skull on the stick, and is filled with anger. It seems to smile and mock him. *Seems to be reminding Ralph, like Simon, that “ The Lord of the Flies” is in everyone.*
* (206) Ralph realized he can never be part of the tribe. He will always be an outcast.” Cos I had some sense,” he says.
* (207) Sam ‘n’ Eric now part of Jack’s tribe, apparently after they had been forced.
* (208-209) Ralph is upset. The twins try and explain how Jack and Roger are full of hate, and want to hunt Ralph.
* (210) “You don’t know Roger, he’s a terror.” *Roger characterized as a sadist, one who enjoys inflicting pain.*
* (211-212) Ralph questions the twins on what is in store for him. He tries to figure out the answer: “Roger sharpened a stick at both ends.” - *Just like was done for the pigs head.*
* (214)One of the twins confessed to knowing where Ralph was - probably under stress from torture.
* (218) Ralph is on the run. “There was no Piggy... nor dignity of the conch.” *Ralph is without any protection, forced to flee like a hunted animal.*
* (220) Ralph reflects on the group’s stupidity in starting the fires - they will burn down the fruit trees.
* (222) Ralph meets the naval officer.
* (223) Officer seems to joke when asking if the boys were having a war. But the truth surprises him.
* (224) The boy who could easily rhyme off his name in the beginning now cannot remember.
* (224-225) It is *ironic* that the fire that was lit in an attempt to catch Ralph and destroy him is ultimately what saved him, since it is what attracted the navy ship. It is also ironic that Ralph is saved from Jack and his hunters by the military which, in a way, are hunters also. They too seek out the enemy; they too will kill whomever they are instructed to kill. They wear certain decorations that make them stand out from others. Since the children were saved by these adults, the lingering question is: who will save the adults?