

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Per \_\_\_\_\_

ACT TWO: SCENE ONE----- Student Annotations and questions

Read the stage directions at the beginning of Act Two, page 10

**Highlight the following text:**

- “at night”
- “little knots of people stand around talking in low voices”
- “at the end of each conversation they look toward Les Goodman’s house”
- “whispered voices of the people”
- “Two men stand in sentry-like poses”

1. How would you describe the scene, and what do the actions of the people suggest?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Who is the scapegoat? \_\_\_\_\_

**Highlight the following text: page 11**

- “You best watch who you’re seen with Steve! You ain’t exactly above suspicion yourself”
- “Or you, Charlie. Or any of us it seems.”

3. How would you describe the mood at this point? \_\_\_\_\_

**Highlight the following text: page 11**

- Steve says “Let’s pick out every idiosyncrasy of every single man, woman, and child on the street.”
- “How about a firing squad at dawn”

4. What is an idiosyncrasy? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Is Steve being honest or sarcastic? \_\_\_\_\_

**Highlight the following text: page 11**

- Charlie says “Who do you talk to on that radio set? And who talks to you?”

6. What is Charlie implying? \_\_\_\_\_

7. How does Steve react? \_\_\_\_\_

**Highlight the following text: page 12**

- Steve says “... all desperate to point some kind of a finger at a neighbor! Well now, look, friends, the only thing that’s gonna happen is that we’ll eat each other up alive—”

8. What type of literary device is used with Steve’s line above? \_\_\_\_\_

**Highlight the following text: page 12**

- “clickety-clack of slow, measured footsteps
- “one of the women lets out a stifled cry” Sally grabs her boy as do a couple of other mothers”
- “Another woman lets out a wail”
- “Don Martin joins them, carrying a shotgun”

9. Describe the mood at this point? \_\_\_\_\_

**Highlight the following text: page 12**

- “A shotgun? No! Will anybody think a thought around here! Will you people wise up.”

10. How would you describe Steve at this point? \_\_\_\_\_

**Highlight the following text: page 13**

- “pulling the gun from Steve’s hands” and “Charlie swings around, raises the gun, and suddenly pulls the trigger”.

11. Why did Charlie pull the trigger? \_\_\_\_\_

**Highlight the following text: page 13**

- “Charlie...the lights just went on in your house. Why did the lights just go on?”

12. Explain how Charlie’s house lights suddenly coming on is poor timing for Charlie. \_\_\_\_\_

**Highlight the following text: page 13-14**

- “As the man tackles him and lands on top of him, the other people start to run toward them.”
- “A rock thrown from the group smashes a window besides him, the broken glass flying past him. A couple of pieces cut him”
- “He stands there perspiring, rumped, blood running down from a cut on the cheek”

13. What has now happened in this neighborhood? \_\_\_\_\_

**Highlight the following text: page 14**

- “Look, look, I swear to you... it isn’t me.. but I do know who it is.. I swear to you, I do know who it is”
- Charlie’s eyes dart around wildly.

14. What does the description of Charlie's eyes darting around wildly as he is watching the scene unfold before him suggest? \_\_\_\_\_

**Highlight the following text: page 16**

- The stage directions: "the lights in other houses go on, then off" and all the characters blaming each other.
- "people shout, accuse, and scream as the lights go on and off"
- "nightmarish confusion"

15. What can we assume will happen at the end? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Highlight the following text: page 16**

- "Just stop a few of their machines and radios... throw them into darkness for a few hours, and then just sit back and watch the pattern"
- "They pick the most dangerous enemy they can find... and it's themselves."
- "And all we need to do is sit back... and watch"
- "We'll go from one to the other and let them destroy themselves"

16. Who are the REAL "monsters" according to the author? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Highlight the following text: page 16**

- "There are weapons that are simply thoughts, attitudes, prejudices- to be found only in the minds of men"

17. Through these 3 things mentioned above, humans can turn on each other, blame each other, have \_\_\_\_\_ and hatred for each other, and eventually it can become \_\_\_\_\_.

18. Again, \_\_\_\_\_ can be our own worst enemy.