



# Anthem

by Ayn Rand

## Teacher's Guide

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## Synopsis

### Chapter 1

Burdened with the awareness that he is transgressing against the dictates and philosophy of the state, 21-year-old Equality 7-2521 suffers under the iron fist of the Council of Vocations. He writes his journal in a subterranean chasm left over from the Unmentionable Times. Looking back over the past four years, he recalls feeling cursed by forbidden thoughts. An independent in a collective state, he rejects the overshadowing "we" and prefers to think for himself.

As Equality 7-2521 contemplates his institutionalized life, he recalls communal sleeping quarters in the Home of the Infants where one hundred children slept in one room until age five. After ten years of overly-simplified learning, he advances to a vocation, which is selected for him. Beset by a probing, questioning mind, he acknowledges his sin of having a preference and accepts his lot—a career as street sweeper.

For four years the regimented existence of sweeper closes in on Equality 7-2521. While cleaning the yard of the Home of Scholars, he gathers scientific paraphernalia and other refuse and carries it to the City Cesspool, where he discovers an iron grill covering an underground chamber. His friend, International 4-8818, keeps his secret. Each night while fellow workers sit in the City Theatre for group indoctrination, Equality 7-2521 works by candlelight in the musty, deserted tunnel, experimenting with electricity and tinkering with odd pieces of his era's primitive technology.

### Chapter 2

While sweeping the great road near the Homes of the Peasants, Equality 7-2521 makes a second

great discovery—17-year-old Liberty 5-300, the only woman he has ever desired. Gradually they establish eye and hand contact and learn each other's names. Equality 7-2521 thinks of her as the Golden One. Barred from sexual contact except during the impersonal Time of Mating, Equality 7-2521 realizes a personalized bond with a female. Existence becomes more tedious and ominous as Equality 7-2521 fights the urge to speak for himself and ponders the death of the "Saint of the pyre," a transgressor tortured and burned at the stake for speaking the Unspeakable Word when Equality 7-2521 was ten years old. The look in the tongueless victim's eyes puzzled Equality 7-2521, for it bespoke joy and pride.

### Chapter 3

Armed with the discovery of a primitive electric generator, Equality 7-2521 determines to confront the Council of Scholars and share his invention with humanity.

### Chapter 4

Equality 7-2521 waits days before addressing his Golden One. He tells her the name and receives her name for him, The Unconquered. Both find the

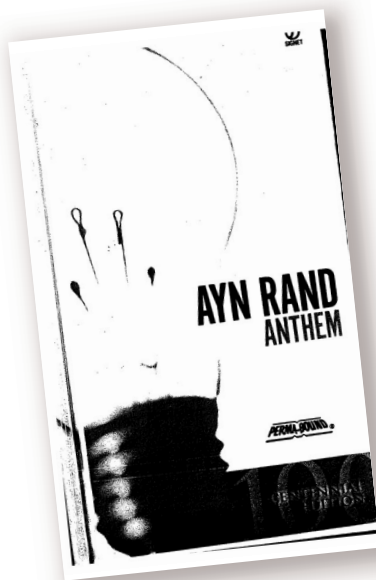
courage to speak forbidden thoughts and to touch as the Golden One brings him water.

### Chapter 5

One night, Equality 7-2521 creates light from electricity. He determines to tell the World Council of Scholars a month later, when it convenes in the city. He anticipates a reassignment to the Home of the Scholars.

### Chapter 6

Thirty days later, he admits to being caught. Absorbed in his observations, he forgot to return to his regiment of sweepers in time. For refusing to explain his whereabouts to superiors, authorities took him to the Stone Room under the Palace of Corrective Detention, stripped him, and lashed him



senseless. They confined him in a brick-floored cell. Eluding rickety locks, he escaped to await the meeting of scholars.

**Chapter 7**

On the next day, Equality 7-2521 strides into the presence of twenty scholars and demonstrates the power of electricity. Collective 0-0009, speaking for the assembled body, declares that "What is not thought by all men cannot be true." To prevent destruction of his invention, Equality 7-2521 leaps through a glass window and runs to the Uncharted Forest.

**Chapter 8**

In the first day of freedom, Equality 7-2521 knows a joy in self, partly from the exhilaration of freedom and partly from the physical exuberance of a healthy young body fleeing through the forest. In a stream he catches a glimpse of his face and tall, strong frame. On paper hidden in his tunic, he writes his journal.

**Chapter 9**

The second day, Equality 7-2521 hears steps pursuing him and runs to meet the Golden One, who has escaped the city to join him. For many days, they walk on with no goal in mind. With a primitive bow and arrows, he shoots wild birds and cooks them for food. During their brief relationship, they fall in love. He searches for the forbidden word.

**Chapter 10**

Many days later, the pair cross a chain of mountains. At sunrise, they locate a two-story concrete house left from the Unmentionable Times. The girl, beguiled by brightly-colored clothing, and her mate, intrigued by rows of books, decide to live together in the house.

**Chapter 11**

From reading ancient masters, Equality 7-2521 learns the pronoun I.

**Chapter 12**

As he evolves a sense of self and a love of freedom, he names himself Prometheus and his mate, Gaea, both deities from the era of the Greek titans. As they await the birth of their first child, Equality 7-2521 comes to understand the importance of individuality. Over the portal of his fort he plans to cut his new watchword, EGO.

**Timeline**

- Feb. 2, 1905** Ayn Rand is born in St. Petersburg, Russia.
- Aug. 1914** World War I begins; St. Petersburg's name is changed to Petrograd.
- Nov. 1917** Bolsheviks seize power in Russia; Rand's family flees to the Crimea.
- 1918-20** Reds defeat Whites in the Russian Civil War.
- 1920** Evgeny Zamyatin's *We* is published.
- 1921** Rand's family returns to Petrograd.
- 1924** Rand graduates from the University of Leningrad.
- 1925** H.G. Wells' *Men Like Gods* is published.
- 1926** Rand travels to the United States.
- 1929** Rand marries Frank O'Connor.
- 1931** Rand becomes a U.S. citizen.
- 1932** Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World* is published.
- 1933** Franklin Roosevelt becomes president and ushers in the New Deal.
- 1934** Rand moves to New York City.
- 1936** *We, the Living* is published.
- 1938** *Anthem* is published.
- 1939-45** World War II leaves over 20 million people dead and much of Europe under Communist control.
- 1940** Rand campaigns for Wendell Wilkie.
- 1941** United States enters World War II.
- 1942** *We, the Living* is filmed in Italy. It is banned shortly after being released.
- 1943** *The Fountainhead* is published. Rand sells the movie rights and moves to Hollywood to write the screenplay.
- 1944** Rand writes the screenplay for the Hal Wallis film *Love Letters*.
- 1945** World War II ends. George Orwell's *Animal Farm* is published.
- 1946** Rand begins writing *Atlas Shrugged*.
- 1947** Rand testifies before The House Un-American Activities Committee on Communist influence in movies.
- 1949** The film version of *The Fountainhead* is released. George Orwell's *1984* is published.
- 1951** Rand returns to New York City.
- 1957** *Atlas Shrugged* is published.
- 1964** *The Virtue of Selfishness* is published.
- 1965** Robert Heinlein's *The Moon Is a Harsh Mistress* is published.

- 1968 Rand breaks with Nathaniel Branden.  
 1971 The Libertarian Party is founded.  
 1979 Frank O'Connor dies.  
 1981 Ronald Reagan becomes president.  
 Mar. 6, 1982 Rand dies.

## Author Sketch

Alisa Rosenbaum, better known as Ayn Rand, was born on February 2, 1905, in St. Petersburg, Russia, the daughter of a Jewish pharmacist. In 1917, after the Bolsheviks seized power in Russia, Alyssa's father took the family to the Crimea, where they stayed until the end of the Russian Civil War. Despite pleas from family members that they flee to the West, Alyssa's father took the family back to Petrograd, where they discovered that the family business and all their other property had been confiscated by the new regime. The family was able to obtain lodging in their former home and lived in extreme poverty.



Despite the severe hardships, Alyssa continued her education and graduated from the University of Leningrad. It was about this time she changed her name: Ayn (rhymes with "pine") was the name of a favorite Finnish author and Rand was the name of the company that manufactured her typewriter. In late 1925 she was able to get a visa to the United States and arrived on January 26, 1926. After spending several months with relatives in Chicago, she moved to Hollywood, where she worked as a movie extra for De Mille Studio. She met fellow extra Frank O'Connor on the set of *King of Kings* and married him in 1929.

Rand and O'Connor later moved to New York City, where she became a full-time writer. Her first two novels, *We the Living* and *Anthem*, met with limited critical and financial success. In 1943, however, *The Fountainhead* turned her into a literary sensation. The story of an architect who refuses to be corrupted or surrender his ideals, the novel firmly established Rand as a major voice for individualism.

In the early 1950s, Rand met Nathaniel Branden, who soon became the leader of a group of a disci-

ples ironically known as "The Commune." They established the Nathaniel Branden Institute to promote their ideas and philosophy. Following the 1957 publication of her masterwork, *Atlas Shrugged*, she devoted all her time to non-fiction writing and public appearances and lectures in support of the Institute.

In 1968, Branden ended a 15-year affair with Rand, which led to a violent and public split and the closing of the Nathaniel Branden Institute. Rand became more reclusive and spent more time writing. In the 1970s, the growth of conservative and libertarian politics sparked a new interest in her novels and philosophy. Ayn Rand died March 6, 1982, in New York.

## Critic's Corner

While she had enormous financial success during her lifetime, Rand was often rejected or even scorned by critics. Since her death, however, interest in her work has continued to grow. In 1991, for example, a survey by the Library of Congress and the Book-of-the-Month Club found that *Atlas Shrugged* was second only to the *Bible* as the most influential book in the United States.

*Anthem*, Rand's second novel, was published in England in 1938; Macmillan, her U.S. publisher at the time, rejected the book, saying that the author did not understand socialism. It was finally published in the United States as a pamphlet in 1946, in hardcover in 1953, and as a mass-market paperback in 1961.

Rand herself was responsible for some of her lack of critical acceptance during her lifetime. While her staunch individualism was rejected by many liberals, many conservatives disliked her for outspoken atheism. However, Rand, true to her individualistic morality, publicly disdained her critics. When told that her books were outside the mainstream of American literature, she replied, "The mainstream of American literature is a stagnant swamp."

Among Rand's followers and devotees are her one-time collaborator, Nathaniel Branden, a psychologist and one of the founders of the self-esteem movement, and economist Alan Greenspan, who in 1987 became chairman of the Federal Reserve.

One person who acknowledged the influence of Rand was television producer Gene Roddenbury, who used Rand's devotion to reason and logic in developing the character of Spock for the series *Star Trek*.

In 1997 a film biography, *Ayn Rand: A Sense of Life* was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Feature Documentary. Written, produced, and directed by Michael Paxton, it combined television and movie clips with interviews of friends and commentators such as Mike Wallace. In 1999, Showtime aired a movie version of Barbara Branden's 1985 biography, *The Passion of Ayn Rand*. It starred Helen Mirren as Rand, Peter Fonda as Frank O'Connor, and Eric Stoltz and Julie Delpy as Nathaniel and Barbara Branden.

## Ayn Rand's Other Works

*Atlas Shrugged* (1957)  
*Capitalism: The Unknown Ideal* (1966)  
*For the New Intellectual* (1961)  
*The Fountainhead* (1943)  
*The New Left: The Anti-Industrial Revolution* (1971)  
*The Night of January 16th* (also known as *The Penthouse Legend*) (1932)  
*The Objectivist* (magazine) (1962-71)  
*Philosophy: Who Needs It?* (1982)  
*The Romantic Manifesto: A Philosophy of Literature* (1969)  
*The Virtue of Selfishness* (1965)  
*We, the Living* (1936)

## Related Reading

Richard Adams, *Watership Down*  
Poul Anderson, *The Star Fox* and *Trader to the Stars*  
Margaret Atwood, *The Handmaid's Tale*  
Avi, *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle*  
Ray Bradbury, "There Will Come Soft Rains" and *Fahrenheit 451*  
Karel Capek, *R. U. R.*  
Orson Scott Card, *Ender's Game*  
Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*  
Paula Fox, *Slave Dancer*  
Esther Hautzig, *The Endless Steppe*  
Robert Heinlein, *The Moon is a Harsh Mistress*, *Starship Troopers*, and *Stranger in a Strange Land*  
Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston and James Houston, *Farewell to Manzanar*  
Victor Hugo, *Les Misérables* and *Ninety-Three*

Aldous Huxley, *Brave New World*  
Theodora Kroeber, *Ishi*  
Ira Levin, *This Perfect Day*  
Brad Linaweaver, *Moon of Ice*  
Jack London, *The Call of the Wild*  
Lois Lowry, *The Giver*  
Thomas More, *Utopia*  
O. T. Nelson, *The Girl Who Owned a City*  
George Orwell, *Animal Farm* and *1984*  
Gary Paulsen, *Hatchet* and *Nightjohn*  
Plato, *The Republic*  
J. Neil Schulman, *Alongside Night* and *The Rainbow Cadenza*  
Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein*  
L. Neil Smith, *Pallas* and *The Probability Broach*  
John Steinbeck, *The Grapes of Wrath*  
Henry David Thoreau, *Walden*  
Gore Vidal, *A Visit to a Small Planet*  
Margaret Walker, *Jubilee*  
Yoko Kawashima Watkins, *So Far from the Bamboo Grove*  
H.G. Wells, *Men Like Gods*  
Elie Wiesel, *Night*  
Evgeny Zamyatin, *We*

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## General Objectives

1. To examine the structure and style of dystopian literature
2. To enumerate the conventions of the journey motif
3. To isolate examples of individuality
4. To identify themes of courage, endurance, curiosity, and compassion
5. To discuss forms of slavery
6. To analyze collectivism
7. To explain primitive forms of electricity
8. To discuss communal life
9. To understand the nature and purpose of a parable
10. To contrast the novel to Aesopic fable and Christian parable

## Specific Objectives

1. To describe Equality 7-2521's reason for attending the Council of Scholars
2. To assess character flaws in fellow sweepers
3. To determine the significance of character names, particularly Collective 0-0009
4. To evaluate Liberty 5-3000's decision to join

- Equality 7-2521 in the Uncharted Forest
5. To follow the sequence of events after Equality 7-2521 discovers the tunnel
6. To explain why the authorities lash and imprison Equality 7-2521
7. To discuss the importance of the box, both to Equality 7-2521 and to humanity
8. To account for the bonding between Equality 7-2521 and the Saint of the pyre
9. To describe how Equality 7-2521 and Liberty 5-3000 form a new race
10. To relate the concept of ego to the closing chapter

## Literary Terms and Applications

For a better understanding of Ayn Rand's novel, present the following terms and applications:

**Allegory:** a literary work that functions on two or more levels of meaning by comparing objects to symbols beyond the scope of the work. The structure of *Anthem* takes Equality 7-2521 and Liberty 5-3000 from a dystopian environment and plunges them into an Eden of forest, stream, plain, and mountain chain. In their innocence of normal human relations, they discover self, challenge, love, home ownership, and potential parenthood. Like Adam and Eve, they are tentative at first, but are driven to obey powerful instincts. To establish their role outside scripture, Rand names them Gaea and Prometheus. By linking Liberty 5-3000 with the Greek earth mother, the author indicates her role in creating new life and establishing a home. Reference to Prometheus recalls a troubling myth in which the Titan gifted with foresight suffers intense punishment from Zeus for giving fire to humanity.

**Bildungsroman:** literally a "formation novel," which describes the coming-of-age of an untried or naive youth. The emergence of Equality 7-2521 follows the normal pattern of growing up. From early times, he quells his rebellious spirit and sublimates his natural urges for individuality by slipping away unseen to toy with discarded laboratory equipment in his subterranean hideaway. When his formation of manhood reaches completion, he willfully confronts society by appearing before a panel of scholars to demonstrate his box and challenge them to new heights. In the interim, he is

willing to suffer prison and torment to present his discovery as a gift to society. The idealism that goads him to such daring is typical of youth.

**Fable:** a brief, elementary moral story in verse or prose in which the characters are over-simplified and the objectives pared down to one great aim. For Equality 7-2521, fulfilling the urge to learn about science is worth the danger of being caught. After he realizes that society is unwilling to learn anything new or challenging to accepted ideas, he has no choice but to flee and make his own environment. Thus, he goes beyond the known world by breaching its boundaries in flight from authority. In his discovery of love, self, and self-fulfillment, he provides the fable with its characteristic moral. The reader, like Equality 7-2521, realizes the value of being true to self and accepting no repression of talent or objective.

### The Importance of Setting

The milieu of *Anthem* is a fictional microcosm more in keeping with psychology than topography. In the restrictive environment of dystopia, inhabitants are bred from random mating, grow up in barracks, and study simplified lessons before accepting a career forced on them by authority figures. The lockstep of dystopia takes shape in dreary buildings—the Home of the Infants, Home of the Students, Home of the Clerks, City Theatre, Home of the Peasants, City Council, and Home of Scholars. To evade oppression, Equality 7-2521 embraces a dank subterranean cell by climbing under his seat at the theater and sneaking under the cloth of the tent to a hole in the ground at the edge of civilization.

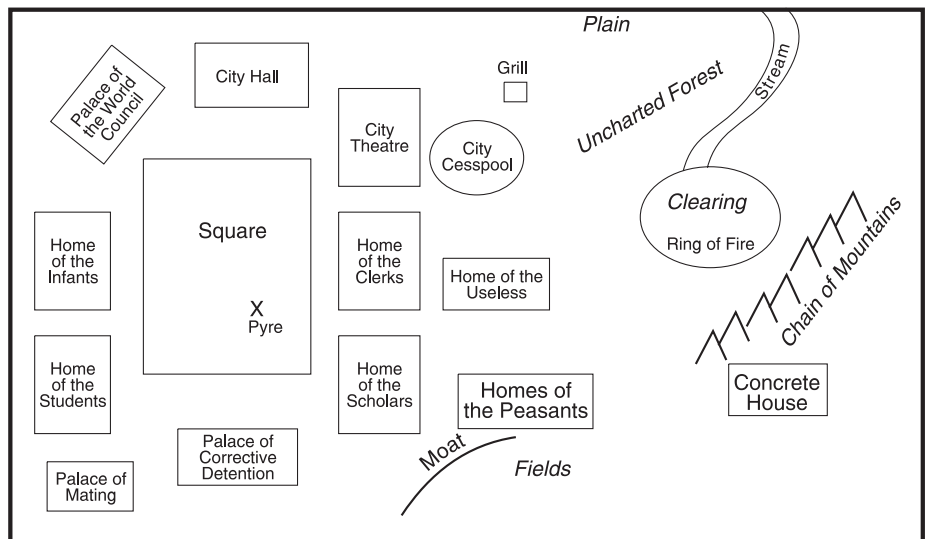
Apart from regimented society, Equality 7-2521 flees through empty streets to a ravine, a symbol of the precipice he must traverse to teach himself about science. Content among abandoned rails, stolen flint, vials, powders, and acid, he treats himself to a dimly lit lesson in science. From the City Cesspool come carcasses of animals to be dissected. To heat his cell, Equality 7-2521 constructs a brick oven fired with wood from the ravine. His library derives

manuscripts from pages stolen from the clerks' scriptoria, where copyists complete one hand-lettered page at a time.

Although Equality 7-2521 has witnessed a brutal torture and burning of a saint eleven years earlier, he willingly challenges society by perfecting his electric generator. Almost self-willed is his capture and jailing in the Palace of Corrective Detention. In the Stone Room, he undergoes a Byzantine torture amid windowless walls at a single iron post for restraining victims. Surprisingly, he has little difficulty escaping the dark passages of the dungeon, which need no guards.

The contrast of dystopia with the forest is central to the escapees' embrace of freedom. Far from authority figures and phalanxes of sweepers and planters, he flees through tall trees over soft earth, where silence enables him to work out his thoughts. In solitude, he runs and leaps, stretching his arms and whirling among bushes and branches as though testing his muscles for the first time. Delighted with "the song of our body," he stones a bird for a meal, makes a fire, and cooks it. The culmination of his first day of liberty is the enjoyment of his own cooking and the reflection of his face in a stream.

After uniting with the Golden One, the new Prometheus encounters a rapidly changing set of stimuli—a campfire, leafy shadows, an abandoned table, and a barrier of cliffs and peaks. At the concrete house, both escapees marvel at glass bulbs, mirrors, beds, and curtains. Certain that this life is his choice, Equality 7-2521 foresees a fortress manned by his sons under a banner proclaiming the worth of the self.



## Cross-Curricular Sources

For more information about Ayn Rand, individualism, objectivism and other subjects and issues deriving from the novel, consult these sources:

David Bergland, *Libertarianism in One Lesson*

Harry Binswanger, *The Ayn Rand Lexicon*

David Boaz, *Libertarianism: A Primer*

Barbara Branden, *The Passion of Ayn Rand* and *Who is Ayn Rand?*

Nathaniel Branden, *The Psychology of Self-Esteem*

John T. Flynn, *The FDR Myth*

David Friedman, *The Machinery of Freedom*

Milton and Rose Friedman, *Free to Choose*

Mimi R. Gladstein, *The Ayn Rand Companion*

David Kelley, *The Evidence of the Senses*

Rose Wilder Lane, *The Discovery of Freedom*

Albert Jay Nock, *Our Enemy, the State*

Isabelle Paterson, *The God of the Machine*

Jerome Tuccille, *It Usually Begins With Ayn Rand*

Also, consult these web sites:

Ayn Rand Institute

[www.aynrand.org](http://www.aynrand.org)

Ayn Rand Says

[www.hypermall.com/cgi-bin/rand-quotes.pl](http://www.hypermall.com/cgi-bin/rand-quotes.pl)

The Happy Prince

[sunsite.unc.edu/pub/docs/books/gutenberg/etext97/hpaot10.txt](http://sunsite.unc.edu/pub/docs/books/gutenberg/etext97/hpaot10.txt)

Iceberg: Utopia, Dystopia, and Myopia in the Late-19th Century

[www.georgetown.edu/bassr/exhibition/utopia/utopia.html](http://www.georgetown.edu/bassr/exhibition/utopia/utopia.html)

The Institute for Objectivist Studies

[www.ios.org](http://www.ios.org)

Leadership

[www.unca.edu/Leadership/bibliography.htm](http://www.unca.edu/Leadership/bibliography.htm)

## Themes and Motifs

A study of the central issues and situations in Ayn Rand's *Anthem* should include these aspects:

### Themes

- oppression
- frustration
- menial labor
- initiative
- power
- rebellion

- escape
- self-knowledge
- love
- self-rescue
- self-fulfillment

### Motifs

- coping with the aftermath of war
- developing a dystopia
- withdrawing into self-directed study
- discovering the opposite sex
- taking responsibility for actions
- planning a self-directed future

## Meaning Study

Below are words, phrases, sentences, or thought units that have particular meaning in the novel. Explain each. Chapter and page numbers are given so that you can note the context from which the item is taken.

1. All the great modern inventions come from the Home of the Scholars, such as the newest one, which was found only a hundred years ago, of how to make candles from wax and string; also, how to make glass, which is put in our windows to protect us from the rain. (Chap. 1, pp. 23-24)  
(*The extent of this society's regression is evident in its technology. Candles, which evolved from rushlights made of dried and twisted fibrous material impregnated with melted tallow, date to the early Egyptians and may have been used as articles of worship because of their aromatic fragrance. Glass, one of humanity's first ventures into compound materials, is the product of silica and alkali heated to a high temperature and cooled into a workable shape. The invention of glass may have derived from human observations of melted materials in the vicinity of volcanic activity.*)
2. The sky is green and cold in our windows to the east. (Chap. 1, p. 27)  
(*Describing his day at the Home of the Street Sweepers, Equality 7-2521 comments on the colors of the sky as he comments on the regulated sameness of each day. By afternoon, the sky is blue "with a deep brightness which is not bright." Then after dinner, the regimented sweepers file into City Hall for a Social Meeting. By the time they leave, the sky has evolved into a "soggy purple." After three hours of Social Recreation, the sweepers exit for the last time for the walk back to their kibbutz under a sky "like a black sieve pierced by silver drops that trem-*

*ble, ready to burst through." Against the ebony of the night sky, the sleeping halls seem "white and clean and bare save one hundred beds." In this world, nothing varies, whether it be the day's activities or the color of the sky.)*

3. On the ground there were long thin tracks of iron, but it was not iron; it felt smooth and cold as glass. (Chap. 1, p. 32)

*(In his dank hiding place in the tunnel, Equality 7-2521 examines the remains of a subway system, which stretches into the distance beyond where his candle shines. To his inexperienced hands, steel is an innovation. It looks like iron, but its smoothness reminds him more of glass.)*

4. And each of the men have one of the women assigned to them by the Council of Eugenics. (Chap. 2, p. 41.)

*(Eugenics is a systematized mating that applies the principles of heredity to the improvement of a species. Hitler suggested such a system preceding World War II when he devised a scheme to create a master race of blue-eyed blondes. In later years, sperm banks have enabled potential parents to improve their chances of giving birth to a genius or to avoid defective genes which threaten their children with Down's syndrome, Tay-Sachs disease, epilepsy, and other genetic faults.)*

5. We had heard of Saints. There are the Saints of Labor, and the Saints of the Council, and the Saints of the Great Rebirth. (Chap. 2, p. 50)

*(A saint, according to ecclesiastical definition, is a deceased man or woman whose exemplary life demonstrated virtue and good deeds. Other cult figures have been sanctified because of visitations of deities or angels or visions of heaven. In the Roman Catholic faith, the pope proclaims a saint through a process of canonization, after which the person is raised above the level of mortals and declared venerable and blameless. Saints in Equality 7-2521's society are chosen not for religious virtue, but as role models of sacrifice and community.)*

6. The frog had been hanging on a wire of copper; and it had been the metal of our knife which had sent a strange power to the copper through the brine of the frog's body. (Chap. 3, p. 52)

*(By trial and error, Equality 7-2521 creates a primitive electrovoltaic cell, that generates electricity. Adapting his observation a step further, he puts "a piece of copper and a piece of zinc into a jar of brine, [touches] a wire to them, and there under our fingers, was a miracle which had never occurred before, a new miracle and a new power.")*

7. It makes the needle move and turn on the compass which we stole from the Home of the Scholars; but we had been taught, when still a child, that the loadstone points to the north and that this is a law which nothing can change; yet our new power defies all laws. (Chap. 3, pp. 53)

*(Equality 7-2521 calls into question the simplistic knowledge he gained during his ten years of education. Aware that lodestone [the more common spelling of the word] or magnetite points in a northerly direction, he is puzzled to learn that electric power can be harnessed and controlled. To prove his supposition, he raises "a tall rod of iron by the side of our hole, and we watched it from below. We have seen the lightning strike it again and again. And now we know that metal draws the power of the sky, and that metal can be made to give it forth.")*

8. And he suffered for his deed as all bearers of light must suffer. His name was Prometheus. (Chap. 12, p. 99)

*(Named forethought for his attempt to arm humanity against the brutalities of nature, Prometheus was a titan god in Greek mythology. He risked eternal torment by entering heaven and stealing fire, which he hid in a hollow reed. As a gift to humankind, fire provided not only warmth but protection from greater, stronger, fiercer animals. In like manner, Equality 7-2521 rediscovers electricity, which will enable humanity to live a better, less laborious, and safer life on earth.)*

9. Her name was Gaea. (Chap. 12, p. 99)

*(Dating to the most primitive times, Gaea or Ge was the earth goddess whom the Romans called Terra. Born from Chaos, she produced by virgin birth three universal elements—sky [Uranus], mountains, and sea. As the wife of Uranus, she bore the Titans and the Cyclopes. She masterminded a plot by which her son, Cronus, emasculated his father and seized control of the universe. Equality 7-2521 predicts that Liberty 5-3000, pregnant with his child, will "be the mother of a new kind of gods.")*

10. The sacred word: EGO. (Chap. 12, p. 105)

*(Equality 7-2521, through deep study and contemplation of the books in his new home, discovers that the forbidden word—the one for which the Saint of the pyre was tortured and executed—is ego, the psychological term for self. Originally the Latin word for the pronoun I, the term here symbolizes Ayn Rand's concept of the individual, the core of her philosophy of objectivism.)*



## Comprehension Study

Answer the following questions in your own words. There is not always a right answer. Your judgment is important and you should be ready to defend your answers.

### Questions 1-5 (Literal Level)

- Describe Liberty 5-3000 as she first appears to Equality 7-2521.  
*(Working with his two fellow street sweepers, Equality 7-2521 toils along the "great road winding off to the north." Working toward the first milepost, he notices a hedge that separates the road from a ploughed field. There women, dressed in white tunics, broadcast seeds over the black furrows. Liberty 5-3000, stands "straight and thin as a blade of iron." Equality 7-2521 is drawn to her dark, hard, and glowing eyes, which have "no fear in them, no kindness and no guilt." Because of her dominant features, her wild, unrestrained gold hair, he secretly names her The Golden One. Standing still, Equality 7-2521 knows fear and pain for the first time in his twenty-one years. The pain, a physical yearning for the woman, is "more precious than pleasure.")*
- Explain how Equality 7-2521 locates the tunnel.  
*(In spring, while loading scientific paraphernalia from the Home of the Scholars and carrying it to the City Cesspool, Equality 7-2521, accompanied by his friend, International 4-8818, goes to the "great ravine behind the Theatre." There Equality 7-2521 spies an old rusted iron bar. He is unable to move it, and so must ask the help of his friend. The earth caves in, revealing that the bar is part of "an old iron grill over a black hole." Pulling the grill aside, Equality 7-2521 presses on down steps made of iron rings. Into the dark shaft he plunges onward, even though the Council forbids such exploration. At last his foot touches the ground and his eyes begin to focus on his surroundings. He realizes that he has uncovered a great tunnel.*  
*Evaluating his find, Equality 7-2521, who has never seen concrete, notes that the walls are "hard and smooth to the touch; it felt like stone, but it was not stone." Beneath him are "long thin tracks of iron, but it was not iron; it felt smooth and cold as glass." Equality 7-2521 is lured onward down the steel tracks, but he cannot function beyond the slim patch of light that falls from above. The pulse in his fingertips tells him what his mind is timid to acknowledge—the tunnel is a relic of the Unmentionable Times.)*
- What does Equality 7-2521 know of the past?  
*(At the age of twenty-one, following a sketchy ten-year education and little else, Equality 7-2521 knows from legends that the Unmentionable Times were scarred by "great fighting, in which*

*many men fought on one side and only a few on the other." The losers, termed the "Evil Ones," were obliterated from the earth along with their writings, which were burned in the three-month-long Script Fire. Snatches of the immediate past haunt him, particularly the scene that marked the death of the martyred Saint of the pyre when Equality 7-2521 was ten years old. Within the eyes of the saint were a joy and dignity that perplexed Equality 7-2521. Why did the martyr, his tongue ripped from its roots, pass on so deep a commitment to a ten-year-old boy? Equality 7-2521 ponders these few remnants of information and begins to piece them together only after he escapes the City and runs across the chain of mountains toward the two-story house.)*

- What does Equality 7-2521 learn as he begins the process of self-education in his mountain home?  
*(While Liberty 5-3000 entertains herself with the bright colors of her predecessor's wardrobe, Equality 7-2521 turns his thoughts to the library of hardbound and paperback books. Reflective in his new-found wealth of ideas, Equality 7-2521 ponders the concept of freedom. After perusing many volumes, he synthesizes the history of the world in terms of the fight for freedom. Humanity first toiled under the enslavement of gods. Freed at last from their bondage, humanity next fell under monarchical fists. From there the race struggled under successive layers of bondage—from birth to kin and race. At the pinnacle of success, humanity slipped at the very brink of discovering total freedom. During the Unmentionable Times, humanity "gave up all he had won, and fell lower than his savage beginning.")*
- How does the Uncharted Forest seem to Equality 7-2521 during his first day of freedom?  
*(Equality 7-2521, having leaped through a glass window and run from the Council which threatened to execute him, takes strength from the glass box as he directs his steps toward the Uncharted Forest. Saddened by thoughts of separation from his Golden One, he gives himself up to the damnation that must surely follow his rash actions. To his surprise and delight, the day is "a day of wonder, this, our first day in the forest." Freed of the relentless schedule that dogged his existence as a street sweeper, he lies indolently on his back, enjoys a ray of sunshine, and looks up into trembling leaves. Like a child—or a condemned man given an unexpected reprieve—Equality 7-2521 frolics, running, leaping, and falling in sheer joy at being alive and free.*  
*The escapee relishes nature—the snap of an overhanging branch and the softness of the mossy carpet beneath him. In delight, he laughs aloud, an act forbidden during his first twenty-one years in the City. Like the self-adoring persona of Walt Whitman's Song of Myself, Equality 7-2521 knows the*

joyous savor of “the song of our body.” His first meal comes to him as easily as picking berries on a branch. He kills a bird with a stone, cooks the carcass, and enjoys the taste, realizing a great satisfaction in food “which we need and obtain by our own hand.”

At the stream, Equality 7-2521 leans forward to survey his reflection, familiarizing himself for the first time with his own features. He is not displeased with what he sees. By sunset, the whole of his adventure comes together in a single realization—ostensibly he is “damned.” The irony of his situation fills him with a second urge to laugh. Before giving himself to sleep among the hollow between the roots, he writes his thoughts on a supply of paper which he has hidden in his tunic, but committing his perceptions to words brings a startling conclusion—he cannot speak what he does not understand.)

**Questions 6-8 (Interpretive Level)**

6. Why does the death of the Saint of the pyre seem significant to Equality 7-2521?  
(To Equality 7-2521, the unspoken communication that flashes between the dying martyr and himself at age ten reveals a transcendent truth—that some human endeavors are worth dying for. Long after Equality 7-2521 has risked his own life for the glass box and plunged into the Uncharted Forest to escape execution, he surveys the future. It is clear to him that the “Saint of the pyre had seen the future when he chose me as his heir, as the heir of all the saints and all the martyrs who came before him and who died for the same cause, for the same word, no matter what name they gave to their cause and their truth.”

It is some time later, as Equality 7-2521 and Liberty 5-3000 anticipate the birth of a child, that he forms a more complete vision of the future. Many strides ahead of the martyred saint, Equality 7-2521, renamed Prometheus, determines to “break all the chains of the earth, and raze the cities of the enslaved” in order to make a home that is the “capital of a world where each man will be free to exist for his own sake.” Finally able to think his way through the puzzle that nagged at him during his formative years, he knows intuitively that the Unspeakable Word for which the martyr died was EGO.)

7. Why does Ayn Rand condemn collectivism?  
(To Ayn Rand, the most important aspect of being alive is being an individual, the sum of choice, curiosity, learning, self-actualization, and bonding with others. The collective mentality that undergirds the philosophy of the City denies the extremes of human emotion and condemns each member to feign happiness in mindless repetition where no hiring may make a decision or state a preference. The cracks in the system follow evenings in which street sweepers attend indoctrinational meetings, hymn singing, and lengthy theater performances all aimed at unitizing their thoughts and actions. In the shadow of the sleeping hall,

two of Equality 7-2521’s companions cry out in their sleep. Doctors are mystified and fail to cure the one who cries “Help me!”

Collectivism, as Ayn Rand depicts it, is the great ill that reduces human possibility into a regimented system of predictability. As she crafts her main character, she demonstrates the misgivings of the misfit who wishes to belong to a real brotherhood. To Equality 7-2521’s dismay, his thoughts are sin-ridden, laced with the Transgression of Preference. Even after he makes his major discovery of a synthetic lightning to empower the world, he longs to share it with his brothers. As he describes his inmost pinings, “Tomorrow, you will take us back into your fold and we shall be an outcast no longer. Tomorrow we shall be one of you again. Tomorrow.”)

8. What hope does Equality 7-2521 have for his glass box?  
(After lengthy trials, Equality 7-2521 completes a glass box “devised to give forth the power of the sky of greater strength than we had ever achieved before.” Enamored of manmade light, he enjoys its glow and heat. His thoughts turn outward from the tunnel to the City: “We can light our tunnel, and the City, and all the Cities of the world with nothing save metal and wires. We can give our brothers a new light, cleaner and brighter than any they have ever known.”

Dreaming of a power to do humanity’s bidding, Equality 7-2521 contemplates “its secrets and its might.” Even after repeated lashings by the brutal hooded and aproned tormentor of the Stone Room, Equality 7-2521 can only murmur “The light . . . The light . . . The light . . .” before passing from consciousness. From a bread-and-water existence he escapes and returns immediately to the glass box, the focus of his life. With his invention in hand once more, the scarred back means nothing.

Idealistically, Equality 7-2521 hopes that he can demonstrate the power of electricity to the Council of Scholars and instantly win them over to his cause. His high-flown speech makes no impression on their fear-laden minds. As events point toward his eventual martyrdom, Equality 7-2521 is galvanized into action—not from fear of death, but out of a desire to protect the glass box from destruction.)

**Questions 9 and 10 (Critical Level)**

9. How does Ayn Rand fail to carry her vision?  
(Ayn Rand, who disdained the women’s movement, did not carry the novel far enough. For her, it is sufficient to liberate Equality 7-2521 from prejudicial mind shackles and allow him free range in the scientific endeavors that bring him peace. But she ignores the spiritual and emotional needs of Liberty 5-3000, despite the irony of the character’s name. As the couple flee the City and wend their way through the Uncharted Forest and across the

chain of mountains, Liberty 5-3000 slips easily and contentedly into the role of handmaiden, capitulating to the dreams and wishes of her lord and master, Equality 7-2521.

The most telling flaw in the liberation of only one half of the human scene is Equality 7-2521's passionate wish for a son to carry on the work of revitalizing civilization. Ayn Rand apportions no work of importance to Liberty 5-3000 beyond mindless obedience, menial tasks, gazing at herself in the mirror, and procreation. As her mate looks beyond his time to the days of his sons and chosen friends, he foresees "the freedom of Man. For his rights. For his life. For his honor." In a work that splits hairs over the designation of the plural pronoun for a single being, it is unthinkable that Rand denies the crowning achievements of humanity to the female sex.)

10. What aspects of society does Rand condemn with her dystopic vision?

(Assessing American society through the vision of dystopia, Ayn Rand notes certain obvious aspects of any society, particularly those facets that institutionalize and regiment human existence. For example, education should not constrain minds with the meaningless rote learning of trivial facts. Instead, societies should challenge students toward divergent thinking by encouraging the oddballs who depart to their hideaways to tinker with the secrets of the universe. Likewise didactic theater and lecture, cripple the spirit, reducing its ability to ponder great mysteries.

Rand condemns laws that hinder the flowering of the individual. Her ideal civilization is one that allows the individual to make full use of his or her skills and talents. To Rand, the answer to all the quandaries of humanity can be found by granting everyone the freedom to explore.)

#### Questions 11 and 12 (Creative Level)

11. Create a list of names appropriate for Liberty 5-3000's companions in the fields. Then create a second list of names suitable for her children.
12. Project how many improvements in his home and community Equality 7-2521 will be able to accomplish in a lifetime. Keep in mind that he has a library filled with books from the Unmentionable Times and rudimentary knowledge of biology and physics.

## Across the Curriculum

### Art

- Using desk-top publishing or other artistic media, design an antique mailbox for the concrete house, road symbols indicating the theater and Home of the Peasants, posters stating the route of the underground train or the relationship of Gaea and Prometheus, flash cards differentiating between dystopia and utopia, a uniform toga for the Council of Scholars or Sowers of Seeds, a placard or banner indicating the time of mating or warning of the dangers in the forest, propaganda leaflets on the satisfactions of a pre-selected career or shared objectives, and an announcement about the escapees.

### Geography

- Create maps that contrast the dystopian city and its barracks, theater, prison, and meeting hall with an underground tunnel, forest, plain, mountain chain, cliffs, peaks, and concrete house.
- Compose a paragraph contrasting the physical topography with the internal landscape of the two escapees. Propose reasons why they feel more alive in the forest and mountains than in the city.

### History and Social Studies

- Characterize the qualities of leadership that make Equality 7-2521 so miserable. Determine why the authorities choose street sweeping as his career. Contrast him with dissidents and others who challenge the established order.
- Recreate by time line, webbing, flow chart, mural, or web site evidence of individuality within emerging nations, particularly in Africa, the Balkans, India, the Caribbean, and Latin America.
- Write a brief address explaining the need for moral education. Cite the qualities of civilization that schools should teach, for example, acceptance of individual traits and compassion for weak or troubled individuals such as Fraternity 2-5503, Union 5-3992, and Solidarity 9-6347.

4. List ways that a dystopia forces intelligent or enterprising members to desperate acts. Include boredom and frustration as an impetus to lawlessness and revolt.
5. Explain the kind of laws necessary for a repressive society. Account for the predominance of the plural pronoun and the cruel removal of the tongue and burning at the stake of the Saint of the pyre.
6. Brainstorm ways of educating the escapees to make up for their inadequate school work. List valuable books in the order in which they should be read. Include such reference works as atlases, thesaurus, encyclopedia articles, almanacs, charts of the human body and the solar system, and historical time lines.
7. Compose an annotated time line of the Middle Ages. List date and locale of each departure from the Dark Ages, including discoveries in astronomy, medicine, mathematics, physics, geography, agriculture, warfare, city planning, and navigation.

**Language Arts**

1. Compose individual posters explaining important words and phrases from the novel.
2. Characterize in separate paragraphs the difference between assigned labor sweeping streets or planting seeds and the hard work the unfettered escapees undergo in establishing a new life.
3. Compose a speech to the Council of Scholars in which you propose the application of electricity as a labor-saving device. Indicate how you would fuel a power plant and extend electricity to each phase of city life, for example, schools, the theater, scriptorium, and streets.
4. Read aloud from nonfiction, novels, plays, and stories about repression and survival.
5. Using examples from *Anthem*, define dystopia. Differentiate between utopia, anti-utopia, and dystopia.

6. Draw a character web representing the interconnectedness between parents and children, scholars and learners, scientists and drones, authorities and laborers, prisoners and keepers, and escapees and the Saint of the pyre.
7. Summarize several realistic films and television series on utopias and dystopias. Discuss with a small group the weak points of tyranny, dictatorship, theocracy, and democracy.
8. Analyze the character Marius from Victor Hugo's *Les Miserables*. In what ways does Marius resemble Equality 7-2521?
9. Lead a panel discussion of the idealized forest setting that frames the pair's first days away from the city. Account for the edenic overtones as the male and female wanderers learn to enjoy freedom and each other.

**Psychology**

1. Make contrasting chalkboard definitions of intimidation, coercion, brutality, and mind control. Explain how the terms define the controlling emotions felt by Equality 7-2521, the Golden One, the Saint of the pyre, International 4-8818, and Collective 0-0009.
2. Determine what factors force the escapees to climb the mountain chain. Account for Equality 7-2521's intent to build a fortress.
3. Compose a short speech in which you describe Sigmund Freud's definition of ego.
4. Comment in an essay on Ayn Rand's denigration of women. For examples, explain the Golden One's obsession with clothes and mirrors and Equality 7-2521's interest in sirens to man the fort.

**Science and Health**

1. Compose a lecture on the causes of emotional breakdown. Contrast the significance of bad dreams and talking in one's sleep with the seriousness of seizures. Surmise how journal-keeping and scientific experiments keep Equality 7-2521 from a negative form of expressing his boredom and frustration.

2. List the dangers of vengeance, tyranny, and coercion. Explain why the authorities incarcerate and torture Equality 7-2521 for refusing to tell where he went after hours.
3. Demonstrate how the copper causes the dead frog's leg to jerk.
4. Use simple diagrams to explain why the earth is not flat and doesn't form the center of the universe.
5. Discuss how depersonalized mating aids authoritarians in controlling the people. Contrast this method of procreation to the baby factory in Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World*.

## Student Involvement Activities

1. Make a timeline of the history of utopian and dystopian literature. Include early forms, such as Plato's *Republic* and Francis Bacon's *New Atlantis*, as well as more recent examples, such as Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*. Append definitions of utopia and dystopia.
2. Duplicate laboratory experiments that Equality 7-2521 conducts in his tunnel, such as the dissection of a frog or the assembly of an electro-voltaic cell. Then create products of a much earlier age, such as crude glass, candles, or hand-lettered manuscripts.
3. Brainstorm the types of difficulties Equality 7-2521 will have in coping with the concrete house, for example, dealing with broken glass, bathing and washing clothes, or understanding the technology of heating and air conditioning.
4. Write out a detailed synopsis of the conflict that ended the Unmentionable Times. Name national powers and weapons that helped to reduce humanity to a primitive state. Explain why "many men fought on one side and only a few on the other."
5. View the movie version of Ayn Rand's *The Fountainhead* as well as a video of *Jeremiah Johnson*. Compare the concept of individualism as it appears in these films with its depiction in *Anthem*.
6. Compose a scenario in which the Saint of the pyre is tried for saying the Unspeakable Word. Indicate in what context he came to say the word and why the government condemns him to be burned at the stake rather than murdered in secret.
7. Read accounts of how Prometheus, the early fire-bringer, was punished for his crime against the gods. Write a brief synopsis of how he escaped and what forces aided him.
8. Lead a debate of the worth of collectivism. Bolster your arguments with critical commentary that challenges Ayn Rand and her beliefs. Note the value of a philosopher like Rand in introducing new concepts, challenging old ones, and shaking up the status quo.
9. Draw a plan of a city organized as a commune. Show the location of barracks for infants, small children, youths, men, and women as well as a dining area, theaters and meeting halls for indoctrination, classrooms, factories, warehouses, scriptorium, prison, and administration buildings. Label the daily path followed by a street sweeper.
10. Explain in an essay why Equality 7-2521 fears the Uncharted Forest. Discuss the reasons that a society feeds the fears of institutionalized inhabitants who never dare test their superiors' advice.

## Alternate Assessment

1. Recount the major events of the novel from the perspective of Liberty 5-3000.
2. Project the kinds of discoveries Equality 7-2521 will make about food, clothing, heat, exercise, and hunting.
3. Outline the life of a scholar or clerk in the city.
4. Summarize evidence that Equality 7-2521 is a potential leader.
5. Discuss the symbolism of sweeping streets, finding an iron bar, planting seeds, offering a drink of water, suffering seizures, having bad dreams, and locating animal carcasses in the City Cesspool.

## Vocabulary

**A. Sentence Completion:** Underline a word in parentheses to complete each phrase in the following sentences.

1. It knocked our chin up, and we saw the red (**vice, froth, sieve, moat, sage**) of our mouth on the withered fingers.
2. And the Council of Vocations sat on a high (**moat, dais, vial, flint, mandate**), and they had but two words to speak to each of the Students.
3. They walked to the pyre, and their step did not (**reprimand, avert, larder, falter, strive**).
4. And we know well that there is no (**ravine, ecstasy, convulsion, transgression, lassitude**) blacker than to do or think alone.
5. But I still wonder how it was possible, in those graceless years of (**transition, mandate, threshold, serfdom, vice**), long ago, that men did not see whither they were going, and went on, in blindness and cowardice, to their fate.
6. What is the secret our heart has understood and yet will not reveal to us, although it seems to beat as if it were (**endeavoring, conceiving, prolonging, atoning, razing**) to tell it?
7. The head of the Golden One bowed slowly, and they stood still before us, their arms at their sides, the palms of their hands turned to us, as if their body were delivered in (**impotence, infamy, vindication, eugenics, submission**) to our eyes.
8. So the women of the field were weary, and they (**botched, sanctioned, warranted, tarried, shackled**) over their work, and they were far from the road when we came.
9. For it (**defies, haunts, portals, edicts, yokes**) all the laws known on earth.
10. And (**taut, indivisible, impassable, monstrous, warranted**) thought came to us then, which has never left us.
11. "We are singing because we are happy," we answered the one of the Home Council who (**reprimanded, hunched, uncharted, shrieked, haunted**) us.
12. It is the word by which the (**scholars, depraved, just, enslaved, graceless**) steal the virtue of the good, by which the weak steal the might of the strong, by which the fools steal the wisdom of the sages.
13. We could not see our body nor feel it, and in that moment nothing existed save our two hands over a wire glowing in a black (**agony, granite, abyss, creed, sunray**).
14. "Yes," said Collective 0-0009, "we have much to say to a wretch who have broken all the laws and who boast of their (**grooves, detention, infamy, preference, ailments**)!"
15. If that which we have found is the corruption of (**summit, furrows, loadstone, spangles, solitude**), then what can men wish for save corruption?

**B. Definitions:** Locate a synonym for each of the words below in the unused clues in part A.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. chained
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. corruption
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. tightened
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. gates
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. weakness
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. gulch
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. weariness
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. destroying
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. commands
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. philosopher

## Comprehension Test A

### Part I: Short Answer (20 points)

Briefly describe each of the following characters.

1. Alliance 6-7349 \_\_\_\_\_
2. Collective 0-0009 \_\_\_\_\_
3. Fraternity 2-5503 \_\_\_\_\_
4. Harmony 9-2642 \_\_\_\_\_
5. International 4-8818 \_\_\_\_\_
6. Saint of the pyre \_\_\_\_\_
7. Similarity 5-0306 \_\_\_\_\_
8. Solidarity 9-6347 \_\_\_\_\_
9. Unanimity 2-9913 \_\_\_\_\_
10. Union 5-3992 \_\_\_\_\_

### Part II: True/False (20 points)

Mark each of the following statements T for true or F if any part is false.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Liberty 5-3000 vows to keep secret the experiments that Equality 7-2521 conducts in the tunnel.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. People who live to be forty-five years old are called the Ancient Ones.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Fraternity 2-5503 weeps uncontrollably because of memories of the Unmentionable Times.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Only the Council of Scholars is allowed to make Life Mandates.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. As he travels into the Uncharted Forest, Equality 7-2521 enjoys the strength and beauty of his own body.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. After Equality 7-2521 is caught, he stops writing for thirty days.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. To his tormentors' questions, Equality 7-2521 can murmur only "The light...The light...The light..."
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Collective 0-0009 insists that Equality 7-2521's tongue be torn out so that he can tell no one about the invention.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. International 1-5537 declares that "what is not done collectively cannot be good."
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Unanimity 2-9913 fears that it will take fifty years to gain the approval of all the Councils to replace the candle with electric lights.

## Comprehension Test A (Page 2)

### Part III: Setting Identification (30 points)

Identify the place where each of these events happen. Select your answer from the list below.

chain of mountains	cliffs	Home of the Street Sweepers	Stone Room
City Cesspool	concrete house	Home of the Useless	stream
City Halls	Council of Vocations	Homes of the Peasants	tunnel
City Theatre	Great Road	moat	Uncharted Forest
City Palace of Mating	Home of the Clerks	Palace of Corrective Detention	

1. Equality 7-2521 easily escapes the old locks of the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. In one of the \_\_\_\_\_ the brigade of sweepers attend a daily Social Meeting.
3. The Old Ones, who are past forty years of age, live in the \_\_\_\_\_.
4. In the great hall of the \_\_\_\_\_ Equality 7-2521 receives his Life Mandate.
5. At the \_\_\_\_\_, Equality 7-2521 and his fellow workers arise when the bell rings.
6. Workers receive three hours of Social Recreation at the \_\_\_\_\_.
7. By the flame of a candle, Equality 7-2521 composes his journal in the \_\_\_\_\_.
8. After crossing a \_\_\_\_\_, Equality 7-2521 and Liberty 5-3000 locate a two-story house made of concrete.
9. Around the camp in the \_\_\_\_\_, Equality 7-2521 encircles his bed with fire.
10. Equality 7-2521 carries vials and other scientific paraphernalia to the \_\_\_\_\_.
11. At the \_\_\_\_\_, workers spend a year copying a single manuscript.
12. Women who work the soil live in the \_\_\_\_\_.
13. At the \_\_\_\_\_ each eighteen-year-old woman is paired with a twenty-year-old man.
14. When Equality 7-2521 first sees The Golden One, she is kneeling at the \_\_\_\_\_.
15. The only object in the \_\_\_\_\_ is an iron post where men in leather aprons and hoods lash their victims.

### Part IV: Essay (30 points)

Choose two and answer in complete sentences.

1. Summarize Equality 7-2521's visions of the future.
2. Outline the events in the day in the life of a street sweeper.
3. Explain why Equality 7-2521 deliberately confronts the Council of Scholars.
4. Analyze the way in which Equality 7-2521 trains himself as a scientist.
5. Discuss outmoded ideas that restrain the society's progress.



## Comprehension Test B

### Part I: Sentence Completion (30 points)

Complete each of the following statements with a word from the list below.

brothers	fear	Leader	Rebirth	tunnel
chain of mountains	frog	Palace	Scholar	Uncharted Forest
City Council	glass	peace	seeds	WE
City Theatre	International 4-8818	Peasant	stream	word
Collective	iron	Preference	Street Sweepers	

1. There are no men but only the great \_\_\_\_\_, one, indivisible and forever.
2. By the grace of our \_\_\_\_\_ are we allowed our lives.
3. We were guilty and we confess it here: we were guilty of the great Transgression of \_\_\_\_\_.
4. We wish to be a \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Then we sing hymns, the Hymn of Brotherhood, and the Hymn of Equality, and the Hymn of the \_\_\_\_\_ Spirit.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ and we are friends.
7. We shall report our find to the \_\_\_\_\_ and both of us will be rewarded.
8. We have stolen candles from the Home of the \_\_\_\_\_ ....
9. And in our heart—strange are the ways of evil!—in our heart there is the first \_\_\_\_\_ we have known in twenty years.
10. They threw \_\_\_\_\_ from their hands as if they deigned to fling a scornful gift, and the earth was as a beggar under their feet.
11. And we thought that we would not let the Golden One be sent to the \_\_\_\_\_.
12. And beyond the City there lies the plain, and beyond the plain, black upon the black sky, there lies the \_\_\_\_\_.
13. And the fire which is called the Dawn of the Great \_\_\_\_\_, was the Script Fire where the scripts of the Evil Ones were burned, and with them all the words of the Evil Ones.
14. But the flames rose and we could not guess the \_\_\_\_\_.
15. Tonight, after more days and trials than we can count, we finished building a strange thing, from the remains of the Unmentionable Times, a box of \_\_\_\_\_.

### Part II: Quotation Identification (20 points)

Identify the speaker of each quotation (A). Then name the person to whom it is addressed (B).

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1A. Give no thought to us, for we are nothing, but listen to our words, for we bring you a gift.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 1B. ...such as has never been brought to men.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2A. You are damned, and we wish to share your damnation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2B.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3A. The Council does not know of this hole, so it cannot be forbidden.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3B.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4A. Our dearest one, do not obey us.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4B.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5A. Are you ready to speak?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5B.

## Comprehension Test B (Page 2)

### Part III: Short Answer (20 points)

Answer the following questions. Explain its significance.

1. Where is Equality 7-2521 taken to be lashed?
2. Who vows to keep the tunnel a secret?
3. What does Equality 7-2521 use to keep predators from the camp in the Uncharted Forest?
4. Who speaks for the Council of Scholars?
5. Whose tongue was torn out for saying the Unspeakable Word?
6. Who chose Equality 7-2521 as his heir?
7. What name does Liberty 5-3000 choose for Equality 7-2521?
8. What does Equality 7-2521 plan to write over the portal of his fort?
9. Where does Equality 7-2521 first see his reflection?
10. How old is Equality 7-2521 when the Council of Vocations gives him a Life Mandate?

### Part IV: Essay (30 points)

Choose two and answer in complete sentences.

1. Discuss why Liberty 5-3000 is well suited to Equality 7-2521.
2. Account for signs of unrest and despair in the street sweepers.
3. Describe the philosophy that undergirds the government of the City.
4. Characterize the remains of the Unmentionable Times.
5. Summarize the types of experiments that Equality 7-2521 conducts in his underground cell.

## Answer Key

### Vocabulary

- |                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| A.1. froth       | 9. defies       |
| 2. dais          | 10. monstrous   |
| 3. falter        | 11. reprimanded |
| 4. transgression | 12. depraved    |
| 5. transition    | 13. abyss       |
| 6. endeavoring   | 14. infamy      |
| 7. submission    | 15. solitude    |
| 8. tarried       |                 |

- |               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| B.1. shackled | 6. ravine    |
| 2. vice       | 7. lassitude |
| 3. taut       | 8. razing    |
| 4. portals    | 9. edicts    |
| 5. impotence  | 10. sage     |

### COMPREHENSION TEST A

#### Part I: Short Answer (20 points)

Answers will vary.

#### Part II: True/False (20 points)

- |      |       |
|------|-------|
| 1. F | 6. T  |
| 2. T | 7. T  |
| 3. F | 8. F  |
| 4. F | 9. T  |
| 5. T | 10. F |

#### Part III: Setting Identification (30 points)

1. Palace of Corrective Detention
2. City Halls
3. Home of the Useless
4. Council of Vocations
5. Home of the Street Sweepers
6. City Theatre
7. tunnel
8. chain of mountains
9. Uncharted Forest
10. City Cesspool
11. Home of the Clerks
12. Homes of the Peasants
13. City Palace of Mating
14. moat
15. Stone Room

#### Part IV: Essay (30 points)

Answers will vary.

### COMPREHENSION TEST B

#### Part I: Completion (30 points)

- |                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. WE                   | 9. peace             |
| 2. brothers             | 10. seeds            |
| 3. Preference           | 11. Palace           |
| 4. Scholar              | 12. Uncharted Forest |
| 5. Collective           | 13. Rebirth          |
| 6. International 4-8818 | 14. word             |
| 7. City Council         | 15. glass            |
| 8. Street Sweepers      |                      |

#### Part II: Quotation Identification (20 points)

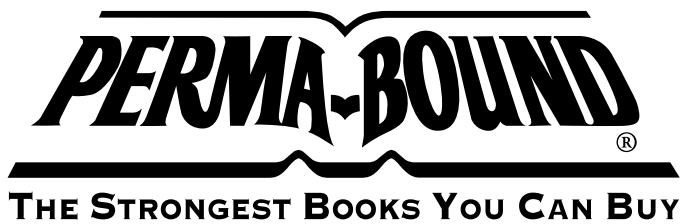
- |                          |                        |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1A. Equality 7-2521      | 4A. Equality 7-2521    |
| 1B. Council of Scholars  | 4B. Liberty 5-3000     |
| 2A. Liberty 5-3000       | 5A. Judges of the City |
| 2B. Equality 7-2521      | 5B. Equality 7-2521    |
| 3A. Equality 7-2521      |                        |
| 3B. International 4-8818 |                        |

#### Part III: Short Answer (20 points)

- |                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Stone Room           | 6. Saint of the pyre |
| 2. International 4-8818 | 7. The Unconquered   |
| 3. fire                 | 8. EGO               |
| 4. Collective 0-0009    | 9. stream            |
| 5. Saint of the pyre    | 10. 15               |

#### Part IV: Essay (30 points)

Answers will vary.



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