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SYNOPSIS

Prologue Looking back on his life at age twelve, 52-year-old David Hayden recalls a defining moment in his family's history—the anguish of his parents, Gail and Wes Hayden, over an series of crimes in the fictional city of Bontrook, Montana, which lead to the death of a young Hunkpapa Sioux named Marie Little Soldier.

Chapter One Wes, who suffers a permanent limp in a damaged right leg, serves a second term as sheriff in Mercer County, population 2,000. Part of the western reaches include Fort Warren Indian Reservation, where the Sioux live in shacks on untillable land. Without carrying a gun or wearing a badge and without dressing in stereotypical Western gear, Wes keeps the peace. He and his family reside across the street from the courthouse, sheriff's office, and jail. A graduate of the University of North Dakota Law School, he chooses to work in law enforcement rather than to practice law and relies on deputy Len McAuley.

David loves Montana, but, like his father, dislikes town life. At his grandparents' ranch, David enjoys riding his horse, shooting, fishing, and swimming. In contrast, Gail, a Norwegian-American of the Anglund family, is an urban resident who grew up on the Red River in eastern North Dakota. When Gail works as secretary to the register of deeds, David falls into the care of Marie, the housekeeper, whom he loves for her teasing good nature.

In Mid-August 1948, Marie lies in the maid's off-kitchen quarters and coughs from pneumonia. Gail mentions summoning Wes's brother, a physician, and decorated war hero. Marie prefers Dr. Snow and heatedly refuses to see Dr. Hayden. When he arrives, Gail warns that Marie rejects him. Frank diagnoses her ailment as pneumonia. Gail intends to care for Marie rather than admit her to a hospital.

David eavesdrops on Gail's private conversation with Wes in which she relates Marie's charge that Frank molests female Indian patients. Wes regrets that, as sheriff, he must act on the information. While he confers with his deputy, Gail learns Daisy McAuley is aware of Frank's sordid reputation with native women. Wes hopes his father, former sheriff Julian Hayden, won't hear about Frank's crimes.

Chapter Two Wes drives to the reservation to question Indians; that afternoon, he confers with Ollie Young Bear. That night, Wes interviews Marie alone. Gail withdraws with David and paces the yard out of earshot.

On Sunday, the family visits the Hayden ranch. The social setting is tense because Gail dreads sharing a meal with Frank and Gloria Hayden. Julian, who is crude and tyrannical toward his family, acknowledges Frank's passion for casual sex with Indian women.

After dinner, Julian sends David out to shoot coyotes. At a

distance, David observes Wes arguing with Frank. David draws his pistol and aims at his uncle. The argument ends with the two men shaking hands. At home that night, Wes announces Frank has agreed to stop molesting Indian women. Gail is appalled that Wes doesn't seek justice for Marie and the others.

When Gail returns home from work on Monday at 5:15 P. M., she finds Marie dead. Frank fills out the death certificate. Wes departs to notify Marie's mother and boyfriend, Ronnie Tall Bear. Daisy sends David to the McAuley house while she talks in private with Gail. Len, who is drunk, mutters ominously about Wes's service as sheriff and about Frank's long history of sexual abuse.

That night, David hears a noise in the house. He awakens his parents and reports that Frank snuck into the house at 3:00 that day. Wes realizes Len will make a connection between the doctor's arrival and Marie's sudden death.

Chapter Three Wes works hard to build a case against Frank. Thursday afternoon, Wes brings Frank to the house and locks him in the basement. Gail is outraged. She urges Wes to confer with Mel Paddock, the state attorney. Wes intends to have his brother transferred to another county.

That night, David's grandparents drive in from the ranch to get Frank. Gail sends David upstairs, where he locates a heat register as a conduit for more eavesdropping. To Julian's protests, Wes declares that Indian women are willing to testify against Frank. Julian accuses Wes of jealousy of his brother's war record. Wes charges that Frank murdered Marie. Julian wants to stop the investigation before it advances to state scrutiny.

When David returns downstairs, he finds Wes kneeling by Gail and weeping. Wes orders him not to let his grandparents into the house.

The next day, David notices Dale Paris, Julian's foreman, and three others circling the house in a truck. Paris advances on the house with an axe. Gail fires a shotgun out the kitchen window. Len intercedes and aims a revolver at Paris, who retreats with the three others to the truck.

Wes admits that a court may find Frank guilty of sexual assault, but there is not enough evidence of murder. Wes posts Len at the house. Gail urges Wes to let Frank out of the basement. Len reminds Wes of the coming election and of Julian's persistence.

While Wes goes downstairs, Len asks Gail how Frank killed Marie. She thinks an autopsy might provide evidence of murder. Wes returns from talking with his brother, who admits his guilt. Wes argues with Gail about the necessity for justice.

About 1 A. M. Saturday, Frank begins breaking canning jars in the root cellar. Wes promises to move his prisoner the next day. At 6 A. M., Wes takes coffee downstairs and discovers that the prisoner has died after slitting his wrists.

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David believes the family's problems are over.

Epilogue In December, the Haydens move from Bentrock to the Anglunds' residence in North Dakota. Gail is appalled by lies that Frank died accidentally while building shelves. The family separated at the funeral, with the grandparents standing alone on the opposite site of the grave. Wes withdraws from the coming election, which Len wins. In the spring, Wes joins a Fargo law firm.

Gail tries to interest David in becoming a lawyer, but he has lost trust in the law. He majors in history and teaches high school at Rochester, Minnesota. He believes that the terrible secret of Frank's murder of Marie kills Julian and Len, both of whom suffer cerebral hemorrhages. Shortly before Wes's death from cancer, David's wife Betsy breaks the silence by referring to the murder and to Frank's suicide.

TIME LINE

- 1907** Frank Hayden is born.
1910 Wesley Hayden is born.
1936 David Hayden is born.
ca. 1942 Wes is elected sheriff of Mercer County.
1945 Frank returns home a decorated war hero.
1948 **mid-August** Gail Hayden discovers that Marie is ill.
Gail instructs Wes to summon Dr. Hayden.
shortly Marie accuses Frank of multiple sexual assaults against female Sioux patients.
next day Wes begins investigating Frank's crimes.
that afternoon At the Coffee Cup, Wes confers with Ollie Young Bear.
that night Wes interviews Marie in private.
Aug. 13 Frank and Wes Hayden and their families visit David's grandparents at the ranch.
after lunch Frank agrees to stop molesting Sioux women.
Aug. 14 Marie dies in bed.
Aug. 16 David reports that Frank left the Hayden house the afternoon of Marie's death.
August 17 Wes locks Frank in the Hayden basement.
9:00 P. M. Julian and Enid arrive to get Frank. Wes refuses to relinquish a murder suspect.
Aug. 18 Gail fires on Dale Paris and three men from Julian's ranch.
Aug. 19 Wes finds Frank dead after slitting his wrists.
December Wes, Gail, and David move to Gail's parents' home in Anglund, North Dakota.
1949 **spring** Wes joins a law firm in Fargo, North Dakota.
late Gloria moves to Spokane, Washington.
ca. 1950 Johnny Packwood becomes sheriff after Len McAuley suffers a stroke shortly before Julian dies.
1988 Wesley Hayden dies of cancer.

AUTHOR SKETCH

At home on the rugged terrain of the central plains, poet and author Larry Watson is the son and grandson of sheriffs. Born in 1947, he grew up in Bismarck, South Dakota, and preferred sports, fiction, and comic books to academics.

Perhaps because he derived from a line of law enforcement officers, Watson set out to study law. After marrying fol-

lowing junior college, he enrolled in creative writing classes and wrote verse as an outlet. He earned two degrees at the University of North Dakota and completed a doctorate at the University of Utah, where he came under the influence of authors Peter Taylor, J. D. Salinger, Ernest Hemingway, and Dee Brown. In 1979, Watson pursued a career teaching creative writing at the University of Wisconsin and, with his wife Susan, raised two daughters.

In 1980, after publishing his first novel, the mystery *In a Dark Time*, except for a volume of verse, Watson waited 13 years before releasing his second and most popular prose work, *Montana 1948*. When the work stalled in editors' hands, he submitted it to the Milkweed national writing contest. In addition to earning a \$3,000 advance, he contributed Milkweed's most successful publication. He continues to reside at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, but teaches only half-time while pursuing his writing career.

CRITICS' CORNER

Watson's fiction, written in longhand on legal pads, demonstrates an intuitive ease with small-town life and ethics. *Montana 1948*, set at fictional Mercer County within a few miles of North Dakota and Canada near the Fort Warren Reservation, brings forward a half century the tragedy of displacement of the Sioux after white settlers encroached on traditional tribal homelands. In publishing a prequel, *Justice* (1995), Watson returns to the place and set of characters that create tragedy in subsequent years.

Watson's rewards for intense fictional examinations of human loyalties won him the National Education Association creative writing fellowship in 1987 and Milkweed National Fiction Prize for the publication of *Montana 1948*. In addition, he enjoyed meeting readers at book store sessions during a ten-city tour. Subsequent honoraria include an ALA *Booklist* Editors' Choice award, YALSA Best Books for Young Adults, Mountains & Plains citation for best regional fiction, New York Public Library Books for the Teen Age designation, Banta and Friends of American Writers awards, Critic's Choice Award, and ALA Notable Book of the Year. Watson's fiction may be the source of a movie by Paramount, which owns rights to *Montana 1948*.

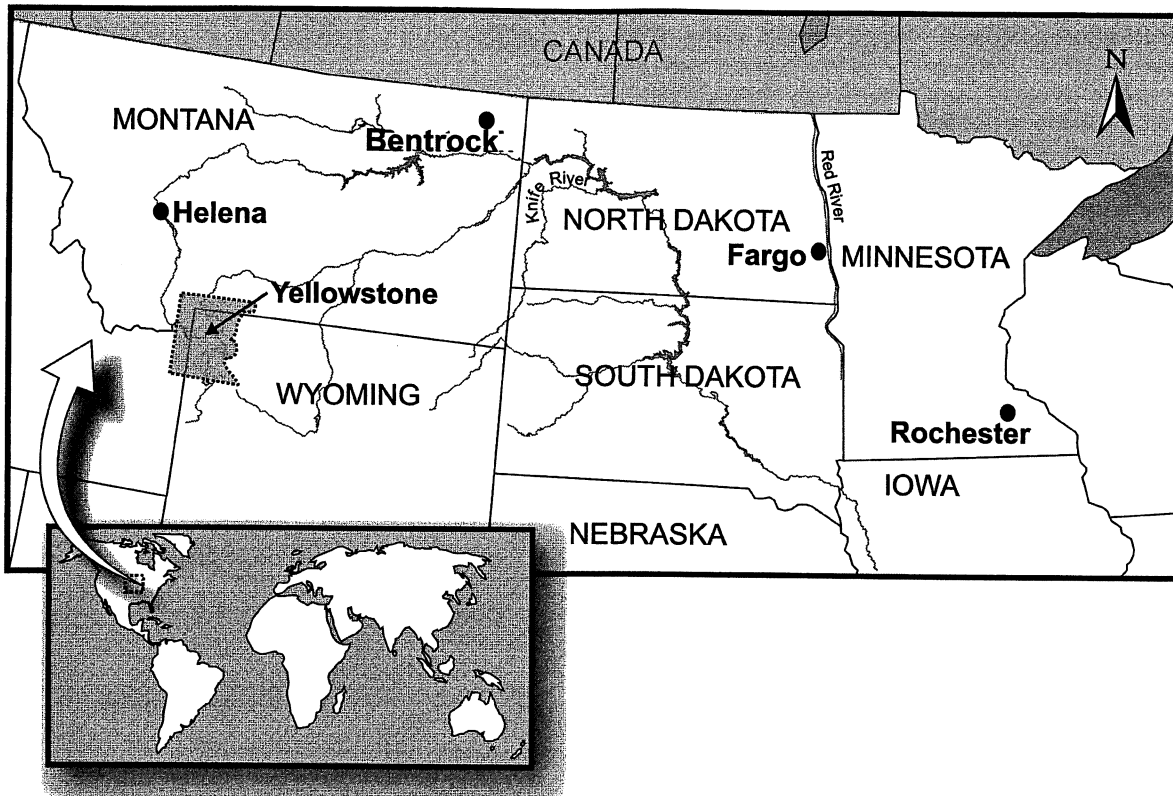
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Laura (2000)
Leaving Dakota (1983)
White Crosses (1997)

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GENERAL OBJECTIVES

1. To understand the impact of racism on a community
2. To account for the relegation of Indians to limited education and low-paying jobs
3. To interpret social and family tensions
4. To isolate causes of bias and immorality
5. To discuss the themes of prejudice and perversity
6. To explain the main events in time order
7. To analyze war's influence on events
8. To describe attitudes toward crime against minorities
9. To describe limited point of view
10. To analyze the roles of family and community in tragedy

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. To explain how Julian dominates his sons
2. To analyze the symbolism of the axe, .32 pistol, .22 target pistol, and double-barreled shotgun
3. To summarize Wes's importance to family and community
4. To account for Marie Little Soldier's fear of Dr. Frank

Hayden

5. To justify David's involvement in adult matters
6. To explain how family tragedy affects David and Betsy's adult life
7. To summarize Gail, Julian, and Len's moral impact on local justice
8. To discuss the implications of a hostile former sheriff and the truck circling the Hayden house
9. To describe the roles of Enid, Daisy, Doris, Maxine, Gloria, Flora, and Gail
10. To list events caused by bigotry and remorselessness

LITERARY TERMS AND APPLICATIONS

For a better understanding of Larry Watson's fiction, present the following terms and applications:

anti-hero a protagonist or central figure who lacks the usual heroic qualities of an admirable person or leader, particularly skill, grace, honesty, courage, and truth. Wes Hayden exemplifies the behaviors of a non-hero because he rejects the stereotypical pose of self-important sheriff. Unlike his father, he chooses simple, non-Western dress without gun or badge and applies one-to-one interviews as a means of gathering details about Frank's crimes. However, when Wes has a showdown against Julian, Wes takes a lawman's stance and refuses to be bullied.

realism a re-creation of life in theme, plot, setting, mood, and characterization. Larry Watson rejects romanticized versions of the West by depicting stark and meaningful details—Wes's clumsy brogans and his painfully crippled knee, the shotgun blast that rips out the kitchen curtains, and Enid's suggestion that Marie was mistaken about the nature and

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purpose of a physical examination.

sociological novel reform literature that uses character and action to delineate a social problem. *Montana 1948* studies the nature of justice in a preponderantly white community where local Sioux have little hope of advancement in education or employment. The impact of Frank's serial crimes against native women and murder of Marie forces Wes to take action and to investigate the likelihood that Frank killed Marie to keep her from lodging a complaint against him for sexual abuse. The tragedy within the Hayden family derives from differences of opinion about Frank's culpability in harming nonwhite people.

THE IMPORTANCE OF SETTING

Montana 1948 takes place in Bentrock, Montana, a community of 2000 where a single sheriff and his deputy constitute local law for Mercer County. The evolving tragedy that splinters the fragile peace in the Hayden family derives from a variance in sense of place. To Julian, Montana is still open territory where one man's word is law for the town and county. To his favorite son Frank, the Sioux at Fort Warren Indian Reservation are a captive people whom he denigrates by sexually assaulting the women who come to him for medical examination. In contrast to these two frontier-minded men, Wes, the other brother, is stronger in justice and respect for the law.

The unfolding family drama places David in the midst of secret adult-to-adult conferences concerning sexual perversion and Wes's demand that Frank pay for his crimes. As David goes upstairs to be out of the way, he eavesdrops on the details of Wes's investigation by listening through the ductwork. The late-night intrusion of Julian results in a truck circling the Hayden house. When it stops in the alley, David departs from the close, homey environment of the story to traverse the limited surroundings of courthouse, jail, and sheriff's office in search of Wes. After the confrontation ends, the return of the family and deputy to the Hayden yard restores the limited scope of action once more to the residence, where Len sets up a round-the-clock guard on Gail and David.

When noise in the Haydens' basement root cellar erupts at 1:00 A. M., the family converges to discuss what to do about Uncle Frank and his unofficial jail term in the laundry room. Frank's destruction of canned goods and his decision to slit his wrists ends the limitation of action in the Hayden home. Wes can no longer shield his brother from the prying eyes of neighbors, who accept the rumor that Frank died accidentally from a fall in the basement. Action moves outward to the cold confrontation over Frank's grave and the permanent schism between two generations of Haydens.

Although the falling action takes Wes, Gail, and David to the Anglund home in North Dakota in December and to Fargo in the spring, Watson refuses to extend the scope of the novel to new terrain by giving details of place. At heart, the wretched family members are still locked in conflict back in Bentrock. They bear the suffering of the murder-suicide in silence, even when Enid Hayden comes to visit Wes and his family's new home. David remarks that the refusal of the family to unload the toxic secret from their hearts results in a cerebral hemorrhage that paralyzes Len McAuley and kills Julian Hayden, the cancer that kills Wes, and heart disease that ends Gail's life. In silence during the last scene, David

sits at his father's place at the table and relives his father's anger.

CROSS-CURRICULAR SOURCES

Novels

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Videos/DVDs

Dances With Wolves
Snow Falling on Cedars
To Kill a Mockingbird

THEMES AND MOTIFS

Themes

- law enforcement
- family
- racism
- sex crime
- murder
- justice
- suicide
- family disintegration
- retreat

Motifs

- coping with differences of opinion within an extended family
- understanding the frontier mentality
- assuming the role of spokesman for the law
- comprehending the decline of the frontier myth
- abandoning a hopeless family tragedy

MEANING STUDY

1. That's the way these images coexist in my memory, like the Sioux picture calendars in which the whole year's events are painted on the same buffalo hide, or like a tapestry with every scene woven into the same cloth, every moment on the same flat plane, the summer of 1948. (Prologue, p. 12)

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(The winter count presented in pictographs shows a year-by-year chronicle of major events. The Indian chronicler presented events in symbols such as spotted flesh depicting an outbreak of smallpox or shooting stars reflecting a meteor shower. Each symbol provided preliterate Indians with a means of referring to time, e. g., the year of the icy winter or the time of the great buffalo slaughter.)

2. Because my mother worked (she was the secretary in the Register of Deeds office, also in the courthouse across the street), we had a housekeeper who lived with us during the week. (Chapter One, p. 24)
(Since Gail Hayden works outside the home, her family has hired Marie to take care of daily household duties during the week.)
3. He was not a hate-filled bigot—he probably thought he was free of prejudice!—and he could treat Indians with generosity, kindness, and respect (as he could treat every human being). (Chapter One, p. 34)
(Wes's racism exists on a different plane from that of Julian and Frank Hayden. Rather than exploit or dehumanize the Sioux, he believes them "ignorant, lazy, superstitious, and irresponsible." His distaste for native behaviors derives from an official interaction with the Sioux rather than from a pervasive dismissal of the whole nation as less than human.)
4. But since Frank and Gloria had no children I always felt some pressure to please them, to be like the son they didn't have. (Chapter One, pp. 41-42)
(Watson applies a heavy-handed poetic justice in that the Frank Haydens suffer childlessness, a suggestion that the absence of children punishes both Frank and Grandfather Julian for their racism.)
5. He offers his services to the reservation, to the BIA school. (Chapter One, p. 47)
(The Bureau of Indian Affairs set up boarding schools that removed native children at an early age from their parents and community. By depriving the children of opportunities to learn Sioux language, customs, and religion, teachers forced them to dress, act, talk, worship, and think like whites. The forced education program produced an era of disoriented and despairing students who lost their credibility with the Sioux. One example, Ben Black Elk, son of Black Elk, author of Sioux scripture in Black Elk Speaks (1932), attended the Carlisle Indian School, an acculturation academy in Pennsylvania, in 1915. The boy returned to a father who could no longer trust Ben's faithfulness to Sioux beliefs.)
6. "I wish," my father said, "I wish you wouldn't have told the sheriff." (Chapter One, p. 48)
(Watson notes the dilemma that falls on Wes after Gail insists he take action against Frank for sexually assaulting Sioux women. David notes, "Did he laugh softly, ironically, then? I thought I heard a chuckling noise, but it might have been the heavy heads of the snapdragons leaning and rustling against each other." The juxtaposition of the heavily freighted adult conversation with the innocent flowers in Gail's garden suggests David's rapid departure from a childhood logic and sense of justice to a mature awareness of human frailties in his parents.)
7. He had no jurisdiction there, and the reservation police

hadn't called him in on a case, so he could be going there for only one reason: to look into the accusations Marie had made. (Chapter Two, pp. 57-58)

(Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, which is federally controlled land in western North Dakota, lies outside the sheriff's responsibility. He travels there to follow up on Marie's charges against Frank by locating women who can testify to sexual abuse.)

8. Ollie Young Bear was also a war hero (he was wounded in action in North Africa), a graduate of Montana State University in Bozeman, a deacon at First Lutheran Church, an executive with Montana-Dakota Utilities Company, the star pitcher on the Elks' fast-pitch softball team—runner-up in the Silver Division of the state tournament (though he probably could not have been admitted to the Elks as a member). (Chapter Two, p. 58)
(Situated innocently in the commentary on Ollie Young Bear's exemplary life is the city of Bozeman, which bears the name of John M. Bozeman, trailblazer of the Bozeman pass over the Continental Divide through the Gallatin River Valley. The statement concludes with the snobbery that ousts nonwhites from participation in civic clubs.)
9. My father disliked conflict so much that he would frequently make a promise or a suggestion—like a family vacation—intended to make everyone feel better. (Chapter Two, p. 67)
(Watson parallels the method the U. S. government applied to placating Indians during frontier days. By promising a trip to Yellowstone, Watson suggests the trivial use of sacred ground that infuriated Indians.)
10. When my parents were gone, I came down with a case of tonsillitis, as I frequently did as a child. (Chapter Two, p. 77)
(Significantly, David suffers chronic tonsillitis, a disease of the throat common to children. The malady prefigures the discomfort David feels after Marie's death that leads him to divulge the suspicious movements of Frank after he murdered her. Like the secret that afflicts the brains of Julian Hayden and Len McAuley, the cancer that eats at Wes Hayden, and the disease in Gail's heart, David's throat disease centers at a spot where he symbolically stores a message of evil.)

COMPREHENSION STUDY

Motivation

1. What causes Wes to change his stance concerning Frank's crimes?

(Initially, Wes appears to be too weak to charge Frank with serial sexual assaults of female Sioux patients. Because of the influence of Julian Hayden, a vulgar powermonger who preceded Wes as sheriff, Wes chooses not to anger him. At Julian's showy log ranch, against Gail's wishes, the Wes Hayden family shares a Sunday noon meal with the Frank Haydens, Julian, and Enid. From a distance, David observes his father make up with Frank. The two walk away as friends.

After Marie's sudden death, David offers too much evidence for Wes to ignore Frank's crimes against patients. To lessen humiliation to the family, Wes decides to incarcerate Frank in the laundry room rather than in the jail across the street. The intrusion of Julian, Dale Paris,

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and three others of Julian's hirelings forces Wes into the position of law officer resisting strong opposition and a possible jailbreak.

Violence forces Wes to halt his effort at a cover-up. After Gail fires from the window, he resolves to take action. He declares, "I'm calling Dad today. Tell him no more stunts like this. This is my family. My house." In pursuit of justice, Wes confers with Mel Paddock, a representative of the state attorney, concerning arraignment and a change of venue for Frank.)

Setting

2. Describe Bentrock.

(With a population of 2,000 and located at the juncture of Montana, North Dakota, and Canada, the town is a quiet place where Sioux live alongside predominately white residents. Although native Americans receive no opportunity to enter college, people like Marie Little Soldier maintain a working relationship with their employers. David ponders on the levels of society after Gail Hayden relegates her housekeeper to a small cubby rather than a second-floor bedroom.

In thinking over secrets, David summarizes the qualities of the town, which "tolerated all kinds of behavior, from the eccentric to the unusual to the aberrant." He mentions Miss Schott's raising of palominos, Mrs. Russell's kleptomania, Arne Olsen's refusal to bathe, Mr. Prentice's attraction to male high school band students, and Henry Sandstrom's cooking and eating of mourning doves. To the list of secrets the town keeps, David adds, "my uncle Frank who molested his patients.")

Character Development

3. How does David change over time?

(David develops emotionally as he sorts out the explosive events of late summer 1948 and ponders the dilemma in which his uncle has placed his father. He accesses adult conversations through multiple acts of eavesdropping. While listening outside the Hayden kitchen, through an upstairs head register, and at the front door of Julian and Enid's ostentatious log ranch house, he acquires more details about Marie's death and Wes's investigation of her charge against Frank. As the story develops into a potentially lethal confrontation on the Wes Haydens' front lawn, David accepts responsibility for seeking his father and for returning home to determine if Gail is safe from Julian's four men who circle the house and the adjacent alley.

After the family packs to leave the house where Frank killed himself in a laundry room jail cell, David takes one more look at the empty dwelling, a gesture of farewell to childhood. No longer deluded that the upshot of Frank's crimes could end easily with one stroke of the sheriff's enforcement of justice, David anticipates the move to North Dakota to live with his Norwegian-American grandparents. By the time he reaches late puberty, he refuses to study law and chooses history, a source of truth about the American West and settlers' abuses of Indians. At age 52, David is a seasoned adult who, nonetheless, tells his story as he remembers it, through the perspective of childhood innocence.)

Historical Milieu

4. How does white settlement of the West impact the

novel?

(It is important to the story to understand the impact of the Bozeman trail on frontier settlement. The Sioux, led by Red Cloud, defied a U. S. government attempt to build a road over their hunting grounds to Bozeman, Montana. In 1865, thousands of braves fought roadway construction and led the Fetterman Massacre of December 21, 1866, which killed 80 cavalrymen outside Fort Phil Kearny. The government abandoned the Bozeman Trail and promised the Sioux all of South Dakota west of the Missouri River. In 1867, the trail was the site of the murder of John M. Bozeman, creator of the alternate route West through Dakota Territory. As he approached Yellowstone, Blackfeet Indians killed him.

A decade after the confrontation between the Sioux and U. S. cavalry, the discovery of gold in the Black Hills of South Dakota caused the government to violate their treaty to allow white prospectors into territory promised to the Indians by treaty. On June 26, 1876, the Sioux and Cheyenne retaliated at the battle of the Little Bighorn, a massacre of 200 cavalrymen by a massed force of braves. The battle was the beginning of the end of native domination of the Dakotas. From that point on, the Sioux, hunted and incarcerated by the army, were a defeated people who lived under constant supervision by agents of the Bureau of Indian affairs.)

Theme

5. How does justice become the antithesis of racism?

(Crucial to the story is Wes's decision to charge Frank with Marie's murder and the sexual assaults of all the reservation women who will testify against him. Although Wes is no lover of Indians, he respects all citizens and assures them the protection of the law. As sheriff, he must not only arrest and jail Frank, but also face down Julian Hayden, the former sheriff, who still clings to vestiges of power. After Julian orders him to free Frank, Wes replies, "This is for sexual assault. I arrested Frank for . . . for taking liberties with his patients. With his Indian patients."

The elder Haydens try to whittle down Frank's offenses. After Enid timidly proposes that Marie was mistaken about the medical examinations, Wes insists, "There's something to this. Please. Don't make me say more." Julian attempts to reduce the jailing to a retaliatory act. He blames Wes's jealousy of his brother's war record. Julian demands that Wes explain why he would "take an Indian's side and run your brother in." After a heated exchange, Wes concludes, "This isn't for any of us to stop or start. This has to go its own way.")

Interpretation

6. Why does Watson initially appear to connect violence and wrongdoing only with males?

(The novel presents women as delicate peripheral elements to the confrontation between Wes and his father and brother. At the Sunday dinner at the ranch, Gail disdains Julian's crude language on the front porch. Her father-in-law admits that he takes shelter at the front door to pass gas out of hearing of Enid, who remains in the kitchen, her domestic domain. At dinner, Enid says little in the presence of Julian and "concentrated during the meal on cutting her ham into small perfect triangles

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before she ate them." David later ponders the family's collusion in "shielding Grandmother from shocks of any kind."

Similarly, Gloria Hayden, a first-grade teacher, "chattered throughout the meal" as though running on like a child. She remarks on saving tin cans during World War II and the handwork of students, who craft paper Indian headbands and inscribe names on the feathers. She adds details about her little brother attending college in Missoula, presumably on the post-war GI Bill, and remarks on students "[pushing] the professors around." David wonders about her seeming innocence of Uncle Frank's perversion.

The pattern of innocence and timidity in women comes to an end with Gail's response to four stalkers on the lawn, one armed with an axe. The novel's female spokesperson for justice, she takes actions while Daisy McAuley cowers at home. Gail awkwardly assembles Wes's shotgun and shells on the kitchen table and follows David's directions about pumping the chamber open. When she aims through the kitchen window, she orders David out on his errand to find Wes. Without hesitation, she fires twice and reloads the chamber "as if she were as practiced with that weapon as she was with her typewriter.")

Conflict

7. Why does Wes suffer the brunt of the mental and emotional pain caused by Frank's crimes?

(Wes, a handicapped sheriff, walks with a limp, wears no badge, and carries no gun. Obviously, he falls short of his father's concept of admirable traits in a man and a law enforcement officer. Unlike his handsome, athletic brother Frank, Wes was 4-F during the war. When Frank returns in glory as a hero of the Pacific for carrying casualties to safety, Wes picks around the edges of the park during a public acclamation of the war hero and looks for scraps of paper on the ground. In acknowledgement of Wes's inability to follow the Hayden cult of manhood, Watson describes the humble sheriff as "[having] to keep the leg stiff and [bent] from the waist.")

When Wes must apply the law to Frank for molesting women, Wes at first teeters on the edge of allowing Frank to go free if he promises to curb his behavior. After investigation turns up extensive evidence of Frank's crimes and David implicates Frank in murder, Wes incarcerates his brother and faces down Julian's angry bluster. That night, David witnesses Wes's weakness as he kneels at Gail's chair with his head in her lap and weeps as he asks for her help. David notices "the puffiness around his eyes, the deepening creases of worry across his forehead and around his mouth, his pallor, his slow, stiffening gait were all signs that he was going weaker." David fears Wes lacks the strength to stand up to Julian.

Against four potential intruders, Wes realizes the threat to his position as sheriff, to the town, and to his home and family. He takes charge and posts Len at the house. Len warns, "This county is going to get torn up over this. This will make Mercer County look like the Indian wars and the range wars combined." To Gail's determination to get Frank out of the house and Len's

doubts there will be a conviction for past crimes, Wes snaps, "Maybe a jury will cut him loose. I won't. By God, I won't.")

Atmosphere

8. How does the novel alter between 1:00 and 6:00 A. M. at the time of Frank's suicide?

(After the violent day and Wes's resolve to prosecute Frank for his crimes, the atmosphere returns to domesticity as David departs to fetch frankfurters and cake for Gail to serve at dinner. He leaves his parents standing together in the kitchen. An hour after midnight, when Frank begins breaking canning jars in the root cellar, family peace is shattered once more. Wes sits up placidly and endures the breakage from upstairs. Returned to the pragmatic law enforcer's frame of mind, he remarks, "Let him get it out of his system. He'll run out of jars eventually.")

Wes proposes that David sleep late in the morning that Wes transfers his prisoner to jail. Morning returns to homeyness as Wes sits by a copy of *Argosy*, a popular outdoorsmen's magazine. He expresses to his son the importance of justice: "I believe that in this world people must pay for their crimes." The making of coffee in the percolator and the anecdote about Frank's importance to Wes in boyhood concludes with Wes going downstairs to see Frank.)

Author Purpose

9. Why does the novel appeal to readers?

(The events of the fictional summer of 1948 in Bentrock, Montana, portray in a microcosm the shameful turn of history throughout the Western Hemisphere, where one race supplanted another at an untold cost in human misery. On first view, Watson appears to write a simple post-frontier Western on justice and family loyalty, but he stirs in readers the knowledge of American history and its concealment of hideous wrongs against indigenous people. *Montana 1948* insists on a re-examination of the events that resulted in displacement of the Sioux from traditional lands in the central plains.)

The novel exacts a moral toll from readers, who must analyze a terrible tragedy from the prospect of a 12-year-old. They determine for themselves aspects of the story David omits, particularly the long history of abuse and the ethical infraction that a doctor of medicine makes against a series of female Sioux patients. The theme of opportunism and inhumane conduct refuses to resolve itself into a tidy story of David's youth and coming to knowledge about sex and perversion.)

Structure

10. Why does the novel end with David's late-night examination of the dining room table?

(In the dining room, the domestic focus of family gatherings, David returns to the chair and place at the table where his dying father erupted against a family secret that had haunted him for four decades. The angry outburst against Betsy's light-hearted comment about the Wild West corroborates David's non-medical belief that secret sin lurks in the deaths of his family members. Like the secret sins that Nathaniel Hawthorne places at the core of his short stories and novels, a repressed and unspoken sorrow over Frank's suicide eats at Wes,

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causing him to hammer the table with his hand in defense of Montana, the epitome of the paradoxical Wild West. In the quiet of the night, David sits at his father's place and seems to feel the vibration of his father's blow against injustice.)

HOW LANGUAGE WORKS

Larry Watson reveals a poetic skill that departs from straightforward narrative to evocative passages filled with poetic intensity:

1. An ominous sibilance marks the approach of four men in cowboy garb. One, Dale Paris, "had an axe, and he carried it loosely at his side, the axe head swinging close to his leg."
2. An image of displacement explains for David his father's attempt to escape from the pressure of arresting his own brother. With a repeated phrase, David notices "that adults could, like kids, be there yet not be there."
3. The metaphor of physical and psychological distance describes David's feeling as his family moves from Montana, far from Julian's ranch: "Now the distance between us seemed too great for either Nutty or me to travel ever again."
4. Onomatopoeia expresses the reprise of Western stock-herding in the approach of Miss Schott, a retired second-grade teacher turned to horse breeding. As David walks through town, she approaches Bentrock with a "heavy, slow *clop-clop*."
5. David is given to frequent rhetorical questions as he debates internally the conflict within family and town. Plaintively he asks, "What did [my father] want from me?"
6. The answer to the disorder in David's world comes through a glimpse of his free-form ball game with Marie and Ronnie. David realizes he has never enjoyed a game more and that the source of the game derived from Montana's historical environment, "Ronnie and Marie's Indian heritage."

ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

Art

Make an illustrated notebook of Sioux culture. Stress daily and formal dress, manners, celebrations, worship, and family traditions. For source material, consult the histories of George Catlin or Carl Waldman's *Who's Who in Native American History*.

Cinema

View films with characters and situations growing out of frontier racism and violence. Comment on the interplay of people of different ethnic, social, educational, and economic backgrounds.

Drama

1. Draw stage settings for a dramatization of a scene from the novel. Supply sketches of costumes and props.
2. Create a storyboard account of Frank's arrest and incarceration.

Education

1. Role-play the instruction of a sheriff's deputy in making arrests and intervening in violence. Indicate how Len performs the job and rescues Gail and David and why Dale Paris and his henchmen depart for the ranch unharmed. Indicate what charge Wes could level at the

four intruders.

2. Propose curriculum for a class to teach the Sioux how to prevent infectious disease and care for their health. Include details about pneumonia, high fevers, medical examinations, and the possibility of relapse.
3. Brainstorm ways of preparing David for taking over the Hayden tradition of keeping the peace in Bentrock, Montana. Name courses that might help him become a worthy lawman, including Western history, Constitutional and state law, ethics, philosophy, psychology, public policy, city planning, and native American culture. Indicate how these same courses suit the life of a high school history teacher.

History and Social Studies

1. Discuss with a small group family patterns of behavior and expectations after the Wes Haydens' move out of Montana, which begins with several months with the Anglunds in North Dakota. Explain why Wes fulfills his wife's wish that he practice law. Add details about why David abandons the family tradition of law enforcement and chooses to teach history.
2. Report orally on the physical and psychological effects of jailing. Account for Frank's brash confession of guilt, his anger and rage during the breaking of canning jars in the root cellar, and his subsequent suicide. Discuss Frank's unexpressed feelings that he had destroyed his reputation as a respected town doctor.
3. Divide the class into small groups to brainstorm ways to improve community relations after the deaths of Marie Little Soldier and Frank Hayden and after Wes Hayden's resignation and departure. List ways of suppressing rumor about Frank's unusual death and about the separation of family members across his grave.
4. Compose an extended definition of social and emotional isolation. Explain why the term describes anyone who accepts a sheriff's badge. Summarize the heavy burden involved in assuming responsibility to keep the peace and seek punishment for criminals and justice for all citizens.
5. Based on your understanding of the novel, lead a panel discussion of the effects of racism, limited education and opportunity, low-paying jobs, bigotry, and sexual abuse and other crimes on the Hunkpapa Sioux. Support your opinions with facts from census reports, sociological surveys, and statistics obtained from almanacs and economic and employment surveys. For source material, consult the U. S. Census Bureau at <www.census.gov>
6. Create a mural or web site on Montana and the Dakotas. Note the sharp separation of classes into male and female, landowners and town residents, whites and Sioux, law enforcers and civilians. Account for the protection of women like Gail and Enid from rough talk and Wes's detailed interrogation of Marie in private. Also account for the absence of opportunity for domestic workers like Marie and for Sioux athletes and potential college students like Ronnie Tall Bear and Ollie Young Bear.
7. Make a web site or bulletin board characterizing attitudes of whites toward the Sioux. Explain why the tribes residing in the Dakotas during the building of a road over

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the Bozeman Trail made a name for themselves as defenders of their homeland. Discuss how the massacre of cavalry at the Little Big Horn ended all chances of native negotiations with white government officials. Describe how the Bureau of Indian Affairs mishandled appropriations intended to provide nutrition, housing, English literacy, vocational education, and health service to the Indians on reservations. For additional information, refer to Dee Brown's *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*.

8. Re-create Bentrock, Montana, from details mentioned in the novel. List citizens and their jobs and places of business, including civil service workers at the courthouse and sheriff's office, diners at the Coffee Cup, the brief mention of the school, Nash's Grocery Store, Hi-Line Hotel, doctors' offices, filling station, park, and hardware store. Explain why the sheriff is a key figure to all citizens.

Language Arts

1. Read aloud from nonfiction, novels, plays, speeches, and stories that describe racism, crime, and injustice against minorities.
2. Explain in a theme the significance of the names Dr. Snow, Doris Looks Away, Marie Little Soldier, Knife River, Mercer County, and Bentrock, particularly as they apply to justice and crime toward Indians. Propose more evocative titles for the novel that express the hardships of the Sioux in a racist community.
3. Write a theme in which you explain the role of a minor character, such as Enid, Gloria Hayden, Miss Schott, Dale Paris, Maxine, Ronnie Tall Bear, Betsy, and Doris Looks Away. Determine which characters interact fairly with people of other races and backgrounds. How does Betsy generate such an explosive response from Wes, even though he is weakened by cancer treatments?
4. Explain in an impromptu chalk talk how details reflect character and motivation, for example, the streak in the widow's hair after her husband is killed by lightning.
5. Contrast news releases for radio, television, or print announcing the deaths of Marie Little Soldier, Julian Hayden, Frank Hayden, Len McAuley, Gail Hayden, and Wes Hayden. Typify coverage of the loss of former county officials and civil service employees. Indicate public reaction to each death.
6. Prepare a dialogue dramatizing the public announcement of Frank Hayden's death. Indicate how the truth about the suicide turns into a false version built on a lie that Frank was helping Wes build basement shelves. Note the position of the local mortician, Clarence Unset, who may know more about Marie and Frank's deaths than anyone else.
7. Lead a debate about Gail's role in demanding justice for Marie. Explain why she speaks in private with Daisy McAuley about Marie's complaint against Dr. Hayden.
8. Make a web site or bulletin board that identifies important words and phrases from the novel such as Sioux, 4-F, mediated, Colt .45, peace officer, butte, B-29, slough, Blackfoot, and larynx.
9. Compose a graveside eulogy for Marie Little Soldier, Frank Hayden, Wes Hayden, Julian Hayden, Len McAuley, or Gail Hayden. Note their best qualities and

the reasons that people in Bentrock admired them.

10. Suggest additions to the novel, for example, more commentary on the role of Mel Paddock as agent of the state attorney or the private conference between Julian Hayden and Len McAuley, his former deputy.

Law

1. Read aloud state laws governing the rights and responsibilities of female patients and nursing staff during examinations by male physicians. Determine how laws have changed since Frank Hayden's era of medical practice.
2. Make a chart of advice to Wes concerning the best way to obtain justice in the case of Frank Hayden's murder of Marie Little Soldier, for example, by ordering an exhumation and autopsy of her body. Comment on the danger of putting a 12-year-old on the stand to testify about the time of the murder.
3. Discuss how Julian Hayden influences law enforcement long after his withdrawal to the ranch. Cite his interference with his son's duties as sheriff in the incarceration of a suspect who also happens to be Julian's son.

Music

Select mood music for a stage or television version of the novel.

Psychology

1. Describe aloud the drive for survival in both victim and murderer. Explain why Marie refuses to be examined by Frank, why she prefers Dr. Snow, how Frank attempts to brazen out the accusations of criminality, how he sneaks into Wes's home the afternoon of Marie's death, and why Frank goes into a tirade at 1:00 A. M. and kills himself.
2. List aspects of law enforcement that dismay Wes, including questioning Marie about sexual assault, confronting and arresting Frank, and keeping him locked in the cellar rather than in jail. Suggest ways that the sheriff can attend to the unpleasant duties of law enforcement without involving his family, for example, by sending Len to arrest Frank and by arranging for Frank's incarceration in an adjoining county.
3. Using incidents from the book, comment on gradual changes in Wes. Discuss how he copes with jealousy and sibling rivalry and why he hesitates to eject Julian from his home for trying to retrieve Frank from custody. Explain the influence of Gail on Wes's decision to seek full justice for Marie's murder.
4. Characterize the moral integrity and influence of Len, who served both Julian and Wes as deputy. Summarize the personal traits that cause Len to retreat into alcohol, refuse to heed Julian's command, hurry to the defense of Gail and David, and stand guard on Wes's house.
5. Write an encyclopedia entry on suicide caused by slitting the wrists. Add details that explain why the death scene so agonizes Wes.

Science and Health

1. Compose a lecture on tonsillitis, pneumonia, cerebral hemorrhage, death by lightning strike, and lethal loss of blood. List first aid, complications, and treatment for severe cases, particularly paralytic stroke. Account for

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the importance of Frank's heroism in the Pacific to his role as town doctor and volunteer physician on the Sioux reservation.

2. Discuss the difference in weapons mentioned in the novel, including the axe, Julian's .22 automatic target pistol and .32 pistol, Len's revolver, and Gail's double-barreled shotgun.

Speech

1. Organize a discussion of racism and other forms of persecution, classism, and exclusion. Answer these basic questions: What makes people belittle identifiable groups, especially members of a minority race? How does Wes quell rumors and collect accurate information through one-on-one interviews? How do editorials, speeches, books, plays, monuments, music, murals, and other forms of creativity help quell hatred and prejudice?
2. Compose a tour guide of Montana and the Dakotas. Express the importance of law and justice to the creation of three states. Contrast the early history of Sioux territory with the lives of native peoples after they are forcibly settled on reservations. Explain why large numbers died after giving up their traditional life style.
3. Outline a speech honoring Western police officers. Add details of famous frontier law enforcement officials and organizations. Comment on the role of the dime novel in creating myths about the Old West.

ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT

1. List examples of violence in the lives of the characters.
2. Compile a list of actions and statements that demonstrate racism in Bentrock and Fort Berthold Reservation.
3. Compose a scene in which David encounters other women whom Frank molested.
4. Make a character list and explain the character flaws of each.
5. Account for the recurrence of boyish pleasures.

TEACHER'S NOTES

VOCABULARY TEST

Complete each of the following sentences with appropriate pairs of words from the list below. You will have answers left over when you finish.

aberrant	casings	expediency	keeper	postmortem
alluding	deacon	galvanized	larynx	regalia
attributed	deference	gregarious	musing	scoria
barrage	dogged	humility	opaque	segment
benign	eccentric	incentive	ostentation	tonsillitis
bigot	eulogized	jurisdiction	patronizing	washboard

- Objects of the most _____ and debilitating prejudice, the Indians in and around our community were nonetheless a largely passive and _____ presence.
- As soon as we turned off the highway and onto the rutted _____ road that led to my grandparents', loose gravel and _____ began to clatter under the car.
- In short, rather than become grim and _____ when closing in on a suspect, my father became good-humored and _____.
- During this conversation two things struck me: first, that the man they were discussing (and whose crimes they kept _____ to but now did not specifically mention in _____ to my supposed innocence) was not some outsider.
- The citizens of that community tolerated all kinds of behavior, from the _____ to the unusual to the _____.
- My mother, who disliked _____ of any sort, was especially offended by the house's log construction—usually symbolic of simplicity and _____.
- There was so much gunfire out there that afternoon that the ground glittered with my _____ and Nutty became so accustomed to the shots that he grazed right through the _____.
- He buckled his belt, the only bit of western _____ he wore—a hand-tooled ranger belt with a silver buckle and _____.
- As a consequence of these _____ cover-ups, it was possible for Frank Hayden to be buried without scandal and to be _____ in the usual blandly reverent way.
- That my father could continue in his profession I _____ to his ability to _____ parts of his life and keep one from intruding on another.

COMPREHENSION TEST A

Part I: Quotation Identification (30 points)

Match each of the following quotations from the novel with its speaker. Place the letter of your response in the blank provided at left. Some of the answers will be used more than once and some not at all.

- | | | |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| A. David | F. Betsy | K. Julian |
| B. Gloria | G. Maxine | L. Minnesota city boy |
| C. Wes | H. Grandma Anglund | M. Enid |
| D. Len | I. Marie | N. Gail |
| E. Frank | J. Daisy | O. Miss Schott |

- _____ 1. That sure was the Wild West, wasn't it?
- _____ 2. I love the wind. It reminds me of North Dakota.
- _____ 3. I don't want this getting back to my father.
- _____ 4. No one loved them more.
- _____ 5. Mrs. ! Mrs. !
- _____ 6. So this is what it's like to have kids. Damn.
- _____ 7. You know Frank's always been partial to red meat.
- _____ 8. Mighty fine boots. Mighty fine.
- _____ 9. Why don't you go over to our house and help yourself to pie.
- _____ 10. He said it means knowing when to look and when to look away.
- _____ 11. My God, David. What is it? Has something happened?
- _____ 12. Is the summer flying by for you too?
- _____ 13. It can't be undone. That's passed.
- _____ 14. You've got to think about how something like this is going to play with the voters.
- _____ 15. He's hard to see when you look for him.

Part II: True/False (20 points)

Mark the following statements either **T** for true or **F** if any part is false.

- _____ 1. When Wes first learns of the crimes, he doesn't intend to charge his brother with sexual assault.
- _____ 2. Gloria retreats from Bentrock to live in Spokane.
- _____ 3. Wes proposes letting Frank break jars until they are all destroyed.
- _____ 4. Enid refuses to let Julian mention Frank's suicide after Wes moves to Fargo.
- _____ 5. Johnny Packwood beats Len in the next election.
- _____ 6. At the funeral, Julian and Enid stand opposite the grave from Wes.
- _____ 7. Wes admits he arrests his brother because he is jealous of his uniform.
- _____ 8. Gail charges Wes with protecting a serial rapist.
- _____ 9. David refuses to become a lawyer.
- _____ 10. Mel Paddock recognizes the need for a state-level murder trial.

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Part III: Completion (20 points)

Fill in the blanks below with words or phrases that complete the sentence.

1. At age _____ David Hayden recalls an era of crimes in the city of Bentrock, Montana, that precipitated the death of a young Hunkpapa _____ named Marie Little Soldier.
2. A graduate of the University of North Dakota Law School, _____ chooses to work in law enforcement rather than to practice law and relies on deputy _____.
3. In Mid-August 1948, _____ lies in the maid's off-kitchen quarters and coughs from _____.
4. The social setting at the Julian ranch is tense because _____ dreads sharing a meal with Frank and _____.
5. _____ wants to stop the _____ before it advances to state scrutiny.

Part IV: Essay (30 points)

Choose two and answer in complete sentences.

1. Describe how family and the people of Bentrock respond to Frank's death.
2. Explain why Gail is happy to live in Fargo.
3. Discuss Julian's influence on the sheriff's department.
4. Account for the value of Frank's war record to his reputation.
5. Summarize events that acquaint Wes with Frank's crime.

COMPREHENSION TEST B

Part I: Multiple Choice (20 points)

Select the phrase that completes each of the following sentences. Place the letter of your response in the blank provided at left.

- _____ 1. David wonders if his uncle is sharing the
A. secret with Gloria.
B. .32 pistol.
C. root cellar.
D. duct system.
- _____ 2. Gail stays outdoors to
A. enjoy the wind.
B. determine how much of the house needs painting.
C. hold Dale at gunpoint.
D. keep Julian and Enid from opening the basement.
- _____ 3. David is saddened to view
A. Frank's bloodless corpse.
B. Wes's bent leg.
C. a magpie buried under dirt.
D. Nutty in the ranch barn.
- _____ 4. In later years, David is unable to respect
A. the law.
B. his Aunt Gloria.
C. the Anglunds.
D. Len.
- _____ 5. Living in town is difficult for
A. Enid.
B. Marie.
C. Julian's sons.
D. Ollie and his family.
- _____ 6. Julian makes a joke about
A. the double-barreled shotgun.
B. red meat.
C. Indians attending college.
D. Wes's lame leg.
- _____ 7. David is surprised to hear
A. his mother use the word "penis."
B. Daisy accusing Len of drunkenness.
C. Wes ordering Gail to drop the gun.
D. Grandpa Anglund's opinion of Montana.
- _____ 8. From a distance, the two men appear to
A. threaten each other with guns.
B. play a game without rules.
C. end their quarrel.
D. carry axes toward the house.
- _____ 9. Wes grows more cheerful as he
A. confers with the state attorney.
B. anticipates the upcoming election.
C. leaves Len to guard the house.
D. builds his case.
- _____ 10. Before Julian, Wes
A. accuses Frank of taking assignments at the Fort to abuse women.
B. complains about favoritism toward a war hero.
C. defends justice.
D. insists Frank go to jail in an adjoining county.

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Part II: Matching (30 points)

Match the following descriptions with names of characters from the list below. Place the letter of your response in the blank provided at left. You will use some answers more than once and some not at all.

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| _____ 1. proposes visiting past homes during the summer | A. David |
| _____ 2. threatens a man with his .32 pistol | B. Gloria |
| _____ 3. fires a shotgun out the window | C. Wes |
| _____ 4. holds a gun on Dale as he retreats from the yard | D. Len |
| _____ 5. consults in the coffee shop with Ollie Young Bear | E. Frank |
| _____ 6. refuses to blame Montana | F. Betsy |
| _____ 7. visits the family in Fargo, but says nothing about Frank's death | G. Maxine |
| _____ 8. listens through the heat register | H. Grandma Anglund |
| _____ 9. suffers a cerebral hemorrhage while in office | I. Marie |
| _____ 10. plays ball with David and Ronnie | J. Daisy |
| _____ 11. informs Gail that townspeople know Frank's reputation with women | K. Julian |
| _____ 12. returns drunk to the hotel from at a bachelor party. | L. Minnesota city boy |
| _____ 13. likes big band music | M. Enid |
| _____ 14. learns from her husband about the secret the Haydens bear | N. Gail |
| _____ 15. remains remorseless after admitting guilt | O. Miss Schott |

Part III: Short Answer (20 points)

Supply a word or phrase in answer to the following questions. Place your response in the blank provided.

- | | |
|-------|---|
| _____ | 1. Who sits with Wes at the Coffee Cup? |
| _____ | 2. Who belittles Wes's offer of beer? |
| _____ | 3. What disease causes frequent relapse? |
| _____ | 4. Who likes to listen to the radio? |
| _____ | 5. Who angers Wes by asking about the Wild West? |
| _____ | 6. Who teaches history? |
| _____ | 7. What county extends into the Fort Berthold Reservation? |
| _____ | 8. Who treats Gail's illnesses? |
| _____ | 9. Who replaces Julian during his years out of office? |
| _____ | 10. Who warns Julian not to mention Frank and Gloria's childlessness? |

Part IV: Essay (30 points)

Choose two and answer in complete sentences.

1. Explain why Wes decides to move the prisoner across the street.
2. Contrast Len, Julian, and Wes as lawmen.
3. Describe the ranch.
4. Summarize the harm caused by secrecy.
5. Describe Frank's jailing.

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ANSWER KEY

VOCABULARY TEST

1. patronizing, benign
2. washboard, scoria
3. dogged, gregarious
4. alluding, deference
5. eccentric, aberrant
6. ostentation, humility
7. casings, barrage
8. regalia, keeper
9. postmortem, eulogized
10. attributed, segment

COMPREHENSION TEST A

Part I: Quotation Identification (30 points)

- | | | |
|------|-------|-------|
| 1. F | 6. F | 11. G |
| 2. N | 7. K | 12. O |
| 3. C | 8. L | 13. C |
| 4. A | 9. J | 14. D |
| 5. I | 10. D | 15. I |

Part II: True/False (20 points)

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

Part III: Completion (20 points)

1. 52, Sioux
2. Wes, Len McAuley
3. Marie, pneumonia
4. Gail, Gloria
5. Julian, investigation

Part IV: Essay (30 points)

Answers will vary.

COMPREHENSION TEST B

Part I: Multiple Choice (20 points)

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. D | 6. B |
| 2. A | 7. A |
| 3. B | 8. C |
| 4. A | 9. D |
| 5. C | 10. C |

Part II: Matching (30 points)

- | | | |
|------|-------|-------|
| 1. F | 6. C | 11. J |
| 2. K | 7. M | 12. C |
| 3. N | 8. A | 13. I |
| 4. D | 9. D | 14. F |
| 5. C | 10. I | 15. E |

Part III: Short Answer (20 points)

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| 1. Ollie Young Bear | 6. David |
| 2. Frank | 7. Mercer |
| 3. pneumonia | 8. Dr. Snow |
| 4. Marie | 9. Len |
| 5. Betsy | 10. Wes |

Part IV: Essay (30 points)

Answers will vary.



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