

The House of the Spirits

Chapters 13-15

The Terror

- Coup
 - The history
 - 11 Sept 1973
 - President = Salvador Allende
 - The story
 - President killed – Military says suicide
 - Jaime tortured and killed 371
- Esteban's voice 373
 - Esteban doesn't get it
 - Esteban brokered the coup 374

The Terror

- Esteban – black, cane, crow, shrunken 375
- To be disappeared 376, 379, 384, 389, 391, 419, 420
- Vision of dictatorship 377
 - Techniques of control 381-383
- Alba helps the victims and revolutionaries 379
- Role of university 384
 - Sebastian Gomez killed

The Terror

- Esteban's revenge on Tres Marias 386
 - No comfort – Realizes his mistake, country lost
 - Tragic hero? 390
- The Death of The Poet 387
 - Burial of freedom 388
- Blanca and Pedro Tercero
 - Esteban helps them to leave country
 - Role of forgiveness, of moving on 394

The Terror

- Alba = the focus of the end of the story
 - Miguel = guerilla leader/fighter 396
 - Esteban's love for Alba
 - Kidnapping of Alba 401
 - Bonfire of books 401
 - Esteban Garcia at the center of it 404
 - His motivations for his action 413

The Hour of Truth

- Vision of youth before dark tough times 406
 - The instant
 - Order to confusion – reevaluation of everything
- Interrogation techniques
 - Good cop, bad cop 407, 411
 - Absence of time
 - Loud constant noise 406
 - Electricity and drugs 409
 - Doghouse 413 – dark cold cramped isolation

The Hour of Truth

- Coping strategies
 - Believes that Esteban will intervene 405
 - Retreats to happy memories of Miguel 406
 - Writes stories in her head
- Ana Diaz
 - Need for lover as way to push through pain
 - Sing in face of pain – Code songs of slaves 413

The Hour of Truth

- Life lessons
 - You must write yourself out of bad situations 414
 - Stories save lives – truth must be told 414
 - Humiliation greater than pain – dehumanization 408
 - Sometimes you must lose to feel compassion 411
 - To get involved in the problems of others can hurt those closest to you 418

The Hour of Truth

- The repayment of the 50 pesos
 - Collectives/cooperatives can work if run fairly 417
 - Esteban cashes in all of his chips
 - Transito Soto helps to save Alba
- The Truebas and the country must start over 420
 - The cycles of life

Epilogue

- Death of Esteban Garcia 422
- Bed = sailboat on sea
- Alba
 - Fingers 421, 423
 - Role of Transito 424
 - Dealing with PTSD 426
- Death of Amanda 425
- Image of doghouse
 - Symbolism come full circle – Barrabas 426, 433

Epilogue

- Spirit of women as backbone of culture 429
- Questioning of hatred / role of forgiveness
 - Concept of fate / universal design? 431
 - Image of jigsaw puzzle 432
 - “Break the terrible chain” 432
 - Need to tell stories and make history live 432

Epilogue

- Alba with child 432
 - Offspring, new life, her child – of love or violence?
 - Alba's name = dawn = new start, new life, birth of day
- Revelation of narrator 433
 - Stories
 - Save us – 414
 - Remember to live – 432
 - See the patterns in our literature – Tim O'Brien