

1261

BANTAM
BOOKS



25¢

RAY BRADBURY'S
WORLD-FAMOUS STORIES OF THE
FIRST INTERPLANETARY CONQUEST

THE MARTIAN CHRONICLES

MARS — THE NEW FRONTIER —
A MASTERLY HISTORY OF
TOMORROW'S PIONEERS

STUDY GUIDE

NOTES:

Drinking the dandelion wine of Ray Bradbury

The writer, who has always seemed to be ahead of his time, turns 91 Monday. His 30 books and more than 600 short stories have influenced a generation of American fiction writers.

By Alice Hoffman

August 22, 2011

When my father took his leave of the family, he left behind a box of his books, and in doing so he gave me the gift of Ray Bradbury.

The summer that I began reading Bradbury, even the ordinary world became magical. I inhaled the books: "Something Wicked this Way Comes," "Dandelion Wine," "The Illustrated Man," "The Martian Chronicles" and, of course, his master work, "Fahrenheit 451."

His stories embraced a different reality, and they insulated me from the despair of a family that was breaking apart. It was the realization that stories could save readers that made me begin thinking about being a writer myself. I was able to see through my own heartbreak into the future, and I decided to write myself there.

My first story was about a lone survivor in a world that had been devastated. It was only later I realized I was writing about myself, about a girl who felt alone, who clung to fiction and to Bradbury's books as if they were a life raft.

Bradbury tells the story of how, as a boy in 1932, he went to a country fair where a carnival entertainer named Mr. Electrico touched him on the nose with an electrified sword, made his hair stand on end and shouted "Live forever!"

He has certainly achieved eternal life through his books, which are destined to live on. But it's beginning to seem as if he took the "live forever" command literally as well. On Monday Ray Bradbury turns 91, and his birthday is the perfect day to reflect on all he has given us.

The writer who says he was "raised in libraries" wrote a work of genius warning of a future in which books are so dangerous that they are burned. Where did he write it? In a library, of course, at UCLA, working on a rented typewriter.

His ambition was to be both a magician and a writer, and he managed to become both. He was the creative consultant on the United States Pavilion at the 1964 World's Fair, which I remember visiting in Queens, N.Y., as a 12-year-old so ready for the future that I could barely stand still in the present. He worked on the Spaceship Earth display at Epcot Center, Disney World and contributed to the conception of the Orbitron space ride at Euro-Disney France. His script "I Sing the Body Electric" was the 100th episode of the greatest television series in history, "The Twilight Zone." He wrote the screenplay for Melville's "Moby Dick," directed by John Huston, and his own books were turned into brilliant movies, including "Fahrenheit 451," directed by Francois Truffaut and starring Julie Christie and Oskar Werner, and "The Illustrated Man" starring Oscar winners Claire Bloom and Rod Steiger.

His honors, far too many to catalog, have included the National Book Foundation's 2000 Medal for Distinguished Contribution to American Letters and the National Medal of Arts in 2004. His work has appeared in the Best American Short Stories annual collection four times, and he has won the O. Henry

Award, the World Fantasy Award for Lifetime Achievement, the Grand Master Award from the Science Fiction Writers of American award and the PEN Center USA West Lifetime Achievement Award.

Born in 1920, he seemed always to know intrinsically that the future was not so far from the past, and that the past was a road map to the future. This has made him seem always ahead of his time. His 30 books and more than 600 short stories have influenced a generation of American fiction writers, including this one.

Christopher Isherwood once wrote that Bradbury had "a powerful and mysterious imagination that would undoubtedly earn the respect of Edgar Allen Poe." Bradbury was brave enough to create his own genre. He understood that love was just as strong as any supernatural power, and that the timeless themes of good and evil resonate across generations.

The perfect summers and mystery-soaked autumns he has created are more memorable than the ones we experience in "real life," and his gypsy witches and 12-year-old boys, tattooed men and fierce believers in truth will always be a part of American literature.

To you, Ray Bradbury, happy birthday, and many more.

Alice Hoffman is the author of many novels, including "Practical Magic" and "The Red Garden." Her latest book, "The Dovekeepers," will be published in October.

Copyright © 2011, [Los Angeles Times](#)

1. What influenced Bradbury throughout his life?
2. How would you characterize him as a person?
3. What interests you about his life?
4. What would you ask him if you met him?

Rocket Summer

The Saturn V Rocket



The Saturn V was a rocket NASA built to send people to the moon. (The V in the name is the Roman numeral five.) The Saturn V was a type of rocket called a Heavy Lift Vehicle. That means it was very powerful. It was the most powerful rocket that had ever flown successfully. The Saturn V was used in the Apollo program in the 1960s and 1970s. It also was used to launch the Skylab space station.

How Big Was the Saturn V?

The Saturn V rocket was 111 meters (363 feet) tall, about the height of a 36-story-tall building, and 18 meters (60 feet) taller than the Statue of Liberty. Fully fueled for liftoff, the Saturn V weighed 2.8 million kilograms (6.2 million pounds), the weight of about 400 elephants. The rocket generated 34.5 million newtons (7.6 million pounds) of **thrust** at launch, creating more power than 85 Hoover Dams. A car that gets 48 kilometers (30 miles) to the gallon could drive around the world around 800 times with the amount of fuel the Saturn V used for a lunar landing mission. It could launch about 118,000 kilograms (130 tons) into Earth orbit. That's about as much weight as 10 school buses. The Saturn V could launch about 43,500 kilograms (50 tons) to the moon. That's about the same as four school buses.

What Is the History of the Saturn V?

The Saturn V was developed at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala. It was one of three types of Saturn rockets NASA built. Two smaller rockets, the Saturn I (1) and IB (1b), were used to launch humans into Earth orbit. The Saturn V sent them beyond Earth orbit to the moon. The first Saturn V was launched in 1967. It was called Apollo 4. Apollo 6 followed in 1968. Both of these rockets were launched without crews. These launches tested the Saturn V rocket.

The first Saturn V launched with a crew was Apollo 8. On this mission, astronauts orbited the moon but did not land. On Apollo 9, the crew tested the Apollo moon lander by flying it in Earth orbit without landing. On Apollo 10, the Saturn V launched the lunar lander to the moon. The crew tested the lander in space but did not land it on the moon. In 1969, Apollo 11 was the first mission to land astronauts on the moon. Saturn V rockets also made it possible for astronauts to land on the moon on Apollo 12, 14, 15, 16 and 17. On Apollo 13, the Saturn V lifted the crew into space, but a problem prevented them from being able to land on the moon. That problem was not

with the Saturn V, but with the Apollo spacecraft. The last Saturn V was launched in 1973, without a crew. It was used to launch the Skylab space station into Earth orbit.

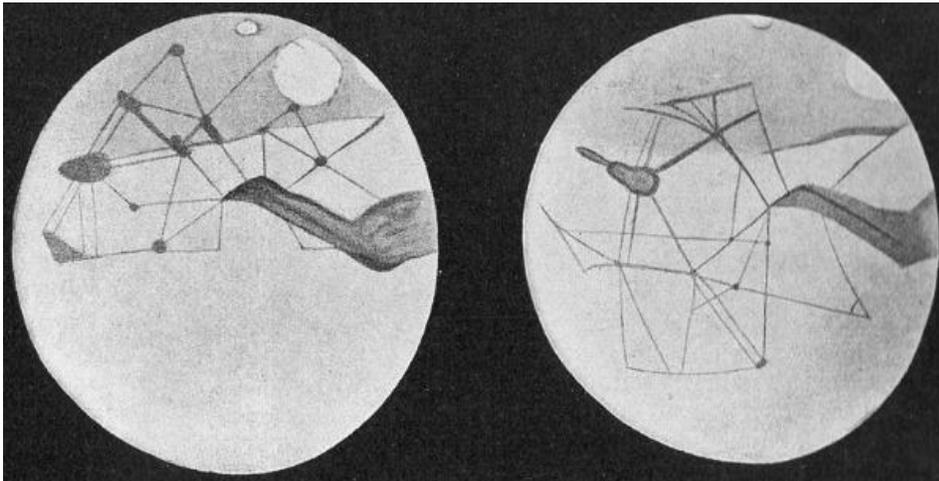
How Did the Saturn V Work?

The Saturn V that launched the Skylab space station only had two **stages**. The Saturn V rockets used for the Apollo missions had three stages. Each stage would burn its engines until it was out of fuel and would then separate from the rocket. The engines on the next stage would fire, and the rocket would continue into space. The first stage had the most powerful engines, since it had the challenging task of lifting the fully fueled rocket off the ground. The first stage lifted the rocket to an altitude of about 68 kilometers (42 miles). The second stage carried it from there almost into orbit. The third stage placed the Apollo spacecraft into Earth orbit and pushed it toward the moon. The first two stages fell into the ocean after separation. The third stage either stayed in space or hit the moon.

1. Compare the similarities of this rocket with the one depicted in the book.
2. How is it summer in January? Describe the rocket summer from the book.

YLLA

The Canals of Mars



The man who 'discovered civilization' on Mars

These immense illusory earthworks (Marsworks?) above had been studied in detail by one of the greatest astronomers of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the wealthy and socially prominent Percival Lowell.

In his day, Lowell was far and away the most influential popularizer of planetary science in America. His widely read books included "Mars" (1895), "Mars and Its Canals" (1906), and "Mars As the Abode of Life" (1908).

Lowell was not the first to believe he saw vast canals on Mars. That distinction belongs to the Italian astronomer Giovanni Schiaparelli, who in 1877 reported the appearance of certain long, thin lines he called canali, meaning channels in Italian. But he stopped short of attributing them to the work of intelligent Martians. ("Leave the Martians; take the canali.")

Lowell carried the matter much further. Captivated by these sketchily observed — and ultimately nonexistent — phenomena, Lowell spent many years attempting to elucidate and theorize about them. The lines, he thought, must "run for thousands of miles in an unswerving direction, as far relatively as from London to Bombay, and as far actually as from Boston to San Francisco."

He thought the Red Planet must once have been covered by lush greenery, but was now desiccated; the "canals" were an admirable attempt by intelligent and cooperative beings to save their home planet.

The Canals of Mars became one of the most intense and wrongheaded obsessions in the history of science, capturing the popular imagination through dozens of newspaper and magazine articles, as well as such classic science fiction as "The Princess of Mars," a pulp classic by Edgar Rice Burroughs, who also created the immortal "Tarzan of the Apes." (Burroughs had a rare gift for knowing what the public would adore, from Ape-Men to Little Green Men.)

Despite the fact that his "canals" and elaborate descriptions of Martian civilization turned out to be the product of self-delusion (though not a deliberate hoax), Lowell's name remains honored in the annals of astronomy.

1. Who was captivated by the canals of Mars?
2. Even though we now know this information is incorrect, how is the scientist mentioned in this article treated by history? Why?
3. What did the theory of the canals make people think of on the planet earth?

February 1999: Ylla

4. Describe the dream that takes place in the chapter.

5. What is the significance of this dream?

6. How are the Martians described?

7. What type of transportation is used by the Martians?

USHER II

Censorship in Schools

Book banning is one of the most sensitive and controversial subjects in the realm of education. From the protection of youth to disagreements on a moral level with the author or the work itself, every reason under the sun has been given to keep some books out of the hands of students. Most recently, the John Green novel “The Fault in Our Stars” has been removed from middle schools within the Riverside Unified School District.

This most recent ban came about when a concerned parent found that her daughter had taken the book home from school. A coming-of-age tale about two teenagers who suffer from cancer and fall in love, the book inevitably focuses on the pair’s love, as well as showing the human side of high school students: less than perfect and unafraid of crude language. Not comfortable with the idea of a book containing such subject matter being readily available to middle schoolers, it was suggested to the book reconsideration committee that it be removed or only available with parental consent. On Sept. 22, the vote was cast by the committee to have the book removed.

Though understandable in their motives, the actions of the book reconsideration committee are further than what should be considered acceptable. More often than not, the act of banning a book is an exaggerated reaction to an avoidable problem.

Though discussions of teenage love are generally considered taboo, it is something that most kids begin to think about as soon as they hit puberty. Evidence of this comes through in sources as famous as the “Diary of a Young Girl,” written by the 13-year-old Anne Frank. Since its publication, there have been various efforts to censor the book or have it removed from schools altogether. This drive for censorship came about due to an entry in Frank’s diary.

Not unlike Frank's diary, Green's novel falls far from the mark of exploitation. Instead, the relationship between the characters Hazel and Augustus is an attempt to show that the deeply emotional bond that the two share also contains a physical element. The two love each other.

Rather than banning the book, a better solution would be for parents to put such subjects into perspective for the children who may want to read the book. However, even if parents feel that their children are simply too young for such information, then the establishment of a system where students must obtain a guardian's permission would be a far better solution than the outright ban of a book. Parents and educators must keep in mind that books are quite often the first to the fray in social advancement.

Additionally, schools must understand that they are public institutions, and that an author's right to express themselves — should a student take an interest in reading their work — may lead to somebody else's offense.

Disneyland's Haunted Mansion goes to spooky extremes in Halloween decorating

<http://www.buffalonews.com/life-arts/home-gardening/disneylands-haunted-mansion-goes-to-spooky-extremes-in-halloween-decorating-20141026>

ORANGE COUNTY, Calif. – No one around here decorates a house for Halloween quite like the creative minds behind the Haunted Mansion Holiday at Disneyland. It has been 14 years since the seasonal “Nightmare Before Christmas”-themed overlay was launched at the classic Haunted Mansion, and the ghoulish meets quirky meets elegant design continues to evolve as the designers tweak or add new features for a three-month run.

Black wreaths and garlands festooned with custom black-and-white ribbon, flowers and skulls deck the antebellum estate, while vases filled with seemingly dead arrangements accent the wall enclosing the “property.” Inside the mansion, there's a 7-foot-tall gingerbread house that features a zombie gingerbread man flanked by candy cane spikes that's new this year. These are just a handful of the decorating ideas that can be adapted for real homes.

Brian Sandahl, senior art director for Haunted Mansion Holiday, recently met with the Register at the New Orleans Square attraction to discuss decorating ideas inspired by the 1993 Tim Burton cult film. Here are excerpts from that conversation:

Q. What are the signature decorative elements outside the mansion?

A. Black garland. We didn't even see black Christmas garland when we started doing this attraction. So we bought black pine garland and heated it and twisted it and got it all weird. ... Now there's black garland everywhere – the craft stores have it. We'd like to think we started that trend. (Laughs). Because when two holidays collide, when we're Christmas and Halloween coming together, we don't have holly berry, we have pumpkin berry. The red is gone. Our skulls, our ornaments, anything creepy, we throw in there.

Q. What's the palette?

A. We are inspired by the film; we are not copying the film. The things in it – the snake, the man-eating wreath – are actually in the film, and we use them in a different approach here. The palette is Halloween – black, orange, purple, green but vibrant, bright colors. The classic mansion is rather subdued, then we come in with Jack (Skellington) and our overlay and it is quite colorful. It's what Jack's idea of what Halloween and Christmas would be in Disneyland.

Q. What are the aesthetic guidelines you use?

A. Asymmetricality is critical. Nothing is balanced. There are very few straight lines. Everything is crooked. For example, the striping on the ribbon is erratic – it's jiggedy-jaggedy. It's handmade-ish, because Jack supposedly made all this stuff. ... Main Street is normal; Haunted Mansion Holiday is abnormal.

Q. The flowers in the vases look dead, and it looks like you do a mix of faux and real arrangements outside. Why?

A. Everything has a dark, macabre twist to it. We're up for three months – October, November and December, so we have to use a tremendous amount of artificial foliage. But we buy stuff that looks dead already – the black garland, twisted branches and spider webs. That orange stuff that hangs from the garlands, that's amaranthus. It has that drippy, ghoulish look to it.

Q. What can you tell us about that Christmas list inside the house?

A. It's taken right out of the film, but we've augmented it. There is a naughty and nice list in the attic. On the list is the production staff. Steven Davison is double naughty – he's the creative director. I'm naughty. I'll tell you a secret. My parents, my dog, my neighbors, friends, family, co-workers are on the list. It's one of the fun things we get to do as designers.

Q. What are your personal favorites among the decorations?

A. I come from theater. I've done a few productions of "Little Shop of Horrors," so what we call the snappy plants in the conservatory are kind of an homage to Audrey II, which is the big man-eating plant. But ours have different colors and they have poinsettia leaves coming from behind them so it's like Christmas Audrey II.

Q. Where is the hidden Mickey in the attraction?

A. There are several. One is in the ballroom. Jack's sleigh has backed into the ballroom and there are ghostly gifts coming out of it. And there's snow. The snow forms a hidden Mickey. On the table, there are black plates with spider webs that I did in my garage with spray paint and correction pen. We make a Mickey with a plate and two dessert plates ... we like to pay homage to the classic show (of the attraction), as well.

Q. What's coming next year to the attraction?

A. We already know what's going to happen next year. I can't tell you. But we've been waiting for this to happen for several years.

1. What is censorship?

2. Is censorship necessary?

3. Can you give examples of necessary censorship?

4. Why would people/societies want to censor?

5. What are the benefits of censorship?

6. Have you ever been censored or not allowed to
view/read something?

7. What steps can be made to reverse censorship?

Chapter 15- April 2005: Usher II

1. What time of day and time of year is always occurring on Mars?
2. What was the Great Fire? Why do you think the Great Fire would happen?
3. What was the job of the people from the Moral Climates?
4. Does the House of Usher building remind you of anything here on Earth?
5. Are there any literary characters that you recognize from this chapter?
6. How did Garrett ensure his safety on his mission to Mars?
7. What was Stendahl's motivation in this chapter?
8. How does the author (Bradbury) feel about people who censor?

After a Nuclear War

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-2699854/Life-nuclear-war-revealed-Computer-models-reveal-Earth-suffer-20-year-long-winter-worldwide-famine.html>

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-2699854/Life-nuclear-war-revealed-Computer-models-reveal-Earth-suffer-20-year-long-winter-worldwide-famine.html#v-3664141656001>

Nuclear Famine

A nuclear war using as few as 100 weapons anywhere in the world would disrupt the global climate and agricultural production so severely that the lives of more than two billion people would be in jeopardy.

The second edition of IPPNW's report *Nuclear Famine: Two Billion People at Risk—Global Impacts of Limited Nuclear War on Agriculture, Food Supplies, and Human Nutrition* explains how even the relatively small nuclear arsenals of countries such as India and Pakistan could cause long lasting, global damage to the Earth's ecosystems.

Among the specific findings in *Nuclear Famine*, which was originally released in April 2012, are:

- Corn production in the US would decline by an average of 10% for an entire decade, with the most severe decline (20%) in year 5. Soybean production would decline by about 7%, with the most severe loss, more than 20%, in year 5.
- There would be a significant decline in middle season rice production in China. During the first 4 years, rice production would decline by an average of 21%; over the next 6 years the decline would average 10%.
- Increases in food prices would make food inaccessible to hundreds of millions of the world's poorest. Even if agricultural markets continued to function normally, 215 million people would be added to the rolls of the malnourished over the course of a decade.
- Significant agricultural shortfalls over an extended period would almost certainly lead to panic and hoarding on an international scale, further reducing accessible food.
- The 925 million people in the world who are already chronically malnourished (with a baseline consumption of 1,750 calories or less per day), would be put at risk by a 10% decline in their food consumption.

The new findings, published in 2013, paint an even grimmer picture:

- Chinese winter wheat production would fall 50% in the first year and, averaged over the entire decade after the war, would be 31% below baseline.
- More than a billion people additional people in China would also face severe food insecurity. The total number of people threatened by nuclear-war induced famine would be well over two billion.

“The prospect of a decade of widespread hunger and intense social and economic instability in the world’s largest country has immense implications for the entire global community, as does the possibility that the huge declines in Chinese wheat production will be matched by similar declines in other wheat producing countries.” said the report’s author, Dr. Ira Helfand.

Nuclear Famine is the second IPPNW publication to address the global health and environmental consequences of a nuclear war using only a fraction of the more than 20,000 nuclear weapons in the world today. *Zero is the Only Option: Four Medical and Environmental Cases for the Eradication of Nuclear Weapons*, published in 2010, describes the severe climate disruption that would result from a “limited” nuclear war, and summarizes the medical consequences of blast, heat, and radiation from nuclear explosions.

Follow the links in the highlighted resources box (above) for more detailed information, including fact sheets, scientific papers, and a Powerpoint presentation that can be used by doctors, medical students, and grassroots activists to disseminate these findings and explain their importance.

<http://www.ippnw.org/nuclear-famine.html>

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/military/nuclear-false-alarms.html>

Here are Isaac Asimov’s Three Laws of Robotics (a fictional law created for telling stories with robots). How are these laws upheld or broken in this story?

Isaac Asimov's "Three Laws of Robotics"

1. A robot may not injure a human being or, through inaction, allow a human being to come to harm.
2. A robot must obey orders given it by human beings except where such orders would conflict with the First Law.
3. A robot must protect its own existence as long as such protection does not conflict with the First or Second Law.

The Martian Chronicles- Questions for comprehension and higher level thinking.

Use complete sentences to answer the questions from the book. Your answers should be listed on a separate sheet of paper since there is not adequate space on this handout.

PART I

Chapter 1- January 1999: Rocket Summer

1. What is a Rocket Summer? How is it summer in January?

Chapter 2- February 1999: Ylla

1. Describe the dream that takes place in the chapter.
2. What is the significance of this dream?
3. How are the Martians described?
4. What type of transportation is used by the Martians?

Chapter 3- August 1999: The Summer Night

1. Something strange happened in this passage. Describe it.

Chapter 4- August 1999: The Earth Men- part 1

1. How do the people from Mars communicate with the people from Earth?
2. What do the people from Mars call their planet?
3. How are the Martians treating the earthlings in this chapter? Why?
4. Why do the Martians wear masks?
5. How did the captain expect to be treated as he landed on Mars and how is this different than the way he was actually treated?

Chapter 4- August 1999: The Earth Men- part 2

1. Where does Mr. Iii send the group of travelers?
2. What special abilities do the Martians have at this facility?
3. What becomes of the captain and his men?
4. Who is insane in this chapter? Why?

Chapter 5- March 2000: The Taxpayer

1. Why did people want to escape earth? Would Mars be a good place to go?

Chapter 6- April 2000: The Third Expedition

1. After what happened to the first two expeditions, is it a wise thing to send another? Why would another one be sent?
2. What did this group of explorers unexpectedly find on Mars?
3. What explanations did the explorers have for the unexpected find?
4. Lustig's grandparents have an explanation of Mars. What do they think?

5. How does the Captain feel about his crew and whether or not they followed orders? Was it justified (or okay) for them to make their decision?
6. How would you feel if you suddenly encountered a relative that had been dead for years?
7. What theory does the captain ultimately conclude by the end of this chapter? Was the captain right?
8. What happened to the men at the end of this chapter? Could this happen to more expeditions? How can the cycle be broken?

Chapter 7- June 2001: And the Moon be Still as Bright- part 1

1. How was the mood of this mission different from the mood of previous missions?
2. What plague ravaged the Martians? Why was this unexpected?
3. "We Earthmen have a talent for ruining big, beautiful things." Give examples.
4. Why is Cherokee spared (for a moment)?
5. What do you think the captain's plan will be at the end of this chapter?

Chapter 7- June 2001: And the Moon be Still as Bright- part 2

1. How does Spender feel after his actions?
2. What is art?
3. What does the government plan on doing with Mars?
4. Who were Darwin, Huxley, and Freud?
5. How were the Martians 'better' than Earthlings? How were they worse?
6. What question did the Martians stop asking? Was it wise to stop asking this question?
7. How are you personally like a Martian?
8. "The majority is always holy." Is this correct? Why or why not? Examples?
9. Why did the captain knock out Parkhill's teeth?

PART II

Chapter 8- August 2001: The Settlers

1. What was happening to the population of earth? Why? Would you have gone?

Chapter 9- December 2001: The Green Morning

1. What was Benjamin Driscoll's motivation on the planet Mars?
2. Why were they going to send him back to earth?
3. Describe how the plants and the trees grew.

Chapter 10- February 2002: The Locusts

1. What was compared to locusts? Is this a fair comparison?

Chapter 11- August 2002: Night Meeting

1. "We've got to forget earth and how things were." Is it possible to forget the past? Is it right to forget the past? What past is needed to be forgotten?
2. What problem did Tomas encounter when meeting the Martian?
3. How do each of these characters describe Mars?

Chapter 12- October 2002: The Shore

1. Who is coming to Mars now?

Chapter 13- June 2003: Way in the Middle of the Air

1. What is censorship and is it appropriate in some cases?
2. Summary of the Chapter: African Americans were trying to go away to Mars. But, some racist people didn't want them to go. Finally, one African American escaped his captor and made left for Mars. The vocabulary for this chapter was not appropriate for a lesson.

Chapter 14- 2004-2005: The Naming of Names

1. Cities and places are renamed in this chapter. Has this ever happened before on Earth? Where and why?

Chapter 15- April 2005: Usher II

9. What time of day and time of year is always occurring on Mars?
10. What was the Great Fire? Why do you think the Great Fire would happen?
11. What was the job of the people from the Moral Climates?
12. Does the House of Usher building remind you of anything here on Earth?
13. Are there any literary characters that you recognize from this chapter?
14. How did Garrett ensure his safety on his mission to Mars?
15. What was Stendahl's motivation in this chapter?
16. How does the author (Bradbury) feel about people who censor?

Chapter 16- August 2005: The Old Ones

1. How are the old people described? Why do you think they came last?

Chapter 17- September 2005: The Martian

1. When the old man thinks the stranger is "Tom," who do you infer "Tom" is?
2. "Then why ask questions. Accept me?" Why would this be difficult?

3. Why do you think Tom is against asking questions? What types of questions is Tom against?
4. What do you think “the trap” is that Tom murmurs about in his sleep?
5. Why do you think these “dead” people are showing up on Mars? Who do you think they are?
6. “If you can’t have the reality, a dream is just as good.” Do you agree with this? Why or why not?

Chapter 18- November 2005: The Luggage Store

1. How does Father Peregrine feel about wars that are far away? How is this similar to today?

Chapter 19- November 2005: The Off Season

1. Where did Sam Parkhill appear in the book previously (even if his name wasn’t mentioned)?
2. Why is it significant to mention space missions to Jupiter and Pluto?
3. Who does Sam not want at his restaurant?
4. Why did Sam shoot the stranger?
5. What surprise gift did Sam get from the Martians? Why do you think he got this gift?
6. What poem does Sam refer to in this chapter? Why? Who does he compare himself to?
7. What happened to the Earth in this chapter? Who did it?

PART III

Chapter 20- November 2005: The Watchers

1. What do you think the author’s opinion of space travel is when there are still problems on earth?

Chapter 21- December 2005: The Silent Towns

1. How would you feel if you were the only person in town? What would you do?
2. How does this new character feel about women? How is he wrong?
3. When was the answering machine invented?
4. How do you think Walter felt when he met Genevieve? Did this get-together meet his expectations?
5. What would you do if you were Walter? Did he do the right thing?

Chapter 22- April 2026: The Long Years

1. Why do you think the book travels so far ahead in time?
2. What do you think life will be like in 2026?
3. Why do you think there was another mission to Mars?
4. What is strange about this family and their age?
5. What really happened to the Hathaway family?

Chapter 23- August 2026: There Will Come Soft Rains

1. Who resides in this town at the beginning of the chapter?
2. What would earth be like if this really happened?

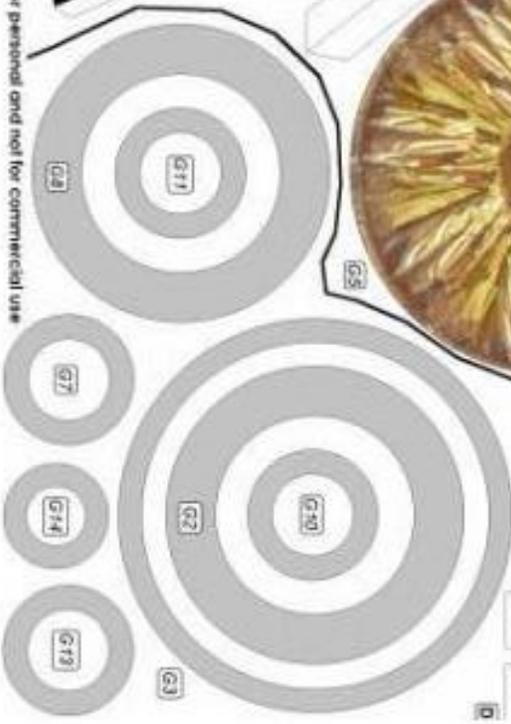
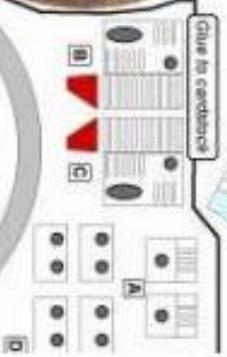
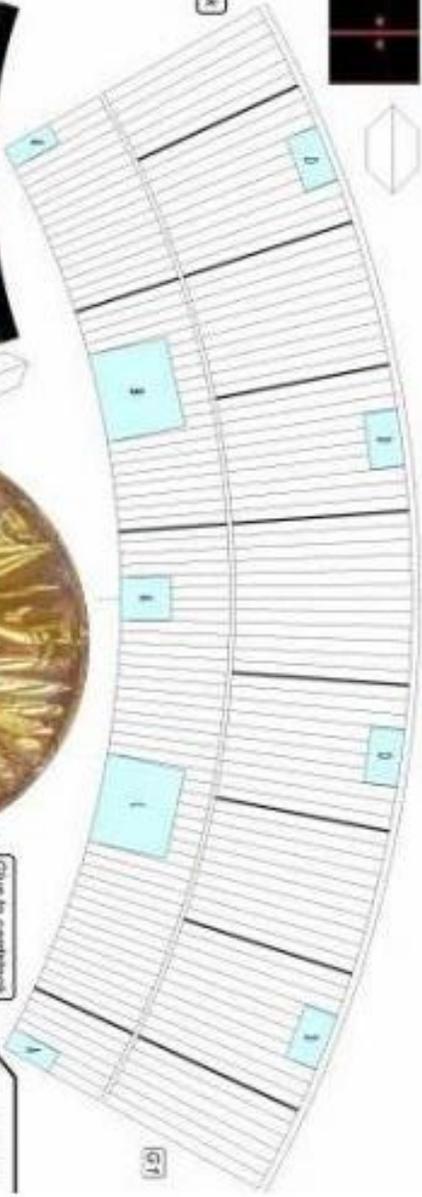
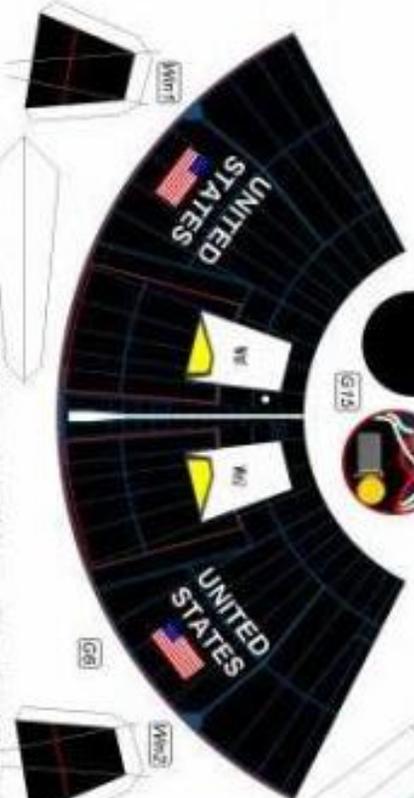
Chapter 24- October 2026: The Million Year Picnic

1. What is Earthian logic? Do we have it? Does this author think we have it? Why or why not?
2. Why was the author so afraid of earth being gone? How was that going to be accomplished 50 years ago? How could it be accomplished today?
3. Who were the Martians?
4. How do you feel about the father's speech at the end of this book? What do you think about his philosophy?
5. Why was this book written?



Gemini

1:48



© 2003 Drawn by T.Noelboom This cardmodel is only for personal and not for commercial use

NOTES: