

Name: _____ 11R - *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest***Reading Schedule & HW*****Subject to Change**

Week of 4/22-4/26:	Pages:	Focus for Notes:
Monday HW:	219-231	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nurse's Attempt to Turn Ward Against McMurphy • Chief & The Control Panel • The Shower Fight & Consequences
Tuesday HW:	232-242	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kindly Nurse & Her View of Big Nurse • Big Nurse's Ultimatum • Christ Imagery (pg. 237) • Chief's Reaction to Treatment
Wednesday HW:	243-259	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Fights the Fog • McMurphy's Reactions to Treatments • Chief Returns to the Ward • Laughter • McMurphy's Return to the Ward • Billy Bibbit & Date Night • Sandy & Candy Visit • The Plan to Cover Up Their Evening • What now? Dealing with "Tomorrow"
Thursday HW:	260-272 (The End)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Billy Bibbit • Nurse vs. McMurphy • The Exodus • McMurphy on Display • Chief's Final Moves
Friday HW:	Final Research Due Thursday, 5/2	

For Each Reading Chunk, You Should Have:

1. **Heading:**
2. Plot Details/Highlights → Significance (for each heading)
3. 1-2 Key Quotes → Explanations (for the overall chunk)

***Be prepared to share and discuss with your group**

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One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

Part 4 (219-End)



Harding points out that they're aware + willing to play along with him

219-231

1. How does the Nurse try to sow the seeds of doubt in the patients' minds? What makes them start to believe her (224)?

She posts their finances - to show he's earning from them ~ Chief lifts control panel - they lose it

2. Regarding the shower fight, Chief says, "And by the time the least black boy came running back in with straps and cuffs and blankets and four more aides from Disturbed, everybody was getting dressed and shaking my hand and McMurphy's hand and saying they had it coming and what a rip-snorter of a fight it had been, what a tremendous victory. They kept talking like that to cheer us up and make us feel better about what a fight, what a victory - as the Big Nurse helped the aides from Disturbed adjust those soft leather cuffs to fit our arms" (231).

What does McMurphy's involvement in the fight show?

Shows he's not selfish + using them - up for George + stands

What does it show about Chief?

He's not afraid to use his power + he's grown! is punished

232-241

1. Chief & McMurphy get sent for shock treatment. Chief remembers Disturbed patient who says, "I'm starting to spin! Please look at me!" and wonders "how McMurphy slept, plagued by a hundred faces like that or two hundred, or a thousand" (234). What does he mean? What does he realize about McMurphy and his role?

McMurphy is carrying a heavy burden by being their savior - abuse of power

2. What is the Nurse's ultimatum to McMurphy?

3. McMurphy goes to EST without a fight and "Climbs on the table without any help and spreads his arms out to fit the shadow. A switch snaps the clasps of his wrists, ankles, clamping him into the shadow. Do I get a crown of thorns?" (237). Explain the symbolism of this.

McMurphy is sacrificing himself for them - Christ imagery - Reference to Christ

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One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

Part 4 (219-End)



he humiliates them (Chief + Control Panel) + they question his motives

219-231

1. How does the Nurse try to sow the seeds of doubt in the patients' minds? What makes them start to believe her (224)?

Posts their financials to show that McM's account growing - theirs is shrinking

2. Regarding the shower fight, Chief says, "And by the time the least black boy came running back in with straps and cuffs and blankets and four more aides from Disturbed, everybody was getting dressed and shaking my hand and McMurphy's hand and saying they had it coming and what a rip-snorter of a fight it had been, what a tremendous victory. They kept talking like that, to cheer us up and make us feel better, about what a fight, what a victory - as the Big Nurse helped the aides from Disturbed adjust those soft leather cuffs to fit our arms" (231).

What does McMurphy's involvement in the fight show?

He is in it for them, not himself, willing to risk

What does it show about Chief?

He has his power back - not a afraid for them to use it

232-241

1. Chief & McMurphy get sent for shock treatment. Chief remembers Disturbed patient who says, "I'm starting to spin! Please look at me!" and wonders "how McMurphy slept, plagued by a hundred faces like that, or two hundred, or a thousand" (234). What does he mean? What does he realize about McMurphy and his role?

All patients relying on him - Chief realizes the burden he's carrying

2. What is the Nurse's ultimatum to McMurphy?

Power Play: Apologize or EST (uses as punishment) Abuse of power

3. McMurphy goes to EST without a fight and "Climbs on the table without any help and spreads his arms out to fit the shadow. A switch snaps the clasps of his wrists, ankles, clamping him into the shadow...Do I get a crown of thorns?" (237). Explain the symbolism of this.

Accepting his role - not fighting savior for all - Christ imagery

4. Chief works to come out of the EST fog and says, "I rubbed my eyes with the heels of my hands and tried to clear my head. I worked at it. I'd never worked at coming out of it before...I had them beat" (241). How has the Chief changed?

↳ Trying + fighting to avoid the fog

242-259

1. Chief Fights the Fog:

-EST used to affect him for days, but now he fights it, "If you want to bad enough I found you can come fighting right out of it. This time I came fighting out of it in less than a day, less time than ever. And when the fog was finally swept from my head it seemed like I'd just come up after a long, deep dive, breaking the surface after being under water a hundred years. It was the last treatment they gave me" (242). What does this show about Chief?

↳ He's becoming more human - braver - fighting vs. passive

2. How does McMurphy react to his EST? (242)

Says he loves it → tries to play it off

3. McMurphy doesn't take the pills beforehand and insists it doesn't hurt him, but when they call him "the muscles in his jaw went taut and his whole face drained of color, looking thin and scared - the face I had seen reflected in the windshield on the trip back from the coast" (243).

What does this show? What does Chief notice about McMurphy?

McM puts up a strong front to make other patients stronger + doesn't want nurse to think she's winning

4. Describe Chief's return to the ward.

Bolder, more gregarious (social)
 * talking, telling stories → more like McM
 * Well out of the fog now

4. Chief works to come out of the EST fog and says, "I rubbed my eyes with the heels of my hands and tried to clear my head. I worked at it. I'd never worked at coming out of it before...I had them beat" (241). How has the Chief changed?

Fighting vs. passive
 Braver now - working @ getting himself back.

242-259

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he's changing and fighting back now
 getting clear faster - senses are back

2. How does McMurphy react to his EST? (242)

McMurphy is hesitant to go on the table. once out of it he laughs & is still rebellious but internally kind of scared :)

3. McMurphy doesn't take the pills beforehand and insists it doesn't hurt him, but when they call him "the muscles in his jaw went taut and his whole face drained of color, looking thin and scared - the face I had seen reflected in the windshield on the trip back from the coast" (243).

What does this show? What does Chief notice about McMurphy?

brushes it off
 It is affecting him - she's breaking him (on the inside)

4. Describe Chief's return to the ward.

He's more empowered -
 bolder, more gregarious (outgoing)
 reports on McM.
 he's talking now - got "bigger" - power + identity back.

5. What role does laughter play?

* He told them all the stories and even made up a few and they LAUGHED - even the Chronics (Chief is starting to enjoy the spotlight):

"I told them everything that they'd heard was true, and tossed in a few stories of my own. They laughed so hard about some of the things he'd said to the nurse that the two Vegetables under their wet sheets on the Chronics' side grinned and snorted along with the laughter, just like they understood."

Laughter → alive/pain is losing
Humanity is reaching all levels, even Chronics

6. Nurse Brings McMurphy Back: "She saw that McMurphy was growing bigger than ever while he was upstairs where the guys couldn't see the dent she was making on him, growing almost into a legend. A man out of sight can't be made to look weak, she decided, and started making plans to bring him back down to our ward. She figured the guys could see for themselves then that he could be as vulnerable as the next man. He couldn't continue in his hero role if he was sitting around the day room all the time in a shock stupor" (244)

How does her plan backfire? Sends him to Disturbed but then his image grows legendary - comes back like "a cowboy" - seemingly stronger than ever

7. Read the following quotes. Why was Billy Bibbit's "Date Night" important for all of them?

"We laughed till we were rolling about the couches and chairs, choking and teary-eyed. The girls were so weak from laughing they had to try two or three times to get to their feet" (253).

Requiring confidence + humanity

Chief: "I had to keep reminding myself that it had *truly* happened, that we had made it happen. We had just unlocked a window and let it in like you let in the fresh air. Maybe the Combine wasn't all-powerful. What was to stop us from doing it again, now that we saw we could? Or keep us from doing other things we wanted?" (255)

↳ Brought in Freedom → empowers / make them realize they're not helpless

8. In light of the following, how have the men changed?

*Harding says he wants to leave the ward on his terms "I want them to know that I was able to do it that way" vs. escaping

he's not afraid; strength to do it

Chief says he'll stay on the ward to make sure things are okay for a while.

Harding: The others? They still have their problems, but "at least there's that: they are sick men now. No more rabbits, Mack. Maybe they can be well men someday. I can't say."

↳ They are strong now.

5. What role does laughter play?

He told them all the stories and even made up a few and they LAUGHED - even the Chronics (Chief is starting to enjoy the spotlight):

"I told them everything that they'd heard was true, and tossed in a few stories of my own. They laughed so hard about some of the things he'd said to the nurse that the two Vegetables under their wet sheets on the Chronics' side grinned and snorted along with the laughter, just like they understood."

Patients are brought back to life → Even Chronics are getting "life" back

6. Nurse Brings McMurphy Back: "She saw that McMurphy was growing bigger than ever while he was upstairs where the guys couldn't see the dent she was making on him, growing almost into a legend. A man out of sight can't be made to look weak. she decided, and started making plans to bring him back down to our ward. She figured the guys could see for themselves then that he could be as vulnerable as the next man. He couldn't continue in his hero role if he was sitting around the day room all the time in a shock stupor" (244).

How does her plan backfire?

Brings him back → Was becoming a legend

Comes back like a "cowboy" - reinforces legend

7. Read the following quotes. Why was Billy Bibbit's "Date Night" important for all of them?

"We laughed till we were rolling about the couches and chairs, choking and teary-eyed. The girls were so weak from laughing they had to try two or three times to get to their feet" (253).

Enjoying themselves for 1st time living life again

Chief: "I had to keep reminding myself that it had truly happened, that we had made it happen. We had just unlocked a window and let it in like you let in the fresh air. Maybe the Combine wasn't all-powerful. What was to stop us from doing it again, now that we saw we could? Or keep us from doing other things we wanted?" (255)

Let in Freedom
→ Chief questioning the Combine

Empowers them

8. In light of the following, how have the men changed?

*Harding says he wants to leave the ward on his terms "I want them to know that I was able to do it that way" vs. escaping → to show he can leave on his own-

Chief says he'll stay on the ward to make sure things are okay for a while.

strong enough

Harding: The others? They still have their problems, but "at least there's that: they are sick men now. No more rabbits, Mack. Maybe they can be well men someday. I can't say."

Not passive - got identities back

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The End

260-272

1. Why is this such a poignant threat to Billy? How does he react? *"What worries me, Billy...is how your poor mother is going to take this...This is going to disturb her terribly. You know how she is when she gets disturbed, Billy; you know how ill the poor woman can become. She's very sensitive. Especially concerning her son"* (264).

- she knows his mom is a trigger
 - committing suicide

2. What is the Nurse implying when she says, *"First Charles Cheswick and now William Bibbit! I hope you're finally satisfied. Playing with human lives - gambling with human lives - as if you thought yourself to be a God!"*

Blames Mac for patients' death - only his own
 Motivation? → rein rep. w/ other patients
 to take heat off of herself
 to bait McM to spur a reaction that will give
 cause for add'l treatment

3. According to Chief, why does McMurphy continue the way he does?

"We couldn't stop him because we were the ones making him do it. It wasn't the nurse that was forcing him, it was our need that was making him push himself slowly up from sitting, his big hands driving down on the leather chair arms, pushing him up, rising and standing like of those moving-picture zombies, obeying orders beamed at him from forty masters. It was us that had been making him gone on for weeks, keeping him standing long after his feet and legs had given out, weeks of making him wink and grin and laugh and go on with his act long after his humor had been parched dry between two electrodes" (267).

- visceral reaction → acts on instinct
 ↳ Patients have been driving his motivation + are still the reason he's taking action
 - exposes her literally + figuratively

Attacks her; rips front of uniform

4. What does McMurphy do to the Nurse? How is it symbolic? Why is the following an appropriate comparison? Knows its game over

"A sound of cornered-animal fear and hate and surrender and defiance, that if you ever trailed coon or cougar or lynx is like the last sound the treed and shot and falling animal makes as the dogs get him, when he finally doesn't care any more about anything but himself and his dying" (267).

- goes w/ a fight in a last attempt. sacrifices himself for them - it's his final power play

5. How does the Nurse continue to lose power? What happens to many of the men? How does she try to gain her power back?

The patients check themselves out - Scanlon, Martini, McM, Chief are left → Lobotomizes McM + puts on display for others

6. What is the motivation behind Chief's actions at the end?

"I watched and tried to figure out what he would have done. I was only sure of one thing: he wouldn't have left something like that sit there in the day room with his name tacked on it for twenty or thirty years so the Big Nurse could use it as an example of what can happen if you buck the system. I was sure of that" (270).

Chief's Motivation: to save his dignity - take away Nurse's power burden

7. What do his final actions say about freedom & confinement:

"The moon straining through the screen of the tub-room windows showed the bunched, heavy shape of the control panel, glinted off the chrome fixtures and glass gauges so cold I could almost hear the click of it striking. I took a deep breath and bent over and took the levers. I heaved my legs under me and felt the grind of weight at my feet. I heaved again and heard the wires and connections tearing out of the floor. I lurched it up to my knees and was able, to get an arm around it and my other hand under it. The chrome was cold against my neck and the side of my head. I put my back toward the screen, then spun and let the momentum carry the panel through the Screen and window with a ripping crash. The glass splashed out in the moon, like a bright cold water baptizing the sleeping earth. Panting, I thought for a second about going back and getting Scanlon and some of the others, but then I heard the running squeak of the black boys' shoes in the hall and I put my hand on the sill and vaulted after the panel, into the moonlight.

has power willing to take control image

Chief's fate is different

I ran across the grounds in the direction I remembered seeing the dog go, toward the highway. I remember I was taking huge strides as I ran, seeming to step and float a long ways before my next foot struck the earth. I felt like I was flying. Free. Nobody bothers coming after an AWOL, I knew, and Scanlon could handle any questions about the dead man—no need to be running like this. But I didn't stop. I ran for miles before I stopped and walked up the embankment onto the highway" (271-272)

Control Panel → Measure of power
Means of escape

not killed by machine

Struggle but desire to be free leads him power

baptism → rebirth - he's born again as a free man

Freedom is euphoric