

# STUDY NOTES



## 'NINETEEN EIGHTY-FOUR'

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**'NINETEEN EIGHTY-FOUR'**  
**ENGLISH**

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# **CHAPTER SUMMARIES**

# CHAPTER SUMMARIES

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### PART 1

#### CHAPTERS 1 - 4

The novel takes place in London in April of 1984. Completed in 1948 and published in 1949, Orwell projects the world as being riven by industrialized warfare and collectivised into superstates. The authoritarian regimes of these superstates dominate every part of everyday life. The novel begins with the return of the main character, Winston Smith, to his dilapidated flat in the broken down Victory Mansions. He is returning home from his day shift at the Records Department at the Ministry of Truth. As usual, the broken-down lift does not work and Winston must laboriously climb seven flights of stairs with his ulcerated ankle. On the landing of each flight there is a huge poster that reads:

"BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING YOU" Part 1, Section 1, Page 3.

Once inside his flat, Winston turns down the telescreen, a device that delivers information while also watching the activities happening in the apartment. He looks out onto the streets of London. The environment is drab and dirty. The city is constantly rocket-bombed and is falling apart under its unrestored 19<sup>th</sup> century architecture. London is the main city of Airstrip One, the province of Oceania with the third largest population. Engraved on the side of the vast, windowless Ministry of Truth's pyramid, Winston can read the Party's dictums:

"WAR IS PEACE  
FREEDOM IS SLAVERY  
IGNORANCE IS STRENGTH." Part 1, Section 1, p.6

Also on the horizon of the city of London are the other three pyramidal ministries: the Ministry of Peace (Minipax), the Ministry of Plenty (Miniplenty) and the horrifying Ministry of Love (Miniluv).



Winston enters his small kitchen and finds some Victory Gin. It has a harsh effect upon him and it is extremely rough in quality. He then sits in a small niche where he is sure the telescreen cannot see him. He brings out an old-fashioned pen and diary he has purchased at Charrington's junk shop in the Proletariat district. If he was discovered with this evidence of ownlife, he would be sent to a labour camp or executed as a thought criminal. He writes what he thinks is the date but then is at a blank as to what to say. Winston feels terrified and frightened. He doesn't know who he is writing for or to. Maybe it is addressed to the future? He is unsure. Nevertheless he begins to write about a propaganda film he was shown the night before by the Party.

Winston comes to the realization why he has decided to begin the diary today and he ceases writing. Earlier that morning, just before the Two Minutes Hate, two surprising Party members came into the Records Department. The first was a dark-haired girl from the Pornosec Fiction Department (in part 2 it is discovered her name is Julia). The other person was a man known as O'Brien, who is a highly-placed member of the Inner Party. Thinking she is a member of the dreaded Thought Police, Winston immediately hates the dark-haired girl. However, during the Two Minutes Hate where the crowd is encouraged to curse their international enemies, Winston realizes he hates the dark-

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haired girl because he is sexually-attracted to her, yet cannot have her. After the Two Minutes Hate the crowd begins to chant “B-B” (the initials of Big Brother) and Winston is horrified to realize that he has joined in with them. He then catches O’Brien’s eye and suddenly identifies with him. In a moment he feels reassured by his presence and wonders whether he has a secret ally and perhaps a contact for the rumoured rebel group, The Brotherhood, who it is rumoured are against Big Brother.



Winston allows his thoughts to drift back to the blank page in his diary before him. Suddenly he is compelled to write down “Down with Big Brother” repeatedly until he fills the page. He then contemplates what he has done. He has committed thought crime. He now knows this. He now knows he will eventually and inexorably be caught and vaporized. There is no option to this. Through this declaration of freedom, he has signed his own death warrant. Yet he decides to keep writing. Suddenly, there is a knock at the door. Winston is terrified but it only turns out to be Mrs. Parsons, the wife of Mr. Parsons from down the hall. Winston follows Mrs. Parsons and repairs the sink by removing a clot of hair. The nasty Parsons children, a boy of nine and a girl of seven, play their vicious children’s games involving Winston being a spy. The children belong to the youth group, The Spies, who attempt to draw the love and obedience of children away from their parents and to Big Brother. The children are sulking because they cannot see the public execution of Eurasian prisoners of war. When Winston walks out the door, the boy shoots him in the back of the neck with a catapult – a favourite location for execution when shooting prisoners.

Winston prepares to write again and thinks of a dream he had seven years ago. In the dream he was standing in a shadowy room when he heard a voice say to him:

"We shall meet in the place where there is no darkness." Part 1, Chapter 2, p.27

The voice belonged to O’Brien yet Winston was unsure if he had met O’Brien at that point in time. Winston shudders and feels totally by himself:

"The past was dead, the future was unimaginable." Part 1, Chapter 2, p.28

The telescreen tolls fourteen in twenty-four hour military time and Winston’s lunch break is over. He must get back to the Ministry of Truth. He completes his diary log, cleans the evidence of ink from his hands, and places a grain of dust upon the diary lest anyone open it.



Later that night, Winston dreams again, this time about his lost mother. She disappeared along with his sister when he was ten or eleven. He is watching as his mother and sister are sucked under dark waters in a scene reminiscent of the famous World War One propaganda poster image concerning the sinking of the Lusitania. It is as though his mother and sister were sacrificed for his own life and the war effort, being cast into dark waters being synonymous with ancient Celtic sacrifice methods. Dark waters similarly represent the subconscious of Winston’s sleeping and dreaming mind.

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All of a sudden the dream alters and Winston is standing in what he terms the Golden Country. The dark-haired girl comes to him across the lush cultivated fields and, in one sweeping act, throws off her garments. Winston is flooded with emotion.

"With its grace and carelessness it seemed to annihilate a whole culture, a whole system of thought, as though Big Brother and the Party and the Thought Police could all be swept into nothingness by a single splendid movement of the arm." Part 1, Chapter 3, p.33.

Winston's dream is interrupted by a piercing work whistle from the telescreen. Everyone must stand in front of their telescreens and perform the Physical Jerks – a set of group exercises designed to condition not only the performer physically but mentally (Orwell is making a joke here – the exercises literally turns the exercisers into 'jerks' through their enforced hyperactivity). While exercising, Winston casts his mind back to the early war years of his childhood. He remembers hiding in the London Underground subway stations with his mother during air raids. He believes that this must have been in the 1950's. Ever since then there has been continuous war and the emergence of the Party from the chaos. Suddenly the telescreen instructor screams at Winston for not being attentive enough to his exercises. It pulls him back to reality and demonstrates to him that he is being watched all the time.



Finishing his morning exercises, Winston starts his job at the Ministry of Truth. Winston enjoys his work as it provides an opportunity for him to be imaginative and work within the strict rules of the regime. Sometimes his job is run-of-the-mill – he must make sure that what Big Brother has forecast for the future has actually come true when compared with past newspaper records. Winston works for the famous newspaper, 'The Times', which still exists in London but is a propaganda mouth-piece for the Party. Winston receives news stories that differ from what has actually happened. It is his job to change history so it suits the plans of the Party. Results must be shown to exceed production predictions. A more interesting task appears when Winston must eliminate all reference to an 'unperson' who has fallen from power and been vaporized. Exercising his limited freedom and imagination, Winston dreams up a faked, dead Oceanic war hero called Comrade Ogilvy. Winston becomes frightened by the ability of the Party to alter what has happened:

"'Who controls the past', ran the Party slogan, 'controls the future: who controls the present controls the past.'" Part 1, Chapter 3, p.37.

## CHAPTERS 5 - 8

Around noon Winston enters the Ministry of Truth's canteen for lunch. Syme, a colleague from the Research Department, asks Winston for razor blades – a personal item that is hard to come by in the rationing system. Winston lies that he doesn't have any since it is best to hoard these things – though hoarding is illegal. They get unhealthy-looking, synthetic and rationed lunches with Victory Gin and sit. They discuss Newspeak which Syme specializes in. Soon Parsons arrives and solicits a subscription to Hate Week. Parsons maintains an enthusiastic air for the Party's regime and has been made head of the treasury for decorating the Victory Mansions for the upcoming festivities of hate. Winston looks over and notices the dark-haired girl looking at him and again he fearfully wonders if she is spying for the Thought Police.

Once he is in the safety of his small alcove in his apartment, Winston works on his diary. He writes about a prostitute he once visited. Visiting prostitutes in the prole sector (or working-class proletariat area) is discouraged but not an executable offence since the Party prefers prostitution to emotional and fulfilling sexual unions. This is why the Party distributes packages of pornography in the prole sectors for young people that are designed to look as though it was illegal.

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"Sexual intercourse was to be looked on as a slightly disgusting minor operation, like having an enema." Part 1, Chapter 6, p.69



The Party only allows marriage for the purposes of children – any sort of sexual loyalty is actively discouraged. Instead, citizens are encouraged to join the Junior Anti-Sex League which instils a sense of abstinence in its members. Sex is meant to be joyless and purely functional: to swell the ranks of Oceania's Party and armies.

Winston recalls his wife, Katherine, who he has not seen for eleven years. They were together for about fifteen months and their marriage ended in abject failure by Party standards. Katherine married Winston purely to provide a baby for Big Brother – to do "our duty to the Party". However, she despised the sexual act and soon left Winston when he could not provide her with a baby.

Winston makes another diary entry which is more a blind assumption than anything else:

*"If there is hope, wrote Winston, it lies in the proles."* Part 1, Chapter 7, pg.72

Winston believes that the only power that could bring down the Party is the Proles. While they make up around 85 percent of the Oceanic population, the Party usually ignores the Proles. However, the only thing that Winston has ever seen a mass of Proles get angry is about a tin saucepan shortage.

*"Until they become conscious they will never rebel, and until after they have rebelled they cannot become conscious."* Part 1, Chapter 7, pg. 74



Winston records some pages from a children's history text book. He has borrowed this from Parsons. The text propagandizes children describing capitalism as evil and telling of how horrible conditions were before the Party's Revolution.

Winston grows more frightened and desperate. He no longer knows what the truth is and he only knows what the Party is willing to feed him. He realizes he has become a part of the system of deception that tricks him also. He recalls the one time in his life when he held physical evidence of the lies told by the Party. While working for 'The Times' in the Ministry of Truth a folder of documents arrived at his desk containing a photograph of three high-up Party leaders and associates of Big Brother: Jones, Aaronson and Rutherford. This trio had been later exposed as traitors. Although they were said to have confessed to being on Eurasian soil and were therefore traitors, the photograph showed that the three men were actually at an Oceanic Party conference in New York at the time. This showed that the Party had lied about these three competitors to Big Brother's power. It showed that the few men who could corroborate the truth about Big Brother had been removed as threats. Winston was too frightened to keep the photograph as evidence of the past and he disposed of it down the memory hole into the furnaces below.

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Winston starts to wonder about the reasons behind Big Brother's reality control and influence over the mind. The Party, it seemed, could make two plus two equal five. Sometimes, Winston feels totally isolated in the way he thinks, almost entering into insanity. Once more he queries why he would do such a suicidal act as keep a diary. His mind swims at whom it might be for. His writings turn into an appeal to O'Brien, his senior at the Ministry of Truth whom he feels some affinity towards.

*"Freedom is the freedom to say that two plus two make four. If that is granted, all else follows."* Part1, Chapter 7, page.84

At a different time, as work finishes for the day, Winston spontaneously breaks the moulding of the Party and does not spend his leisure time at the Community Centre. Instead he wanders into the Proletariat slum areas.



Just as Winston turns a corner, a rocket bomb crashes to earth and obliterates a block of houses. Strawn among the debris, Winston comes across a severed human hand and coldly kicks it into the gutter.

Winston trails an old man of perhaps eighty – realizing he is a lost link with the past and can confirm what Winston wonders about that the Party has changed. The old man walks into a pub and Winston watches him. Winston enters the Proletariat public house, although he knows he will look out of place there in his drab Outer Party overalls. Winston offers to buy the old man a beer, the only low-strength alcoholic beverage allowed and used to keep the Proles in check. Winston hopes the beer will loosen the old man's tongue about the past. Winston attempts to question him but the old man only complains about his bladder and the effects of the Party-enforced metrics system upon it. Winston realizes the old man's memory is a "rubbish heap of details" and his reminiscences are useless.

Winston leaves the public house and comes across the old junk shop where he bought his illegal diary. It is very dangerous to have come back to the same place twice so he ducks inside so as not to be noticed. He talks with the owner, Mr. Charrington, and purchases a glass paperweight. It is a piece of coral trapped in glass. The paperweight holds a fascination for Winston as it represents a frozen piece of the past. Seeing that Winston's interest is provoked, Charrington offers to show him something upstairs. It is a small, bug-ridden but suggestively secret single-room apartment above the shop that offers some privacy and, most importantly, does not have a telescreen.

*"It seemed to him that he knew exactly what it felt like to sit in a room like this, in an armchair beside an open fire with your feet in the fender and a kettle on the hob: utterly alone, utterly secure, with nobody watching you, no voice pursuing you, no sound except the singing of the kettle and the friendly ticking of the clock."* Part 1, Chapter 8, p.100



In the dirty room there is an old engraving of St. Clement's Dane. This apparently provokes Charrington's memory and he repeats a rhyme that strikes a chord in Winston's memory:

*"Oranges and lemons, say the bells of St Clement's, You owe me three farthings, say the bells of St Martin's"* Part 1, Chapter 8, page.103

Winston leaves the shop discreetly and heads for home. Along the way he suddenly runs into the dark-haired girl. He is stricken with terror as she runs off. He cannot explain her presence and is certain that he has been identified by a Thought Police spy who will denounce him.

# **CHARACTER ANALYSIS**

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### BIG BROTHER

**Sex:** Male.

**Age:** Unknown (45-50ish).

**Appearance:** Rugged, fatherly good looks, black moustache.

**Role:** Ultimate leader of Oceania and the political machine of Ingsoc ('English Socialism').

**Location:** Unknown (somewhere in Oceania – omnipresent, omnipotent via pictures, hoardings, posters).

**Habits, Clubs, Societies Frequented:** Big Brother leads a private, modest lifestyle of severe austerity in service of the citizens of Oceania and the political ideals of Ingsoc.

**Plot Implications:** Whether Big Brother exists or is an invention of the Party of Ingsoc is largely unknown to the characters involved in the plot of 'Nineteen Eighty-Four' and also largely irrelevant. Big Brother is a symbol for the Oceanic state. He transcends what is human and crosses into a god-like status. As such he is omnipotent and omnipresent. This means he is all-powerful and all-present (everywhere at once, like God). 'Omni' means 'all'. If Big Brother once existed is not really important. He may well have but has passed into the ever-alterable history of the Party to be forever enshrined as a subject of adoration and love.

Ultimately, even Winston Smith ends up loving Big Brother and even within his throes of unorthodoxy (especially during the Two Minutes Hate), he cannot help feel a reverence and calming effect come over him when the picture of Big Brother is shown. Big Brother is most commonly equated with Joseph Stalin, the dictator of Communist Russia during the 1920s, 30s, 40s and early 50s. His repressive and austere Communist rule became known as 'Stalinism'. It was a regime of assassinations, altered photographs, purges and show trials.

Most have considered Big Brother as a metaphor for Stalin. However, the mustachioed Big Brother could equally be Adolf Hitler of the National Socialist regime of Nazi Germany (1933-1945) that was once allied with the Russian Soviets under Stalin and ultimately ended up being defeated by them. In fact, Big Brother could resemble any politician of the time of the writing of the novel (the 1940s) and could equally represent politicians such as Britain's Neville Chamberlain (who also had a moustache and negotiated with Hitler) or Britain's World War Two wartime leader Winston Churchill (no moustache and fought Hitler, but allied with Stalin even though Churchill didn't like Stalin).

Whether the real-life figure of Big Brother wears a mustache or not is not important. Big Brother has one merely because they were popular at the time of writing of the novel and still are for politicians conveying a fatherly concern. This is what Big Brother is: he is an intimate, he knows your deepest secrets, he is someone you can confess to and a member of the family. He is someone you would like to confide in and you can trust. This is why so many of the enemies of Big Brother in Oceania itself – people like Winston and Julia – feel urges to give themselves up to Big Brother and admit their crimes. This is the level of mind control that is exerted in the Oceanic society. This recalls actual Communist ideologies of group and self-criticism where Communist members would stand up and confess their crimes and short-comings to their fellow comrades in the hope for self-improvement and out of guilt.

Big Brother is never seen although every member of the Oceanic state knows his face. His face stares down from placards and hoardings and posters and signs and flashes upon the telescreen during the 'Two Minutes Hate'. Big Brother never grows old. He has stayed the same age for as long as Winston can remember. O'Brien tells Winston that Big Brother cannot and will not die. Therefore, it seems that Big Brother is an invention of the Party and will outlive all members of the Oceanic state. He is illusory as his mortal and arch-enemy, Emmanuel Goldstein (writer of 'The Theories and Practices of Oligarchical Collectivism'), his former comrade in the Party. Goldstein is either at large in Eurasian or Eastasian soil or perhaps hiding even among the very citizens of Oceania (a thought which causes even more fear for the followers of Ingsoc).

While the Proles are generally left to their own devices (as no one cares what the Proles think), leader-worship in the fashion seen for Adolf Hitler and Joseph Stalin is heaped upon the figure head of Big Brother. This sort of leader-worship can be seen in the hard-line Communist state of North Korea under Kim Jong Il. This is usually displayed as undying devotion for a single leader who cannot be perceived as wrong in any instance. His predictions are considered true and anything that clashes with such perceptions are simply incorrect assumptions. Such a state under a single, nearly divine ruler brooks no unrest or disruption. In Oceania, the Proles occasionally riot but these riots are only ways of venting war frenzies against the enemy and support Big Brother's regime. Soon any disruption is put down by the Oceanic riot police and their patrols.

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In the upper echelons of the Ingsoc regime, the Outer and Inner Party members all ardently love Big Brother. Even their sex lives are controlled by him such as organizations such as the Junior Anti-Sex League that Julia (Winston's lover) belongs to as a cover for her unorthodox lifestyle of traitorous activities against the State. The Outer Party members live strict lives of orthodoxy with all their loves and labors directed toward Big Brother. Even having sex within a marital situation is called 'Our duty for the Party' as if sex is a disgusting, unhygienic act. It is the ultimate aim of the Party to eliminate the orgasm from the sexual act and redirected toward more productive adoration of Big Brother. The level of subjugation in Oceanic society is akin to that of Nazi Germany during the 1930s and 1940s (the time that Orwell was gathering ideas for his text and was fighting against this regime). Under Adolf Hitler, the sole leader of the German people under the Greater German Reich, the Fuhrer ('leader') principle was followed in State legal systems, church and school. This is where a sole leader was followed unquestioningly for the greater good of the population. Sacrifice was required and social homogeneity was a necessity. Conformity was not only encouraged but enforced. Minorities and enemy prisoners were made scapegoats of and executed publicly in gruesome methods. Populations on every level of society were whipped into a war fury fed upon propaganda and outrage stories designed to drive them into the reassuring arms of their own sole, authoritarian leaders.

Similar tactics as those used in George Orwell's 'Nineteen Eighty-Four' were used under the Phalangist leader Francisco Franco in Spain during the 1930s right up until his death in 1975 (Orwell fought for the Republicans against Franco during the Spanish Civil War [1936-1939]. Hitler's Nazi Germany and Mussolini's Fascist Italy backed Franco's Phalangist Spanish regime). Also, the regime of Big Brother can be compared to the other Axis partners of Adolf Hitler's during World War II (Tojo of Imperial Japan – also known as the 'Greater Eastasian Co-prosperity Sphere' according to wartime Japanese propaganda in classic Newspeak terms of the time – and Fascist Italy's Benito Mussolini). It is interesting to note that President George W. Bush, often accused of being a Big Brother of today for his wire-tapping of the American public, surveillance in defence of 'Homeland Security' and torture of jihadists in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, himself accuses Iraq, Iran and North Korea as being the new 'Axis of Evil'. The true message of George Orwell's 'Nineteen Eighty-Four' is whether Axis or Allied or Al-Qaeda or Coalition of the Willing: all of our leaders are capable of being Big Brothers and we are capable of blindly following them.

## WINSTON SMITH

**Sex:** Male.

**Age:** Middle-Aged (39 years old) Married to Katherine (who has left him years ago).

**Appearance:** Initially decrepit; poor posture; lack of exercise; underweight due to rationing, gaunt due to wartime conditions, rough soap and dull razors from rationing; varicose ulcer on ankle inflamed by stress; alcoholic; chronic smoker; chronic cough (until he meets Julia, his lover).

**Role:** Outer Party Ministry of Truth bureaucrat working for 'The Times' of London altering the past.

**Location:** London, Airstrip One (England), 1984.

**Habits, Clubs, Societies Frequented:** Winston becomes a secret member of the Brotherhood, an anti-Ingsoc terrorist group. As a cover and at Julia's (his girlfriend) behest, he spends his off-hours from the Ministry of Truth (where he edits 'The Times') at the local Community Center and at an arms plant volunteering to make artillery shells.

**Plot Implications:** Winston is a minor functionary for the Outer Party of Ingsoc in the super-state of Oceania. He lives in London, the major city of Airstrip One (England). His job is to work for 'The Times' newspaper which is still in print. However, he is not the typical journalist. His job is to alter history and to dispose of it. Because Big Brother (who Winston both loves and hates) is always right, history is changed to conform to his opinion and statements. Should Big Brother predict an oversupply of grain for the first quarter of the new-year's plan and no such oversupply result, the statistics are simply altered by thousands of men and women like Winston working to an unspoken and never contemplated code of doublethink. Photos are changed, stories are rewritten, people are invented and other people are made 'unpersons' (lifted clean of history by having all trace of them in records removed). This has happened in regimes of our own such as Stalin's Russia and Pol Pot's Cambodia. Under both regimes enemies of the State were both edited and retouched out of important photographs that were re-released or were merely struck out with all reference of them removed and expunged.

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Winston is named after the famous World War II British leader, Sir Winston Churchill. Orwell picked the name 'Smith' as it was such a common, lower-class name. Thus Orwell juxtaposes (contrasts for effect) the notoriety and fame of Winston Churchill's Christian name with the relative obscurity of his common surname. And indeed Winston is (and is made to feel by the State) an insignificant cog in a vast war machine that is Oceania. He works glumly away at the Ministry of Truth finding his only pleasure in the intricacies of using the Newspeak Dictionary that actually reduces the total number of words in use. Thus Winston lives to destroy history.

Even though he hates Big Brother (while secretly loving him simultaneously), Winston is inextricably involved in the process of doublethink and trickery that the Oceanic state works on. Each day he travels to the pyramidal shaped Ministry of Truth and joins his comrades, Parsons and Syme. Winston works steadily away in competition to another scowling, beetle-like man in the next row across. Winston is absorbed in his work and takes on each new task heartily. Generally he cannot see the truth that he has colluded in the altering of history irrevocably. Only occasionally does he question what he is doing – especially once when he holds a particular piece of proof before hurriedly throwing it away. It is a photograph of Big Brother's associates that have been denounced as traitors subsequently. However, for a few minutes and delivered through the pneumatic tubes that ferry the news stories, Winston holds a photograph that shows these associates were not on enemy soil as the Party claimed. Winston is too frightened to hold onto this unique piece of physical proof and disposes of it forever, down the "memory hole" which leads to the vast furnaces below the Ministry of Truth.

Despite his seeming life of tolerated servitude, Winston actually harbors unorthodox thoughts. These are thoughts against Big Brother and are known as thought crime. Thought crime is investigated by the Thought Police who are based out of the huge pyramidal Ministry of Love. Thought crime is any thought that is not obedient to Big Brother and Ingsoc. It can be personal love that overrides love to the sole leader, Big Brother, or other forms of non-conformity or individuality.

Winston has had unorthodox thoughts since he broke up with his wife many years ago after a short marriage. He has been carefully watched by the Thought Police ever since she tipped them off about him. Winston thinks he has hidden his unorthodoxy and indiscretions: so far. However, he knows he is doomed as surely as the sun rises for attempting any form of thought crime. His thought crime begins simply enough with the keeping of a personal diary. This is a crime in Ingsoc society known as *ownlife* and indicates a private nature that is dangerous to Big Brother and the State. It is a private preserve of thought they cannot invade or eavesdrop upon.

Winston feels compelled to keep the diary, a thing from the past before the Party, but he initially fills it with propaganda drivel as he is unsure after so long what exactly to write. He is even unused to the action of writing since he performs all his work at the Ministry of Truth on a automatic speech-operated typing machine known as the *speakwrite*.

Winston found the diary in a junk shop he visited in the Prole district. As an Outer Party member he shouldn't have been in that area in the first place and would have been in great trouble if he had been caught by a wandering patrol. He intended to use the excuse of looking for razor blades or shoelaces in the junk shop since these things are hard to find in the rationed and wartime environment of Oceania. In the junk shop he discovered the diary with its smooth, creamy pages. It represented something from another time that had not been altered by the hands of the Party of Ingsoc. It had not been edited or censored or banned or changed. He felt he had to have the diary even though he could not think of a good reason for having it and it was a dangerous, proscribed item that inferred thought crime existing in the owner.

Winston continued to covertly travel to the junk shop and made friends with the owner of the shop, the elderly and kind Mr. Charrington. Charrington, the spectacled Prole junk dealer, makes it tactfully known to Winston that he has a small, discreet room upstairs from the junk shop which he is willing to rent to Winston for a small fee. Winston cannot resist this temptation, especially after he sees the engraving of the Church of St. Martin on the wall of the room. Mysteriously, Charrington holds a further scrap of the rhyme that Winston is searching for and that nags at Winston psychologically from his dreams.

The novel, 'Nineteen Eighty-Four', by George Orwell is very much psychological in nature. Winston Smith, the main character, is plagued by dreams and his subconscious throughout the text. The novel culminates in the terrifying Ministry of Love where Winston is psychologically tortured by O'Brien. Winston follows a psychological trail laid by O'Brien until he is caught like a rat in a trap.

Winston is constantly troubled by dreams in the text. These dreams are of his mother and sister whom he lost during the confused street fighting in London during his childhood in the early 1950s. This was when Big Brother, Emmanuel Goldstein and the Party were fighting to establish their Ingsoc state of Oceania in Airstrip One. Winston was cruel and bullying to his mother and sister as a child due to the deprived and traumatic situation of war they were living in. Winston's father had disappeared and there was strict rationing during the continued combat. Winston's mother and sister ultimately disappeared after Winston had stolen their chocolate ration one day. From that day onwards, he brought himself up, often stealing cattle feed that dropped from passing trucks. As an adult he is

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continually disturbed by nightmares of his missing mother and sister. He sees them sinking in a ship's salon deep under green waters. He cannot reach them and they disappear into the depths. The dreams leave him with the impression that he is alive today because his mother and sister sacrificed themselves so he may live. It often wakes him from his sleep in the middle of the night in a wrenching sweat.

The middle-aged Winston's relationship with the young and beautiful Julia at first seems unusual and their initial contact could have ended very badly. Winston felt that the unknown Julia was watching him at their place of work, the Ministry of Truth. He didn't know her name or who she was but he could feel her watching him at the Two Minutes Hate. Winston immediately feared and loathed her. He despised her youth, beauty and how she squandered this by being a member of the pious and chaste Junior Anti-Sex League. Winston had perverse sexual fantasies about the unknown Julia such as raping her or shooting her full of arrows. He suspected she was following him into the Prole sector when he spotted her when he emerged from Charrington's junk shop. He even contemplated smashing her head in with a cobble stone to conceal his unorthodoxy because he suspected the unknown Julia was spying on him for the Thought Police. Winston is extremely surprised when the unknown Julia slips a note into his hand at work saying that she loves him.

Once Winston and Julia become lovers his outlook on life begins to change. His physical fitness and general health improves. He drinks less of the Victory Gin that makes him cough and makes it feel like he has been smashed in the back of the head with a rubber mallet. He smokes less of the Victory cigarettes that also used to throw him into a coughing fit and double over. Even though he is reluctant to dedicate his private time to it, he follows Julia's advice of constructing a cover story to his unorthodoxy by volunteering at an armaments plant manufacturing artillery shells in his off hours so as to look like a loyal citizen. His ulcerated ankle clears up and he is more careful about the risks he takes. Simultaneously, Winston and Julia start taking risks of another kind. They continue to meet although they take elaborate precautions not to be caught by telescreens, informers, patrols or secret microphones. Winston also decides to take Charrington's private upstairs room so Julia and Winston can meet and share time together. This is ultimately their doom.

Winston is enamored with the past. He collects things from the past and seeks to safeguard them for the future. This is why he visits the junk shop since it contains many useless things from the past that have escaped the censorship of the Party. It is only because it is in the Prole sector that it is allowed to continue to exist and Party members would be arrested for frequenting such an unorthodox shop (even though there is no crime against it – most crimes in Oceania have been eliminated. Only thoughtcrime exists). Winston also collects from the shop a small piece of coral set in rounded glass. Julia is also fascinated by the paperweight. The coral paperweight represents a smaller world encapsulated and frozen within the present day world of 1984. It is a snap-shot of time from the past that is irrevocably frozen in the moment that cannot be changed. When the Thought Police ultimately burst into the room, the glass paperweight is the first thing to be smashed, representing the shattering of Winston and Julia's world – two people who were the last remnants of a by-gone era free of the Party where love, individuality and freedom mattered.

Winston is constantly on a search for other portions of the past. He gathers these nuggets during forays into Prole neighborhoods after work. This is very dangerous should he run into a patrol. He also looks conspicuous to the wary Proles in his dark-blue Outer Party overalls. Nevertheless, one night he tempts an ancient old man into a conversation in a Prole pub about the past. Yet he finds the Prole's mind is destroyed by age, alcohol and minutia. The old man cannot stop talking about the difference in measurements of the low-alcohol beer the State lets them swill, complaining that a liter (rather than a pint) is too much for his bladder to handle. Also, he is virtually incontinent. Thus Winston does not find out much useful information. Winston also frequents Prole prostitutes, something tolerated by the Party as they rather love and sex to be divorced from one another. Winston is attracted by the older worldliness of the make-up that the prostitutes wear. Yet the make-up only conceals decay and debauchery of the squalid situation. However, later in the novel, Julia puts on make-up while in the upstairs apartment at Charrington's and this attracts Winston greatly. This relationship is less equated with decay although Winston hopes Julia is corrupt in a further attempt to bring down the Party.

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