**Lord of the Flies - Chpt. 5 Notes**

\*\* These notes are categorized by topic in left column not by chronological order.

Author’s style

Ralph

Jack

Piggy

* Begins chapter with description of the platform – more descriptive than chpt. 1 –it seems the time of day that makes the description completely different – Ralph recognizes that the shadows will be different, he will see the island and the boys differently under the palm trees, the mysteriousness of the island will be heightened
* Makes a connection of the lighting of the face to the mask – “what was a face? What was anything?”
* Evil of the island – the wind of the evening along with the darkness – “Two grey trunks rubbed each other with an evil speaking that on one had noticed by day.”
* He recognizes the importance of wisdom as a leader – maturity increasing
* He recognizes the importance of Piggy as a thinker – the only thinker
* Ralph’s respect for the conch revealed – knows the strength of the conch to call the boys, to ask for respect and reverence during a meeting (even if reverence was short lived)
* He realizes that he must speak in short phrases and repeat himself in order for an impact to be made – “There was a ship,” “That was a dirty trick,” and “The thing is: we need an assembly.”
* He realizes the necessity of a plan in his meeting in order to keep order and not allow others to cause a diversion and debate the points
* Puts his plan out to be the only one to speak, to put forth points to listen to, to ask for reverence
* Enforces the rules he has put forth in the meeting – doesn’t even let Piggy speak
* Understands the necessity of keeping the fire in one location to avoid another uncontrollable fire
* He says that there is nothing to be afraid of but will allow the boys to discuss their ideas/source(s) of their fears – Maurice suggests that it is a squid
* Loses control of meeting with the discussion of the beast-squid-ghost
* Has to defend his leadership role against Jack
* Wants to quit being chief
* Afraid of what will happen if he blows the conch after the rebellion – “If I blow the conch and they don’t come back; then we’ve had it…We’ll be like animals. We’ll never be rescued.”
* “We’re all drifting and things are going rotten.” – their society is falling apart
* wants a sign from the adult world – help us! Come and get us!
* first to take the conch – yells at the little’uns, insulting them and their fears – blames Ralph for the idea of the beast being an animal
* boys celebrate Jack and are frustrated with Ralph – even though Jack insults and Ralph supports
* seems to respect the conch, “cradling the conch”
* shakes Percival wanting answers at to where the beast lives that he has seen – uncaring response
* confronts/fights Piggy for the conch
* confronts Ralph as “nothing” – “Who are you, anyway?”
* doesn’t care about the rules anymore at the end of the meeting – “Bollocks to the rules!”
* Stands out side of the meeting as a protest – no one notice or seems to care
* Comes back to the meeting after Ralph establishes order – again, no one notices
* Agrees somewhat with Jack – NO BEAST
* Believes there is a scientific explanation for everything
* Suggests that perhaps “we get frightened of people”
* Suggests they listen to the little’uns to hear their ideas of the beast – Phil’s suggestion ends up being Simon wandering around at night; Percival can’t get his feelings into words and ends up sobbing which starts all of the little’uns to crying – Maurice clowns around to “change the subject”
* Outraged that the boys would believe that the beast is a ghost – DOES NOT BELIEVE IN GHOSTS!

Piggy (continued)

Simon

* Terribly upset by the vote of the ghost
* Afraid of what adults would think if they saw/knew the mutiny that occurs at the end of the meeting
* Encourages Ralph to be a leader – tell the kids what to do
* Afraid of what will happen if Ralph doesn’t restore order after Jack’s rebellion
* Terrified to think of what life would be if Ralph wasn’t chief – most concerned for himself since he knows that Jack hates him
* Scared of Jack – knows that Jack will hurt him – “He can’t hurt you [Ralph]: but if you stand out of the way he’d hurt the next thing. And that’s me.”
* Goes to this place in the forest in the middle of the night – a source of fear for the little’uns, an unknown wandering around at night – Ralph gets angry at Simon and tells him to stop doing this immediately
* In the midst of chaotic discussion of the beast, finds his “voice” – terrified of public speaking
* Suggests that “we”/humans are the beast – “maybe it’s only us,” “became inarticulate in his effort to express mankind’s essential illness”
* Becomes the laughing stock at the meeting w/ his ideas of the beast – someone suggests that perhaps he means a ghost
* Encourages Ralph to continue to be chief – keep the fire going, only reasonable choice – certainly not Jack