Annotation Guide for Part III: Burning Bright

#138-139
1. Diction—Why does Bradbury repeat “stuffed,” and use “prickled” to describe Montag’s experience of nature?
2. How is the fire that Montag encounters “warming” as opposed to “burning”?
3. Why does Bradbury describe Montag as an animal when he is “drawn by the fire,” looking at it?

#140
1. How are the voices that Montag hears different? And the silence—how is that different?

#141-142
1. Who do the police catch, at the end of the chase? Why?

#143
1. What do the T.V. commentators switch to, after the chase? What do you make of that switch?
2. What are some possible interpretations for Granger greeting Montag with, “welcome back from the dead”?
3. Why doesn’t Montag think that he belongs with the group of men?
4. What does Granger mean by “the right kind of mistake”?

#144
1. What does Montag learn about how the group preserves books?
2. What is significant about Granger introducing the men as books?

#145
1. Why might Granger’s plan, though not as immediate as Montag’s, be a better idea?
2. Why are they “not out to incite or anger anyone”?

#146
1. How do they hope to bring books back?
2. Why does Granger say that you can’t “make people listen”?
3. How does Granger’s view of his (and his group’s) own importance contrast/compare to Beatty’s view?

#147-148
1. Why does Montag search so hard for a “triumph,” when he looks at the men?
2. Does he have any certainty regarding the success of their mission?
3. How does the uncertainty of the men relate to the purpose of books?

#149
1. How does Granger’s memory of his grandfather contrast with Montag’s memory of Mildred?
2. How does that explain their different reactions to the deaths of their loved ones?
1. Do you agree with what Granger says about everyone leaving something behind?
2. According to Granger, if you want guarantees and security in life, what kind of life will you lead?

1. Why is the simile used to describe the end of the war appropriate?

1. Imagery—Look closely at the description of Mildred’s hotel room. How does Bradbury create a contrast between images that are, on the surface, happy, and the grim reality of things?
2. When Montag imagines Mildred’s reaction to the TV turning off, why would Mildred scream at the screen?
3. Why does Montag say the screen is no longer a crystal ball?

1. Why would Bradbury have Montag only now remember when he first met Mildred?

1. Why does Bradbury have Montag remember the book without difficulty now and not before?
2. What does Montag mean when he says that after a while “it’ll all gather together inside and it’ll all be me”? What will gather inside? What is he talking about?

1. What is the significance of the phoenix?
2. What advantages does man have over it?

1. According to Granger, how will they win?
2. Why are they digging a grave for war? What do they hope their “remembering” will do?

1. What do you make of Montag’s mention of “[t]o everything there is a season”?
2. What does the quote that Montag saves for noon mean?
3. Why does he choose it?
4. What do you make of the last sentence of the novel?

CONGRATS!
YOU ARE DONE WITH YOUR ANNOTATIONS FOR FAHRENHEIT 451!