Chapter XV

1. How might the difference between Frederic’s original doctors and Dr. Valentini contribute to the ideal of manhood presented in this novel?

Chapter XVI

1. What is achieved by the brief conversation between Catherine and Frederic in which she asks how many women he has loved? What is the significance of his answer?

2. How does the conversation between Frederic and Catherine, starting with her question “How many people have you ever loved?” until the end of the chapter, contribute to the meaning of her character?

3. Catherine asks whether a prostitute will tell the man she is with that she loves him, and Frederic reports that she will if the man wants her to. She then asks him whether he ever told a prostitute he loved her, and he admits to the reader that he is lying when he says he has not. How does this exchange contribute to the reader’s understanding of their relationship? How do their promises and compliments to each other afterward further contribute to the reader’s understanding?

**Chapter XVII**

1. Characterize Nurses Fergy and Gage. If we consider them foils to Catherine, what aspects of her character do they highlight?

**Chapter XVIII**

1. Compare Catherine’s criticism of Frederic’s jealousy and her discussion of getting married to the behavior of the nurses in the previous chapter.

2. In the same section, Catherine claims that she has only loved Frederic and was only loved by her fiancé. Does this chapter give you reason to suspect this isn’t quite true? Include examples.

3. What statements of Catherine’s might lead us to believe that she acts as if she and Frederic are truly in love because she needs this illusion in order to keep living?

4. Analyze how Catherine’s hair works as a symbol in this chapter.

5. Catherine insists, “There isn’t any me. I’m you. Don’t make up a separate me.” What meaning does this contribute to the characterization of Catherine?