Book 2

Chapters 2 – 5

1. Who is speaking in each of these chapters? To whom?

2. How does milk function as a symbol throughout this sequence?

3. Why does Morrison have all three women invoke the refrain “she is mine”?

4. What does Beloved’s monologue describe? What is the “hot thing”? How does this

description connect to Sethe?

5. Explain the stylistic elements of Beloved’s monologue and Morrison’s purpose in

constructing the chapter this way.

Chapters 6 & 7

1. Why, at this point in the novel, does Morrison choose to focus on Paul D.’s failure to

escape Sweet Home?

2. What does Paul D’s designation of Beloved as “reminding me of something…something,

look like, I’m supposed to remember” suggest about her symbolic role in the novel?