

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

Close Reading Organizer - Chapter 12.

Directions: Read each summary entry and think about which themes listed in the Themes Key apply to it, then color in those themes in the Theme Tracker. Next, write a few sentences of Analysis to explain how the themes you chose apply to each summary section.

Themes Key

- 1 Gender Roles
- 2 Religion and Theocracy
- 3 Fertility
- 4 Rebellion
- 5 Love
- 6 Storytelling and Memory

| Summary | Theme Tracker | | | | | | Your Analysis |
|--|---------------|---|---|---|---|---|---------------|
| <p>Back in the present day, Offred takes her bath. The bath has no mirror, razors, lock, or other items that could allow the possibility of suicide. Cora ran the bath and now sits outside. Offred remembers Aunt Lydia saying the bath is a vulnerable spot, and Aunt Lydia explaining the Biblical precedent for women having long hair. Offred enjoys taking off her habit and wings and feeling her own hair. Offred remembers Moira's disdain for pantyhose.</p> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | |
| <p>Offred feels strange to be naked, and wonderingly remembers wearing a swimsuit. She doesn't look at her body because it is "something that determines me so completely." The water feels like hands, holding her.</p> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | |

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

| | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| <p>In a spontaneous flashback, Offred remembers her daughter as a baby. She remembers when a stranger tried to steal her eleven-month-old when she and Luke were at the supermarket. Luke was buying steak, which he thought men were proven to need more than women, affirming a real difference between the sexes. He liked to tease Offred's mother about such things. Offred heard her daughter crying and found that a stranger had taken her, saying God had told her it was hers. Luke dismissed the stranger as crazy.</p> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | |
| <p>Offred imagines her daughter as a ghost who died at age five. Offred laments the loss of her photos, clothes and baby hair. She remembers Aunt Lydia saying that if people should care more about spirituality than materiality. Offred wonders if her daughter remembers her, certain that the authorities must have told her daughter that her mother had died. Her daughter would be eight now. Offred thinks it's better to imagine her daughter as dead, which is less painful than hope.</p> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | |
| <p>Cora tells Offred to hurry up. Offred tries to make herself very clean, since her bath opportunities are limited. She looks at her tattoo on her ankle, with four numbers and an eye, which ensures she will always be identifiable. She dresses but doesn't put on the wings, since she's staying within the house.</p> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | |

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

| | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| <p>Cora brings Offred her dinner, and Offred is pleased that Cora bothers to knock at her door. Rita has overcooked the chicken to show her dislike of Offred. Aunt Lydia used to emphasize the importance of proper nourishment, to be “a worthy vessel.” Offred is too nervous to eat, but chokes down the food because she has no place to hide it. She imagines the luxury and freedom of Serena Joy’s dinner downstairs. Offred carefully saves a piece of butter, which she plans to use for something later.</p> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|