

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

Close Reading Organizer - Chapter 24

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>Offred goes back to bed, trying to get some perspective. We learn for the first time some basic facts about her: she’s thirty-three, five foot seven, and brown-haired. Offred realizes she now has the power to ask the Commander for some things. She remembers Aunt Lydia suggesting, but never saying outright, that “men are sex machines” and the Handmaids should learn to steer them. Offred finds the whole situation with the Commander funny, though she knows it could change her life’s course, for better or for worse.</p>	1	2	3	4	5	6	
<p>Offred remembers a documentary about World War II that she saw as a child. Her mother tried to explain that it was all true, but Offred was too young and still thought it was</p>	1	2	3	4	5	6	

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<p>“only a story.” Offred particularly remembers the mistress of a Nazi concentration-camp supervisor, who said she didn’t know about the mass extermination taking place just next to her house. The elderly, dying mistress, wearing a lot of makeup, said in the interview that her lover was not a monster. Offred imagines in detail how sweet and normal the Nazi’s behaviors might have seemed. Right after the interview for the documentary, the mistress killed herself. Offred mainly remembers the makeup.</p>							
<p>All of a sudden, Offred starts laughing uncontrollably. She desperately tries to be quiet, hiding herself in the closet, her laughter erupting violently like red lava. In the closet she thinks about “Nolite te bastardes carborandorum” and listens to her own heartbeat.</p>	1	2	3	4	5	6	