Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Reading Notes

Anthem by Ayn Rand

Chapter I

1. What evidence do we have so far that this book takes place in a collectivist society?

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2. How is Equality 7-2521 different from his brothers? Why might this be bad?

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Chapter II

1. Why does Equality think that his brothers aren’t happy? What does fear have to do with our happiness?

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Chapters III and IV

1. What might the light that Equality discovers represent or be symbolic of?

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Chapters V and VI

1. Why might Equality 7-2521 have been forbidden from seeing his image?

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Chapter VII

1. Why is the World Council of Scholars angry with Equality 7-2521 for creating light?

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2. Collective 0-0009 says, ““What is not thought by all men cannot be true” (Rand 73). Why does he say this? Do you agree?

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Chapter VIII

1. Why is Equality’s first sight of his reflection such a big deal? How do you think he feels upon seeing his own image?

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Chapter IX

1. Why does Liberty 5-3000 think that Equality is better than his brothers? Why is this considered evil in their society?

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Chapter X

1. Why is Equality 7-2521 too excited to sleep?

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Chapter XI

1. Why was the word ‘I’ forbidden in Equality’s society?

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Chapter XII

1. Equality says, “But I still wonder how it was possible, in those graceless years of transition, long ago, that men did not see whither they were going, and went on, in blindness and cowardice, to their fate” (Rand 103). How are Equality’s former brothers blind? What makes them cowards?

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2. Why is the word that unites us all ‘ego’?

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