

A Game of Thrones Reading Schedule and Study Questions
For Thursday, January 14th, read through page 48.

Prologue:

1. Martin's work is typically classified as science fiction. What impressions about the territory beyond the Wall contribute to this classification? (NOTE: As we read on, look for how Westeros itself denies and defies this classification.)
2. Why have Gared, Will, and Royce joined the Night's Watch?
3. What do the weapons tell us about the men who wield them?
4. Note the fight scene between Royce and the Other. What fighting conventions are observed?

"Bran" beginning on page 13

1. In an interview, Martin once said this about Bran: "In the back of their heads, people are thinking Bran is the hero of the story. He's young King Arthur. We're going to follow this young boy – and then, boom: You don't expect something like that to happen to him. So that was successful [*laughs*]." In this initial Bran pov chapter, what ways is Bran portrayed as a potential hero?
2. How is Bran being educated? What values is he taught? From whom does he learn?
3. What are your initial impressions of Jon Snow?
4. What is the significance of the direwolves? Why are they allowed to keep the wolves?
5. Storytelling is an important aspect of Martin's series. How do stories seem to have shaped Bran's perceptions?

"Catelyn" beginning on page 22

1. In her thoughts about her husband Eddard, Catelyn reveals some of the Stark values. What are they?
2. What news does Catelyn give Eddard (Ned)? (NOTE: This news is critical to subsequent events.)

"Daenerys" beginning on page 28

1. What do dragons symbolize to the Targaryens?
2. What has happened to the Targaryens?
3. Why is Viserys known as "the beggar king"?
4. Daenerys is a peaceweaver. What does this mean? What does her brother plan to accomplish through Daenerys's marriage to Khal Drogo?

"Eddard" beginning on page 39

1. Describe the procession of knights that accompany the king to Winterfell. What are your first impressions of Westerosi chivalry?
2. What are your first impressions of King Robert? Can you think of a real British king upon whom he might be loosely modeled?
3. Why does King Robert want to visit the crypts of Winterfell?
4. What offers does Robert make to Eddard?