

Slaves of Obsession by Anne Perry
Setting Assignment

Comment [I1]: Punctuate novel titles with italics or underlining.

Comment [I2]: GRADE of 45/45

Vocabulary

Comment [I3]: Score of 10/10

1. Idiosyncratic

- a. "They spoke of summer visits to Italy when the three of them-she, Casbolt, and her brother Cesare-had walked the golden hills of Tuscany, found gentle and idiosyncratic pieces of statuary that predated the rise of Rome, and speculated on the people who might have made them." (Page 11, paragraph 3)
- b. A characteristic, habit, mannerism, or the like, that is peculiar to an individual.
- c. Bob found an idiosyncratic symbol, which represented who he was, in the pavement of the church door.

2. Blanched

- a. "She sucked in her breath sharply, her face blanched with pain." (Page 18, paragraph 5)
- b. To cause to turn white or become pale.
- c. The girl had a pale blanched look on her face because she knew the tornado was coming.

3. Acrimony

- a. "I am sure Mr. Monk's adventures are fascinating, and I regret having to excuse myself so early, but since Mr. Trace has called on what is apparently business, I feel I should either stay and argue my cause over his, or withdraw and retain your goodwill by not allowing this most agreeable evening to descend into acrimony." (Page 18, paragraph 10)
- b. Bitter, sharp animosity, especially as exhibited in speech or behavior.
- c. In a bitter divorce, the divorcees began to speak acrimoniously towards each other.

Quotations

Comment [I4]: Score of 20/20

"There was less furniture in it than was customary, and the colors were paler and warmer, giving an illusion of light even though in fact the long windows which overlooked the garden faced the eastern sky. The shadows were already lengthening, although it would not be dark until after ten o'clock at this time so shortly after midsummer." (Page 2, paragraph 4)

This quotation describes the Alberton's withdrawing room. Most of this novel takes place in the Alberton's withdrawing room. In this room, all the business is handled. For example, Mr. Alberton and Mr. Casbolt hiring Monk to find out who killed Gilmer, and also the gun deal they made with the Confederates. The withdrawing room is where the men can go to discuss their private matters without the women interfering.

In the withdrawing room, there are large windows, which allow light to enter. This can be perceived as a metaphor. The room plays of the concept of light versus dark. To some, like Merrit Alberton, Mr. Alberton is conducting darkish deals, like the Confederate gun sales deal, while others may see it as an excellent agreement. They paint the walls in the withdrawing room a light color to illustrate that they are good hearted people who do good agreements. Monk is caught in the middle. He does not know whether he is doing a good or bad deed for Mr. Alberton. The outside look of the deed seems innocent and good, but the truth could turn out to be unpleasant and bad.

Comment [I5]: Insightful analysis!

“The other man present was American. As one could hardly help being aware, that country had in the last few months slipped tragically into a state of civil war.” (Page 3, paragraph 4)

Around 1861 the American Civil War had begun. Confederates and Unionists were traveling the world to ally themselves with foreign powers who sympathized with them. They wanted to form a bond and an agreement to buy guns and other supplies from their “friends.” Mr. Breeland, a Unionist, arrived in England in hope to buy guns from Mr. Alberton, but was “beaten to the punch.” Mr. Alberton had given his word to sell his guns to Mr. Trace, a Confederate soldier. Whenever Mr. Breeland tries to convince Mr. Alberton to sell the Union his guns, Monk is always around to hear the arguments. Monk feels like he is always stuck in the middle. Monk has an opinion about the issue in America, but does not want to get involved. Monk just wants to solve the crime of Mr. Gilmer, and he also wants to find Mr. Alberton and Merrit Alberton. Monk may be forced into the issue of the American Civil War in order to find the two missing Alberton’s.

What Really Happened?

Comment [I6]: Score of 15/15

The main objective of the video game is to find out who killed Mr. Gilmer and where did Mr. Alberton and Merrit Alberton go. Monk, who is the player of the game, will find hints everywhere he goes that will help him solve the mystery. Each major clue that Monk finds, leads him to the next level. Monk will face obstacles like trying to stay neutral in the issue of the American Civil War and much more. Monk will have to sneak into places, like a male brothel, and be able to act and dress the part of a man interested in other males. Monk needs to be able to act like he belongs in a male brothel house, in order to gain the clue to move him on to the next clue and level.

Each clue that Monk receives, the closer he is to the truth, which puts him in danger. The more Monk asks questions, which the player asks themselves, the more people do not like. Monk has to physically fight his way out of some of the places he goes into. For instance, Monk must enter into a dingy part of London, where Mr. Gilmer worked as a model for a struggling artist. This struggling artist did not like how Monk was asking so many questions and so the artist tried to start a fight with Monk. When the artist started the fight with Monk, the player must keep Monk alive. Monk is living in hard times. He is living in England around the time of 1861, where there is crime, poverty, and disease spreading. Monk must go down the dingy allies and must play the parts in order

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to solve the mystery of who killed Mr. Gilmer and where Mr. Alberton and Merrit Alberton disappeared to.