Your Name: Dessa Shapiro

Name of Book: Neuromancer

**INNOVATION and PROGRESS**

**Dystopian Novel Reading Journal**

***MAKE A COPY***

***Essential Questions***

* *Does innovation/technology always mean progress?*
* *Does progress always improve the human experience?*
* *What does it mean to be civilized (Lord of the Flies)?*
* *Does fear influence our humanity (Lord of the Flies)?*

While reading your Dystopian Novel, mark and document passages that reflect the novel’s dystopian world, experience and message. Use the [Dystopian Definitions and Characteristics](http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/lesson_images/lesson926/DefinitionCharacteristics.pdf) resource to select the passages. Then respond and comment on the passages through a [text-to-text OR text-to-world OR text-to-self lens.](https://www.facinghistory.org/sites/default/files/TexttoText_handout_v.final_.pdf)

| **CHAPTER/Every 20 Pages**  **Page Numbers**  **Divide your book by 12 (12 entries total)** | **DYSTOPIAN/Science Fiction PASSAGES (AT LEAST 2)** | Choose One Lens per Entry (2-5 sentences)::   * **TEXT TO TEXT**: CONNECT THE PASSAGES TO ANOTHER PART OF THE BOOK OR TO ANOTHER TEXT (book, story, film, etc.) * **TEXT TO WORLD:** CONNECT PASSAGES TO OUR CURRENT WORLD * **TEXT TO SELF**: CONNECT PASSAGES TO A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE |
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| Entry 1 (chapter 1-2) | “A year here and he still dreamed of cyberspace, hope fading nightly, all the speed he took, all the turns he'd taken and the corners he cut through Night City and still he'd see the Matrix in his sleep.”chapter 1  “What would you say if we told you we could correct your neuro damage case…...I’d say you were full of shit, then I'd ask what your terms were.” chapter 2 | I think that these two passages show a great transition from the first to the second by demonstrating foreshadowing and the characters mental progress. The writing shows how the protagonist Case is willing to do anything to return to the matrix world. In the first passage he speaks of dreaming about cyberspace since he is unable to go there since his brain damage. And he is so desperate that when given the opportunity he is willing to take even the most questionable jobs. |
| Entry 2 ( chapter 3-4) | You have time to do what I'm hiring you for Case but that's all do the job and i can inject you with an enzyme that will dissolve the bond without opening the sacs… So you see Cade you need us” chapter 3  “This was it, this was what he was, who he was, his being. He forgot to eat” chapter 4 | In the second passage I can in a way relate to Case  when he was first able to return to the Matrix. I feel that even if it's on a small level of how this character is being portrayed to feel. That I can relate to the feeling of becoming so immersed in something that I lose a sense of reality and identity. In the book this is much more literal in the way the matrix allows you to become an entirely different entity but there is still an aspect of that in my world. |
| Entry 3 (chapter 5-6) | “ And his heart had done for him in the end. His surplus Russian heart, Implanted in a POW camp during the war” pg. 78  “Corto and his team had been training for the run for three years. They were through the ice, ready to inject Mole IX, When the emps went off. The Russians pulse guns threw the jockeys into electronic darkness” pg. 83 | Both of these passages connect to each other because they both further demonstrate the interested use of advanced technology. And provide examples within war and missions within the book. And I can connect this conclusion with the world because it seems to mirror how major inventions and deadly or geunise technology is made in times of crisis. And I think this supports theories that there tends to be invention and quick thinking in war, an example being a nuclear bomb. |
| Entry 4 ( chapter 7-8) | “He began to whisper to a Sanyp transceiver in a strange salad of greek, french. Turkish, isolated fragments of English” pg. 91  “ ‘ We have a certain involvement here with various traffics, and no regard for Babylon’s law. Our law is the word of the Jah.” pg. 110-111 | I think that despite the strot having such complex technologies that I'm almost positive the reader is never really supposed to understand the story still incorporates much individuality with different languages and law for different groups. I think it applies to our world because it shows in times when anyone can watch your actions and see or know everything you are doing. People find ways to encourage their individuality. |
| Entry 5 (chapter 9-10) | “ ‘I wanna have a look at an AI in Berne. Can you think of a reason not to?’ ‘not unless you have got a morbid fear of death, no’” ( he basically continues to do it) pg. 115  “ Case was aware of another thought, something darker hidden, that rolled away, diving like a fish, just beyond his reach. Linda” pg. 125 | In this book, Case seems to have a little fear of death whether that be because of past trauma or because he had basically been killed himself. But he does care for others even if they meant to harm, kill or steal from him. I am much less extreme but I do sometimes have the tendency to care less about my own well being and focus on others. And I don't only mean in a selfless way it could be observed for other reasons but there is a similarity that I tend to lose myself or ignore self care. |
| Entry 6 ( chapter 11-12) | "’You know what this costs?’ She took his plate. ‘They gotta raise a whole animal for years and then kill it. This isn't vat stuff.’ "pg. 138  “ it was a strange thing. He couldn't take its measure ‘Numb’ he said. He'd been numb for a long time, years.” pg. 152 | I think the first luggage connects to the world and reminds me of a realistic dystopian future because of the idea of mostly synthetic meat and food. The way the world is going and more cities are being built there will be no room for farms. And there are already synthetic meats and I can imagine how certain meats today are considered luaryx. That a meat that is so abundant now will also eventually be considered the same. |
| Entry 7 ( chapter 13/14) | “Case pulled the shirt over his head. He saw the shuriken on the bed, lifeless medal,his star. He felt for the anger. It was gone.” pg. 163  "The Flatline laughed. ‘ Wish you weren't so damn Jolly today, man. That laugh of yours sort of gets me in the spine.’ ‘Too bad’ the Flatline said. ‘Ol’’ dead man needs his laughs.’ "Pg 169 | In the first passage of this entry and the second of the last( chapter 12) I found a text to text connection. At first he refers to being numb for so long that when he did feel emotion no matter the nature of it he felt confused and even relieved. In this show Case's character development and before all of this happened he was numb in a state of stillness and depression but now he is starting to feel again. |
| Entry 8 (chapter 15-16) | “Give you a whole life just so you'll have more to lose when they come and take it away. Patient like a spider. Zen spiders. ‘I didn't know that then or if I did I figured it didn't apply to us. Like when you're young you figure you're unique. I was young. “  Pg 177  “‘Wintermute’ Case screamed ‘don't do this to me!’ Tears broke from his lashes, rebounding off the faceplate in wobbling Crystal droplets” pg 198 | I find a text to text connection because Molly is talking about how people will end up betraying you and using you with patience and cunning if you let them have a hold over you. The next passage proves the point because Case put his own life in someone else's hands and now he is suffering for it. And I think this also applies to most other things because people can truly only hurt you if you give them the power to. I also agree with the sentiment, that everyone thinks they are special and in a way that may be true but at the same time it's just a fabricated ideal. For everyone is unique and identical at the same time. |
| Entry 9 (chapter 17-18) | "Case had always taken it for granted that the real bosses, the kingpins in a given industry would be both more and less than *people*. " pg. 203  " It was a performance. It was like a culmination of a lifetime's observation of martial arts tapes, cheap ones, the kind of Case had grown up on. " pg 213 | It's hard to explain but I feel a text to self connection with the first passage ( chapter 17) I feel that I can connect with it because when I look at the media or the news about important people and the happenings of the world I feel a sort of detachment. I feel as if these important people are characters in a book or separate entities all together. And as the author starters I recognize I don't exactly think of them as *people* but maybe that just people they are so far from my scope just as the AI and other entities are from Case. |
| Entry 10 (chapter 19-20) | “She commissioned the construction of our artificial intelligences. She was quite a Visionary. She imagined us in a symbiotic relationship with the AI's, our corporate decisions made for us. Our conscious decisions, I should say. " pg 229  "’But I suppose that is the way of an artiste, no? You needed this world built for you, this beach, this place. To die "page 234 | This book shows much more advanced technology then we currently have but I can still find many similarities between there and here. The passage from chapter 19 makes me consider how people make our decisions. Even if we don't use AI to tell us what to do, many of us use the internet to make some if not most of our decisions. For example if you are in a new city and wanna go out to eat would you not look up the best restaurants nearby. It makes one consider how much we rely on technology to make decisions for us and if we are losing the part of ourselves able to think independently and without outside influence. |
| Entry 11 (chapter 21-22) | "’Neuromancer’, the boy said, slitting long gray eyes against the Rising Sun. The lane to the land of the dead. Where you are, my friend. Marie- France, my lady, she prepared this road, but her lord choked her off before I could read the book of her days. Neuro from the nerves, the silver paths. Romancer. Necromancer. I call up the dead. But no, my friend,’ and the boy did a little dance, brown feet printing the sand, ‘I am the dead, and their land." pg 243-244  "Armitage is Dead " "Armitage never existed, more to the point, but the news hardly comes as a shock. "  " Wintermute killed him. He's in orbit around the spindle. " pg 249 | I find multiple connections in this n=book when referring to death. I think that these two passages are showing a different construct or ideal when referring to death. It shows that in this technological world with the matrix and the ability to travel through inconceivable wavelengths and consciousness death is not simple. It is not a difference between existing or not it is a separate mental state of being or just existing in a different way. And i find this is applied because of the AI as well. For, a a whole different form of consciousness exists whose to say we do not enter into a different state when joining the deceased. |
| Entry 12 ( chapter 23-24) | "You've got Riviera's eyes, "Case said. There was a flash of white teeth, long pink gums. "But not his craziness. Because they are beautiful to me. " He shrugged." I need no mask to speak with you. unlike my brother. I create my own personality. Personality is my medium. " pg. 259  "Wintermute was hive mind, decision maker, effecting change in the outside world. Neuromancer was personality. Neuromancer was immortality. Marie- France must have built something into Wintermute, the compulsion that had driven the thing to free itself, to unite with Neuromancer. "  Pg 269 | These passages both share the subject of personality and in this particular part of the book, AI by the name of Rio or Neuromancer is speaking of personality. And I think in the first passage the AI is going out of control and is a little ungrounded and attempting to imprison or kill Case. But later in the book ( second passage) we see that once two AI combine they are able to exist peacefully in sincernicity. This progression demonstrates an element in society to and how to contain balance there must be equal parts personality and decision making. |

**Journal Check 1: Due Thursday, Feb. 4 (at least 4 entries)**

**Journal Check 2: Due Thursday, Feb. 11 (4 more entries)**

**DUE: FEBRUARY 26, 2021 (12 entries total)**