**CORE106 Fall 2015**

**October 21, 2015**

**Notes**

**Study Questions**

* Who is Lancer?
* Who is Jack Ruby?
* Why does the FBI and the CIA allow Lee and George to move freely? What does Lee have that is valuable to them?
* “Why is Lee and ‘interesting individual’”?
* What do Lee and Marina share in common? What is the basis for their bond?
* What does George deMohrenschildt mean when he says “It is my message to them that I am not the enemy”? (237)
* Explain the last paragraph on p. 248.
* What does Lee have to offer Collings? What does Collings believe that Lee is withholding from him? Why would Lee do this?
* What does Lee come to believe about his destiny in Cuba? How much of Lee’s decision making is driven by this underlying motivation about Cuba?
* How does George de Mohrenschildt enter Lee’s life? What does Lee have that George wants? (233-238)
* Find one example of deception, and explain the role of deception in the novel so far.
* Why is Lee useful to Agent Bateman? (appears around page 308). What does Lee have to offer him? What is their arrangement?
* Who are the first two people who realized that Lee is the person who tried to kill General Walker? What does this information suggest to them about Lee’s potential role in the plot?
* Why did Banister allow Lee to operate with pro-Castro literature in his 544 Camp Street office?

Ferrie tells Lee that he understands the astrological significance of his birth sign, Libra. (314, 315, 319).

“There’s something they aren’t telling us. Something we don’t know about. There’s more to it. There’s always more to it. This is what history consists of. It’s the sum total of all the things they aren’t telling us.” (321)

Why does this statement seem dangerous to you?

Why does Bateman get mad at Lee when he has to meet him at the police station (p. 326)?

Key plot points:

* 15 July:
  + Mackey doesn’t trust anyone.
  + “Plots move toward death”
  + “The ancients shared in nature” (223)
  + Mackey connects with Elko
* In Fort Worth (224)  
  + Marina sees herself on TV
  + Lee, Marina, and the Russians. Family troubles.
  + Lee meets George deMohrenschildt
  + George talks about Walker to Lee, gets him a job. Collings enters the picture, but wants KGB info.
  + Critical paragraph at the end of page 248.
* 12 August (249)
  + Jack Ruby enters the scene.
  + Display of American cultural paranoia. “No one knows what Guadalcanal is.” “Trust your radio before your trust your mother.” (266)
  + Jack has mob connections
  + Meanwhile, concern that Mackey has disappeared. Gone rogue.
* In Dallas (269)  
  + Lee goes after Walker
  + Famous photo with the gun
  + George figures out Lee shot him
* 6 September (291)  
  + Mackey reappears.
  + Plan to kill the president emerges. Alpha 66 with support from CIA
* In New Orleans  
  + Lee decides he wants to move to Cuba.
  + Agent Bateman appears on the scene.
    - FBI Wants to survey Banister…worried about anti-Castro activity.
  + Double, triple cross. Banister convinced Lee is anti-Castro, pro-Castro activity is a front.
  + Ferrie ingratiates self with Lee. Knows Lee can be set up in the Everett plot as the patsy.
  + Ferrie knows Lee shot Walker.
  + Lee wants to get a Cuba travel visa in Mexico City.
  + Lee is set up to train with Alpha 66/Mackey group.
  + Marina moves back to Dallas.

**CORE106-10 Fall 2015**

**October 21, 2015**

**Exercise: *Libra*, pp. 217-339**

Lightning round of study questions for the third section of *Libra* (pp. 217-339).

No, none of your answers will be as complete as they could be. Maybe one of them.

In your group of four, answer as many of the following questions as you can, in 30 minutes.

1. Who is Lancer?
2. What is the ultimate significance of Jack Ruby? The book hasn’t explained this yet, but do you know who he is?
3. What do Lee and Marina share in common? What is the basis for their bond?
4. What does George deMohrenschildt mean when he says, “It is my message to them that I am not the enemy”? (237)
5. Explain the last paragraph on p. 248.
6. How does George de Mohrenschildt enter Lee’s life? What does Lee have that George wants? (233-238)
7. Why is Lee useful to Agent Bateman? (appears around page 308). What does Lee have to offer him? What is their arrangement?
8. Why does Bateman get mad at Lee when he has to meet him at the police station (p. 326)?
9. Who are the first two people who realized that Lee is the person who tried to kill General Walker? What does this information suggest to them about Lee’s potential role in the potential plot to shoot at JFK?
10. Why did Banister allow Lee to operate with pro-Castro literature in his 544 Camp Street office?
11. According to Ferrie what is the significance of Lee’s birth sign, Libra. (314, 315, 319).
12. Analyze this statement: “There’s something they aren’t telling us. Something we don’t know about. There’s more to it. There’s always more to it. This is what history consists of. It’s the sum total of all the things they aren’t telling us.” (321) Does this statement seem dangerous to you?