**CORE106 Fall 2015**

**November 4, 2015**

**Notes**

Robinson pp. 71-123

Today’s word: unreposeful:

Piety vs. God-Loved

This story and the fierce religiosity of the characters invokes the American Civil War gives us reason to consider the Battle Hymn of the Republic by Julie Ward Howe, written in 1861.

Famously, one line in the final passage was censored and revised. Can you find it? (Note: these verses do not include the stanza).

*Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;*

*He is trampling out the vintage where grapes of wrath are stored;*

*He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword,*

*His truth is marching on.*

*I have seen Him in the watchfires of a hundred circling camps;*

*They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps;*

*I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps,*

*His day is marching on.*

*He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;*

*He is sifting out the hearts of men before His Judgement Seat.*

*Oh! Be swift, my soul, to answer Him, be jubilant, my feet!*

*Our God is marching on.*

***In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,***

***With a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me;***

***As he died to make men holy, let us die to make men free,***

***While God is marching on.***

Some remarkable word choices:

“Crepuscular” twilight, low light: 71

Relationship of religious practice:

“My families” (71)

Sabbath (77)

“I have said at least once a week my whole adult life that there is an absolute disjunction between our Father’s love and our deserving.” (73)

Note the breathtakingly beautiful passage about Lila on p. 74

**The bloody shirts:** p. 80 passage “For all the armor of the armed man in the tumult and the garments rolled in blood, shall be for burning, for fuel of fire” Isaiah 9:5

Are the actions of Ames's in some sense wrong? How do we reconcile the father’s pacifism with the actions of the grandfather?  
  
What do we know about the grandfather?

Killing of the farmer…no one knows who did it. P. 82

**The humor of the grandfather and his visions. Ames talks about how the things he sees visions.**

* **See the very important passage on p. 91**

**“No good has come, no evil is ended. That is your peace.”**

We learn Jack is the most important of Boughton’s sons.

“Divine righteousness manifested in it all…”

**Curious examples of how botched science was, and may still be. P. 90, how they made her grandmother cut off her hair.**

Very important passage on p. 91: about visions

“You didn’t wait till this morning to realize I am **old**.” (94)

**Fate: p. 98**

**Example of how sorrow is a part of life: p. 104.**

**Pity: p. 110: “I lay there against my father’s side.”**

**Anger against Boughton: P. 120**

The great mystery of the book: **Ames’s resentment of Jack Boughton.**

We can link this resentment to the conflict between grandfather and the father.

Think again about the quote on p. 73: “I have said at least once a week my whole adult life that there is an absolute disjunction between our Father’s love and our deserving.” (73)

1. Consider the ways in which preachers took possession of families.
2. Blessing comes again on p. 72: “Prod a little and the sparks will fly.”
3. Bleeding Kansas: competing settlers and bloody conflict to control