

# Chapter 5: The Flogging

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# Summary

As K. finishes a day of work at the bank, he finds encounters the guards and a flogger in a lumber-room.

We learn that the guards are getting flogged because K. complained about them to the magistrate.

The guards' explain that they're poor and disadvantaged, yet the flogger debases them and beats them violently.

K. then keeps the happenings a secret from messengers passing by; he reflects on his inability to interfere.

K. returns to the room after a while, but does not open the door.

The next evening K. opens the door; the guards are still naked, threatened by the flogger, and beg for K.'s help. K slams the door shut and orders the messengers to clear the room.

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# Quotes

- "You shouldn't believe everything they tell you, it's the fear of being beaten, [...] Do you know what it is that's made him so fat. He's in the habit of, everyone that gets arrested by him, he eats their breakfast." - Flogger

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# Quotes

- "It's even possible that they will pretend to be carrying on with the trial in the hope of receiving a large bribe, although I can tell you now that that will be quite in vain as I pay bribes to no-one." -K. (Chapter 3)
- "I would make it well worth your while if you would let them go" -K. (Chapter 5)

# Quotes

- "The two policemen were entirely at the whip-man's mercy; he could have beaten them to death. K. reached his hand out for the door handle but drew it suddenly back."
- "[T]he two policemen began to wail and call out "Mr. K.!" K. slammed the door immediately shut, and even thumped on it with his fists as if that would shut it all the firmer."

# Discussion.