

Name _____

Montag's Epiphany: Chapters 16-20 of 'Fahrenheit 451'

Short Answer Key

1. Montag's emotional journey and transformation from the beginning of the novel involve a shift from being a book-burning firefighter to a guardian of knowledge. In Chapter 16, he experiences a sense of camaraderie and shared purpose with his group, strengthening his commitment to preserving knowledge.
2. The significance of Montag and his group encountering others who have memorized books in Chapters 16 and 17 is that it reinforces the idea that literature and knowledge are not easily extinguished. It symbolizes the resilience of the human spirit and the enduring power of ideas.
3. The discussions around the campfire in Chapter 18 are important because they delve into the central theme of the novel: the importance of preserving knowledge. These discussions reflect the characters' sense of responsibility for the future of society.
4. The warplanes and the destruction of the city in Chapter 19 symbolize the old society's ultimate downfall and the potential for a fresh start. This moment impacts Montag and his group by reaffirming their mission to preserve knowledge and contribute to rebuilding a better world.
5. In Chapter 20, Montag's sense of belonging and purpose changes as he encounters a society of scholars dedicated to rebuilding civilization with preserved knowledge. He finally finds a place where his mission aligns with a larger community, providing him with a sense of fulfillment and purpose.

