

the Moviegoer chapter 3

Chapter 3 continues with the sordid but comical story of Binx Bolling, his mistress/secretary Sharon, and his distant cousin Kate (she is the step-daughter of his great-aunt incidentally). The plot seems to move along, as Binx tells it, as if he were in a movie himself, grappling with trying to find meaning in his life. We learn of his shoreside exploits, and see his love dwindle as soon as he thinks he has cinched it. We learn much about Binx's family in this chapter, including what his immediate family is like, how he interacts with them, and the thoughts he has about them. Perhaps most importantly, we learn a lot more about Binx's father, and how similar they are after all.

D1 How would you compare Binx's thought process to that of A? Look carefully at the whole date with Sharon, including his thoughts about her roommate.

D2 What are the similarities between Binx and his father? What do you think the significance is of Binx revealing and learning about his father, yet failing to see the similarities within his own life?

D3 What is Binx's notion of a rotation? How does this compare to A's discussion of a rotation?

D4 In this chapter we get an account of Binx's current views on religion, and god. What are his views, in total? Are his religious beliefs consistent?

D5 Describe Lonnie, Binx's brother. He seems to be an important character, and especially important to Binx. What is their special bond? What does Lonnie represent in the novel? What does Lonnie represent to Binx? Why does Binx say he would change places with Lonnie if he could?