



THE MAN IN THE HIGH CASTLE
WEEK 12, WORKSHEET 10
CHAPTER 13, PP.195 - 213



Places: Denver (Colorado) Rocky Mountain States (destination Cheyenne): stores, hotel, on the road, motel

People: Juliana, Joe, Mrs Abendsen

1. This is one of the few chapters in the novel without a separate section involving change of place and characters. Why might this be?
2. They're shopping, and Juliana is getting involved, even enjoying herself, but Joe seems to be indifferent. Take p.196: **Juliana: 'Don't you think I'm going to look terrific?' 'Yes,' he said in a preoccupied voice. 'Especially that blue dress. You wear that when we go there, to Abendsen's; understand?' He spoke the last word sharply, as if it was an order; the tone surprised her. What is it with the blue dress?**

3. 198 They find ‘a large stately hotel in downtown Denver’ and Juliana wanders over to the book store. *The Grasshopper Lies Heavy* is prominently displayed with a sign ‘saying that how important and popular it was, and of course that it was **verboden in German-run regions**’. Here in the Rocky Mountain States, a sales point for *The Grasshopper Lies Heavy* is its unpopularity with those who run the Eastern United States. What are the politics here?
4. 199: The blue dress again. Having announced that they would not be staying at the hotel, Joe repeats, ‘**So wear that blue dress that cost so much,**’ he said. ‘**The one you like; the really good one – you understand?**’ ...His voice had a mechanical quality as if he were speaking from miles away through some sort of instrument; turning, he walked to the bathroom with stiff, jerky steps.’ What is on Joe’s mind? Is *anything* on Joe’s mind? Is he just an instrument?
5. 196: Joe goes for a haircut. He’s had his hair dyed
She would hardly have recognised him; he was now blond. Good god, she thought, staring at him. Why? Shrugging, Joe said ‘I’m tired of being a wop.’
Do you accept Joe’s explanation? Why is he so brusque? 198: ‘**With his hair short and blond, and in his new clothes, he doesn’t look like the same person, she thought.**’ Is he the same person?
6. 200: Joe wants to go up to Abendsen’s house, but Julianna doesn’t want to go. She just wants to see the sights. Joe insists. He lays out the blue dress. He said, ‘**Put on the dress or I’ll kill you.**’ The minor subplot around the blue dress is now at the centre of the story. Look back and see how PKD develops it.
7. 201: So what or who is Joe, really, and what is his mission? Obviously he is not what he seems. But then nobody and nothing is. What is the larger point or lesson?
8. From page 201 when everything begins clicking into place until she cuts Joe’s artery and says she may tell the desk downstairs on page 207, there is in Juliana’s internal monologue a sort of ricocheting correspondence between her thoughts

and fears, her awareness that Joe can read her thoughts ‘with his machine’ and Joe’s reactions, plays on words – **That Hur, that woman** – and fast, determined, terrified action. Look at those pages again: what do you see?

9. 208-213: Juliana leaves the hotel, takes off in the car, reads the oracle, calls Abendsen on a payphone, tells Mrs Abendsen the lines of the oracle: what message does she convey to Mrs Abendsen?

Next: Worksheet 11, Week 13: Ch 14, pp.213-233