



**The Man in the High
Castle: Week
14, Worksheet 12
Ch.15, pp. 233-249**



Presentation week 2

Place: Tempelhof Airport, Berlin; Cheyenne, Wyoming, Rocky Mountain States; the Abendsen residence (the High Castle)

People: Captain Rudolf Wegener / Baynes / Conrad Golz; Juliana Frink; Caroline Abendsen; Hawthorne Abendsen

1. Baynes thinks it over in the rocket back to Germany. Why did he decide to go back? On pages 181~186, in the discussions between Baynes/Wegener, Yatabe/Tedeki and Tagomi in the Nippon Times Building, Baynes says that he thinks they need an intermediary and suggests one close to Heydrich, Count Ciano (1903-1944). There is no other indication of Baynes's intentions on pages 189~195. The thugs whom Tagomi kills with his Colt .44 come for Baynes. On p.194, could Baynes's thoughts concerning Tagomi's despair following these deaths ~ **He fired on my behalf; the moral responsibility for these two lives is therefore mine, and I accept it. I view it that way** ~ indicate that Baynes feels he has to make up for these deaths with some form of personal sacrifice? Or is he simply returning to find an intermediary to Heydrich, in order to organise opposition to the Goebbels group and *Operation Lowenzahn* / *Operation Dandelion*?
2. Page 235: Baynes is arrested, or politely surrounded by Waffen-SS men and taken to a car. He is to be taken to SS General Heydrich. Baynes thinks **Then I will not be shot – he thinks** ~ How so?
3. Page 237: Juliana in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Juliana picks up some newspapers downtown and sees an article. Why does the article come as a relief to her?

4. Juliana finishes reading *The Grasshopper Lies Heavy*. She wonders, p.238 ~ **What is it Abendsen wanted to say? Nothing about his make-believe world. Am I the only one who knows? I'll bet I am; nobody else really understands Grasshopper but me – they just imagine they do ~ and her thoughts indicate some private knowledge, some superior understanding of *Grasshopper*. Is she right? And what does she know?**
5. Page 239: At last the pin jewel made by EdFrank Jewellery and given to Juliana has a function and a purpose. What is it?
6. Page 240-241, Juliana leaves the old Studebaker behind and takes a cab to the Abendsen residence. The house is 'ordinary', a single story, stucco building, not much of a High Castle. She had found the number in the Cheyenne phone book ~ **Could it be the wrong Abendsen?** ~ Why does PKD keep us guessing, even now?
7. Pages 242-247 consist almost entirely of dialogue between Juliana and Hawthorne Abendsen. Juliana questions Abendsen about his intentions in the novel, particularly his use of the oracle. Abendsen seems to want to fob her off with witty remarks, irrelevant comments (the EdFrank pin on her dress), and a half-baked excuse about technical secrets. Why is he so evasive?
8. What is the significance of Abendsen's remark ~ **There hasn' been a Gestapo since 1947** ~ What does the remark tell us about Abendsen and his book?
9. Juliana tells everybody what she has gone through to get this far. This seems to make Abendsen take her more seriously and Caroline Abendsen assert p.245 ~ **She's right. She's entitled to know, for what she did on your behalf** ~ What does Juliana claim to have done?
10. We get to the nub of the issue p.245 ~ **I wonder why the oracle would want to write a novel** ~ and because she has earned the right, Juliana asks the oracle, the

I-Ching, the question ~ **Oracle, why did you write The Grasshopper Lies Heavy? What are we supposed to learn?** ~ and the coins give her~ sun at the top, tui at the bottom, empty in the centre ~ Chung Fu or zhong fu - 中孚-: 'Centre returning', also read as 'inner truth' or 'central return'. The inner trigram is ☱兌 dui open or swamp 澤 and the outer trigram is ☷巽 xun or ground =風 wind. Whereupon Abendsen asks Juliana ~ **It means, does it, that my book is true?** ~ to which Juliana replies in the affirmative, and Abendsen pushes on ~ **With anger he said, 'Germany and Japan lost the war?'** ~ and Juliana says Yes again, and observes ~ **Even you don' face it** ~ Why would Abendsen not know, and why would Abendsen 'not face it?'

11. So is every character in *The Man in the High Castle* living a false reality?

12. Juliana leaves, commenting ~ **How strange. I never would have thought the truth would make you angry** ~ and ~ **She walked on without looking again at the Abendsen house and, as she walked, searching up and down the streets for a cab or a car, moving and bright and living, to take her back to her hotel.** ~ Does Chapter 15, with this last image of Juliana looking for a cab in a street on the outskirts of Cheyenne, provide *The Man in the High Castle* with a satisfactory conclusion?

