

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Bless Me, Ultima Chapter 14 Commentary

Directions: Fill in the blanks as you listen to the commentary being read aloud. These commentaries should help you better understand the novel. You will receive credit for filling this commentary out in full.

Antonio's _____ with Ernie demonstrates his willingness to defend his _____ even when they are unpopular. The influence of Gabriel and Ultima on Antonio's behavior is clearly important in this scene, but Antonio's own _____ play a role, as well. Ultima continually emphasizes the importance of considering different moral relativism in human behavior gives Antonio greater power to find his own truths. Gabriel's example of fierce individualism gives Antonio the courage to defend the truths he chooses for himself. The golden carp _____ Ultima's lesson that there are equally valid modes of _____ . In Cico's religion, Narciso is not a moral outcast because of his drinking, for example. Simply knowing this gives Antonio the courage to be _____ .

The Christmas play provides needed _____ . It also shows how Antonio's friends are not entirely negative forces. Although they often tease him, they also allow him to simply be a _____. Antonio frequently wrestles with difficult issues in his _____. His friendships with his classmates function as a way to _____ .

Antonio is _____ to relinquish his idealized idea of Andrew when he sees him at Rosie's house. Antonio had an earlier dream in which Andrew promised not to _____ the brothel until Antonio lost his innocence. The dream now becomes _____. However, the loss of innocence does not necessarily connote sinfulness in this case. It could also mean that Antonio is no longer in denial about Andrew's behavior and, by correlation, about the physical desire he himself will _____. Andrew's refusal to help Narciso is also a huge _____ for him, especially considering what happens soon thereafter.

Antonio is again thrust into the priest's role when he prays the Act of Final Contrition for Narciso. However, this time, the experience is _____ because Antonio personally knows Narciso, unlike Lupito. His dream illustrates how this experience furthers his _____ and moral development. Again, the dream deals with _____, _____, and _____. However, the elements of betrayal and vengeance further

complicate the matter. It is possible that Andrew's _____ to help Narciso indirectly led to Narciso's death. It might have led to Antonio's death if Tenorio's _____ hadn't misfired. Therefore, Antonio himself is _____. God gives a wrathful response to Antonio's request that he forgive Andrew. It is possible that God functions as something of an alter ego for Antonio. He could, on some level, symbolize the part of Antonio that has difficulty forgiving Andrew for letting him down.

Antonio is _____ to confront his own imperfections. He realizes that his _____ for vengeance against Tenorio might be _____. Antonio cannot realistically expect to avoid the darker side of human emotions. Because he dreams that a mob calls out for Ultima's blood, Antonio subconsciously acknowledges that his _____ against Tenorio is just as savage. His dream is also the first in which he himself dies.

Antonio's dream demonstrates that he has gained a greater _____ of Cico's religion. The golden carp's apocalyptic prophecy _____ and _____ him because it seemed so fatalistic. However, his dream shows him how Cico's religion contains the _____ of salvation, as well. The golden carp swallows everything, both good and evil. Afterward, the world is _____.