Native Son

pgs 149-172

1. Reread bottom of 149-top of 150. What is Bigger’s new sense of empowerment? What has replaced the gun and the knife?

2. How does Bigger turn the attention to Jan? What does he insinuate through his answers to Mr. Britten’s questions.

3. Reread top of 162 – why does Mr. Dalton ask Mr. Britten to ease up on Bigger?

4. Reread bottom of page 163 – How does Mr. Dalton come across? How does Mr. Britten come across? Explain.

5. Reread top of 164 – How is Bigger setting Jan up to protect Mary? Will it work?

6. “The knowledge that he had killed a white girl they loved and regarded as their symbol of beauty made him feel the equal of them, like a man who had been somehow cheated, but now evened the score.” Explain this thought that Bigger has.

7. Explain the dynamic when Jan and Bigger are begin questioned together.

8. Describe the confrontation between Jan and Bigger at the end of the assigned reading. What is your impression of Jan? Why does Bigger draw his weapon?