

Name _____

Date _____

Siddhartha
“Samsara” (chpt. 7): Reading Guide

I. Vocabulary: Be able to define the following words and understand them when they appear in the novel. Also, be prepared to be quizzed on these words.

ardent: enthusiastic

inertia: a situation in which something does not change for a long time

vice: bad habit

acquisitive: eager to gain possessions or ideas; greedy

declivity: downward slope

fervor: passion; extreme intensity of emotion

formidable: causing fear

deity: god

tepid: lukewarm

insipid: without taste; boring

procurement: act of getting possession of something

II. Background

Samsara: in Hinduism, endless series of births, deaths, and rebirths to which all beings are subject.

III. Questions: answer the following questions while you read to check your comprehension.

1. What three qualities always directed Siddhartha’s life?
2. What qualities of Siddhartha gradually became nothing but a memory?
3. What crept into Siddhartha’s soul?

4. What feeling did Siddhartha always have in regard to other people?
5. Along with growing riches, what else was Siddhartha acquiring?
6. What is the one thing that Siddhartha envied of everyone else?
7. What was slowly creeping over Siddhartha?
8. What had possessions become for Siddhartha?
9. Why did only a few dare play dice with Siddhartha?
10. What did Siddhartha derive pleasure from?
11. Who does Kamala like to hear Siddhartha talk about?
12. Above everything else what nauseated Siddhartha the most?
13. What did Siddhartha dream of?
14. What does Kamala do with the bird after she hears of Siddhartha's disappearance?
15. What do we find out about Kamala at the end of this chapter?