

# **Glamorama: A Novel Study Guide**

## **Glamorama: A Novel by Bret Easton Ellis**

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# Contents

<a href="#">Glamorama: A Novel Study Guide.....</a>	<a href="#">1</a>
<a href="#">Contents.....</a>	<a href="#">2</a>
<a href="#">Plot Summary.....</a>	<a href="#">4</a>
<a href="#">Part 1, Chapters 33-28, pgs. 1-34.....</a>	<a href="#">5</a>
<a href="#">Part 1, Chapters 29 - 24, pgs. 35 - 71.....</a>	<a href="#">7</a>
<a href="#">Part 1, Chapters 23-18, pgs. 71 - 107.....</a>	<a href="#">9</a>
<a href="#">Part 1, Chapters 17-13, pgs. 107 - 140.....</a>	<a href="#">10</a>
<a href="#">Part 1, Chapters 12-7, pgs. 140 - 191.....</a>	<a href="#">11</a>
<a href="#">Part 1, Chapters 6-0, pgs. 191-212.....</a>	<a href="#">13</a>
<a href="#">Part 2, Chapters 16-9, pgs. 215 - 242.....</a>	<a href="#">14</a>
<a href="#">Part 2, Chapters 8-0, pgs. 242 - 265.....</a>	<a href="#">15</a>
<a href="#">Part 3, Chapters 14 - 9, pgs. 269 - 299.....</a>	<a href="#">17</a>
<a href="#">Part 3, Chapters 8 - 0, pgs. 299- 329.....</a>	<a href="#">18</a>
<a href="#">Part 4, Chapters 38 - 28, pgs. 333 - 388.....</a>	<a href="#">20</a>
<a href="#">Part 4, Chapters 27 - 16, pgs. 388 - 445.....</a>	<a href="#">22</a>
<a href="#">Part 4, Chapters 15 - 0, pgs. 445 - 503.....</a>	<a href="#">24</a>
<a href="#">Part 5, Chapters 9-0, pgs. 507 - 527.....</a>	<a href="#">26</a>
<a href="#">Part 6, Chapters 0-15, pgs. 531 - 546.....</a>	<a href="#">28</a>
<a href="#">Characters.....</a>	<a href="#">30</a>
<a href="#">Objects/Places.....</a>	<a href="#">33</a>
<a href="#">Themes.....</a>	<a href="#">35</a>
<a href="#">Style.....</a>	<a href="#">37</a>
<a href="#">Quotes.....</a>	<a href="#">39</a>
<a href="#">Topics for Discussion.....</a>	<a href="#">41</a>





# Plot Summary

Victor Johnson, who uses the name of Victor Ward, is a model and the son of a United States Senator who has presidential aspirations. Victor is a part of the world of fashion modeling and is an aspiring actor. He dates supermodel Chloe Byrnes and his life consists of modeling assignments and partying at night. It's all about being seen and photographed with the right people.

The book opens with Victor running the opening of a new club for Damien Ross. Damien is engaged to Allison Poole, who is financing the club. He is also keeping Lauren Hynde as his mistress. Victor becomes involved with both women and also plans to open his own club in several months. Damien hears rumors about all of this.

As Victor moves around Manhattan, he finds himself being followed by black jeeps, which he keeps evading. When he meets with a supposed disk jockey for the opening of the club, he finds that the man is F. Fred Palakon, who offers him three hundred thousand dollars plus expenses to go to Europe to bring an old college girlfriend, Jamie Fields, back to the United States.

After the club opening, everything falls apart for Victor. Damien's thugs grab him and rough him up and Damien fires him. Damien breaks up with Allison and leaves for Miami with Lauren. Chloe is packing to leave and tells Victor that he isn't interested in a relationship and keeps trying to impress the wrong people. Since he has nothing else going for him, Victor sails to London, as per Palakon's instructions, taking along the hat that Lauren gave him. He doesn't know what he is getting into. Jamie Fields is part of a terrorist organization run by former model Bobby Hughes. Victor is trapped with them and is set up for the murder of Sam Ho and others. The terrorists are part of the high fashion and jet set crowd and Victor is a part of several bombings in Paris.

Then Victor finds out that Palakon is a double crosser who plays both sides. His father apparently wanted him out of the United States so he wouldn't prove an embarrassment to his presidential campaign.

Victor finds that the people around him aren't who or what they say they are in this book of intriguing conspiracies and international terrorism, with film crews following the characters around. The end of the book can be given several different interpretations by the reader who will enjoy this unique book. The novel is more than five hundred pages, but is very interesting reading and will hold the reader's interest.



## Part 1, Chapters 33-28, pgs. 1-34

### Part 1, Chapters 33-28, pgs. 1-34 Summary

Glamorama by Bret Easton Ellis is an interesting book that takes the reader into the world of models, the rich and famous, politics and terrorism. The book is a thriller that is somewhat confusing and hard to understand at points and leaves the reader wondering at the end. But the book is interesting and has the reader wondering what will happen next and how will it end.

The group is camcording a scene in a bar area. JD and Peyton and Victor are discussing the problem of specks. Victor is too concerned with the specks on the paneling to talk to Chloe on the phone. Victor hadn't noticed the specks when he discussed the design with Damien. The club is opening the next evening and Victor is being followed around by a reporter from Details.

Victor wants to know which celebrities have said they will attend the opening and someone responds to his question. Peyton says that they should have a cause and suggests "save the specks". Victor discovers that Damien authorized security scanners and is not happy about them.

Victor is worried that an incriminating photo of himself and a young woman will be published and asks JD to see if he can stop the publication. JD says he will do what he can about the situation.

In chapter thirty-two, Victor is on his way to meet Chloe when Beau calls about the celebrity guest list. Damien is not happy with the responses. Victor refers to the list by the group of people whose last name begins with the same letter of the alphabet. As they talk, Victor learns that his ATM account has a negative balance.

In chapter thirty-one, Victor arrives at Allison's 80th and Park Avenue building on his moped. Allison is talking on her cell phone when he arrives. Since Damien is in Atlantic City, she wants to have dinner with Victor. He says he can't. Victor is having an affair with Allison even though she is Damien's girlfriend. Victor says they have to talk about the incriminating photograph of themselves. They both have people trying to quash the photo. Victor tells her that they shouldn't be seen together.

In chapter thirty, Victor dresses to meet Chloe. His agent Bill calls and they discuss a script that Victor is interested in. Victor wants Bill's help in securing the part.

### Part 1, Chapters 33-28, pgs. 1-34 Analysis

Victor Ward is a famous model. It is important for him to be seen and to know the right people. Damien Ross is opening one of the trendiest clubs in Manhattan and hires Victor to handle the opening. Victor is a nervous type who seems to use Xanax to cope

with the stresses of the situations he finds himself in. His girlfriend is super-model Chloe Byrnes, but he is having an affair with Damien's girlfriend Allison. If he tries to break off his affair with Allison, she says she will tell Damien, who will ruin Victor's career.



## **Part 1, Chapters 29 - 24, pgs. 35 - 71**

### **Part 1, Chapters 29 - 24, pgs. 35 - 71 Summary**

Victor arrives at the Bowery Bar and talks to some journalist friends about the photo of himself and Allison. Victor says hello to friends as he walks to the booth where Chloe is sitting with a group of people. They talk about different people as Victor rolls a joint. As they talk, people come by their table to say hello and to ask for invitations to the club opening.

In chapter twenty-eight, they are at Chloe's loft. She shows him the dress she is planning to wear to the club opening the next evening. He doesn't approve, but she says she is wearing it anyway. He tells her that he could open his own club within three months and she says she doesn't think it is a good idea because of Damien. Then she asks if he ever cheated on her and he brushes off the question.

Victor breakfasts with Damien and others the next morning in chapter twenty-seven. They look at the newspaper stories on tonight's club opening. They look over the menu for the opening and also the seating arrangements. Damien makes a statement that he keeps hearing rumors about the affair between Allison and Victor. Victor denies even touching Allison. Then Damien talks about the rumors of Victor opening his own club and Victor denies that.

JD and Victor are in Tribeca at the club in chapter twenty-six. They are checking the last minute preparations for the opening. JD comments on Victor's plan to open his own club.

Victor works on at the gym in the Flatiron District in chapter twenty-five. The reporter from Details is still following him. His trainer, Reed, comments about a bounced check which Chloe covered for him. The Details crew films the work. JD calls to tell him to meet the disk jockey at five. They still need one for the club opening.

In chapter twenty-four, Victor arrives at Industria for his photo shoot. He and the others talk and share gossip as they prepare for the photo shoot. Chloe's name is mentioned along with the name of Baxter Priestley, the man she was sitting with at the Bowery when Victor arrived. They also mention Allison and Victor as they do the shoot.

### **Part 1, Chapters 29 - 24, pgs. 35 - 71 Analysis**

Chloe is a twenty-six-year-old super model. She has to stay on a strict diet to maintain her physical appearances. She is somewhat fearful and insecure as revealed in the scene in her loft. She is worried about her silicone implants and her career, even though she is very successful. Chloe takes Xanax to help her cope with her stress and anxieties.

Both Chloe and Victor lead hectic lifestyles. As models, both are concerned with appearance and with being seen. They are both very susceptible to gossip.





## **Part 1, Chapters 23-18, pgs. 71 - 107**

### **Part 1, Chapters 23-18, pgs. 71 - 107 Summary**

They tell Victor that there is a high probability that the photo of him and Allison will be published. They give him the phone number of a man named Buddy at the News. Victor asks if they know Baxter Priestly and they tell him what they know. They go over the guest list for the opening which is a list of the rich and famous.

In chapter twenty-two, Victor meets his father for lunch. In the car he calls Buddy at the News. He wants to make a deal for the photo. They exchange gossip.

In chapter twenty-one, Victor arrives at Nobu and takes Xanax before meeting his father. He notices who is at the various tables when he walks in. His father wants to know about his work. He wants Victor to return to school and has a dossier on him. He asks about some of the clippings. Victor's father lives and works in Washington DC and Victor is an embarrassment to him. His father refuses to give him money.

In chapter twenty, Victor stops at Tower Records after lunch. He drops his modeling portfolio to attract the attention of a woman in the store. The woman is Lauren Hynde and she is a friend of Chloe and she remembers him from Camden. When he asks for her phone number, she tells him to get it from Chloe.

In chapter nineteen, Victor remembers his trip to Los Angeles with Chloe. They had numerous fights during the trip.

In chapter eighteen, Victor goes to Conrad's loft on Bond Street to meet the group of musicians, called the Impersonators, that he belongs to. They gossip and also mention Chloe with Brian Priestley. The group is high on drugs and Victor tells them that he is quitting the band.

### **Part 1, Chapters 23-18, pgs. 71 - 107 Analysis**

Victor is trying to make it in the world of modeling but he has financial problems. He receives a monthly check from a trust fund but it is not enough to cover his expenses. His father lives and works in Washington DC and keeps a dossier on Victor. He is embarrassed by Victor and refuses to give him any money unless he changes his life style.



## Part 1, Chapters 17-13, pgs. 107 - 140

### Part 1, Chapters 17-13, pgs. 107 - 140 Summary

Allison wants Victor to break off his relationship with Chloe. He goes to Indochine to meet her and tells her that they don't have to worry about the photo.

In chapter sixteen, Victor goes to the Spy Bar to meet Chloe. She is doing a photo shoot there. She tells Victor that Allison Pool has been calling her all day but she hasn't taken any of her calls. He questions her about rumors that she wants to have children and wants to know about Baxter Priestley. She says he is a friend and he tells her that he met Lauren Hynde. As he leaves, she thanks him for flowers that he didn't send.

At four in the afternoon, in chapter fifteen, Victor is at the club. There is a lot of activity since they are preparing for the opening. They tell Victor that Damien doesn't want to be bothered, but Victor barges into his office and finds him with Lauren Hynde. Damien finds that Victor and Lauren know each other from college. Lauren leaves with Victor. They talk as he walks to his modeling assignment. She tells him that there was a time when she wanted a commitment from him, but not now.

In chapter fourteen, Victor rides his Vespa to his modeling job. He notices a black jeep following him that tries to hit him. Victor ducks into the Fashion Café. He talks to a man sitting at a table who he mistakes for the disk jockey he is supposed to meet. The man's name is Palakon, who asks him about his Camden College attendance. Palakon wants to know about Jamie Fields and shows Victor a folder of pictures. She disappeared three weeks ago from a London movie set. The people Palakon represents are offering Victor three hundred thousand dollars plus expenses to find Jamie and bring her back to the United States. They think Victor can be helpful because Jamie was in love with him in college. Palakon has made the arrangement for the disk jockey for the club.

In chapter thirteen, Victor goes on to his fashion show. Chloe is already there. While Chloe is being interviewed, Victor takes 150 dollars and Lauren's address from her purse. He tells Chloe he will pick her up at eight.

### Part 1, Chapters 17-13, pgs. 107 - 140 Analysis

Victor's life is becoming more complicated. Allison wants him to break off with Chloe because she doesn't want to share him. Chloe wants to know if he is involved with Allison and he wants to know if she is involved with Baxter Priestley. On his way to the Fashion Café, a black jeep follows him and tries to hit him. The disk jockey he is supposed to meet turns out to be a man named Palakon who offers him three hundred thousand dollars plus expenses to go to London to find a woman that he doesn't remember from his college days. The reader has to wonder what or who Victor is involved with.



## Part 1, Chapters 12-7, pgs. 140 - 191

### Part 1, Chapters 12-7, pgs. 140 - 191 Summary

Victor goes to the Silk Building where Lauren lives. He gives the name of Damien to the doorman. Lauren wants him to leave when she sees him but he refuses. She keeps mentioning Chloe. When Victor gets her in bed, the doorman announces that Damien is on his way up. She grabs some items and tells him to tell Damien that he is picking them up for Chloe, who needs them for that evening. Damien asks Victor to bring Lauren to the club opening. Damien says that Allison is his fiancée and Lauren is his girlfriend.

In chapter eleven, Victor again thinks about Chloe and their Los Angeles trip. Chloe was secretly in rehab for a month. Victor stayed at a hotel and picks her up when she completes the program.

In chapter ten, Victor leaves Lauren and notices the black jeep as he rides his bike. There is more than one black jeep following him, he notices from the license plates. He parks the bike and begins walking down West Broadway. He spots Skeet Ulrich and stops to talk with him. A man gets out of the jeep and watches him while a man from the other jeep is on the other side. As the two men converge on him, Victor runs across the street and they follow. Two other men join the chase. Victor runs to Comme des Garçons to pick up his tuxedo. Victor sends for a car and changes into the tuxedo, then departs in the waiting car.

Victor goes to his apartment in chapter nine for an interview he had forgotten about. He calls JD and tells him to find out who is following him. He then does the interview with MTV.

In chapter eight, Victor rushes to Chloe's. Lauren is there when he arrives as well as Baxter Priestley.

In chapter seven, the four of them drive to the club in a limousine. There are numerous photographs waiting at the club entrance when they arrive. They enter the club, receive drinks and begin mingling with the guests. Victor meets Damien who is very agitated. He tells Victor that Allison's money is financing the club.

### Part 1, Chapters 12-7, pgs. 140 - 191 Analysis

Victor's life is complicated but he keeps adding to the complication by chasing women. Damien is involved with both Allison and Lauren and Victor is having an affair with one and chasing the other. He is worsening his own situation.

Victor doesn't seem too concerned about the men in the jeeps that are following him. The license plates indicate that they are from the same organization. He does ask JD to

check to see who they are but has too busy a schedule to think about it. The reader has to wonder if it has anything to do with the missing Jamie.



## **Part 1, Chapters 6-0, pgs. 191-212**

### **Part 1, Chapters 6-0, pgs. 191-212 Summary**

Victor is sitting at Florent in the middle of the night. He found his own apartment being watched and didn't go in. He leaves the diner.

In chapter five, he is grabbed by some of Damien's men. Damien is pacing the room and tells Victor that he is fired. They rough Victor up a bit. Damien wants to know if Victor has slept with Lauren. Damien throws a handful of photographs at him. He tells Victor he won't be opening his own club.

In chapter four, Victor calls Lauren and says he is coming over. She says no and that she is leaving for Miami with Damien. He broke up with Allison, who put a contract on him. Lauren says that she can't see or talk to Victor again and that their relationship is terminated.

Victor arrives at Chloe's loft in chapter three. She asks him why, repeatedly. Why did it all happen? Victor keeps sputtering as Chloe packs. She says he spends all of time trying to impress the wrong people. He leaves.

In chapter two, Victor returns to his apartment. The reporter from Details is there and says they cancelled the piece on Victor. He finds an eviction notice on the door of his apartment. Palakon calls and tells him there is an envelope on his kitchen table that he should take to London with him. He has reservations on the Queen Elizabeth 2, which sails that afternoon. Palakon will contact him on board.

In chapter one, he is sitting in the Camden commons, talking with Jamie. This scene takes place when they are in college. They have been together for two weeks. She tells him that he has potential.

In chapter zero, Victor is at his apartment and reads a list of names on a fax. A young man appears at the door.

### **Part 1, Chapters 6-0, pgs. 191-212 Analysis**

Damien is the one who was having Victor followed. He is very upset about Victor approaching Lauren. Victor is roughed up and fired. When he tries to talk to Lauren, he finds that she is leaving with Damien for Miami. He goes to Chloe's and finds she is also packing. His behavior has him in trouble with everyone. Chloe basically tells him that it is impossible to have a relationship with him because he is too busy trying to impress the wrong people. Instead of trying to talk to Chloe, Victor just keeps sputtering. He can't see that his own actions caused all of the trouble.



## Part 2, Chapters 16-9, pgs. 215 - 242

### Part 2, Chapters 16-9, pgs. 215 - 242 Summary

Victor is on the ship sailing across the Atlantic. In chapter fifteen, he is still wearing the tuxedo when he boards. He is so stoned by the time Palakon's driver arrives that he doesn't remember boarding the ship.

In chapter fourteen, Victor spends the first few days at sea recovering. He attends a life boat drill and spends a lot of time in the casino. He constantly talks about the camera and crew following him.

In chapter thirteen, he meets cinematographer Felix and asks if he is doing the shooting. Felix says that he is and that Victor is doing okay. Felix asks if he has read the script and knows what is going to happen to him.

In chapter twelve, Victor sees a girl at the pool and they begin talking. Her name is Marina Cannon and she is on her way to Paris. She is a part-time model. He tells her he is going to London to look for a friend. He watches the director as he talks to her. Marina tells him to call her and leaves. A couple walks up and introduce themselves as Stephen and Lorrie Wallace and say they are friends of his father. He tells them he is traveling to Paris. They invite him to dine with them that night and anytime he is in London. Victor says he has to leave.

That night, Palakon calls him in chapter eleven. Victor complains that the cruise is boring. Palakon says he will call again before the ship arrives in Southampton and that he cannot go to Paris. He must follow the script.

In chapter ten, Victor walks around the ship at midnight looking for Marina but meets the Wallaces. Victor agrees to have dinner with them the next day. He finds Marina. They reintroduce themselves and she gives her name as Marina Gibson. She asks if she is thinking about Gavin and she says he is in Fiji with a baroness. He says he wants to go to Paris with her. She isn't sure about that but agrees to dinner the next night.

In chapter nine, Victor plans on meeting Marina before dinner with the Wallaces. He waits for her in the Queen's Grill Lounge. She doesn't appear before he has to meet the Wallaces.

### Part 2, Chapters 16-9, pgs. 215 - 242 Analysis

Victor is on the Queen Elizabeth 2 sailing for London. He meets a girl named Marina who he wants to follow to Paris and also the Wallaces, who are friends of his father. He keeps referring to a director and a crew. He talks to a cinematographer, Felix, who says he is doing the shooting. Felix tells Victor to read the script so he knows what is going to happen to him. All of this seems a little strange to the reader.



## Part 2, Chapters 8-0, pgs. 242 - 265

### Part 2, Chapters 8-0, pgs. 242 - 265 Summary

Victor joins the Wallaces for dinner. He tells them that Marina didn't show. He learns that Stephen works for a London advertising agency. Lorrie says she opens restaurants. They again invite Victor to dinner in London and he again says he is going to Paris. Marina arrives and joins them. Lorrie says she thinks she has met Marina before and thinks that it was in Berlin. Marina says no. A photographer wants to take their picture and everyone but Victor says no, but Victor insists and the photo is scrapped. Marina leaves the table, telling Victor to call her after dinner.

In chapter seven, Victor is in his cabin and tries to call Marina. There is no answer. He looks for a copy of the script and can't find it. Marina calls and tells Victor that he is in danger. She asks if anyone gave him anything to bring to London and he tells her about the hat. She tells him to meet her in the Club Lido.

In chapter six, Marina says Victor can't go to Paris. He has to go to London. She takes him back to his cabin.

In chapter five, Victor awakens from his drunken sleep. He calls Marina's room but there is no answer.

In chapter four, Victor goes to Marina's room and finds the maid there. He notices that there are no clothes in the closet or drawers. He looks in the Prada handbag and finds an envelop with Polaroid photos of himself. But he hasn't been to any of the places in the photos.

In chapter three, Victor is at the Security office trying to explain that he is looking for Marina. The clerk tells him that the room he thought Marina was in is vacant and that there is no Marina Gibson on the passenger list.

In chapter two, Victor finds the photos from the dinner in his room. The people in the picture are not the Wallaces and Marina isn't facing the camera. Palakon calls and Victor says that he will be in London. Palakon says that Jamie is on a London movie set and all of the information Victor needs will be waiting in his hotel.

In chapter one, Victor finds Felix at the bar and shows him the pictures and says that he doesn't know any of those people. He tells Felix that he is afraid and Felix says he should be. Felix asks if he's read the new script and Victor says this isn't what he signed on for. Felix tells him that Palakon is not in the script.

In chapter zero, the Queen Elizabeth 2 approaches land. Victor discovers that the hat Palakon had him bring is missing.



## **Part 2, Chapters 8-0, pgs. 242 - 265 Analysis**

The voyage is a strange one, but Victor is usually too stoned or drunk to realize it until the end. The Wallaces claim to be friends of Victor's father but seem to know that he is supposed to go to London. Lorrie seems to recognize Marina and feels that they met in Berlin. Marina knows that Victor is carrying something to London for somebody.

Felix seems to be a part of the setup with the script and the film crew.





## Part 3, Chapters 14 - 9, pgs. 269 - 299

### Part 3, Chapters 14 - 9, pgs. 269 - 299 Summary

Jamie Fields and the film crew are shooting a scene in Notting Hill in which there are explosions. After the scene, the crew congratulates each other and Victor follows Jamie to her trailer. Jamie is not happy to see him. She keeps telling him that he is supposed to be in New York and to leave.

In chapter thirteen, Victor walks around and shops at Tower Records. He notices that he is being followed. Victor tells the man to stop following him and watches him get into a blue jeep.

Victor is in his suite at the Four Seasons hotel in chapter twelve. He finds Jamie in his suite and apologizes for her behavior on the set. While they talk, Victor's phone keeps ringing. When he arrives, there is no one on the line. They go out to eat.

In chapter eleven, they go to Le Caprice. Jamie wants to know how Victor found her. He doesn't answer directly and finally says that he doesn't reveal his sources. Victor says he isn't involved in any relationships when Jamie asks. They talk about some of the people they knew at Camden College, including Lauren Hynde. Jamie says that Victor left her for Lauren. Jamie says she might want to become reacquainted with Victor.

In chapter ten, Jamie and Victor are at a party. They are doing cocaine. Victor says that he heard that she fled from the States and is hiding in London. He asks if she'll come back to the States with him. When he looks in her bag for drugs, he finds a tape recorder. She had taped their conversation at the restaurant. Various people come up and talk to them. Victor says he was at a party at Annabel's the night before. Jamie says he wasn't there because she was at the party and wants to know why he lied. She again asks him why he is in London. They are interrupted by a group of people before he can answer. Jamie invites him to come to the house where she lives with a group of people.

In chapter nine, they drive to the house with Tammy, Bruce and Bentley.

### Part 3, Chapters 14 - 9, pgs. 269 - 299 Analysis

Victor is in London and finds Jamie Fields. They resume their friendship, but she is suspicious of him. He discovers that she recorded their conversation at a restaurant. When he asks her to return to the States with him, she again wants to know why he is in London. Victor is more interested in the three hundred thousand dollars than he is in Jamie. He never questions Palakon about who he is or who wants Jamie back in the United States and why. He probably uses too much alcohol and drugs to think rationally. Jamie Fields is a film star working in London. She isn't hiding.



## Part 3, Chapters 8 - 0, pgs. 299- 329

### Part 3, Chapters 8 - 0, pgs. 299- 329 Summary

At the house, Jamie and Victor bathe and go to bed. When they finish, Jamie walks out of the room. The next morning, in chapter seven, Victor wakes up alone. He calls the hotel for messages and finds there are none.

In chapter six, Victor goes downstairs and meets Bobby Hughes, who is complaining about how cold it is. Victor agrees, since he is always cold. Bobby says he missed the party because he was in Paris on business. Jamie, Tammy, Bruce, and Bentley return with groceries. Jamie hugs and kisses Bobby and not Victor.

In chapter five, the group eats dinner. Felix and the film crew are again mentioned as being there and filming. Bobby asks Victor for a favor and wants him to pick up a friend of his. The man's name is Sam Ho, a famous Asian model. He hands him an envelope to give to Sam and says it's all in the script. Bobby has a limousine to take Victor to the club, Pylos.

In chapter four, the car arrives at the back door of Pylos. Inside, Victor sees the man who was following him the day before. He starts to talk to him, but the director pulls him away and says he is not part of the movie. He finds Sam Ho and delivers the envelope, which contains a note and a key. Sam says he has to elude the bodyguards his father has watching him.

In chapter three, Victor meets Sam in the car. They drive back to the house. Inside, Victor reads a script that he finds on the table.

In chapter two, Victor awakens on the couch in the middle of the night. He notices some strange sounds. He goes to the basement and finds a man strapped to a table being tortured. The man is Sam Ho and Bobby says to kill him.

In chapter one, Bobby is trying to calm Victor and gives him Xanax. He tells Victor that he is the last person that Sam Ho was seen alive with and that his semen will be found on Sam's body. That is what Jamie collected when she brought Victor to the house. Sam Ho is the son of the Korean ambassador. If Victor tries to leave, Bobby will send the information to him. Bobby tells him it was all in the script. They check him out of the Four Seasons and the group makes plans to leave for Paris.

In chapter zero, the group attends a party that evening. Bobby is still feeding Xanax to Victor. Jamie avoids Victor at the party. Felix and the film crew are also at the party.



## **Part 3, Chapters 8 - 0, pgs. 299- 329 Analysis**

Victor is caught up in some strange circumstances. Bobby and the group set him up for the torture death of the son of the Korean ambassador. He is now trapped and can't leave them. Because of all the drugs and alcohol, Victor never really knows what is happening. He couldn't say no to Palakon or Bobby. As Chloe told him, he tries to impress the wrong people. It is obvious that Victor is being used by someone.



## Part 4, Chapters 38 - 28, pgs. 333 - 388

### Part 4, Chapters 38 - 28, pgs. 333 - 388 Summary

The group is in Paris. Bruce is attending a Versace luncheon that day and tells Tammy that he will stick to the script. He warns Tammy to do the same. She meets the French premiere's son that day. Tammy's driven around by a Lebanese driver who is told to remove the cover on the Vuitton box she has with her. The box contains a bomb and the driver is killed in the blast in front of the Institute of Political Studies. Fourteen people are killed and fifty-one are injured. The film crew packs up and leaves the area by the time the emergency vehicles arrive. That night, Tammy attends a party.

In chapter twenty-seven, the group lives in a huge triplex, with Iraqi money that comes through Hungary paying the bill. The triplex has a high powered monitoring and alarm system in addition to weapons and explosives. Bobby hosts a party and one of the guests is Skeet Ulrich, who Victor last saw when he was being chased through Soho. Numerous celebrities attend the party.

In chapter thirty-six, the group attends shows and frequents nightclubs. Victor follows the script and does what he is told to do. He tries to talk to Jamie, but she tells him to just get through the week. He hears Jamie say that Bobby will be gone for five days traveling to Beirut, Baghdad and Dublin. He will be meeting a Virginia paramilitary group.

In chapter thirty-five, Bentley goes to leave a Prada backpack at the Café Flore. A film crew is going with him. Bentley leaves the backpack with Brad as a sign that he will return to the café. The backpack contains two bombs.

In chapter thirty-four, while the group is performing their assignment, Victor is left with Jamie. He escorts her around followed by the film crew. When they go to the bedroom, a different film crew follows them. Jamie explains how she met Bobby. He helped her career and she knows he is a terrorist.

In chapter thirty-three, Felix and his crew don't know about the other film crew that is in the house. When Victor asks Bobby what is going to happen, Bobby tells him not to worry and that he will be prepped. Victor is taking so much Xanax, he can barely read. Bobby says he picked Victor because he doesn't know what is going on in the world. The group attends a party at which Victor tells Markus Schenkenberg that Bobby is a terrorist.

In chapter thirty-two, a drugged Victor is on a train with a Louis Vuitton tote bag that he is told to leave under the seat. The bomb explodes fifteen minutes after Victor leaves the train.

In chapter thirty-one, Victor escorts Jamie to the Ritz. He tries to warn the son of the French premiere that he is in danger, but the man tells him to say away. Aside from this,



they follow their instructions. Victor finally tells Jamie about Palakon and the whole story, including Marina Gibson.

In chapter thirty, Victor and Tammy are shooting a scene outside the Louvre. Victor goes to use the restroom and leaves the Prada backpack by the pay phones. The film crew is filming. A woman from an American film crew follows Victor and returns the backpack.

The group is at a party in chapter twenty-nine. Edgar Cameron repays Victor for the dinner in New York last week despite Victor's denial that he was in New York discussing the opening of a new club with Damien. Felix asks what happened to the actor paying Sam Ho.

In chapter twenty-eight, after a day on a yacht, Bobby, Victor and Jamie engage in a threesome.

## **Part 4, Chapters 38 - 28, pgs. 333 - 388 Analysis**

The group moves to Paris where they live in a triplex. They continue their terrorist activities under the cover of modeling and shooting films. They explode bombs in various places with the blame being placed on other extremist groups. The rent on the house they have is paid for by Iraq with the funds being funneled through Hungary. The group continues to mix with the rich and famous attending parties and other events. Nobody wins to suspect them, but the man that was following Victor when he first appeared in London is in Paris and Victor mentions an American film crew that is in the house.



## Part 4, Chapters 27 - 16, pgs. 388 - 445

### Part 4, Chapters 27 - 16, pgs. 388 - 445 Summary

Victor showers and looks through the vanity drawers. He finds the hat that Lauren gave him in New York. Parts of it are missing. He thinks of the Queen Elizabeth 2 voyage and how the ship stopped to pick up a sick sailor.

In chapter twenty-six, Victor is walking on the street when a car picks him up and takes him to a meeting with Palakon. Palakon says there is no record of Victor ever being at the Four Seasons. His people who followed him in London, who Victor has dubbed the Christian Bale guys, lost Victor in London and didn't find him again until the other night. Victor says he doesn't care about the money; he just wants to go home. Palakon says it is a moot point and he has to get Jamie back to the United States. Victor tells Palakon what he can about the group's activities. Palakon isn't interested until he hears about the hat. Palakon says that something has gone wrong and he will contact him again in a few days.

In chapter twenty-five, Victor calls Felix. Felix doesn't want to talk about what is going on. Victor says the group is leaving that evening. Felix says that the movie is over and that Victor is hallucinating because of his drug habit. He tells Victor that he can stop at the concierge's desk to pick up a Gucci bag that Bruce left with Felix. The bomb explodes with Felix looking at it.

In chapter twenty-four, the Ritz is just about destroyed by the blast. Victor arrives after the blast. In chapter twenty-three, he wanders around the city before returning to the house where he finds Bentley doctoring a disk of the Sam Ho murder. He superimposes Victor's head on someone else's body. The computer has photo files on him and his father Senator Johnson.

In chapter twenty-two, Victor is taken to another room at gunpoint when the French premier's son is slowly being poisoned and tortured. Victor is forced to watch.

In chapter twenty-one, the French premiere's son is dying and is now thinking about other things in his life.

In chapter twenty, the group is at a dinner party. Bobby has to leave the party and tells Jamie to stay for dinner. After he leaves, Jamie tells Victor that they can't see each other anymore. She tells Victor to look at a file called Wings on the computer and also that she thinks she knew Marina. As he leaves, Russell, the Christian Bale guy, slips a card into his pocket with instructions for a meeting. Back at the house, he manages to print the Wings file before Bobby and Bentley walk in. They tell him that Bruce died defusing a bomb.

In chapter nineteen, Victor goes to the meeting bringing the Wings printouts with him. Palakon has two associates with him, David Crater and Laurence Delta. There is also a



Japanese man. They will figure out a way to extract Victor from the situation. They ask him questions and show him photos. They think Marina was set to warm Victor and is now dead. Victor gives them the printout of the Wings file.

In chapter eighteen, as Victor leaves the building, he walks into Jamie and the French film crew. When she asks why he is there, he says he is studying French with Christian Bale. Back at the house, they find Tammy dead in the bathtub.

In chapter seventeen, Victor is at a party and spots Chloe. They hug and cry and go off to talk. He evades saying why he is in Paris but says he is staying with Bobby Hughes and Jamie Fields. Chloe tells Victor to call her the next day.

In chapter sixteen, outside Victor breaks away from Bobby and Bentley.

## **Part 4, Chapters 27 - 16, pgs. 388 - 445 Analysis**

Palakon finally contacts Victor and Victor finds out that the Christian Bale guys work for Palakon. They lost Victor in London and spotted him again at the party in Paris. Victor tells him what he can of the group and their activities. Palakon knows nothing about this. He becomes nervous when he finds out that Victor's father is a United States Senator. Palakon brings his associates to the next meeting and they say they will find a way to extract Victor from the situation.

Victor, even though he is still using drugs and alcohol, seems to think a little more clearly. He isn't more or less gliding along as he was. He is very affected by the situation and afraid. It also seems that members of the group and crew are being killed off.



## Part 4, Chapters 15 - 0, pgs. 445 - 503

### Part 4, Chapters 15 - 0, pgs. 445 - 503 Summary

In the limousine, Bobby talks about Chloe and Victor says he will kill him if he ever touches her.

In chapter fourteen, the director of the French film crew is in Victor's room. He thinks Bobby is out of control and wants Victor to watch a video. The video is tape of Bobby in different places. F. Fred Palakon is shown with Bobby.

In chapter thirteen, Victor begins to think of a plan.

In chapter twelve, Victor goes to the living room where the crew is working. The others are also in the room. Victor says he is going to see Chloe. When he is in the taxi, he tells the driver to go to the American embassy.

In chapter eleven, inside the building, Victor tells the man that he knows who bombed the Ritz and other places. The man tells him to wait while he gets someone from Security. Victor realizes the man called him Mr. Ward and wants to know how he knows his name. The man from security who appears is Palakon.

In chapter ten, Victor is in an interrogation room with the Palakon team and the Paris police and Interpol. Victor want to know who Palakon works for. He finally says he is an independent contractor who works for Victor's father. The Japanese man said the Senator wants to run for a higher office and basically wants Victor to take a vacation to avoid bad publicity. They didn't know about Jamie's involvement with Bobby Hughes, or that Jamie works for a United States counterintelligence organization that infiltrated the Hughes organization. The hat he carried contains a new plastic explosive called Remform. Victor tells Palakon that he has seen a videotape of him with Bobby but Palakon denies ever meeting Bobby. From the Wings printouts, they think Bobby will use the Remform on a TWA flight in a few days.

In chapter nine, they tell Victor to remain calm and return to the house. He goes to the Hotel Costes to see Chloe.

In chapter eight, Victor stays with Chloe. He says he wants to get back together with her. She tells him she is pregnant from when he came to her apartment four weeks ago. He was not in New York then.

In chapter seven, Victor returns to the house and finds it ransacked. All of his clothes and belongings are missing and there are photos of him and Sam Ho in his room. Pentagrams are painted on the walls. He finds Bentley tied up and moaning. He says that Bruce did this and Victor tells him that Bruce is dead. When he tries to remove the device from Bentley's leg, he accidentally activates it, blowing off Bentley's limbs. Bentley begs Victor to shoot him.





In chapter six, Victor runs to the bathroom and showers to wash the blood off. He dresses and runs out of the house.

In chapter five, Victor finds Jamie. She says she watched the scene at the embassy and they lied to him. Everything is financed by the Japanese and Palakon is also working against Senator Johnson. Setting Victor up with certain organizations would destroy the Senator's political chances. Jamie says Lauren Hynde died in a car crash in 1985. Then she says Bobby has gone to see Chloe. As she drifts off, she says she is not Jamie Fields.

In chapter four, Victor returns to Chloe's hotel. Chloe says Bobby was there and she thinks Bruce was with him. He wants to take Chloe to the United States. Chloe is bleeding and he calls the desk for an ambulance. She dies as the film crew enters the room.

In chapter three, Victor and the film crew are in a heavily armed van driving to the airport. They have a gun fight with a black truck that is following them. The director says that Bobby Hughes is trying to kill Victor and that they want Hughes dead.

In chapter two, Victor finds Bobby in a men's room at the airport. He runs at him, waving a gun, with the crew following him. Victor keeps firing the gun and misses with every shot. They fight and Victor finally stabs Bobby and then shoots him with his gun. The crew films the entire incident and then cleans up.

In chapter one, the crew shows Victor a tape of how the TWA flight was rescued. Victor sees the Wings message and says they are wrong. The message is from a music album.

In chapter zero, the bomb is in a 747 concealed in a cassette player. It detonates at the end of the song Man on the Run. Three Camden graduates are aboard when the plane crashes seventy miles outside of Paris.

## **Part 4, Chapters 15 - 0, pgs. 445 - 503 Analysis**

Victor is confronted with the fact that Palakon was hired by his father to get his son out of the country while the Senator ran his political campaign. But Palakon is in it for the money. He has no loyalty to either side and basically sends Victor into the Bobby Hughes situation. Victor learns this from Jamie as she dies. Chloe also dies on Victor from massive bleeding from a miscarriage. Victor kills Bobby before Bobby kills him.

Victor seems to have had to wake up quickly. He is trapped in a world of double dealing where most of the people around him die. He survives.



## Part 5, Chapters 9-0, pgs. 507 - 527

### Part 5, Chapters 9-0, pgs. 507 - 527 Summary

Victor is back in the States and attending law school. He is talking with his advisor, Despak. He will soon do a photo shoot.

In chapter eight, Victor is having his workout with Reed. He has changed his life completely. No drinking binges or smoking and he does not party as much. He is also involved in a long-term relationship.

In chapter seven, Victor is with Allison. He is seeing Damien the next day. They talk about Lauren and the organizations she belongs to. Allison asks what happened in Europe.

In chapter six, Victor appears for the shoot for George magazine. He is handed an invitation for a PETA party the next evening but doesn't think he can attend.

Victor talks to his father in chapter five. He will be visiting his father in a few days and his father is awaiting his visit. His father says that he trusts him.

In chapter four, Damien and Victor are opening a club in TriBeCa in a month. Damien shows him a news story about the women Victor is supposed to be involved with. They talk about Lauren and Allison.

In chapter three, Victor's agent calls to tell him he won a part in the movie Flatliners II. Bill, the agent, says his new look is paying off. Victor says he can't do the movie because of law school.

In chapter two, Victor attends a party to benefit the blind. There are many questions about Chloe and Victor's return to school.

In chapter one, Victor has a new apartment on the Upper East Side, complements of his father. He returns there after the party. As he runs his bath, he finds a piece of confetti on the floor. He finds confetti on the bed. He checks the apartment with gun in hand and fires at a figure dressed in black. As it falls to the floor, another figure approaches him from behind with a knife. He shoots and hits that one. He calls a number and gives a code then spends the night at the Carlyle Hotel. The cleaners take care of his apartment.

In chapter zero, Victor has dinner with Eva. Her boyfriend is out of town. She asks about Allison and Victor complains that she is always asking questions about Chloe. He tells her what happened the night before. Eva is Lauren Hynde.



## **Part 5, Chapters 9-0, pgs. 507 - 527 Analysis**

Victor's life has changed. He doesn't smoke or drink as much. He is also attending law school now. He has been affected by what happened in Europe. When he finds confetti on his new Upper East Side apartment and two intruders that he shoots, he has a number and code to use to call for cleaners. Is Victor in some government position? Was he the infiltrator?



## Part 6, Chapters 0-15, pgs. 531 - 546

### Part 6, Chapters 0-15, pgs. 531 - 546 Summary

Victor and Jamie are in school at Camden having a discussion that Victor remembers when he is in a Milan hotel room. They begin taking pills.

In chapter one, the French film crew gives Victor heroin and flies him to Milan in a private jet. His room is guarded and the director calls every few days.

In chapter two, Victor calls his sister Sally in Washington DC. He says he is in Milan and needs her help. She says she is meeting her brother for lunch at one and tells whoever he is not to call back.

In chapter three, Victor talks about Davide who is from Legnano. He is in Davides' room at the Principe di Savoia.

In chapter four, Victor is still with Davide when the director calls. He asks where Palakon is. The director keeps telling him there is no such person. Victor says that he wants to go home. The director says Davide will continue to guard him and that he is moving on to another project.

In chapter five, Davide accompanies Victor on his walks and is always armed. Davide pulls him out of a restaurant when he spots some people he knows.

In chapter six, Davide answers the phone, speaks in Italian then tells Victor that someone is coming to see the.

In chapter seven, a girl arrives with a tape. Davide inserts it in the VCR and goes to another part of the room while Victor watches the tape.

In chapter eight, the tape is of a 60 Minutes segment concerning Victor and his father. It concerns a fund raiser for his presidential bid. There are also shots of Victor and Chloe. The senator is walking with and kissing a woman whom Victor recognizes as Lorrie Wallace. F. Fred Palakon is also in a scene at a Christmas party.

In chapter nine, Victor calls his sister and she puts on a man who says he is Victor Johnson who tells him to stop calling his sister.

In chapter ten, Davide wants to be alone with the girl so Victor goes out.

In chapter eleven, Victor goes down to the lobby and out to the street. He still feels that he is being filmed and wonders how many warnings he has ignored.

In chapter twelve, Victor returns to the room and finds Davide dead. He goes down to the bar.



In chapter thirteen, Victor remembers a party on Ocean Drive in a week after he first met Chloe. He remembers some other events of the time. A voice asks him if he could kill somebody. Someone else says yes. Victor was just becoming famous. He remembers an injured bat. Victor decides then that he will never leave the kind of life he has and that he would be hard and cool. He didn't understand then how Chloe and that kind of life would result in nightmares. Years later, he is sitting in a Milan bar.

In chapter fourteen, he drinks his water in the bar as he stares at the mountain. He decides that the stars are real and the mountain is the future.

## **Part 6, Chapters 0-15, pgs. 531 - 546 Analysis**

When Victor leaves France, he is flown to Italy and placed in a hotel near Milan. He is guarded by a man called Davide. When a woman brings a tape of 60 Minutes, there is a segment on Senator Johnson. There is apparently a Victor double in the States. He sees his father walking and holding hands with a woman he recognizes as Lorrie Wallace. Palakon is in a scene at a Christmas party. Who is the Victor at the end of the book who is going to law school?



# Characters

## Victor Ward

Victor Ward is a model in Manhattan. He is often photographed and seen in the right places with the right people. Victor has been hired to open the new club that Damien Ross is opening. Victor, who dates model Chloe Byrnes, is having an affair with Allison, who is Damien's girlfriend. Victor is twenty-seven years of age. He attended college at Camden College in New Hampshire and his father wants him to return to school. His father, who is a United States Senator, lives and works in Washington DC, and is embarrassed by Victor and refuses to give him money beyond his trust fund check. As a result, Victor has financial problems. His mother died while he was in school at Camden College. He constantly chases women, including the two involved with Damien, and finds men in black jeeps following him around Soho. The day after the opening, Damien fires him because of his involvement with Allison and Lauren. Victor is approached by a man named Palakon to find an old college girlfriend named Jamie Fields. He will be paid three hundred thousand dollars and expenses and sails to London on the Queen Elizabeth 2. Strange things happen on the ship crossing, such as having a dinner photo taken and finding different people in the photo than were at this table. In London, he resumes his relationship with Jamie Fields and finds himself involved with a terrorist organization that plants bombs and kills the sons of political figures. Throughout the book there is a Victor double that appears at various functions, including at his sister's. The real Victor is more or less shut out by his family due to his father's presidential aspirations.

## Chloe Byrnes

Chloe Byrnes is a model in Manhattan. She is also the girlfriend of Victor Ward. Born in 1970, Chloe is a Pisces. Her agent is from the CAA agency. She was first discovered on a beach in Miami and has appeared on the covers of four hundred magazines, including the Sports Illustrated swimsuit edition. She has also appeared in Playboy and has ghost written a book which was a best seller. She is highly sought after model and is in the process of negotiating a multi-million dollar contract with a cosmetic manufacturer. She has had a problem with drugs but it hasn't affected her career. Chloe is twenty-six years old which is, she feels, old for a model. She has silicone breast implants and is worried about the news reports about the problems with silicone implants. She frequently has anxiety attacks and takes Xanax to calm her nerves. Chloe becomes friendly with Baxter Priestly, which upsets Victor. When things between Victor and Damien blow up and Victor is fired, Chloe tells Victor that he lives to try to impress the wrong people. She is mad because she can't get a straight answer from him. As she is talking, she is also packing. Several weeks later, Chloe meets Victor at a party in Paris. They hug each other and cry. When Chloe tells Victor that she is pregnant from when he visited her apartment, he doesn't tell her that he wasn't in the United States at that time. Chloe doesn't want to resume her relationship with Victor and refuses to return to the United



States with him. She apparently tried to abort her pregnancy by taking RU486 and hemorrhages to death in the hotel suite when Victor is there.

## **Jamie Fields**

Jamie Fields is an actress who is living in London and working on a film financed by Japanese investors. She attended Camden College in the 1980s and dated Victor, who left her for Lauren Hynde. A man named F. Fred Palakon tells Victor that Jamie disappeared from the United States three weeks earlier and offers Victor three hundred thousand dollars plus expenses to find her and bring her back to the United States. Palakon says that according to Jamie's 1986 journal, Victor meant a lot to her and her parents think that he might be able to persuade her to return to the United States. Jamie lives in London and shares a house with a group of people. She is very upset when Victor appears on her movie set and sends him away, and then appears in his hotel suite. She begins going out with him and brings him to the house where she is living. Jamie became involved with former model Bobby Hughes and he helps her career. They travel all over the world together. She knows that he is a terrorist but he has educated her in how to change the world. She is killed in the Paris triplex.

## **Damien Nutch Ross**

Damien Nutch Ross is the owner of the new club that Victor has been hired to open. He is engaged to Allison Pool and has Lauren Hynde as a girlfriend. The day after the club opening, he breaks off with Allison and goes to Miami with Lauren. He is with Lauren at the end of the book.

## **Bobby Hughes**

Bobby Hughes is a male model who lives in the London house with Jamie and the others. He began modeling at the age of eighteen and was an overnight sensation. He runs a terrorist organization that plants bombs and kills the sons of political figures. He is killed by Victor at the airport in Paris.

## **F. Fred Palakon**

F. Fred Palakon pretends to be a disk jockey in New York and offers Victor three hundred thousand dollars plus expenses to find Jamie Fields and bring her back to the United States. Palakon works for both sides, serving both the government and the terrorists.



## **Lauren Hynde**

Lauren Hynde lives in the Silk building in New York. She attended Camden College where she dated Victor. She is a friend of Chloe's and is Damien's mistress. She is with Damien at the end of the book.

## **Senator Johnson**

Senator Johnson is the father of Victor. He considers Victor to be an embarrassment to his presidential aspirations and apparently wants him out of the country.

## **Lorrie Wallace**

Lorrie Wallace appears on the Queen Elizabeth 2 and presents herself as the husband of Stephen Wallace. In the tape Victor views in Milan, she is walking with his father, holding hands and kissing.

## **Allison Poole**

Allison Poole is the girlfriend of Damien Ross. She lives at 80th and Park Avenue in Manhattan and is having an affair with Victor Ward. She is Victor's girlfriend at the end of the book.





## **Objects/Places**

### **Allison's Apartment**

Allison's Apartment is located at 80th and Park Avenue in Manhattan.

### **Silk Building**

Silk Building is in Manhattan where Lauren Hynde lives.

### **Queen Elizabeth 2**

Queen Elizabeth 2 is a luxury liner on which Victor crosses the Atlantic.

### **Notting Hill**

Notting Hill is a section in London, England where Jamie is filming a movie.

### **Hempstead**

Hempstead is the area of London where Jamie shares a house with other people.

### **The Triplex**

The Triplex is located in Paris and paid for with Iraqi money that comes through Hungary.

### **Soho**

Soho is a neighborhood in Manhattan where Victor is chased by black jeeps.

### **Chloe's Loft**

Chloe's Loft is a huge exquisitely decorated loft style apartment located in a trendy area of Manhattan.

## **The Club**

The Club that Damien is opening is located in Manhattan overlooking Union Square Park.

## **Milan**

Milan is a city in Northern Italy where Victor's is taken after leaving Paris.



# Themes

## Deceit

Deceit is one of the prevalent themes of the book. *Glamorama* is a novel in which people aren't who they say they are and situations aren't what they seem to be. Nothing can be taken at face value. Victor tries to deceive Damien about his relationships with Allison and Lauren. He also tries to deceive Chloe about his involvement with these women. From the time Victor boarded the Queen Elizabeth, there is one deceit after another. The Wallaces are not who they say they are as Victor discovers in Milan when he views the tape of Lorrie with his father. He meets a woman named Marina, who gives him two different surnames. When he tries to find her, he finds there is no such name of the passenger list and her cabin is unassigned. The biggest deception is propagated by F. Fred Palakon, who apparently was hired by Victor's father to get him out of the country. He sends Victor to London to find an old college friend and bring her back to the United States, knowing that he was sending Victor into the terrorist group of former model Bobby Hughes. Then Victor is told that Jamie Fields is a government agent who infiltrated the terrorist organization. As Jamie dies, she tells him that Lauren Hynde died in a 1985 auto accident and that she isn't really Jamie Fields. In addition, there is a Victor double that was appearing at events before Victor left the United States. Victor calls his sister from Milan and she tells him that her brother is in the room with her and to stop calling. The theme of deceit runs through the book.

## Relationships

Relationships are another dominant theme of the book and there are quite a few of them. Victor is a shallow person who has many superficial relationships. He is a part of the world of high fashion and is more concerned about being seen and photographed with the right people than he is in establishing relationships. He is a fast talker who evades giving direct answers and thinks that he can talk himself in and out of situations. He finds out that this doesn't work when things fall apart on him after the opening of the club. Damien fires him because of his relationships with Allison and Lauren. His girlfriend, supermodel Chloe, has also had it with him because of Lauren and Allison. She tells him that he never answers questions directly and that his big problem is that he spends his life trying to impress the wrong people. She is telling him this as she is packing. Victor's relationships don't last because he has a superficial personality that doesn't allow him to establish lasting relationships. He also thinks that he can just pick up with old girlfriends like Jamie, Lauren and Chloe. He doesn't seem to understand that he hurt them by his behavior when he left them. They are obviously cautious because they are afraid of being hurt again. When he sees Chloe in Paris, he tries to pick up the relationship where they left off. He wants her to leave everything and return to the United States with him. She tells him that she doesn't want to resume their relationship.



## Suspense

Suspense is another theme of the book and it builds slowly throughout the first half of the book. The reader begins to wonder about the film crews near the beginning of the novel and about all of the people that tell Victor that they saw him at a particular event and him saying that he wasn't at the event. The suspense becomes more noticeable as Victor is followed around Soho by the men in the black jeeps. Who are they and what do they want with Victor? There are all of the situations that take place on the Queen Elizabeth 2. Marina gives two different surnames. The cabin she was in was unassigned, but he finds Chloe's hat and Polaroid photos apparently of himself. The Wallaces seem to know he is supposed to go to London and Lorrie claims to recognize Marina from Berlin. Once Jamie takes Victor home with her and he remains there, he becomes trapped with their terrorist group. They can't let him go once he walks in on them with Sam Ho. When the group moves to Paris, the reader wonders what and whom they will attack next. There are the Christian Bale guys that follow him around London and Paris that turn out to work for Palakon. The reader wonders who and what Palakon is throughout the second half of the book. The reader wonders what will happen next and how will it all end as they wait for Victor to realize what he is involved in. The suspense in the book makes the novel exciting reading.



# Style

## Point of View

Bret Easton Ellis writes *Glamorama* in the first person point of view with the narrator being the main character, Victor Ward. The reader watches as Victor stumbles from situation to situation and relationship to relationship. The use of the first person means the reader learns of events and situations as Victor learns of them. There is no additional information or details supplied by a third person author and this is a limiting factor in the use of the third person. Since Victor uses too much alcohol and drugs, he doesn't always see situation clearly but with Ellis's unique writing style, the reader does and has to wait for Victor to figure it out. Because of the first person approach, the reader must wait to learn certain information about Palakon and various situations, and this adds to the suspense and intrigue of the novel. Not only does the reader wonder what will happen next, they wonder what will happen to Victor next. The use of the first person approach is appropriate to the novel of this kind because it adds to the intrigue. It doesn't result in the reader identifying with Victor.

## Setting

There are various locations that function as settings for the action of the novel. There are numerous settings in New York. The club Damien is opening overlooks Union Square Park. There are scenes at Victor's apartment, Chloe's loft, Allison's apartment at 80th and Park and Lauren's apartment in the Silk building. There is the chase scene through the Soho area and scenes in the gym. There are quite a few scenes at various restaurants and night clubs since being seen is the lifestyle of many of the characters. The Queen Elizabeth 2 is the setting when Victor travels to London. Victor finds Jamie Fields in the Notting Hill section of London and shares a house in Hempstead with the terrorist group. In Paris, the group lives in a triplex in the city. There are scenes at clubs and restaurants and in various parts of the city as they move around and plant their bombs. Victor kills Bobby in a men's room at the airport in Paris. When Victor leaves Paris, he is taken to Milan, Italy where he stays at the Principe di Savoia. There are also scenes at Camden College in New Hampshire and in Los Angeles.

## Language and Meaning

The novel is written in the everyday vernacular of English. There are few difficult words and no terms with hidden meanings. The language and meaning are designed for quick and easy reading with little to slow the reader down. There are a few foreign language terms that are not defined but in no way detract from the action of the novel. It is not the language and meaning that create confusion in the minds of the reader, it is the various situations in the novel. There are many places in the novel where the language is very explicit. There are numerous sexual scenes that are very explicit and are not really



necessary to the action of the novel or to the plot. The scenes of torture are also very descriptive as are the aftermath of their various terrorist attacks. There is a great amount of detail and the descriptions are gory. Many readers may not enjoy these parts of the book, even though these scenes may add to the realism of the story. Readers may also become irritated by Victor's continual use of the word 'baby', but this is part of Victor's personality. For the most part, the language used adds to the ease of reading the novel.

## Structure

Glamorama by Bret Easton Ellis is divided into six parts. The parts are designated by a number and no title. Each of the parts is a very distinct segment of the novel. The first part is concerned with Victor's life in New York and establishes his lifestyle and personality. The second part involves his travel to London on the Queen Elizabeth 2. Parts three and four concern Victor and the group's activities in London and Paris respectively. The fourth part shows the life of Victor after Europe. Part five shows Victor in a hotel in Milan, Italy where he was taken after leaving Paris. There are chapter divisions within each section that are designated by numbers. The numbers go from high to low in all parts except for the sixth part. There are many places with run-on sentences that are a paragraph long.

There is no Table of Contents, Introduction or Foreword to the novel but none is really needed. There are Acclaims at the beginning of the book and a few sentences about the author.

The structure of the novel contributes to the atmosphere of the novel.



## Quotes

"The 'reporter' from Details stands with us. Assignment: follow me around for a week.

Headline: The Making of a Club/"

Part 1, Chap. 33, p. 6

"Chloe picks up the check and in order to downplay the situation I lean in to kiss her, the swarming paparazzi causing the kind of disturbance we're used to."

Part 1, Chap. 29, p. 44

"I'm a knockout, Dad. A total knockout. I'm rippin'. Things are happening. I'm in control of all the elements. You are laughing somewhat jaggedly, Dad, but I am in continuous flux."

Part 1, Chap. 21, p. 88

"I stare at him, lost. 'You want me to go to London and find some girl I don't even remember dating?'"

Part 1, Chap. 14, p. 136

"MTV: How do you think other people perceive you?"

Me: I'm a bad boy. I'm a legend. But on reality everything's a big world party and there are no VIP rooms/"

Part 1, Chap. 9, p. 159

"Haven't you ever come to a point in your life where you've said to yourself: Hey, this isn't right?"

Part 1, Chap. 6, p. 194

"'Haven't you read the rest of the script?' he asked. Don't you know what's going to happen to you?'"

Part 2, Chap. 43, p. 221

"I drop the photographs back in the Prada handbag, because I don't want to touch them anymore."

Part 2, Chap. 4, p. 256

"Jamie flinches and turns back to me, wiping her nose and taking a large gulp of tequila punch. 'You need someone to teach you important life lessons, Victor.'"

Part 3, Chap. 10, p. 289

"'You shouldn't be shocked by any of this, Victor,' Bobby says. 'This is expected. This was in the script. You shouldn't be surprised by any of this.'"

Part 3, Chap. 1, p. 326

"It's really about the will to accomplish this destruction and not about the outcome, because that's just decoration."

Part 4, Chap. 38, p. 337



:'Palakon,' I start. 'I don't care about the money anymore. I just want to get the hell out of here.'

'That's very noble, Mr. Ward, but you were supposed to get Jamie Fields out of London and back to the States,' Palakon says. 'Not traipse off to Paris. So the money - as of now - is beside the point.'

Part 4, Chap. 26, p. 392

""Victor, your father didn't want you harmed in any way,' Palakon says. 'He simply wanted you to, well, take a break for a little while. He wanted you...preoccupied. He didn't want you in the States.'"

Part 4, Chap. 12, p. 459

""No more drinking binges, I've cut down on partying, law school's great, I'm in a long-term relationship.'"

Part 5, Chap. 8, p. 509

"But I was being introduced to too many cool people and I was becoming famous and at that point I had no way of understanding one thing: if I didn't erase this afternoon from my memory and just walk out that door and leave Chloe Byrnes behind, sections of this afternoon would come back to me in nightmares."

Part 6, Chap. 13, p. 545



## Topics for Discussion

Why does Victor have problems with Damien? What is the cause of the problem?

How would you characterize Victor's relationship with Chloe Byrnes? Do you think they really care for one another? Why or why not?

Why was Victor followed around New York?

What deal does F. Fred Palakon offer Victor and why?

Why did Senator Johnson want Victor out of the country for a while?

Why do the film crews follow Victor and the others around? What is their significance?

Who is the Victor who returned to New York and enrolled in law school? Do you think he is the original Victor or the double?