

The Windup Girl Study Guide

The Windup Girl by Paolo Bacigalupi

(c)2015 BookRags, Inc. All rights reserved.



Contents

The Windup Girl Study Guide.....	1
Contents.....	2
Plot Summary.....	3
Section 1: Chapter 1.....	5
Section 2: Chapters 2-3.....	7
Section 3: Chapters 4-5.....	9
Section 4: Chapters 6-7.....	11
Section 5: Chapters 8-9.....	13
Section 6: Chapters 10-11.....	15
Section 7: Chapters 12-14.....	17
Section 8: Chapters 15-17.....	19
Section 9: Chapters 18-21.....	21
Section 10: Chapters 22-25.....	23
Section 11: Chapters 26-28.....	25
Section 12: Chapters 29-31.....	27
Section 13: Chapters 32-37.....	29
Section 14: Chapters 38-42.....	32
Section 15: Chapters 43-50 & Epilogue.....	34
Characters.....	38
Objects/Places.....	41
Themes.....	43
Style.....	45
Quotes.....	48
Topics for Discussion.....	51



Plot Summary

"The Windup Girl" by Paolo Bacigalupi is a critically acclaimed science fiction novel about thirty-third century Thailand where food production and distribution is controlled through mega corporations. The novel focuses on the events leading up to a civil war, specifically how Emiko, a windup girl created in Japan, provides a reason by assassinating one of the most important men in the Kingdom. "The Windup Girl" is a fascinating tale of this future society.

Anderson Lake owns the SpringLife factory, but it is only a cover for his true mission, locating the Thai seedbank. His employee, Hock Seng, embezzles from the company as he plots to steal the blueprints for the king springs they manufacture. Emiko, a windup girl who works as a sex slave for Raleigh, tells Anderson what one of her customers told her about the seedbank and Gi Bu Sen, and Anderson tells her about the village in the north filled with New People after which Emiko dreams of escaping to the village. Hock Seng makes a deal with the Dung Lord to sell him the blueprints because he failed to bribe the officials to import the necessary equipment to fix the factory.

Jaidee inspects the shipment and destroys the contraband which displeases many important people who have his wife kidnapped. Jaidee makes a public apology and accepts a demotion, but when he learns his wife is dead, he infiltrates the Trade Ministry where he is captured and murdered. His body is deposited on the front steps of the Environment Ministry, causing an uprising among the white shirts, and Kanya is appointed as his replacement. When Mai finds a new plague in the factory, Hock Seng orders her to hide it, yet he helps her escape when the enraged white shirts invade the building.

Meanwhile, Anderson and Carlyle negotiate with Akkarat for access to the seedbank, and Anderson becomes infatuated with Emiko. Kanya learns about the plague and seeks aid from Gi Bu Sen. During Anderson's negotiations with the Somdet Chaopraya, he introduces the official to Emiko, but when the Somdet Chaopraya's acts prove too humiliating, Emiko kills him and eight others before seeking refuge with Anderson. Akkarat assumes that Emiko is a military windup, blames Pracha and uses it as an excuse to wage civil war. When Kanya learns of this plan, she investigates, learning that Emiko is not a military windup, yet Akkarat still blames Pracha, wages war and kills the highest ranking officials in the Environment Ministry, leaving Kanya as the ranking officer. After the Dung Lord's men steal the king-spring blueprints, Hock Seng captures Emiko to hold for ransom; Anderson negotiates with Hock Seng, offering him AgriGen's patronage to release Emiko.

Having killed General Pracha and the other leaders of the Environment Ministry, Akkarat appoints Kanya as the head of the Ministry, and he grants seedbank access to the farang; however, Kanya disagrees with his decision and kills the farang before moving the seedbank to a safer location and destroying the levees to flood Bangkok. She and the Queen then relocate the citizens to Ayutthaya where Kanya becomes the new Tiger, and the Queen rules without a Somdet Chaopraya. Akkarat becomes a monk to atone



for his failure to protect the city, and Emiko nurses Anderson until his death from the new plague. She lives alone in the city until Gibbons visits and promises to use Emiko's genes to create a fertile race of New People, fulfilling Emiko's dream of living with her own kind.



Section 1: Chapter 1

Section 1: Chapter 1 Summary

"The Windup Girl" by Paolo Bacigalupi is a critically acclaimed science fiction novel about thirty-third century Thailand where food production and distribution is controlled through mega corporations. The novel focuses on the events leading up to a civil war, specifically how Emiko, a windup girl created in Japan, provides a reason by assassinating one of the most important men in the Kingdom. "The Windup Girl" is a fascinating tale of this future society.

Anderson Lake chooses a healthy fruit in the busy morning marketplace. Anderson is amazed by this new fruit which has obviously been created as there is no record of it having existed before today. After the seller provides certificates from the Environment Ministry as evidence that the ngaws are safe, Anderson buys 2 kilos, not bothering to bargain because such miracles are priceless. When Anderson arrives at the SpringLife factory, Banyat, the head of QA, eagerly leads Anderson to the cutting rooms to show him their progress on fixing the problem with the cutting press. Going to the administrative offices, Anderson finds that Hock Seng is already at the computer. He questions Hock Seng about the ngaws, asking if he saw them in Malaya; Hock Seng is part of the 1% of Malayan Chinese to escape the Incident. Hock Seng fearfully insists only the Thai are clever with such things, going on to tell Anderson that the nutrient tanks have been contaminated. Anderson plans to fire Banyat for being too afraid to tell him such bad news, but Hock Seng argues that they cannot fire Banyat until they negotiate with the unions. Hock Seng explains that the problems are related to the fact that their recent shipment is still in Customs, but he assures Anderson that they should receive the shipment tomorrow. Returning to his paperwork, Anderson finds an invitation from Raleigh proposing a meeting, but when screams sound from the megodont on the floor, Anderson and Hock Seng see a megodont struggling against its restraints, so Anderson retrieves a pistol and rifle from the safe and fires at the megodont, but it knocks him off his feet, dying just before it reaches Anderson nearly causing him to pity the creature. With the megodont dead, the factory springs to life as the dead and wounded are gathered. Anderson imagines Yates standing next to him, gloating at the trouble, but then Hock Seng joins Anderson and informs him that he is bleeding.

Section 1: Chapter 1 Analysis

The first chapter begins with introducing Anderson Lake, a farang or foreigner, as well as a calorie man who uses the SpringLife factory as a cover for his true mission of finding the Thai seedbank. Anderson is amazed by the presence of the ngaw in the marketplace. It has no stink of cibiscosis or the scab of blister rust, but he does not recognize the fruit called ngaw. It should not exist, and yesterday, it did not exist, but now it is present in many market stalls. Anderson wishes he could observe the ngaw in its natural habitat so that perhaps he could divine a whisper of its genetic past which the



Thai government is attempting to excavate. Biting into the fruit, he is oblivious to the steady stream of shoppers as he becomes one with paradise. He knows the ngaw does not come from the Midwest, but the Thai Kingdom is clever which is why they thrive while other countries fall as they beg for the scientific advances of the calorie monopolies. Anderson believes that the ngaw represents a shocking return from extinction as the Environment Ministry works magic with genetic material from lost generations. Anderson's fascination with the ngaw indicates his hidden identity as a calorie man. After summoning Lao Gu to transport him by rickshaw, Anderson recalls his surprise when he first learned of the Thai Kingdom's success, and he remembers Yates' disappointment as they discuss how Yates is being sent back to the home office of AgriGen because he did not report on how much progress was being made. They argue about the reputations of calorie companies, but Anderson refuses to shut down the kink-spring factory because it is a useful cover as he unravels the mystery of nightshades and ngaws. Rolling on through Bangkok, it is difficult for Anderson not to see the City of Divine Beings as a disaster waiting to happen, but the Thais are stubborn and managed to save their city from the thing that swallowed New York City, New Orleans and many others. This is the first of many allusions to the past plagues that have occurred, and while the novel hints that disease travelled through imported foods around the world, the specifics are not elaborated.

At the SpringLife factory, Anderson learns that his workers are fixing the problems they have with the cutting press. Though a rational company would shut the factory down, Anderson needs to keep it running so everyone will believe he is an aspiring entrepreneur, but it is a pity because the potential for success is present because Yates was not stupid, even though he was a madman. This chapter also introduces another important character, Hock Seng, a Malayan refugee who works for Anderson in the factory, though he embezzles from the company and plots to steal the blueprints from the safe. Hock Seng seems somewhat timid in his first appearance, but the rest of the novel disproves this initial introduction. As Anderson and Hock Seng discuss the business, it is apparent that Hock Seng does the majority of the work while Anderson's main contribution is signing the paychecks. Their conversation about their shipment being late foreshadows the discovery that Hock Seng has failed to pay the necessary bribes to get their shipment through Customs, and the invitation from Raleigh foreshadows Anderson's meeting with the pimp and the importance of this meeting to the overall plot. The megodont's uprising creates a timely diversion that prevents Anderson from further questioning Hock Seng about the shipment and the bribes, but the fact that Anderson is injured foreshadows his death, though it does not come until much later in the novel.



Section 2: Chapters 2-3

Section 2: Chapters 2-3 Summary

In Chapter 2, Hock Seng orders the works to lift the spindle so Mai can slip underneath and inspect the damage. The sight of the megodont's carnage reminds him of how his own people were similarly dismembered. He checks in on Anderson who is being treated by Dr. Chan, reminding her that she needs to keep the foreigner alive to sign their paychecks because it would be disastrous for the factory if he died. Once Dr. Chan finishes with Anderson, Hock Seng pays her and asks her to deliver a note to the boss of her tower. Returning to the present, Hock Seng thinks about the blueprints in the safe which only Anderson can access. The generation of energy storage is Hock Seng's only hope of resurrection for himself and his clan, but the energy he spent garnering Yates' trust was a waste since Yates was foolish enough to raise his investors' ire. Hoping that Anderson forgot to lock the safe, Hock Seng excitedly tries it, squashing his disappointment when he finds it locked.

In Chapter 3, Emiko sips whiskey as she waits for her humiliation to begin. She has no energy to fight, and Raleigh does not care what they do to her because money is money, and the windup girl is quite a novelty. Kannika yanks Emiko by the hair and takes her to the gaijin where she forces Emiko to reveal her naked body as she is degraded. In Japan, Emiko was a wonder, yet here, she is nothing but a windup to be laughed at. Kannika penetrates Emiko with a jade phallus for the crowd, and though Emiko wants to object, she knows that will just cause worse treatment. After her performance, Emiko is cooling off by the fan when Raleigh summons her to his office where a blonde man sits. Raleigh orders her to tell the man about the young white shirt she went with the other night, so she tells him about the boy bringing ngaws for the girls and how he claims they are his aunt's work. He also told her about the secret seedbank and a mysterious man named Gi Bu Sen. When he asks about windups, Emiko explains that she cannot fight the built-in urge to obey, but when he offers her money, she informs him that she is property so it does not matter if she is rich or poor. Asking why she does not run away to the windup enclaves in the north, the man assures her that he is telling the truth about villages filled with released windups.

Section 2: Chapters 2-3 Analysis

Hock Seng works toward repairing the spindle in Chapter 2 as he fights against memories of the travesties that occurred before he left Malaya. When Mai informs him that the spindle is cracked, Hock Seng insists on repairing it though he knows it will take some time and massive bribes to get the megodonts working again. Hock Seng makes it clear that his concern for Anderson's health is more self-interested than the result of any affection for the farang. He also tells Anderson about the cracked spindle. When the cheshires arrive, Hock Seng is irritated by Anderson's distaste for the devil cats since they are useful. The note that Hock Seng asks Dr. Chan to deliver to her boss



foreshadows his intentions to betray Anderson. He warns Anderson that he will have to bribe the mahout to return to work, and when Anderson wants to replace them all because of their incompetence, Hock Seng reminds him that it is impossible because the Megodont Union controls all of the city's power contracts by governmental mandate. As Anderson complains about the monopoly and calls Yates a fool for locating here, Hock Seng grows anxious at the idea of Anderson and his investors running away. They discuss the pending shipment before Anderson sends Hock Seng to inspect the damage, a task that Hock Seng delegates to others. Four years ago, he was a big name, but now, he is nothing; still, he forces back the memories, reminding himself that he is safe because this is not Malaya. Hock Seng's thoughts of the blueprints in the safe and his disappointment when he finds the safe locked foreshadows his plan to steal the blueprints. Reminding himself to be patient because Anderson has to make a mistake eventually, Hock Seng prays for mercy, luck and the continuance of the factory.

Chapter 3 introduces Emiko, the windup girl for whom the novel was titled. Emiko's unhappiness with her present situation is quite obvious as it is explained that she is a prostitute in Raleigh's establishment because he pays the bribes to prevent her from being destroyed. Emiko reminisces about her past when she was respected; Gendo-sama, her old master, used to say she was more than human, but that was in Kyoto where New People are common and respected, and Emiko is now here because the Japanese are so practical. This is compared to her current degradation. The fact that Raleigh summons Emiko to his office to talk to a farang foreshadows the discovery that this farang is Anderson Lake, foreshadowing his involvement with the windup girl. Emiko tells Anderson about the boy who came for her the other night and how he told her about Gi Bu Sen and the seedbank, capturing Anderson's immediate attention because of his interest in the seedbank. The stranger looks away when Emiko moves closer to allow him to see her exposed skin, and she is unable to determine if he is disgusted or attracted, foreshadowing their future physical relationship. When the man asks how she survives here, Emiko explains that Raleigh bribes the officials. He asks if she was dumped by Mishimoto, and ashamed, Emiko asks if he is a generipper, causing the man to jerk away. She hopes he will slaughter her for her rebellion because her soul is dead, but he questions her about the boy again. Anderson tells Emiko about the villages where windups live in the northern jungles without interference from humans, foreshadowing her obsession with living among her own kind.



Section 3: Chapters 4-5

Section 3: Chapters 4-5 Summary

In Chapter 4, Captain Jaidee Rojjanasukchai is focused on protecting the Kingdom from infections of the natural world, though he knows it is like trying to catch the ocean with a net. Surveying the wreckage his men have wrought, he notes that nearly every crate holds something suspicious. He watches Lieutenant Kanya Chirathivat count the bribe, smiling because all of the money is there. Knowing the shipment will be misused, Jaidee orders his men to burn it all. Returning home, Jaidee is confronted by his wife, Chaya, who worries that Jaidee will make important people angry, but he is proud to be a hero to the people and a thorn to the Ministry of Trade. Chaya insists she has already lost too much and cannot bear to lose him too, and she takes him by the hand and leads him to their bed after he assures her that she will not lose him.

In Chapter 5, the sun pours into Anderson's flat as he looks through his books and thinks of the windup girls whose vulnerability and fight for pride moves him. He knows that Gi Bu Sen is likely Gibbons, but Gibbons is supposed to be dead; however, Anderson realizes it would be easy for the finest generipper in the world to fake a DNA test to prove his death. There is no mention of ngaws in Anderson's notes, so he is certain the fruit is new. Anderson finds many things depicted are now gone, but the ngaw is not mentioned, so he is sure that a generipper is toying with the building blocks of life somewhere in the city. The windup girl was certain of the name so it must be Gibbons, meaning that Gibbons is hiding somewhere, and Anderson knows that the seedbank will be close to wherever he is hidden.

Section 3: Chapters 4-5 Analysis

Chapter 4 introduces Jaidee and Kanya who both work for the Environment Ministry. Jaidee is known as the Tiger of Bangkok for his uncharacteristic honesty and refusal to allow bribes to affect his integrity. When the Customs officials object that they overstep their authority, Jaidee claims the Environment Ministry's jurisdiction extends to every place that the Thai Kingdom is threatened, sending his men to search the crates from the new vessel, but the dirigible belonging to Carlyle & Sons takes off. He resumes opening the crates, despite many objections from the Customs officials, but when he notices a man watching them, Kanya worries that he has overstepped this time, so he assures her that these actions will fall on his head. Despite accepting the bribe from Customs, Jaidee orders his men to burn the shipment because he knows its contents will be misused. At home, Chaya worries about what will happen to Jaidee because he angers important people, foreshadowing the attack against Jaidee and his family which results from his recent actions. He agrees to wear a good luck amulet to make Chaya feel better, yet he assures her that there is no need to worry because he has the Queen's support. It is ironic that Jaidee assures Chaya that she will not lose him, since he will soon lose her.



In Chapter 5, Anderson thinks of Emiko, foreshadowing his growing obsession with the New Person. He also thinks about what she told him concerning Gi Bu Sen as he is certain that Gi Bu Sen is really Gibbons. He also knows that Gibbons would enjoy playing with the Thai seedbank. Anderson resumes his research on the ngaws, ascertaining that they are a new fruit as they are not mentioned in any of his books. He has been creating the library since his arrival, adding to Yates' collection. Yates warned Anderson that the Thais would kill him if they learn what he is, and though Anderson planned to send Yates away on the next dirigible, Yates pulled the spring-gun. Sure that a generipper is creating new foods due to the ngaws recent creation and as the windup girl was certain of the name Gi Bu Sen, Anderson is sure that Gibbons is hiding somewhere in the city, and he is also certain that Gibbons will be somewhere near the seedbank, meaning that if he finds one, he will find the other as well.



Section 4: Chapters 6-7

Section 4: Chapters 6-7 Summary

In Chapter 6, Hock Seng is bothered by the idea that keeping money in the bank means that his money becomes a stranger's money. As he makes his way out of the Yaowarat slums, he thinks of life in Malaya and his attempts to escape when things went badly. Hock Seng finds Laughing Chan on the docks and waits for him to retrieve Dog Fucker whose patron he wants to meet. He offers them a deal, and Dog Fucker's eyes widen when Hock Seng shows him his wad of cash, embezzled from the SpringLife factory, and claims he has a business proposition for the Dung Lord. Hock Seng is unafraid when Dog Fucker threatens to beat him and take the money, insisting they can earn more from his proposition. After he leaves a letter for the Dung Lord, Laughing Chan is surprised they let him go, but when he mentions that the shipment was burned, Hock Seng curses as he runs; his plans for the future always seem to fail! Rushing to a newsstand, he looks through the papers which all show the smiling face of Jaidee Rojjanasukchai, the incorruptible Tiger of Bangkok.

In Chapter 7, Jaidee grins about being famous as he shows Kanya his picture in the paper, reading the story where the Trade Ministry calls him a vandal. Kanya worries that Jaidee's actions will cause problems since the result was Akkarat losing a lot of money and several people have already complained about Jaidee. Kanya confesses that some of the men complain that Jaidee does not accept enough gifts of goodwill; the people adore him for it, but he no longer gets promoted and his men are losing heart. Jaidee gives Kanya a handful of money to distribute among his men for their excellent job yesterday, knowing that he needs his boys loyal because they cannot overcome the AgriGens and PurCals of the world if they do not feed their friends first.

Section 4: Chapters 6-7 Analysis

Hock Seng's greed and paranoia are demonstrated in Chapter 6, as he thinks about his objections to keeping his money in a bank. Listening to the groaning mass of humanity outside of his flat, he thinks that the first lesson is that nothing is certain. He knows it is foolish to keep his money here in the slums, but he assures himself that no one is coming for him; the Kingdom's armies keep the Green Headbands across the border in Malaya, plus Hock Seng has time to prepare if they do come. Stuffing money in his shirt, he makes his way out of the Yaowarat slum where he can be mistaken for a local as long as he does not betray himself by talking. He misses life in Malaya and his daughter. It was a black night in Malaya as Hock Seng hid among the piers with fourth daughter, the only child he could preserve. Hock Seng climbs aboard a boat, telling Hafiz, his old friend, that he and his daughter need to go north, but Hafiz points out that he could make a fortune by turning Hock Seng in, kicking him off the boat instead. A month later, Hock Seng crosses the border alone. At the docks, Hock Seng tells the Dung Lord's minions that he wishes to speak with their patron, waving cash he has



embezzled from the factory as incentive for them to set up a meeting and insisting there is more where this came from to dissuade the goons from robbing him. Hock Seng leaves a letter for the Dung Lord, foreshadowing a future audience, but as he leaves, he is disappointed to learn that the shipment was burned. The relationship between the shipment burning and Jaidee foreshadows Jaidee's punishment.

Chapter 7 returns to Jaidee and Kanya as Jaidee laughs about his picture in the paper. Kanya is impassive, reminding him that they need to return to the Ministry, so they take a boat. On the ride, Jaidee expresses his disgust with Akkarat for treating with the farang and his disgust for Gi Bu Sen. Disembarking at Srinakharin Bridge, Kanya is concerned about the anchor pads as Jaidee's actions caused Akkarat to lose a lot of money. Khun Bhironbhakdi was complaining about Jaidee at headquarters, causing Jaidee to note that they must have done something terrible in their past lives to deserve these ones. He and Kanya go on to discuss how they both see ghosts, and Kanya's grandmother's spirit often visits her and tells her that she cannot reincarnate until they make a better place for her arrival; the mention of the ghosts that Kanya sees foreshadows Jaidee's return as a spirit. The Customs officials are also angry with Jaidee because they have never met a white shirt they could not bribe, and though Jaidee is sure that Akkarat will calm down, Kanya insists that he should still be careful. Jaidee is concerned about the man at the anchor pads because he believes he has seen him before and wonders if he is with the Trade, suggesting that they are considering another assassination, but Jaidee is sure they cannot touch him since the Queen spoke in his favor, showing his over confidence and foreshadowing his punishment. Jaidee shows his concern for his men by giving Kanya money to distribute among them to ensure their loyalty.



Section 5: Chapters 8-9

Section 5: Chapters 8-9 Summary

In Chapter 8, Anderson discusses the ngaws with other calorie men and women while sitting at Sir Francis Drake's, but when Richard Carlyle arrives, the two farang discuss their recent losses. Carlyle has just come from talking to Akkarat, and he assures Anderson that the news is about to turn in their favor because the Environment Ministry is expecting replacement equipment which is located in a hangar that Carlyle owns, reminding the white shirts that they need outsiders. Carlyle insists that Akkarat's generals can protect him, asking if Anderson wants to participate in the deal since he knows about Anderson's investors. Having talked to Raleigh who depends on him for aging treatments, Carlyle also knows of Anderson's interest in the seedbank, and he wants to discuss certain propositions with Anderson's people. When Anderson suggests setting up a meeting to discuss the arrangement further, Carlyle notes that Anderson does not believe him, telling him he will be more impressed in two days because everything will change between now and then, so they can talk again after that.

When Emiko wakes in Chapter 9, she recalls how honored she used to be, though she rarely goes a day without abuse now. After bathing, Emiko takes a walk, trying to blend in as it has been a long time since she risked walking the streets in daylight. As a New Person, she cannot purchase a ticket at the train station, but recalling that much of the Kingdom's freight is moved by water, she carefully makes her way to the docks and asks a laborer where she can purchase a ferry ticket to Phitsanulok. Unfortunately, nothing goes that far north because of the war. Emiko hides her disappointment, as she realizes she will need permits to travel by land which necessitates talking to Raleigh and begging him for things he has no reason to give. A man with an unfriendly face and only one arm gawks at Emiko, and when he touches her, she stumbles, revealing her nature. The man holds her at knifepoint, ranting about how he lost his hand to the military windups in the jungles up north, and though Emiko offers to do anything, he refuses to soil himself with an animal like her. Sure he will kill her, Emiko pushes the knife away and runs with the man following her. She sees Anderson and reaches to him like a beggar, so he pulls her onto his rickshaw. The man follows, but Emiko is too tired to defend herself as he slashes at her with his knife; luckily, Anderson jumps between Emiko and the man as she loses her focus as the heat swallows her.

Section 5: Chapters 8-9 Analysis

In Chapter 8, Lucy Nguyen and four others complain about their losses on Carlyle's dirigible while sitting at Sir Francis Drake's. Anderson half listens as he thinks about the ngaws' origins and where the seedbank is hidden. Hock Seng is still evaluating the damage concerning the materials Anderson lost in the destroyed shipment, and Anderson recalls Hock Seng's admission that he failed to pay the bribes. As Anderson discusses the ngaws with the others, Lucy summons Hagg to their table to tell them



stories of his travels, and when Anderson questions him about the ngaw, Hagg believes it is related to the rambutan from old texts, noting it will breed true if it does not come from a calorie company. He also expresses his objections to shipping food overseas as that brought ruin before. After Hagg leaves, Richard Carlyle arrives, smiling despite his loss. He refuses to sample the ngaw Anderson offers until he is certain it will not kill him. Anderson and Carlyle discuss their recent losses and how the newspapers celebrate Jaidee. Carlyle tells Anderson that he is trying to make a deal with Akkarat, offering to allow Anderson to join him and thus foreshadowing Anderson and Carlyle's involvement with Akkarat. Concerned about who else Carlyle talks to, Anderson wonders if suspicious would be aroused if Carlyle disappears. Carlyle assures Anderson that he is talking to no one else, insisting that the consequences could be favorable if his plan is successful. Because of Anderson's doubts, Carlyle assures him that everything will change in the next two days, foreshadowing the events that occur in the following chapters.

Emiko compares her past and present existences in Chapter 9 as she bathes. Since she cannot travel by train because she is a New Person, she goes to the docks to inquire about travelling by water, only to learn that the war prohibits traveling so far north as she wishes to go. Her obsession with going to the village of New People that Anderson told her about fulfills the earlier foreshadowing. As she starts back to Raleigh's tower, Emiko is accosted by an unfriendly man who attempts to stab her when she reveals her true nature because he hates windups since military windups took his hand during the war. As Emiko flees from the man, she encounters Anderson who protects her, further foreshadowing his imminent relationship with the windup girl.



Section 6: Chapters 10-11

Section 6: Chapters 10-11 Summary

In Chapter 10, Anderson assures Emiko that she is safe after he frightens the man away with his spring pistol, and when he realizes that she is overheating, he drops her into the ocean where she becomes blessedly cool. Emiko is confused that Anderson helped her, but when she offers to allow him to use her, he refuses. In response to his question about where to take her, Emiko admits that Raleigh is the only one who will keep her because she is a novelty, explaining how her prior master left her behind. When she clings to him to avoid being recognized as a windup, Anderson pulls her closer as he wonders if she wants him or just cannot refuse.

In Chapter 11, Jaidee is irritated by the Chaozhous businessman insulting him and poking him in the chest, but a young private interrupts to tell Jaidee that General Pracha demands his immediate presence. Knowing that Pracha is ready to rant and rave at him, he travels to the Environment Ministry compound and is led to General Pracha who tells him that people are offended by his actions and are hunting for his head. Pracha tries to reason with him because he has received a card from an unknown person, showing that the compound has been infiltrated. As Jaidee flips the card over, he thinks of how he worries about his two young sons who are fearless fighters, much to their mother's worry, but he does not know what to do when he sees that the card shows a picture of Chaya bound to a wall. Jaidee is sure it is the work of the Trade Ministry, but Pracha reminds him that it could be any of the many enemies he has made. Jaidee must make a public apology and be demoted to appease them in hopes that they will release Chaya.

Section 6: Chapters 10-11 Analysis

Anderson's concern for Emiko in Chapter 10 further foreshadows his physical relationship with her, as does his concern for the fact that she is overheating. Emiko asks why he helped her, but Anderson does not know; he realizes that he has taken a stupid risk by protecting the windup girl, but he pities her attempts at modesty, finally saying she needed help. Noting that no one helps a windup, Emiko promises not to fight if he wishes to use her, but Anderson refuses, finding her expectation for so little to be distasteful. When he asks where to take her, Emiko says Raleigh is the only one who will keep her, but it was not always this way. She was a secretary who accompanied her owner to Thailand, but since it was expensive to return to Japan, he left her behind and decided to upgrade when he got home, so Raleigh keeps her because he likes novelties. Emiko clings to Anderson as they pass white shirts for fear they will recognize her as a New Person by her movements and mulch her, and as Anderson holds her, he finds her body intoxicating, pulling her close even as he wonders if she actually wants this or simply cannot refuse; this fulfills the earlier foreshadowing concerning their physical relationship.



In Chapter 11, Jaidee knows that Pracha intends to yell at him when he is summoned to the Environment Ministry compound, but Pracha tells Jaidee that those he has offended are seeking his head and the compound has been infiltrated, showing a picture of Chaya chained to a wall. This foreshadows Chaya's death. Pracha does not know who is responsible or if Chaya is alive, but he has sent men to bring Jaidee's sons to the compound so they will be safe. Jaidee believes the Trade Ministry kidnapped his wife, but Pracha reminds him that he has made many enemies. Pracha's decision that Jaidee must publicly apologize and accept a demotion foreshadows his punishment for his offenses. Pracha insists that this is a different sort of fight and begs Jaidee to bow to these winds.



Section 7: Chapters 12-14

Section 7: Chapters 12-14 Summary

In Chapter 12, Hock Seng recalls Anderson's fury that he failed to bribe Customs, and he is so angry that Anderson threatened to fire him if the factory is not up to 40% reliability within a month that he wants to steal the factory plans, but he knows suspicious will fall upon him. Now, Hock Seng learns about Anderson's infatuation with the windup girl and that the tanks are contaminated. Hock Seng is summoned to see the Dung Lord, and he offers to make kink springs in exchange for a ship and the Dung Lord's patronage. Hock Seng is relieved when the Dung Lord agrees to his suggested arrangement. In Chapter 13, Jaidee is certain that the stranger next to Akkarat took Chaya as he enters the Ministry and offers a public apology for overstepping his boundaries. General Pracha announces that Jaidee has been found guilty of accepting bribes, corruption and abuse of his powers; as such, he is no longer fit to serve the Ministry and will be sentenced to monkhood for nine years, leaving his sons to be tended to by the Ministry. When Jaidee commands Akkarat to release Chaya, Akkarat insists he has no idea what he means. In Chapter 14, Anderson attends Jaidee's apology, telling Carlyle that he wants to meet Akkarat, but he is nervous when he notices a windup in the crowd until he realizes it is not Emiko. Carlyle tells Anderson that the situation between Akkarat and Pracha is intensifying, and after the ceremony, Anderson meets with Akkarat who distrusts him but agrees to consider accepting Anderson's help to arrange a more stable government in exchange for access to the seedbank and Gibbons.

Section 7: Chapters 12-14 Analysis

Chapter 12 returns to Hock Seng who considers stealing the factory plans out of anger that Anderson threatened to fire him, but he refrains because he knows that he will be suspected. Now, Lao Fu has told him about Anderson's disgusting infatuation with bedding the windup girl, so Hock Seng possesses a weapon to use as a last resort if Anderson tries to fire him, foreshadowing his decision to use Emiko as a weapon. An employee tells Hock Seng that the tanks are contaminated, but since there is no replacements, they will have to make due by cleaning the tanks as best as possible. This foreshadows the new plague that appears. Dog Fucker summons Hock Seng for the Dung Lord, and after being driven to the gangster, Hock Seng is searched for weapons. Hock Seng offers to make a gigajoule of kink springs for the Dung Lord to sell, coming to him because he is rich and helped the Malayan Chinese when no one else would provide them with a safe haven. In exchange for this wondrous technology, he wants a ship and the Dung Lord's patronage as the Dung Lord is the only one with enough influence to provide such permits and guarantees. When the Dung Lord claims that Hock Seng is dangerous, Hock Seng insists that he only wants to reestablish himself. Astonished by the demonstration of the technology, the Dung Lord agrees to acquire a ship for Hock Seng after he acquires the specifications and blueprints



because he can do business with Hock Seng's kind. Flooded with relief, Hock Seng is content.

In Chapter 13, Jaidee recalls when he first met Chaya and how she looked through him unlike other girls who were always attracted to him. He takes a rickshaw to the temple and enters the Ministry where he sees the man from the anchor pads next to Akkarat. Sure that the man took Chaya, Jaidee warns Kanya that Akkarat and the man will stop at nothing for power. Kneeling, Jaidee offers a public apology to Akkarat for overstepping his authority, and General Pracha announces Jaidee's sentence. After Akkarat accepts the apology, Jaidee commands him to release Chaya and stay away from his children, but Akkarat insists he has no clue what Jaidee is talking about and he no longer has children. Furthermore, he believes that General Pracha should have turned Jaidee's children out to the street as beggars because that would be a real lesson to Jaidee. This shows Akkarat's cruelty and his refusal to accept blame.

In Chapter 14, Anderson is unimpressed and unsatisfied with crushing the Tiger of Bangkok. Carlyle joins him, explaining that the ceremony means General Pracha has lost face, but Anderson wants to meet Akkarat directly. His heart stops when Carlyle points out a windup in the crowd, but it restarts when he realizes it is not Emiko. Carlyle notes that the Somdet Chaopraya seems smitten with the windup, foreshadowing Anderson introducing the Somdet Chaopraya to Emiko, and he tells Anderson that things are boiling beneath the surface between Pracha and Akkarat, but they can help decide who comes out on top by asserting the right pressure. This foreshadows the imminent civil war. He assures Anderson that a meeting with Akkarat has already been arranged, and Akkarat nods at Anderson. Leaving the ceremony, Anderson climbs into his rickshaw where Akkarat waits. Akkarat distrusts and dislikes Anderson's kind, but Anderson insists he can offer resources to help Akkarat arrange a more stable government if they come to an agreement. In exchange, he wants access to the seedbank so he can acquire samples because he needs new genetic material. Akkarat insists that is impossible because the Environment Ministry controls the seedbank. Anderson also wants the farang Gibbons. Akkarat notes that he would be glad to kill a calorie man on another day, but lucky for Anderson, he is in a good mood and will consider the offer.



Section 8: Chapters 15-17

Section 8: Chapters 15-17 Summary

Emiko is happy with the knowledge that there is a place for New People in Chapter 15, but she fears asking Raleigh about the village. Due to her training, she feels revulsion at the thought of having no one to serve as she imagines the village. Finally confronting Raleigh and telling him that she wants to go to the New People village in the north, Emiko offers to earn her passage since it is expensive, and Raleigh agrees to send her when she has earned enough to pay for the bribes, warning her that she will need to offer something more than regular sex since he has plenty of girls for that. When Mai tells Hock Seng that two employees are ill in Chapter 16, he arranges to have the men sent to different hospitals so the potential virus will not be discovered and Anderson will not close the factory, praying that it is a coincidence and not contamination. Jaidee's concern for Chaya and his certainty of her death in Chapter 17 leads to him sneaking out of his unguarded cell and planning to make the Trade pay. Knocking a worker unconscious and stealing his key, Jaidee sneaks into the Ministry of Trade and goes through the personnel files, finding Krung Thep, the man who was watching him on the docks. Unfortunately, Krung Thep arrives with guards, and after he admits that Chaya is dead, Akkarat mocks Jaidee, insisting that he has the palace's support since the Somdet Chaopraya favors open trade. Jaidee rushes at Akkarat, failing to push him from the roof, but security then sends Jaidee flying off the rooftop.

Section 8: Chapters 15-17 Analysis

In Chapter 15, knowing that there is a place for New People, Emiko is filled with hope, but she is afraid to question Raleigh about the village. She recalls her training by Mizumi-sensei who taught her that New People's "duty was to serve, their honor was to serve, and their reward would come in the next life when they become fully human" (pages 153-154). While getting food in the market, Emiko tries to imagine a place for New People with no one to serve, but she feels revulsion at the thought as she has been trained to do. Emiko is terrified when she notices white shirts nearby, causing her to realize that she must face Raleigh. When she tells Raleigh that she wishes to go north to the New People's village, she can tell it is not a rumor from his expression, but he warns her that it is a hard life in the jungle. Worrying she will die if she stays, Emiko insists she will earn her expensive passage, but Raleigh rebuffs her because it is not good business to bribe her way up north; telling her to prepare for work, he claims he will send her north when she has earned enough money to pay for the bribes, but he reminds her that he owns her and as he has plenty of natural girls offering sex, Emiko must offer something more if she wants to go north.

In Chapter 16, Hock Seng focuses on the safe, though there is plenty of work to be done Monday morning. He has met with the Dung Lord three more times, and though the Dung Lord is being patient, Hock Seng knows that his window of opportunity is



closing, making him consider having Anderson killed. Mai approaches him to tell him that two employees are ill, causing her to fear that the factory will close. Fighting panic because Anderson could use the illness as an excuse to close the factory, Hock Seng sneaks the men outside and sends them to different hospitals to hide the possible contamination as he prays that the illness is just a coincidence and not the result of contamination in the line. This foreshadows the spread of the new plague. In Chapter 17, Jaidee cannot sleep because he still has received no word of Chaya and does not know if she is alive or who is responsible. Realizing that nothing lasts forever, he is certain that Chaya is lost to him already, so he leaves his cell having been left unguarded as his obedience was assumed. Jaidee runs into Kanya and asks to borrow her spring gun because he is certain that Chaya is dead and plans to make the Trade pay, but he asks her to keep an eye on his sons. Jaidee sneaks into the Ministry of Trade by knocking a worker unconscious and stealing his key. He searches the personnel files and finds a familiar man, Krung Thep, but Krung Thep arrives with guards who take Jaidee upstairs and refuse to answer his questions. Krung Thep admits that Chaya is dead before Akkarat arrives and tells Jaidee that he has the palace's backing because the Somdet Chaopraya favors open trade. Challenging Akkarat, Jaidee attacks but fails to push him over the building's edge, and when security sends Jaidee over the edge of the building, he finds that the fall is much shorter than he expected. Jaidee's death foreshadows the civil discontent that follows.



Section 9: Chapters 18-21

Section 9: Chapters 18-21 Summary

In Chapter 18, tension blossoms in the city as rumors spread that Jaidee is dead. Mai knocks on the office door to ask for her last pay because white shirts are approaching and she fears the sickness. Hock Seng pays Mai, and when the white shirts flood the factory, he allows her to accompany through the escape route he planned in case of the worst case scenario since he is so paranoid. In Chapter 19, Anderson and Carlyle discuss their offer for Akkarat. As the white shirts fill the streets, Anderson and Carlyle nervously escape to the SpringLife factory, but finding that Hock Seng has fled, they follow the path he obviously took, avoiding the white shirts. Carlyle needs to contact Akkarat to find out what is going on and determine their next move. In Chapter 20, Kanya is sure that Jaidee and Chaya are dead as she travels to the house where their sons are placed to collect Jaidee's equipment. She is ashamed when she finds a picture of her with Akkarat as this proves Jaidee knew about her taking bribes. When she returns to the main administrative building, Pracha tells her that Jaidee's mutilated body was dumped on the Ministry's doorstep, and he places Kanya in charge, ordering her to fight as Jaidee wished so they can make the Trade Ministry bleed and regain their face. As Emiko daydreams of the windup village in Chapter 21, she hears white shirts approaching, so she jumps from the roof to a balcony and runs away until she collapses from overheating. The white shirts question her, submerging her in water as incentive to answer their questions, but Emiko is only glad that she is cooling down.

Section 9: Chapters 18-21 Analysis

The tension in the city in Chapter 18, caused by Jaidee's death, foreshadows the imminent civil war. Hock Seng wants to flee with his money, but he is bound by the blueprints in the safe. When the white shirts invade the SpringLife factory, Hock Seng helps Mai flee with him using his planned escape route. In Chapter 19, Anderson and Carlyle's discussion foreshadows their continued involvement with Akkarat, but Anderson's thoughts are consumed with Emiko who told him that her body is not her own and she was created to be completely obedient; he wonders if the abuse she suffers would bother him more if she were a real person. This shows his continued obsession with the windup girl, foreshadowing Hock Seng using her against Anderson. When the farang learn that Hock Seng has fled the factory, they follow his path to avoid the white shirts, planning to contact Akkarat to find out what is going on and figure out their next move. In Chapter 20, Kanya believes Jaidee and Chaya are both dead as she rides to the house where Jaidee's sons are placed. Thinking of how pure Jaidee was, she is ashamed to ask his sons to return his equipment since it belongs to the Ministry. Inside, she promises Jaidee's mother-in-law that she will seek revenge for Jaidee and Chaya. Going through the box of Jaidee's belongings, Kanya finds a photo of her drinking with Akkarat, and she realizes that Jaidee knew she took bribes though he never mentioned it; this indicates that Kanya is Akkarat's mole. Ashamed, she cannot



look at Jaidee's sons as she leaves, but she recovers by the time she reaches the main administrative building. Pracha informs Kanaya that Jaidee's body was deposited on the front step, fulfilling earlier foreshadowing regarding his death, and he promotes Kanya to Jaidee's former position, foreshadowing her decision to switch sides and actually fight for the Ministry. In Chapter 21, Emiko stares north daily after Raleigh confirms the existence of the windup village. When she hears shouts of pain below, she knows she must get off the roof before they arrive, but when they break the door to the roof from its hinges, she steps off the roof and falls onto a balcony. They chase her downstairs, and though she is burning up and needs ice, Emiko keeps going until she collapses. They drag her away, demanding answers to their questions, yet when they push her face into water as punishment, she only feels gratitude because she will soon be cool.



Section 10: Chapters 22-25

Section 10: Chapters 22-25 Summary

Hock Seng and Mai carefully avoid the white shirts as they cross the city in Chapter 22 with Mai scouting ahead, as Hock Seng tries to convince himself that he will be safe as long as he does not betray himself by speaking. At his house, he gives Mai money and sends her on her way. She is sure that she is safe since she is not a yellow card, but Hock Seng knows "how little anyone cares to separate wheat from chaff, when all anyone wants to do is burn a field" (page 204). In Chapter 23, Carlyle and Anderson discuss their agreement with Akkarat, and Anderson wants to reach out to Akkarat and offer their support, hoping he will heed their offers due to the recent crisis. Carlyle agrees to set up the meeting. In Chapter 24, Kanya thinks of her hatred for the white shirts who razed as village, and when Narong joins her and she calls him disgusting, he argues that she did not think so when he offered her the chance to strike at the Environment Ministry. Narong asks how the department is dealing with Jaidee's death, and after Kanya confesses that Pracha wants to go after the trade, Narong admits that he plans to drive a wedge between Pracha and his allies. Kanya is summoned to the Ministry's Quarantine Department where she learns about a new variant of blister rust, but she objects to Ratana's claim that they need Gi Bu Sen's help, agreeing to go to Gi Bu Sen only after Ratana completes the tests on the two dead men. In Chapter 25, Emiko is relieved when Anderson joins her at the bar and tells Raleigh that she will come with him instead of performing tonight. Emiko enjoys being loved by Anderson, but her depression returns after their union because the white shirts will not allow her to leave the city and Raleigh will never let her go. Anderson is confident that he can persuade Raleigh, and he also offers to let Emiko stay with him, insisting the white shirts will not rule forever when she worries that it will cause trouble for him.

Section 10: Chapters 22-25 Analysis

In Chapter 22, it takes hours for Hock Seng to carefully cross the city because the white shirts are everywhere, and fearing that Mai will turn on him, he thinks he was foolish to treat the Thai girl as his own. The streets are filled with shrines to Jaidee, and on the radio, General Pracha speaks about the need to protect the Kingdom from those who will topple it. Mai scouts ahead, assuring Hock Seng that it is safe because the white shirts are distracted harassing a woman and her daughter. Hock Seng tries to convince himself that he will be safe if he does not speak, but he is terrified because it is happening again so he is not safe; he has planned for this, but he must make it home first. At his house, he gives Mai a handful of his savings and sends her on her way. In Chapter 23, Carlyle curses Pracha and the white shirts, claiming they went too far with Jaidee. Anderson asks if Akkarat has done as much groundwork as Carlyle claims because it looks as if he has overstretched and may need friends, so he wants Carlyle to reach out and offer their sincere support, suggesting that maybe Akkarat will listen to reason now in the current crisis. Anderson still wants access to the seedbank and



Gibbons. His cover is blown, so he must accept it and move forward or return to Des Moines with his tail between his legs. When Carlyle agrees to set up a meeting, Anderson knows that it is nearly time.

Drinking coffee alone in Chapter 24, Kanya recalls how much she hated the white shirts who razed her village, recognizing the irony that she now marshals her troops to do the same. When Narong joins her, she asks if he killed Chaya, claiming he is disgusting like Pracha, but he reminds her that she did not think he was disgusting when he offered her a chance to strike at the white shirts. Kanya argues that Chaya was innocent, but insisting Jaidee overstepped himself, Narong assures Kanya that they would never do the same to her and asks how the loss of Jaidee affects the department. Kanya admits that Pracha is enraged and wants to go after the Trade, feeling guilty as she accepts an envelope filled with money. After Narong explains his plan to drive a wedge between General Pracha and his allies, Kanya leaves before her men see her with the enemy. Worrying about the evils she has committed and her bad karma, she mentally apologizes to Jaidee. Kanya is summoned to the Ministry's Quarantine Department where Ratana tells her about two men at different hospitals with a variant of blister rust, but when Ratana insists they need Gi Bu Sen's help, Kanya argues that he will not help her since Jaidee is dead, but she agrees to try once the tests are complete on the two dead men, foreshadowing Kanya's encounter with Gibbons. Emiko is grateful in Chapter 25 when Anderson joins her and orders ice water at the bar where she has been hiding for several days. She feels safe with Anderson so she is relieved when he tells Raleigh that Emiko is coming with him tonight and will not perform a show. She is surprised to realize she has missed Anderson as his rickshaw transports them to his apartment. When Emiko grows depressed because she knows Raleigh will never let her leave the city, she is ashamed of her greed, but Anderson insists that Raleigh is a businessman and can be convinced. He offers to let Emiko stay with him, and when she worries that this will create problems for Anderson, he assures her that the white shirts will not rule forever. Emiko's concern for Anderson getting into trouble foreshadows the trouble that rains down on him as a result of his interactions with the windup girl. Emiko argues that windups will always be despised, but he tells her not to be so sure, laughing when she tells him not to tease her.



Section 11: Chapters 26-28

Section 11: Chapters 26-28 Summary

In Chapter 26, Hock Seng wishes he had risked everything to rob the safe since it is dependent on its contents, but learning there is no transit due to Jaidee's death, he decides to flee; it is time to give up on the blueprints and focus on securing his survival. Anderson and Carlyle meet with Akkarat and the Somdet Chaopraya in Chapter 27, but it is obvious that Akkarat distrusts the farang. In an attempt to offer something more unique, Anderson offers his company's next iteration of U-TEX rice, and he also takes them to Raleigh's tower where he introduces the Somdet Chaopraya to Emiko.

In Chapter 28, Kanya learns of another death to the new plague, so she sends Pai to see if any districts have reported missing relatives. Ratana convinces her to seek advice from Gi Bu Sen, lest the city be quarantined which will cause riots. Kanya takes the long road to the compound where she finds the doctor's illness is progressing. Gi Bu Sen is a renegade AgriGen scientist who is confined to a wheelchair, but he is a brilliant geneticist and the Thais' last hope for defense against the plagues. Kanya dislikes him, and when she blames many deaths on the calorie companies, Gi Bu Sen argues that the environment has changed and man must evolve to remain at the top of the food chain. When she presents her paperwork, Gi Bu Sen challenges her to kill him before throwing the papers into his pool. Kanya refuses to swim after them, so after he mocks her for being a hypocrite and taking bribes, he has his androgynous companion, Kip, retrieve the papers and Kanya's samples. Looking over them, he tells her that it is a simple mutation, hinting that wherever it originated will have a place to cultivate biological products.

Section 11: Chapters 26-28 Analysis

In Chapter 26, Hock Seng avoids the checkpoints as he traverses the city, taking the long way to avoid the white shirts flooding the streets. He wishes he had risked all and robbed the safe, but it is too late now, yet even though it is safer with the factory closed, he is dependent on the contents of the safe. This foreshadows Hock Seng's attempts to rob the factory of the blueprints. At the docks, he asks about transit, learning there is none since Jaidee's death. Hock Seng has a horrified feeling that the Tiger is not dead but is hunting, so he decides that it is time to flee; he must give up on the blueprints, spend some money and secure his survival because this raft is sinking. In Chapter 27, Anderson meets with Carlyle who takes him to Akkarat who waits with several men, including the Somdet Chaopraya who is the protector of the child queen. They discuss the farang's offer, but it is obvious that Akkarat distrusts him, though he says he will consider the offer. Needing a lever to break the impasse, Anderson talks to the Somdet Chaopraya, suggesting he can offer something more unique, such as the company's next iteration of U-TEX rice. He knows it is risky, but he tells Carlyle to trust him as he takes the Somdet Chaopraya to Raleigh's tower and pulls aside a curtain to reveal



Emiko. The Somdet Chaopraya stares because he thought that only the Japanese had windups. His fascination with Emiko foreshadows his tragic end when he humiliates her beyond tolerability.

In Chapter 28, Kanya continues to investigate the new plague, seeking its origins. Wondering how she can locate the source of the contamination, Kanya feels sick at the thought that the Kingdom must rely on someone who has been bought, and she wishes someone more worthy had replaced Jaidee. Eventually, Ratana convinces Kanya to visit Gi Bu Sen for advice, and though Kanya dislikes the brilliant geneticist, she seeks answers. At the place where Gibbons is confined, Gibbons is very evasive and even pretends that he will not help Kanya, but eventually, he hints that the plague must have originated in a place where biological products can be cultivated. Kip escorts Kanya out of the compound, warning her that Gi Bu Sen often leaves vital things out because he likes company and will want Kanya to return. As she leaves the compound, Kanya sees Jaidee, another spirit with nowhere to go, at the edge of the ocean, and she wonders if death is the best anyone can hope for. Kanya must do her duty; she will fight the battle until her karma is cleaned because there is no escape for someone such as she.



Section 12: Chapters 29-31

Section 12: Chapters 29-31 Summary

In Chapter 29, reckless with his attentions, Anderson tells Emiko not to worry about Raleigh because soon things will be different and there will be no more white shirts. He gives her a key to his flat and advises her to tell Raleigh nothing. Thinking of how she was trained to believe her destiny is to serve, Emiko lashes out and breaks a bowl, refusing to clean it because she is no longer a slave. As she walks through the crowded streets, she laughs that no one recognizes her as a New Person, but while she watches the water, a man joins her, assuring her there is no reason to be afraid; however, when her movements betray her, he asks for her import permits, so Emiko runs away as he yells for someone to stop the windup. Returning to the tower, she apologizes to Raleigh for being so late, and since he refuses to answer her questions about the windup village, she gets ready for her performance, allowing Kannika to degrade her onstage as the audience cheers. Exhausted and broken when the performance finally ends, Emiko asks Raleigh why he does not throw her away with the rest of the trash. He slaps Emiko when she insists she wants to go to the windup village now, and Emiko, realizing that Raleigh is not going to help her and that there are worse things than death, beats Raleigh senseless. She then rushes back to the VIP area where the men who hurt her most reach for their spring guns, but none of them move fast enough because none of them are New People.

In Chapter 30, Kanya and Pai scout the shrimp farm since fish mites were found on the third body. As Kanya and her men question the villagers about the dead man, she notices a young girl watching her intently, and it is obvious that Mai is lying when she claims that she does not know where the man worked. Since Kanya insists that Mai can help prevent more deaths by sharing what she knows, Mai admits that the plague originated in the SpringLife factory which has already been closed, and Kanya encourages her to share more details. In Chapter 31, Anderson spends several days sneaking back into the factory so he can retrieve his code book for contingencies and makes the necessary phone calls. With preparation complete, he returns home to find Emiko, bloodied, at his door. He holds her as she cries that there is no place for New People, but she does not believe him when he insists that everything will be different soon. The next morning, pounding at the door causes Emiko to jump from the balcony, insisting the white shirts have come for her, but Akkarat enters the apartment and beats Anderson, blaming him for introducing Emiko to the Somdet Chaopraya; she killed eight other men as well. Anderson insists that he introduced Emiko to the Somdet Chaopraya because of the man's attraction to novelties, and when he suggests Pracha set this up, Akkarat orders his man to investigate, giving him twelve hours.



Section 12: Chapters 29-31 Analysis

Anderson's reckless attentions toward Emiko in Chapter 29 foreshadow his troubles as a result of his interactions with the windup girl. Emiko rebels against her training as a slave, foreshadowing her rebellion against the Somdet Chaopraya and his degrading actions. Walking in the streets, Emiko is joyful that no one recognizes her as a New Person, but when her motions betray her, she runs from a man who orders someone to stop the windup. Emiko returns to Raleigh who refuses to discuss the windup village with her, and her feelings of shame as she allows Kannika to assault and mortify her for the cheering audience foreshadows Emiko snapping. Kannika lets each of the men take a turn as she ignores Emiko's pleas to stop the pain and violation. After her performance when she asks why Raleigh does not throw her away with the rest of the trash, he responds by giving her tips and telling her that he has inquired about going north, but there is no transit due to Jaidee's death so he will send her when she has earned enough. As he reminds her that he owns her, slapping her for her impatience, Emiko strikes out at him as she realizes that he will not help her and thinks that this humiliation is worse than even death. She then attacks the members of the audience, fulfilling the earlier foreshadowing concerning Emiko's reaction to the Somdet Chaopraya's attentions.

In Chapter 30, Kanya continues to search for the origin of the new plague. General Pracha wants to deal with this privately, but Jaidee's spirit kneels next to Kanya, reminding her that Pracha is not her leader and he knows where her true loyalties lie. While questioning the inhabitants of the fishing village, she encounters Mai who informs her that the plague first appeared in the SpringLife factory, foreshadowing Kanya's ability to prevent the disease from spreading further. In Chapter 31, Anderson retrieves his contingency plans from the factory and makes several phone calls, foreshadowing the arrival of more people from AgriGen. At home, he finds Emiko who refuses to believe his claims that things will be different soon as she laments the fact that there is no place for New People. When Anderson wakes to pounding at the door, Emiko begs him not to answer it because she fears it is the white shirts, and after she jumps from the balcony, Akkarat and his men break down the door, questioning Anderson about the windup as they beat him in the ribs and breaks his fingers. Akkarat insists that Emiko is a military windup, and he suspects Anderson is involved in the plan because he introduced her to the Somdet Chaopraya who she killed along with eight other men. Anderson insists that Emiko could not have killed the men because she is trained to obey and he only introduced her to the Somdet Chaopraya because of his affinity for novelties. Akkarat cannot investigate because the Environment Ministry has the case, but he disbelieves Anderson's assertions that General Pracha would set him up for this. Akkarat gives his man twelve hours to investigate as Anderson assures him that Emiko is just a Japanese toy and someone else is responsible, likely the white shirts. Waiting, Anderson is ready for his next conflict with Akkarat, but the image of Emiko jumping from the balcony constantly replays through his thoughts.



Section 13: Chapters 32-37

Section 13: Chapters 32-37 Summary

In Chapter 32, more bodies appear as the plague mutates quicker than Kanya expected, and as they treat the village pond with lye and chlorine, she recalls how much she hated the white shirts when they did this to her village. When she is summoned, Kanya orders Pai to keep the village quarantined, reminding him that they still must burn the factory. Jaidee teases Kanya for acting like the new Tiger, but he also mocks her for her hypocrisy. Having been taken to Narong, Kanya learns about the Somdet Chaopraya's death and how a windup is involved. Furthermore, Narong tells her that General Pracha has taken charge of the investigation, so Akkarat wants her to investigate on his behalf because he suspects Pracha was involved. Kanya visits Pracha at the blood-soaked tower, and she notes that he seems puzzled but displays no signs of guilt as he says that it seems impossible that the windup killed nine men. He suspects that Akkarat set this up to seize power, causing Kanya to worry that Pracha knows she is Akkarat's spy but she assures herself that he would not have promoted her if he knows. Pracha asks Kanya to find out who allowed the windup to live in Thailand and if they are on Akkarat's payroll; the only person he would trust more is Jaidee, and Jaidee teases Kanya that Pracha is setting her up, yet she still agrees to the job, asking about the windup and learning that Akkarat is missing. Pracha assures her that this will not be covered up and the guilty will be punished. Knowing time is of the essence because rumors will soon spread throughout the city, Kanya bribes the rickshaw man to induce extra effort and speed, but she wonders on whose behalf she does so.

In Chapter 33, Emiko hides in the alley when an army truck arrives. There is no place left to run, so she watches Anderson's tower, her last safe place, and she gasps when she sees Akkarat leave though the conversation she overhears makes no sense. Citizens are angry and paranoid as they read the papers about the windup who killed the Somdet Chaopraya, and Emiko knows she is only allowed to live because they do not yet see her. In Chapter 34, Hock Seng hides in a room with Laughing Chan and two others for several days. He has the same feeling as before that the storm is coming, but he is prepared this time. He knows it is beginning when he hears Akkarat on the radio, announcing the death of the Somdet Chaopraya and blaming the white shirts. Hock Seng announces that this will not be pretty for anyone who is not prepared. Lao Gu visits to tell Hock Seng that the Trade Ministry apprehended Anderson and his friends because of their involvement with the windup. With this unexpected opportunity, Hock Seng feels that fate is finally moving in his favor as he grabs the keys to the factory and urges the other men to hurry as Akkarat denounces General Pracha over the radio. When Kanya tells Narong that Pracha is not involved in Chapter 35, Narong disagrees, swearing that Akkarat is not involved. Kanya insists that there is no evidence of Pracha's involvement and he even sent her to investigate. As Narong gives Kanya three hours to prove that the windup does not belong to Pracha, Jaidee mocks her attempts to save the General. Thinking about the windup and the abandoned bit of the island



nation, Kanya gathers her papers and her spring gun. In Chapter 36, Emiko resists her panic and the urge to fight as she is stuck in the crowd. She moves slowly toward the alley, but when a man behind her argues with a boy for being a traitor, she runs for cover, noting the rage on everyone's faces.

In Chapter 37, Jaidee continues to mock Kanya as she travels to the Mishimoto & Co. compound and demands to speak to Mr. Yashimoto. Kanya questions Mr. Yashimoto about why he has windups, and he explains that the Japanese have few young and need workers, but when she accuses him of abusing his privileges by importing a military windup, he insists he has not because military windups are used only by the Defense Ministry. Kanya provides a photo of Emiko, and Mr. Yashimoto insists that Emiko is not a military windup and she was supposed to be destroyed according to his records. When Kanya asks how a non-military windup was capable of killing so many men, Mr. Yashimoto demonstrates the speed of his windup, Hiroko, but insists that Emiko should not have been able to shake off her training. Kanya questions Hiroko who admits it would be possible for her to kill eight armed men, but Hiroko insists it is unlikely since she is trained to value discipline, order and obedience. Claiming Emiko should be destroyed, Mr. Yashimoto offers Hiroko's services to help Kanya locate the rogue windup. Kanya is happy with herself, proud that wearing the yoke of two masters has finally paid off, and Jaidee tells her that Akkarat and Narong are also very impressed with her but reminds her that she still has a windup to catch. When Hiroko asks why Kanya hates her kind, Kanya says that windups are unnatural and have no souls, plus one has now killed the Queen's protector; however, she will not send Hiroko back to Mishimoto & Co. because she may be useful. Hiroko insists that not all windups are dangerous, informing Kanya that Emiko will seek a new master now because her genes dictate that she find someone to serve and obey, just like her, and Kanya sees the rage and despair in Hiroko's eyes at this admission. Looking out at the water, Kanya does not recognize the approaching barges, and when she realizes they are not spring-driven, she notes that they are all military!

Section 13: Chapters 32-37 Analysis

As the plague spreads in Chapter 32, Kanya and her men attempt to purge the village. While this is going on, Jaidee's spirit haunts Kanya, mocking her for being a hypocrite. When Kanya meets with Narong, she hears about the suspicion that Pracha was involved with the windup and conspired to assassinate the Somdet Chaopraya. After agreeing to investigate the assassination on Akkarat's behalf, Kanya questions Pracha, and she is convinced that he was not involved with the assassination due to the fact that he sends her to investigate the situation. Jaidee continues to mock Kanya, suggesting that Pracha is setting her up. As Kanya hurries to begin her investigation, she questions her loyalties as she wonders if she asks the rickshaw man for extra effort on the behalf of General Pracha or for Akkarat. Chapter 33 depicts Emiko's fear as she tries to hide and protect herself. She does not understand Akkarat's involvement with Anderson, but she knows that she will be killed if any citizens identify her as a windup girl since they are opposed to New People since the death of the Somdet Chaopraya. After several days of hiding and listening to news on the radio in Chapter 34, Hock Seng learns that



Anderson has been apprehended because of his interaction with the windup girl. Seeing this as his opportunity, he grabs the factory keys, foreshadowing his intention to finally steal the blueprints. Meanwhile, Akkarat's claim that General Pracha is responsible for the death of the Somdet Chaopraya on the radio foreshadows the imminent civil war. Despite her mixed loyalty, Kanya tries to convince Narong that Pracha is not involved in the assassination in Chapter 35; unfortunately, he gives her only three hours to prove this as Jaidee mocks her for her conflicted loyalty.

Emiko's fear and panic as she hides in the crowd in Chapter 36, fleeing when a conflict arises which demonstrates her fear for her safety. In Chapter 37, Kanya shows her attempts to clear General Pracha's name when she travels to the Mishimoto & Co. compound to discuss the windup girl with Mr. Yashimoto. While there, she learns that Emiko is not a military windup, disproving Akkarat's belief that Pracha was involved in the assassination, and though Mr. Yashimoto and Hiroko admit that a windup would be capable of killing eight men, they stress that it is not in the New People's programming and training to disobey orders, showing that Emiko is quite extraordinary since she was able to overcome her programming. Kanya is happy with herself, proud that wearing the yoke of two masters has finally paid off, and Jaidee tells her that Akkarat and Narong are also very impressed with her but reminds her that she still has a windup to catch. As the chapter ends, Kanya explains to Hiroko that she hates New People because they are dangerous, but her hatred is forgotten as she notices military barges approaching the city.



Section 14: Chapters 38-42

Section 14: Chapters 38-42 Summary

In Chapter 38, Anderson is in pain and can barely breathe under his hood, and as he wonders if he will be executed as an example, he is dragged outside and his hood is removed. Carlyle is also with him, and Akkarat notes they smell bad. Anderson reminds Akkarat that he will pay if he hurts him and Carlyle, insisting that they still want the same things and nothing that has been done cannot be undone. Akkarat has brought them to his emergency command center, and he informs them that they have not yet caught the windup, assuring them that it is only a matter of time because he is certain that she is a killer. He informs them that a lot of hostility is being directed at the white shirts because of the Somdet Chaopraya's assassination, so he has decided to capitalize on this because revolutions are messy business and it is best to take advantage of the opportunities that arise. Smiling, Akkarat announces "it's starting" (page 308).

In Chapter 39, Kanya orders her men armed and formed up because there is not much time. As an explosion shakes the ground, she notes that the Trade is already here. Rushing outside with Pai and Hiroko on her heels, she whimpers and shakes with fear as a tank smashes through the outer walls and war megadonts charge through the gaps. Kanya fires, but at Pai and Hiroko's urging to run because it is too later, Kanya rushes out, telling Pai that the men are from the Northeast; Akkarat is making his move, and General Pracha has been betrayed. Jaidee asks Kanya who she will fight for now. In Chapter 40, Hock Seng and Laughing Chan hide when the tank surprises them, and after climbing to the top of an abandoned building to see what is going on, Hock Seng crosses the street to where several men listen to a radio, wanting news. On the air, Akkarat blames Pracha and the white shirts, claiming it is his duty to defend the realm. Hock Seng and Laughing Chan are filled with dread as they cross the city, and when Laughing Chan disappears into the piles of people, Hock Seng steals a bicycle and climbs on, ignoring the owner's complaints.

In Chapter 41, Anderson protests that nothing is in place yet because everything was supposed to move in two weeks, but Akkarat insists that plans change, promising that this will not affect their agreement and they will work it out, though the situation has changed since Anderson cannot provide the promised resources. As the war rages outside, Akkarat notes that he must protect the seawalls lest the city drown. Uncomfortable with the banter between Akkarat and Carlyle, Anderson reminds Carlyle that AgriGen has influence everywhere. When missiles are deployed, Akkarat admits that he did not think they would have time to deploy missiles, noting that it must be the Environment Ministry's strategic reserve. As Hock Seng comes within view of the SpringLife factory in Chapter 42, Mai appears behind him; she has been searching for him because her village has been burned, so he tells her to come with him, and she follows him into the factory, helping him gather materials to disintegrate the safe. Unfortunately, Dog Fucker arrives with seven others who push past Hock Seng and Mai, stealing the blueprints but allowing the Malayan to escape with his life. Finding failure to



be overwhelming, Hock Seng thinks of Anderson's obsession with the windup and comes up with an idea. He cannot suppress a flicker of hope because "even when he has nothing, he must strive" (page 328).

Section 14: Chapters 38-42 Analysis

Anderson's pain and difficulty breathing in Chapter 38 foreshadows his death, but he continues to try to negotiate with Akkarat. Akkarat still suspects their involvement with the windup girl, but he also protects them, warning that the Somdet Chaopraya's assassination has caused a lot of hostility toward the white shirts. This fulfills earlier foreshadowing concerning Akkarat's plan to use this tragedy as a means for declaring civil war, and his joy at the end of the chapter proves that things are going according to his plans. Chapter 39 shows Kanya fighting with the white shirts until she realizes that Pracha has been betrayed and Akkarat is making his move. Jaidee's mocking question about who Kanya will fight for now foreshadows her decision to switch sides. In Chapter 40, Hock Seng makes his way to the factory, further foreshadowing his plan to steal the blueprints, and he shows his greed and self-interest when he continues on without even searching for Laughing Chan when his friend disappears into the crowd. This chapter also shows Akkarat blaming Pracha on the radio for the assassination of the Somdet Chaopraya, further indicating his happiness at the current battle being fought in the city. Anderson tries to renegotiate with Akkarat in Chapter 41, but there are some difficulties since everything took place earlier than expected which does not give Anderson time to come through with his end of the bargain. Akkarat's concern about protecting the seawalls foreshadows the destruction of the levees and the flooding of the city. Akkarat is surprised when missiles are deployed because he did not think the Environment Ministry would have time to access their strategic reserve. With nowhere else to go, Mai returns to the SpringLife factory in Chapter 42 where Hock Seng allows her to help him break into the safe to steal the blueprints. In a karmic turn of events, the men that Hock Seng was trying to make a deal with decide to steal the blueprints from him. Disappointed with his plan's failure, Hock Seng refuses to give up, and inspiration strikes in the form of Anderson's obsession with Emiko.



Section 15: Chapters 43-50 & Epilogue

Section 15: Chapters 43-50 & Epilogue Summary

As Kanya and her men wait in the forest in Chapter 43 as the army secures the Environment Ministry, she learns over the radio that Pracha and the others are dead, leaving her in charge. In Chapter 44, Emiko jumps up the balconies to Anderson's apartment to find water and a hiding place, but as a young girl puts a spring gun to Emiko's head, her hands begin to slip, and she begs for help. When the lights go out in Akkarat's operations center in Chapter 45, he has Anderson and Carlyle escorted back to their homes, and though Anderson wants to discuss what they will need to do to uphold their end of the bargain with Akkarat, Carlyle is more eager to celebrate their release, and Anderson agrees that he is happy to be alive. In Chapter 46, Hock Seng holds Emiko at gun point, questioning her about the assassination and claiming he hopes to profit from catching the killer. When Anderson arrives, Hock Seng admits that he wants the reward, but after Anderson questions Emiko about her murderous actions, he makes a deal with Hock Seng to leave Emiko alone in exchange for his valuable influence, promising to help Hock Seng acquire profitable work. Still, they cannot let anyone see her, so he promises Emiko that he will get her ice water and see about helping her escape when things calm down. As Anderson coughs and doubles over, Mai notes that it is just like at the factory, and Anderson reaches for Emiko as blood froths at his lips. Chapter 47 depicts the final surrender where Akkarat swears an oath as the new Somdet Chaopraya and offers amnesty to those who fought for Pracha. He also appoints Kanya as the new leader of the Environment Ministry, and Kanya is surprised when her men follow her orders instead of identifying her as a fraud.

In Chapter 48, Emiko tells Anderson that they are leaving as he shivers with fever. In answer to his question about whether Hock Seng is still here, she notes that people are not loyal, and he agrees. Yesterday, Akkarat sent a doctor who said they need to notify the Environment Ministry, and though Emiko hid during the doctor's visit, she cares for Anderson as he hallucinates about Yates. Anderson promises to get Emiko out of the city, and though he is happy that they have promised to leave Emiko alone, she doubts that they will keep their word. In Chapter 49, Kanya and Pai escort the self-satisfied AgriGen people to the seedbank as ordered by Akkarat who insists they only want samples and this will benefit the Kingdom as it is necessary to engage with the outside world. Reminding Kanya that at least they did not get Gi Bu Sen, Jaidee tells her that it is good to remember that everything is change. As Kanya escorts the farang into the vault, Jaidee tells her that this is a great loss, but it does not have to be this way; the seedbank sustains the Kingdom, but what good is a city if its people are enslaved? Telling Pai to follow her lead, Kanya fires her spring gun into the farang woman's head. In Chapter 50, Kanya allows Hock Seng to flee as she organizes her men to move the seedbank to a safer location and to destroy the levees. Hock Seng plans to flee, but he changes his mind and returns to collect Mai, praying for luck that he will be able to retrieve her and escape in time.



In the Epilogue, Mai watches as the destroyed locks and sabotaged pumps take six days to flood the city. The fight to save the city last three days until the monsoons come and the last attempts to hold the ocean back are abandoned. The Queen announces that the city will be abandoned, and there will no longer be a Somdet Chaopraya, but the white shirts unite under a new Tiger, Kanya, and the Environment Ministry is rehabilitated as the city dies. The city empties slowly until Emiko is the last living person within it. On the radio, she hears that Akkarat has joined the monkhood to atone for his failure to save the city. Having nursed Anderson until his death, Emiko survives by scavenging and hunting, and she is so comfortable that she is surprised when a gaijin and his ladyboy find her. Gi Bu Sen immediately recognizes Emiko as a New Person and invites her to dine with them, and Emiko agrees because she is lonely and he seems harmless. He asks what a windup girl is doing here, so Emiko explains that she was left behind. Gi Bu Sen has read about her kind, their genetics and training, and when he orders her to stand, Emiko angrily obeys, unable to control her obedience. Gi Bu Sen notes that it is a hard thing that they did to her, and when she reminds him that she is strong and can hurt him, he agrees, noting that he does not know where they got her obedience as she is better than humans in some ways. Emiko informs him that she hates his kind, and when he claims that he is like her God as man created her, Emiko insists that God would have made New People first, complaining about her inability to breed. Gi Bu Sen claims that he can change that, suggesting that maybe all people will be New People someday. He cannot make Emiko reproduce since she was already created, but he can use her genes to create genetic children that can be made fertile; he offers to do this much and much more for Emiko.

Section 15: Chapters 43-50 & Epilogue Analysis

In Chapter 43, Kanya and her men wait in the forest near Phra Seub's temple, but the army is intent on securing the main campus of the Ministry, and though they know Kanya and her men are there, they cannot see them. Hiroko has saved Kanya and Pai twice, but she is burning up. Finding a radio in a dead man's hand, Kanya learns that Pracha and the other generals are dead, making her the ranking officer, but then the line goes dead, leaving Kanya and her few surviving men alone. This foreshadows Kanya's change of heart where her loyalty to Akkarat is concerned. Waking to the silence of the city in Chapter 44, Emiko jumps up balconies to the fifth floor because she is very hot and needs water and a hiding place. Dizzy, she wonders why she does not just give up and jump to her death, yet she manages to grab hold of Anderson's balcony; however, a young girl puts a spring gun to Emiko's head as she informs an old Chinese man that he was right. The pain is nearly unbearable as Emiko's hands begin to slip, and she begs for help. In Chapter 45, when the gas lights go out in Akkarat's operations center, Akkarat tells Anderson that the country is theirs; the fighting continues, but they have the city now and he will soon have his men escort Anderson and Carlyle to their homes. He tells them, "I think you will be very happy with the new management of our Kingdom" (page 335). As the farang are ushered out, Anderson is still in pain from the pistol blows to his ribs, and when Carlyle questions if he has caught something, Anderson assures him that he has been inoculated for diseases that have not even been released yet; however, this offhanded comment foreshadows Anderson's



illness and death.. They need to start shipping calories immediately for famine relief, and this will provide Akkarat with good press. Carlyle wants to enjoy his his release, insisting that everything else can wait until tomorrow, and Anderson agrees that he is tired but glad to be alive and relieved that it is over.

In Chapter 46, Emiko is surprised that Hock Seng allows Mai to help her into the apartment, but she understands that the gesture is not charitable when he keeps a spring gun pointed at her head. Recognizing Hock Seng from Anderson's factory, Emiko responds that they were slow when he asks if she really killed those men. She feels ashamed of the war she caused, but she knows she should kill Hock Seng and Mai while they are distracted by an explosion, yet she is too tired. Hock Seng hopes to profit from catching the Somdet Chaopraya's killer. When Anderson arrives and asks what Hock Seng wants, Hock Seng claims he wants the killer to be punished before admitting that he wants the reward. Anderson asks Emiko if she really killed the Somdet Chaopraya, and she apologizes but claims she was angry because they hurt her. Insisting that she was not trained to kill and is not a military windup, she tries to convince him of her loyalty, but Anderson points out that she is still dangerous and could kill them all. Emiko insists she only wants to go north. Noting that Emiko is worth more dead than alive, Anderson refuses to let Hock Seng have her, claiming times are changing and they need people like Hock Seng and Mai more than ever. When Carlyle asks if Anderson is really going to protect the windup, he claims that they would not have an excuse for the coup without her, so that has to be worth something. Anderson's coughing fit further foreshadows his imminent death. The formal surrenders occurs near the Grand Palace in Chapter 47 as Akkarat accepts Kanya's submission. Rumors abound that the Queen will attend, but she changes her mind at the last moment. After Akkarat swears his oaths as the new Somdet Chaopraya, he addresses the remaining white shirts, including Kanya who hates herself for planning to surrender her men to Akkarat and see the white shirts disbanded. Standing next to Kanya, Jaidee informs her that the rest of his family has been taken during the fighting, shrugging off her sympathy because it is war. Claiming it is natural to mourn General Pracha and that the Kingdom must heal, Akkarat announces that the Queen has decided to grant amnesty to those who fought for Pracha because the Kingdom must reconcile. He pardons Kanya and appoints her as the new head of the Environment Ministry, charged with the duty of protecting the Kingdom and the Queen. He orders her to dismiss her men as they will begin rebuilding tomorrow. As she gives the orders, Kanya worries that her men will know her for a fraud and will not obey, but they march off with Jaidee joining them and bowing to Kanya as if she is truly a general; this hurts her more than anything that has come before.

In Chapter 48, Anderson shows his devotion to Emiko by his concern for her even as he is dying, and Emiko reveals her loyalty by tending to the dying farang. Kanya changes her position in Chapter 49 when she kills the farang that Akkarat ordered her to escort to the seedbank, fulfilling earlier foreshadowing and showing her rededicated loyalty to the Thai Kingdom. As the woman falls in Chapter 50, Hock Seng tells Kanya that she is not their kind, but she shoves him aside, terrified by her own plan of destruction even as she organizes her team and instructs the monks to remove the seedbank to a safer location. Hock Seng is certain that Kanya will kill him, but she orders him to run before



ordering her men to the levees. Flagging down a rickshaw, Hock Seng thinks of Mai but orders the rickshaw to the anchor pads because he cannot help Mai now; however, changing his mind and directing the rickshaw toward Mai, he prays that he will be lucky and have enough time to collect Mai and still make the dirigible. If he were smart, he would run now, but instead, he prays for luck. The Epilogue shows what happens to the city once the war is over. Kanya and her men destroyed the levees and flooded the city, so the Queen relocated her subjects to nearby Ayutthaya where she rules without a Somdet Chaopraya, and the white shirts unite with Kanya as their leader. Akkarat joins the monkhood in penitence for failing to protect the city, but Emiko stays in Bangkok alone. Her solitude ends when Gi Bu Sen arrives and recognizes her as a New Person. Gi Bu Sen expresses sympathy that Emiko was trained to obey, mocking her when she insists she hates his kind because, as he sees it, he should be godlike to her as mankind created her. Emiko complains about her inability to breed, causing Gi Bu Sen to offer to use her genes to create fertile New People, thus fulfilling Emiko's desire to live among her own kind.



Characters

Anderson Lake

Anderson Lake is one of the main characters. He is a farang, an economic hitman and the AgriGen representative in Thailand. He owns and operates the SpringLife factory, but this is only a cover for his true mission which is finding the location of the Thai seedbank. When Emiko tells Anderson what one of her customers told her about the seedbank and Gi Bu Sen, Anderson tells her about the village in the north filled with New People after which Emiko dreams of escaping to the village. Along with Carlyle, Anderson negotiates with Akkarat for access to the Thai seedbank, but he also becomes infatuated with Emiko.

During Anderson's negotiations with the Somdet Chaopraya, he introduces the official to Emiko, but when the Somdet Chaopraya's acts prove too humiliating, Emiko kills him and eight others before seeking refuge with Anderson. Akkarat accuses Anderson of conspiring with General Pracha to kill the Somdet Chaopraya and holds him hostage for several days until he is convinced otherwise. After the Dung Lord's men steal the kink-spring blueprints, Hock Seng captures Emiko to hold for ransom; Anderson negotiates with Hock Seng, offering him AgriGen's patronage to release Emiko. Anderson promises to protect Emiko, but when he becomes sick from the plague which originated in his factory, Emiko nurses him until his death.

Emiko

Emiko, one of the main characters, is a Japanese windup girl, which is a humanoid organism programmed to obey its master and be used as a slave. Windups are often referred to as New People, and they are illegal in Thailand. Emiko works as a sex slave at Raleigh's brothel, and when she tells Anderson what one of her customers told her about the seedbank and Gi Bu Sen, Anderson tells her about the village in the north filled with New People after which Emiko dreams of escaping to the village.

Anderson becomes infatuated with Emiko. During Anderson's negotiations with the Somdet Chaopraya, he introduces the official to Emiko, but when the Somdet Chaopraya's acts prove too humiliating, Emiko kills him and eight others before seeking refuge with Anderson. She seeks refuge and protection with Anderson. Emiko nurses Anderson until his death from the new plague. She lives alone in the city until Gibbons visits and promises to use Emiko's genes to create a fertile race of New People, fulfilling Emiko's dream of living with her own kind.

Hock Seng

Hock Seng is the manager of the SpringLife factory and a refugee from Malaysia. Hock Seng embezzles from the company as he plots to steal the blueprints for the king



springs they manufacture. He also makes a deal with the Dung Lord to sell him the blueprints because he failed to bribe the officials to import the necessary equipment to fix the factory. When Mai finds a new plague in the factory, Hock Seng orders her to hide it, yet he helps her escape when the enraged white shirts invade the building. After the Dung Lord's men steal the kink-spring blueprints, Hock Seng captures Emiko to hold for ransom; Anderson negotiates with Hock Seng, offering him AgriGen's patronage to release Emiko. Kanya allows Hock Seng to leave the city when she floods the levees, but he turns back for Mai, and it is never clarified whether they make it out of the city in time.

Captain Jaidee Rojjanasukchai

Captain Jaidee Rojjanasukchai is the captain of the white shirts, the armed division of the Environment Ministry, and he is known as the Tiger of Bangkok. After he burns the shipment in Carlyle's dirigible, his wife, Chaya, is kidnapped, so Jaidee offers a public apology and accepts the punishment of being condemned to monkhood for nine years. Learning that Chaya is dead, Jaidee escapes to seek vengeance, but he is capture and killed by the Trade Ministry who deposits his mutilated body on the doorsteps of the Environment Ministry. His spirit haunts and mocks Kanya, eventually shaming her into changing her allegiances.

Lieutenant Kanya Chirathirat

Lieutenant Kanya Chirathirat is Jaidee's protege, and she is appointed Captain after Jaidee's death. Kanya is also Akkarat's spy because she hates the white shirts who burned her childhood village. Kanya tries to learn about and eliminate the new plague, and though she tries to prove that General Pracha is not responsible for the assassination of the Somdet Chaopraya, Akkarat blames Pracha anyway, using it as an excuse to wage war. Akkarat appoints Kanya as the head of the Environment Ministry and orders her to lead the AgriGen representatives to the seedbank, but Kanya has a change of heart and kills the farang. After moving the seedbank to a safer location, she destroys the levees, flooding Bangkok, and relocates the citizens to Ayutthaya where she is known as the new Tiger.

Raleigh

Raleigh owns a brothel in the tower where he sells sex, including Emiko. He refuses to send Emiko to the windup village in the north until she earns enough money to pay for the bribes, but Emiko snaps and kills Raleigh, the Somdet Chaopraya and eight others.

Akkarat

Akkarat is the chief of the Trade Ministry. He negotiates with Anderson and Carlyle, but he blames Anderson for introducing Emiko to the Somdet Chaopraya when she kills the



Queen's regent. Akkarat blames General Pracha for the assassination and wages civil war. Claiming himself as the new Somdet Chaopraya, he orders Kanya to take the farang to the Thai seedbank, but after she kills the farang and floods the city, he joins the monkhood to atone for his failure to protect Bangkok.

Somdet Chaopraya

The Somdet Chaopraya is the regent for the child Queen, and he is in cahoots with Akkarat, dealing with the farang. Anderson introduces the Somdet Chaopraya to Emiko because of the man's interest in novelties, but when the regent's actions prove too humiliating, Emiko kills him. Akkarat blames General Pracha for the assassination and uses it as an excuse to wage civil war.

General Pracha

General Pracha is the chief of the Environment Ministry who Akkarat blames for the assassination of the Somdet Chaopraya, using this as an excuse to wage civil war during which Pracha is killed.

Mai

Mai is a young girl who works at the SpringLife factory. She helps Hock Seng hide the plague, and Hock Seng treats Mai like an adopted daughter, doing his best to protect her.

Richard Carlyle

Richard Carlyle is the farang who dirigible Jaidee destroys. Along with Anderson, he tries to make a deal with Akkarat.

Gibbons

Known as Gi Bu Sen, Gibbons is a brilliant geneticist who is supposed to be dead, but when Emiko tells Anderson about him, Anderson wants Akkarat to hand him over because he knows Gibbons will be near the seedbank. Gibbons helps Kanya identify the new plague, and after Bangkok is flooded, he visits the city and promises Emiko that he will use her genes to create a fertile race of New People.

The Dung Lord

The Dung Lord is a gangster with whom Hock Seng makes a deal to prove the kink-spring blueprints, but the Dung Lord's men steal the blueprints from Hock Seng.



Objects/Places

Thailand

Thailand is the main setting of "The Windup Girl".

Bangkok

Bangkok, the City of Divine Beings, is the main setting of this novel as most of the action occurs within the city.

Environment Ministry

The Environment Ministry is run by General Pracha, and this is where Jaidee and the white shirts are employed. The disputes between Pracha and Akkarat lead to civil war.

Trade Ministry

The corrupt Trade Ministry is run by Akkarat and is known for taking bribes. Akkarat uses the assassination of the Somdet Chaopraya as the reason to wage civil war against the Environment Ministry.

SpringLife Factory

Anderson Lake runs the SpringLife Factory as a cover for his true purpose of located Thailand's seedbank. Hock Seng embezzles funds for his own purposes.

Kyoto

Emiko is from Kyoto where New People are common and respected.

Malaya

Hock Seng is from Malaya, but he escaped to Thailand after the Incident.

Yoawarat Slums

Hock Seng lives in the Yoawarat slums in Bangkok.



Sir Francis Drake's

Sir Francis Drake's is a bar that is frequented by the farang.

Carlyle's Dirigible

Jaidee's troubles start after he burns the cargo in Carlyle's dirigible.

Tower

The tower is where Raleigh houses his brothel where Emiko works and is humiliated daily.

Mishimoto and Co. Compound

Kanya visits the Mishimoto and Co. Compound to learn about military windups and to acquire help in apprehending Emiko after she kills the Somdet Chaopraya.

Anderson's Flat

After Emiko kills eight men, she hides at Anderson's flat until Akkarat searches for her there.

Village in the North

Anderson tells Emiko about a village in the north where windups have their own society where they are not slaves, and she begins fantasizing about going there.



Themes

Betrayal

Betrayal plays a large role in "The Windup Girl". Anderson owns the SpringLife factory, but this is his cover because he is actually a calorie man, intending to betray the Thai Kingdom if necessary in order to acquire access to their seedbank for AgriGen. Hock Seng also demonstrates betrayal as he embezzles from the company's bribery funds in order to stockpile money so he has a plan for escape if things go badly. Furthermore, this action results in the factory not getting the materials they need since Customs never received the bribes. Hock Seng also plans to steal the blueprints from Anderson's safe, and he even makes a deal with the Dung Lord to acquire the blueprints in exchange for a ship and the Dung Lord's patronage. Emiko betrays her customer's secrets to Anderson, sharing information about Gi Bu Sen and the seedbank. She also recalls how her original master abandoned her in Thailand when he returned to Japan.

After burning the recent shipment, Jaidee is betrayed by the Trade Ministry when his wife is kidnapped, and he betrays their expectation that he will adhere to his punishment by escaping and seeking vengeance against the Trade Ministry. He is then killed and deposited on the doorsteps of the Environment Ministry, leading to a riot among the white shirts. Anderson and Carlyle plot with Akkarat and the Somdet Chaopraya to betray General Pracha and establish a more stable government, but after Emiko kills the Somdet Chaopraya, Akkarat blames Anderson for introducing the windup to the official. Dog Fucker betrays Hock Seng by stealing the factory blueprints from him, causing Hock Seng to use Anderson's obsession with Emiko against him. Though Kanya is promoted after Jaidee's death, she is actually Akkarat's mole; however, her feelings about this begin to change, and she eventually betrays Akkarat and kills the farang he asks her to escort to the seedbank.

Loyalty

A contrasting theme in this novel is loyalty which appears less frequently than the theme of betrayal. Mai is loyal to Hock Seng, doing what he asks of her, and he eventually returns this loyalty by helping her escape the factory, and even attempting to rescue her after the white shirts destroy the levees and flood the city. Emiko is somewhat loyal to Raleigh in the beginning of the narrative because he pays the bribes to prevent her from being mulched, but her loyalty transfer over to Anderson after he tells her about the windup enclaves in the north. Jaidee's loyalty to the people and his willingness to annoy powerful people in the process concerns his wife, Chaya, who fears losing him. Anderson's loyalty to his mission leads him to search for Gibbons and the seedbank, but this becomes usurped by his loyalty to Emiko as he grows increasingly obsessed with the windup girl. This is demonstrated when he protects her from the man who attacks her in Chapter 9 and again when he allows her to stay in his apartment.



Kanya seems to be loyal to Jaidee for the most part, warning him of the possible repercussions when he oversteps his authority, but her loyalty actually lies with Akkarat who offered her the opportunity to repay the white shirts for destroying her childhood village. Jaidee demonstrates his loyalty to Chaya when he escapes confinement to seek vengeance, resulting in his death. Anderson and Carlyle's actions indicate they are loyal to Akkarat, but they are really loyal only to themselves and the almighty dollar. After Kanya redirects her loyalty to the Kingdom by destroying the levees and killing the farang that were granted access to the seedbank, Akkarat shows loyalty to the city by punishing himself by joining the monkhood to atone for his failure to protect the city. Emiko shows loyalty to Anderson by nursing him as he dies from the new plague. She then seems to transfer her loyalty to Gi Bu Sen who offers to create fertile New People, thus fulfilling Emiko's dream to live among her own kind.

Self-Protection

Tying in with the themes of loyalty and betrayal is the theme of self-protection. Many of the characters' decisions regarding their loyalty is related to their own desire to survive. Anderson's cover as a factory owner is an act to protect himself from being discovered as a calorie man, and his and Carlyle's attempts to work with Akkarat stem from their desire to gain social and financial standing. Hock Seng's greed and selfishness result from his past experiences in Malaya and his determination to survive no matter what is going on. This includes his embezzling, his plans to escape and his deal with the Dung Lord.

Emiko tolerates the humiliation that comes with working in Raleigh's tower because she fears being mulched without his protection, but after she kills the Somdet Chaopraya to avoid this degradation, she struggles to protect herself from being identified as a New Person, turning to Anderson for help. Jaidee focuses on protecting the Kingdom more than himself which eventually results in his death. Kanya turns from her goal of revenge for the destruction of her childhood village to focus on protecting the Kingdom, even destroying the levees and flooding the city after learning of Akkarat's plot against General Pracha. Finally, Mai begins to associate with Gi Bu Sen after he promises to create a new race of fertile windups, fulfilling her desire to live among her own kind.



Style

Point of View

The point of view in "The Windup Girl" is third person and reliable. This point of view is somewhat omniscient but still limited; the narrator has access to all of the character's thoughts and feelings, but the narrator only shares the thoughts and feelings of the particular character that they are focused on at any given time. For example, in a chapter that focuses on Emiko's perspective, the narrator will not share Hock Seng's feelings, even if Hock Seng appears in the chapter. This is important as it allows readers to analyze many characters' motivations while avoiding the confusion of being presented with too much information at once. It also aids with a comparison and contrast of what characters' motivations are as opposed to what other characters believe them to be.

The distribution of exposition and dialogue are fairly equal in this novel, and this is effective as it allows readers to contrast what the characters say compared to what they really believe, feel or plot. The exposition frequently takes the form of the characters' thoughts which is a key element in the use of foreshadowing throughout the narrative. The viewpoint of "The Windup Girl" varies between several of the characters, mainly Anderson Lake, Emiko, Hock Seng, Jaidee and Kanya.

Setting

"The Windup Girl" is set in a future world, specifically twenty-third century Thailand where the economy is ruled by calorie companies since several foodborne viruses wiped out large portions of the population. The characters consist of native Thais, immigrants such as the Chinese who receive some respect, and the farang, or white men, who the Thais distrust. Emiko is a windup, or New Person, which is a Japanese creation. Most New People in Thailand are destroyed because the Thais believe they have no souls and are not to be trusted. Additionally, geneticists are frequently distrusted, which is why Anderson uses the SpringLife factory as a cover for his true mission of finding the Thai seedbank.

Thailand is the main setting of "The Windup Girl". Bangkok, the City of Divine Beings, is the main setting of this novel as most of the action occurs within the city. The Environment Ministry is run by General Pracha, and this is where Jaidee and the white shirts are employed. The disputes between Pracha and Akkarat lead to civil war. The corrupt Trade Ministry is run by Akkarat and is known for taking bribes. Akkarat uses the assassination of the Somdet Chaopraya as the reason to wage civil war against the Environment Ministry. Anderson Lake runs the SpringLife Factory as a cover for his true purpose of located Thailand's seedbank. Hock Seng embezzles funds for his own purposes. Emiko is from Kyoto where New People are common and respected. Hock Seng is from Malaya, but he escaped to Thailand after the Incident. Hock Seng lives in



the Yoawarat slums in Bangkok. Sir Francis Drake's is a bar that is frequented by the farang. Jaidee's troubles start after he burns the cargo in Carlyle's dirigible. The tower is where Raleigh houses his brothel where Emiko works and is humiliated daily. Kanya visits the Mishimoto and Co. Compound to learn about military windups and to acquire help in apprehending Emiko after she kills the Somdet Chaopraya. After Emiko kills eight men, she hides at Anderson's flat until Akkarat searches for her there. Anderson tells Emiko about a village in the north where windups have their own society where they are not slaves, and she begins fantasizing about going there.

Language and Meaning

The language used in this novel tends to be quite casual and informal. The sentences are constructed fairly properly with a minimal amount of scientific jargon which aids reader comprehension. The small amount of jargon used is explained pretty well, and the reason for this is to help readers understand the concepts presented in the narrative. The language in "The Windup Girl" aids comprehension because it strives to identify and describe the future society in which the narrative is set, clarifying and expanding upon complex concepts and ideas.

The language utilized tends to characterize the effects of global warming and famine on this future society, in addition to clarifying characters' motivations and manipulations. The distribution of exposition and dialogue are fairly equal in this novel, and this is effective as it allows readers to contrast what the characters say compared to what they really believe, feel or plot. The exposition frequently takes the form of the characters' thoughts which is a key element in the use of foreshadowing throughout the narrative. The language aids the writing style by simplifying complex science fiction concepts. Overall, the language is fairly easy to understand for the most part, and it is highly effective in demonstrating the disasters that led to this society in the future.

Structure

"The Windup Girl" is a science fiction novel which consists of 50 chapters and 359 pages. The chapters range in length from two to 20 pages, averaging around eight pages. They are numbered, rather than titled, and they are quite detailed. The chapters in the first half of the book are longer than those in the second half, where the narrator's perspective alternates more frequently. The entire narrative occurs in a relatively short period of time, approximately a month or less, and each chapter generally spans only hours or perhaps several days.

"The Windup Girl" by Paolo Bacigalupi is a critically acclaimed science fiction novel about thirty-third century Thailand where food production and distribution is controlled through mega corporations. The novel focuses on the events leading up to a civil war, specifically how Emiko, a windup girl created in Japan, provides a reason by assassinating one of the most important men in the Kingdom. "The Windup Girl" is a fascinating tale of this future society. The novel's pace is quite slow in the first half, but it

quickens in the final half of the book. It is fairly easy to read and is mostly linear with a few flashbacks pertaining to how the Thai Kingdom got to this point in the future. Overall, the novel is very interesting and thought-provoking.



Quotes

"That's always our excuse, isn't it? The company goes in somewhere and we all stand back and wash our hands. Pretend like we weren't the ones responsible. The company pulls SoyPRO from the Burmese market, and we all stand aside, saying intellectual property disputes aren't our department. But people starve just the same. I honestly don't know how someone like you sleeps at night." Yates, Chapter 1, page 6

"They are Thai. They are all incompetent." Hock Seng, Chapter 1, page 14

"A part of [Emiko] still struggles against it but the rest of her... doesn't have the energy to fight. And then she wonders if she has it backwards, if the part that struggles to maintain her illusions of self-respect is the part intent upon her destruction. If her body, this collection of cells and manipulated DNA- with its own stronger, more practical needs- is actually the survivor: the one with will. Isn't that why she sits here, listening to the throb of beating sticks and the wail of pi klang as girls writhe under glow worms and men and whores shout their encouragement? Is it because she lacks the will to die? Or because she is too stubborn to allow it?" Chapter 3, page 34

"What does the gentleman think I will do with his extra baht? Buy a pretty piece of jewelry? Take myself out to dinner? I am property, yes? I am Raleigh's. It makes no difference if I am rich or poor. I am owned." Emiko, Chapter 3, page 46

"Justice is always lost where Trade is concerned." Kanya, Chapter 4, page 55

"We must have done something terrible in our previous lives to have earned these ones. It's the only thing I can think of that explains it all." Jaidee, Chapter 7, page 81

"I would never participate in such blasphemy. Food should come from the place of its origin, and stay there. It shouldn't spend its time crisscrossing the globe for the sake of profit. We went down that path once, and it brought us to ruin." Hagg, Chapter 8, page 93

"Nothing lasts forever, I think." Emiko, Chapter 10, page 115

"We'll test your spring, Hock Seng. If it performs as well as it winds, you'll have your ship. Bring the specifications and blueprints. Your kind I can do business with. A toast. To a new business partner." Dung Lord, Chapter 12, page 140

"An independent investigating tribunal has determined that Captain Jaidee is guilty of accepting bribes, of corruption and the abuse of his powers. It has further been determined that he is no longer fit for service with the Ministry. He will become a monk, and perform a penance of nine years. His possessions will be disposed of. His sons will be adopted into the care of the Ministry, but their family name will be erased." General Pracha, Chapter 13, page 144



"You were useful to someone, once, so I see how a windup like you might forget yourself. But let's not fool ourselves. I own you... I own every part of you. If I want you mulched tomorrow, you're gone. No one will care. People in Japan might value a windup. Here, you're just trash. I own you. Remember that." Raleigh, Chapter 15, page 159

"The men who designed me, they make me do things I cannot control. As if their hands are inside me. Like a puppet, yes? They made me obedient, in all ways." Emiko, Chapter 19, page 184

"I will find them. I swear it. If it takes me all my life." Kanya, Chapter 20, page 194

"You're in charge now, Captain Kanya. Jaidee's men are yours. It's time that we fought as Jaidee always wished. Make the Trade Ministry bleed, Captain. Get our face back." General Pracha, Chapter 20, page 196

"My cover here is blown. I accept that and move forward or I pack up and head back to Des Moines with my tail between my legs. Let's be honest. AgriGen has always played for keeps. Ever since Vincent Hu and Chitra D'Allessa started the company. We're not afraid of a little mess." Anderson Lake, Chapter 23, page 206

"Someone else should have replaced you, Jaidee. Someone worthy. The Kingdom falls because we are not strong. We are not virtuous, we do not follow the eightfold path and now the sicknesses come again." Kanya's thoughts, Chapter 28, page 238

"Don't look so worried. You have the same sickness. Life is, after all, inevitably fatal." Gibbons, Chapter 28, page 247

"Don't worry, Mai. I know what it is to fear. I grew up in a village like this. I know how hard it is. But you must help me find the source of this sickness, or more will die." Kanya, Chapter 30, page 263

"So we all go. Even the richest and most powerful are only meat for cheshires in the end. We are all nothing but walking corpses and to forget it is folly. Meditate on the nature of corpses and you will see this." Kanya's thoughts, Chapter 32, page 279

"Imagine the things our country could accomplish if we were not always fighting one another." Jaidee, Chapter 37, page 301

"They have to be from the northeast. Akkarat is making his move. Pracha has been betrayed." Kanya, Chapter 39, page 311

"We've taken the methane works. The country is ours." Akkarat, Chapter 45, page 335

"I do not wish it. I only wish to leave. To go north. That is all." Emiko, Chapter 46, page 339



"Everything is change. It would be good for you to remember it. Clinging to the past, worrying about the future... It's all suffering." Jaidee, Chapter 49, page 349

"The windup movement is not a required trait. There is no reason it couldn't be removed. Sterility... Limitations can be stripped away. The safeties are there because of lessons learned, but they are not required; some of them even make it more difficult to create you. Nothing about you is inevitable. Someday, perhaps, all people will be New People and you will look back on us as we now look back at the poor Neanderthals." Gibbons, Epilogue, page 358

Topics for Discussion

Who is Emiko, and how does she cause a civil war?

Compare and contrast Jaidee and Kanya.

Why does Akkarat blame General Pracha for the assassination of the Somdet Chaopraya?

Why does Kanya hate the white shirts, and why does her loyalty change?

What role does Anderson Lake play in Akkarat's schemes?

What is the significance of the contamination found in the tanks at the SpringLife factory?

Why is the seedbank so important, how does AgriGen gain access to it, and what happens when they finally access the seedbank?