

# **Winter of the World: Book Two of the Century Trilogy Study Guide**

**Winter of the World: Book Two of the Century Trilogy  
by Ken Follett**

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## Plot Summary

"Winter of the World" is a novel by Ken Follett which follows the lives of American, German, and Russian families through the 1930s, World War II, and through the rise of Communism in Europe.

When the novel begins, the world is at relative peace in 1933, but things quickly change for Germany as Hitler comes to power. Carla von Ulrich and her family, living in Berlin, witness first-hand the brutality of Hitler's rise. In England, Lloyd Williams and his family angrily watch as Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain makes concession after concession, first to the Fascists in Spain, and then to Hitler, doing whatever can be done to avoid war, period. In Russia, Volodya Peshkov, son of a Soviet general, becomes an intelligence agent, and begins building an espionage network in Berlin. By the mid-1930s, Lloyd has gone on to fight the Fascists in Spain in an international volunteer regiment. He falls in love with an American girl named Daisy Peshkov living in England, who is in an unhappy marriage to Lloyd's half-brother, Boy.

As World War II breaks out, England sees the defeat of Chamberlain and the rise of Winston Churchill. Churchill competently takes England through World War II, in which Lloyd fights, and Boy is killed. Lloyd is then able to marry Daisy. Volodya continues working intelligence for the Soviets, falling in love with an attractive female physicist named Zoya. By the end of the war, they are married, and Volodya has become disheartened with Communism. Carla's father is killed by the Gestapo, and she is raped repeatedly by Soviet soldiers. She marries the brother of her best friend, Werner, while the Americans and British begin aiding anti-communists in postwar Europe. The Soviet Union steals American intelligence to develop their own atomic bomb, and Carla hopes the world is headed for peace as the novel ends in 1949.



# Chapters 1 - 10

## Chapters 1 - 10 Summary

In Chapter 1, eleven-year-old Carla's parents rarely ever fight, but a fight erupts over Carla's mother, Maud's political gossip column about Hitler at President Hindenburg's reception. The column speaks ill of Hitler, which Maud's husband, Walter von Ulrich, knows will anger the Nazis. Maud believes the Nazis are dangerous, and so she mocks them. The talk of coming danger, of Fascism, makes Carla feel uneasy. Carla's brother, Erik, has pro-Nazi friends, whose ideas have begun to rub off on Erik. The Ulrichs, who live in the wealthy Mitte district, go to visit the Francks. Carla has a crush on Werner Franck, who is fourteen, and his sister, Frieda is Carla's best friend. But Frieda has the measles, so Carla cannot spend the day with her. Despite their friendship, Maud is not altogether comfortable with the family, because they are pro-Nazi. Ludwig Franck, patriarch of the Franck family, is unhappy about criticizing Chancellor Hitler. Maud and Carla go to the magazine offices. Maud tells Carla to stay out of trouble while she is at the offices with her. But the Brownshirts raid the offices, and throw Maud's typewriter through the window, determined to shut down the magazine for insulting Hitler. Carla pulls the fire alarm, and the fire department and the police show up, but do nothing about the attacks, except to arrest a reporter named Rudolf Schmidt for putting a Brownshirt in a headlock. It is during this commotion that Ethel Leckwith and her son, Lloyd, appear to visit Maud, having arrived from England.

Lloyd, at eighteen, is an excellent boxer, and finds a gym to train at in the Wedding district of Berlin. Lloyd is shaken by what he sees in Berlin. In England, his mother is former member of Parliament, and his father a London councilor, and was himself a member of the Labour League of Youth, but the politics of Germany are terrifying. Maud, Lloyd, Walter, and Ethel discuss politics while eating at Walter's cousin, Robert's, restaurant. Ethel is writing articles on the Nazis, and her son is her interpreter. Maud believes the Germans will never elect a dictator. A Brownshirt comes in and sits down, introducing himself as Thomas Macke, and his brother wants to buy Robert's restaurant. Robert tells Macke the offer is insulting, and Macke leaves. Across town, the Reichstag burns, and Hitler blames it on the Communists, proclaiming that they will all pay. Walter realizes that there will be a purge. Criminal Commissar Thomas Macke is still angry about Robert's refusal to sell. Within twenty-four hours of the Reichstag fire, four thousand Communists have been arrested. Macke realizes he can get Robert to see if he can dig up some dirt on him, beside the fact that Walter is a Social Democrat. Looking through records, Macke discovers that Robert and his assistant, Jorg Schelicher, have visited gay clubs.

On March 4, the day before the elections, Ethel and Lloyd visit the Ulrichs again. Since the fire a week before, more than twenty-thousand people have been arrested. While Lloyd encourages fighting fire with fire, Maud supports peaceful resistance. Walter will be speaking at a democratic political meeting, but Maud is worried about him. Ethel and Lloyd also decide to attend the meeting, with Maud. Werner is also present, whose



father has insisted he attend to learn more about the Social Democrats. Werner introduces everyone to Vladimir Peshkov, or Volodya, a Soviet student attending the schools in Berlin. His father works at the Soviet embassy. Only Social Democrats have been invited to the meeting, and the doors are locked to keep Nazis out. But the Brownshirts still get in, and break up the meeting. A fight breaks out, and Walter is involved. Lloyd, Wener, and Volodya also participate in the fight. The Brownshirts are driven off.

A few days later, Erik comes home in a Hitler Youth uniform. In the basement, Erik hears a scream, and he investigates with Carla, because they are the only ones home. In the basement, the maid, Ada, has had her water break. Carla sends Erik to go and get Dr. Rothmann. Erik's uniform causes Frau Rothmann and her sixteen year-old daughter, Eva, some concern, but Dr. Rothmann agrees to come and help. The baby is born by the time they get back to the house, but the baby has to be taken to the hospital, because something is wrong with him. Meanwhile, Lloyd Williams becomes an assistant to Walter von Ulrich in the German Parliament. The Nazis have won only 44% of the seats, still lacking their 51% majority. It gives Walter hope, because the Nazis are not popular, just brutish and intimidating. Lloyd disagrees, thinking the Nazis are growing in popularity. While waiting for coffee, Lloyd meets Heinrich von Kessel, working as an unpaid aide to his father, Gottfried, who is Catholic and in the Centre Party. Heinrich believes a return to the Christian faith will solve Germany's problems. A bill is being considered -the Enabling Act- which gives Hitler the power to pass laws without the Reichstag's consent. The Social Democrats worry the Catholics will cave into Hitler. Walter meets with Gottfried, whose primary concern is to protect the position of the Catholic Church against Hitler's power. Hitler has made promises to these ends, but Walter says Hitler's promises are meaningless. Later, Hitler takes the stage in the opera house serving as a makeshift Reichstag, and talks about the importance of Christianity in Germany. The vote is taken, and Hitler carries the day.

On April 1, Lloyd and his mother head around Berlin, to see what "Boycott Jews Day" brings. Lloyd's stepfather is Jewish, and he is saddened and angered by the path Germany is taking. Robert's restaurant holds a sort of wake for the the losers of the elections, from left-wingers to Maud's media friends. It is revealed that Ada's baby is brain-damaged, and must live in an institution when he gets older. Macke shows up and denounces the homosexuality of Robert and Jorg, and Brownshirts pour into the restaurant. A fight breaks out, and most people flee. Robert, Jorg, and Lloyd are arrested, Lloyd for fighting. They are driven out of Berlin, to a small town called Oranienburg. There, they are kept in cells until Jorg is bound, has his head covered by a bucket, and ravenous dogs are loosed on him, while Robert is forced to watch. Jorg dies shortly thereafter, and Robert is forced to sign over his restaurant to Macke. Robert and Lloyd are then released.

Walter and Maud see Lloyd and Ethel off at the train station. Ethel begs the Ulrichs to come to England. But the Ulrichs want to stay and fight for their home, to make it free and prosperous.



In Chapter 2, Eva Rothmann is now living in Buffalo, New York, where she is spending the summer with the Peshkovs, the family of her best friend from boarding school, Daisy. Eva's father had used all of his money to send her to America, and a charity was paying for Eva's tuition. Eva and Daisy are both nineteen. The Peshkovs have become rich through the 1920s, probably through bootlegging according to Daisy. The family now deals in the stage. Daisy's father, Lev, is having an affair with actress Gladys Angelus. Lev's wife, Olga, remains married to him nominally. Lev deeply opposes the New Deal, believing President Franklin D. Roosevelt to be almost a Communist. Daisy and Eva are going to a party, where Charlie Farquharson will be present, the boy that Daisy wants to marry. Charlie's father lost most of the family's fortune in the stock market crash of 1929, and committed suicide, so Daisy sees her marriage as one of attraction to Charlie, and financial convenience to his mother. The party is being hosted by the Renshaws, whose family fortune has survived the crash. At the party, Daisy sees her half-brother, Greg, who is the product of another affair. It is an embarrassment for Daisy, and for Greg. She also runs into Charlie, and the draw a picture together in the sand. Charlie's mother, Nora, gives her a veiled compliment, and Daisy relates to Eva that Charlie's mother doesn't think she's good enough for her son. Eva disagrees.

Greg adores his father, Lev, who is rich, intelligent, dresses well, and always has women around him. Greg is in New York from Los Angeles to learn the trade from Lev, who oversees the Buffalo Metal Works company. The factory, like most, has its own police force, and this one is run by a man named Joe Brekhunov. They are approached by Brian Hall, the local union leader, who tells Lev that the workers want higher wages and newer machines, but Lev tells them such a thing in a depression is impossible. Hall informs Lev that union leaders are coming in on a train, and Lev tells Joe to find out more about it. They also meet with Dave Rouzrokh, who owns a chain of theaters that Lev wants to buy for eight million dollars, a fair price. Lev and Greg then meet Senator Gus Dewar for lunch. Dewar is curious about Lev's monetary support for the Liberty League, which wants to overthrow Roosevelt. Roosevelt wants him to stop. The FBI has been investigating Lev without him knowing. Greg asks if the Senator will take him on as an intern, if Lev stops giving money to the League. Lev agrees. Lev also later arranges it so that Dave's theaters won't get new films, which will force Dave to sell at half the price of eight million.

Daisy and Charlie are playing with Daisy's new puppy, Jack. Charlie is twenty-five, and Daisy is determined to marry him, so she allows him to rename her dog Rusty. Charlie and Daisy both have a love of horses in common, and Daisy encourages Charlie to raise horses. Charlie asks if Daisy's father has had union organizers beat up, but Daisy changes the subject, saying she doesn't want to talk about politics. They then teach Rusty some tricks, and Daisy pretends to accidentally spill lemonade on him, which allows her to pat his pants with a handkerchief. Meanwhile, Woody and Chuck Dewar come in from sailing their father's yacht. The brothers will be attending the Racquet Club's dinner-dance, at which fifteen year-old Woody's crush, eighteen year-old Joann Rouzrokh, will be present. They go home, shower, and change, and head out to the dinner-dance with their parents and grandmother. Opinion on Hitler is divided. Philip Renshaw believes Hitler is doing a good job, while Rosa Dewar, Chuck and Woody's mother, believes he is evil. A Catholic priest, according to the newspapers, has been



jailed for criticizing the Nazis. Even the kids, Joanne among them, find what is happening in the American South as terrifying, with blacks being lynched and burned. Woody agrees with Joanne, which wins her approval. Charlie and Woody then talk about Daisy. Charlie is ready to marry Daisy, but his mother is concerned about her family's history, not Daisy herself. Charlie wants Woody's grandmother to let Daisy's mother join the Buffalo Ladies' Society, to give Daisy's family more respectability. Woody reluctantly agrees, and goes to find Joanne, who wonders if he will be attending the workers' strike on the Buffalo Metal Works, and Woody says he will and she kisses him. Then, she pulls away.

Woody meets with his grandmother, Ursula, and explains to her Charlie's situation. Ursula explains that Woody's father and Olga were once engaged to be married, but she broke it off when she became pregnant by the family's chauffeur, Lev Peshkov. Ursula agrees to pass on the suggestion to the Society's committee, because her grandson has such a big heart. The family then attends church. Afterwards, Woody gets his camera and goes to Niagara Square, where the protest strike will begin. He catches up with Joanne. Woody asks her out, but she rejects him because he is three years younger. Joanne insists they were both drunk, and should forget the kiss. The march comes down on the factory, where the security pushes back the demonstrators unnecessarily, and Woody snaps a photo. Violence breaks out, and the policemen go after the strikers. Joanne is punched as she scratches a policeman's face, and, bleeding from the nose, she is whisked away by Woody. At home, Woody develops his photographs. Woody's mother suggests bringing the photos to the Buffalo Sentinel, run by editor Peter Hoyle, a friend of Woody's father. Hoyle buys the photos for twenty dollars. At home, Woody and his family are happy about the photography sale, and Woody is determined to win Joanne's heart. The next day, though, the story in the Sentinel reads that the workers had started the riot.

In Washington, D.C., Lev and Greg run into Dave Rouzrokh, who has surmised the lack of new movies his theaters have received is due to Lev's influence. Lev has gone to Washington to stop government from interfering in the movie business. Greg meets Gladys Angelus. Greg finds her gorgeous, but detests her for taking the place of his mother, Marga. Lev arranges for his son to have a good time with Jacky Jakes, a black girl a little older than Greg, who wants to be in the movies. Jacky goes back to her room, but a short time later, screams, and Greg rushes over. Dave Rouzrokh is there, scratched by Jacky, who accuses him of attempted rape. Dave had gone to the room, supposedly to meet a Hollywood man, but realizes now he has been set up. Greg also realizes it is a set up.

Woody's mother encourages him about Joanne, and Woody decides to go over and see her after the alleged rape is publicized in the newspapers. He brings her a copy of one of Freud's books. They talk, and Woody tells her the town knows her father is innocent. They kiss, and Woody leaves. Greg, meanwhile, falls in love with Jacky, sleeping with her continuously. She says she has also fallen in love with him, and when Greg returns to New York, Jacky follows, and is put up in an apartment. But soon after, she leaves him. Woody is heartbroken.





Daisy and Eva attend the Yacht Club Ball. Daisy is not well-received at the ball. Charlie reveals what her father has done to Dave Rouzrokh. Charlie breaks things off with Daisy, and Daisy and her mother leave, humiliated.

In Chapter 3, Lloyd Williams is attending university at Cambridge, and learns that the British Union of Fascists will be holding a meeting in town. He remembers well the events in Berlin. Lloyd, his mother, and Ruby Carter, an activist with the Labour Party, will be holding a meeting against fascism. Ruby meets Ethel for the first time, and they get along well. The meeting was Ethel's idea, to show that they are different from the Fascists. Lloyd reveals he met with Boy Fitzherbert, the son of Ethel's old boss, a junior minister and conservative. Boy is a Fascist, and his conservative father is embarrassed. Boy agrees to not holding a march, so long as Lloyd agrees as well. Lloyd talks to Robert Ulrich when the meeting place has been reached. Robert now owns a successful restaurant in Cambridge, popular with homosexuals. While the meeting gets under way, Ruby comes and goes to keep an eye on the Fascists. Since Lloyd has left Germany, Hitler has assumed greater power and violates the Versailles Treaty by sending armed troops into the Rhineland -and no one had been willing to stop him because no one wants a repeat of the Great War. But Lloyd himself knows war is coming with Hitler. Robert then addresses the meeting, sharing his story. Meanwhile, the Fascists have broken their word, and are now singing outside. The Labour Party members refuse to confront them, however.

Daisy has come to England, and is talking with the Westhamptons, Lindy and her twin Lizzie. The twins talk about sex and letting boys feel their breasts, but nothing below the waist until after being engaged. Daisy, Eva, and Olga have been in England for three months. They are attending a party at the Westhamptons'. Among the guests is Earl Fitzherbert, father of Boy. Eva, Daisy, Lindy, Lizzie, and May Murray, daughter of a general, decide to dress up like men. The twins' father, Bing finds it amusing, while Earl Fitzherbert finds it unbecoming. Boy is also at the party, and he agrees to bring Daisy flying sometime. They all go dancing in Cambridge. Lloyd and Daisy meet, and they talk about Germany. Daisy and Lloyd dance, and Lloyd reveals he has some common acquaintances with Eva. Daisy then departs with Boy, which annoys Lloyd, but pleases Daisy. She makes Boy promise her to present her to the king, and then they kiss.

Lloyd attends a family dinner, where some of his family members are keen on socialism, and others reject it as being as bad as the monarchy it replaced. Meanwhile, the Spanish Civil War is raging between Fascists, conservatives, and the Left. The Germans and the Italians are supplying the Fascists, but no one is helping the government. Many individuals, though, are talking about going to fight for Spain in volunteer units. Lenny Griffiths, son of Tom Griffith's, a friend of the Williamses, wants to go and fight. Lloyd is considering going as well, much to the dismay of Ethel. Later on, Lloyd meets up with Daisy, Eva, and Boy. They all go and see a show, during which Boyd, who has been drinking, throws up out back. Lloyd asks Daisy to be with him instead of Boy, and he and Daisy kiss.

By the end of the summer, Boy has not proposed to Daisy, and it hurts her. The sister of May, Jimmy Murray, proposes to Eva, who accepts. They marry and go to Nice for their





honeymoon. Boy stops being friends with Jimmy for marrying a half-Jewish girl. Daisy is determined to ensnare Boy, so she sneaks into his room, and offers herself to him in exchange for marriage. Boy proposes to her, and they marry in October. Lev even comes over for the wedding. The next day, a riot comes to London, to the Jewish borough of Stepney. Lloyd wants it to be stopped. He knows the only real way to do it will be to confront it head on. As Lloyd heads out, his father gives him a paper bag full of glass marbles, to throw under the hooves of the horses of the mounted police if they come after the demonstrators. Lloyd sees Daisy with Boy, wearing a female's Fascist uniform. They speak briefly, and Daisy appears to have bought into Fascism completely. Lloyd's younger sister, Millie, and her friend, Naomi Avery, also turn up, and Lloyd worries for their safety. The police charge their horses to break up the rallying people, and Millie is hurt; Lloyd then pours out the marbles, along with other people who have brought them. Fireworks are also set off, and the police are disrupted. Millie is taken to the hospital, and the police begin arresting people. The protest moves elsewhere, and barricades are thrown up, which the police work to bring down. Lloyd later sees the police shaking hands with the leader of the Fascists for scaring off the counter demonstrators. The Fascists are ultimately forced to march in the other direction because of the barricades. As Lloyd is leaving, he passes Daisy, and finds out she is married now, which explains her presence, and he decides to leave for Spain the next day.

In Chapter 4, Volodya Peshkov's father, Girgori, is a friend of Stalin's and an army commander. Their family enjoys a comfortable lifestyle because of it. Volodya has convinced Werner Franck to spy on the Nazis for the Soviets, and Werner does so while working at the Air Ministry. They work through Markus, a Communist spy, whom Volodya is heading to meet at the Ukraine Bar. When Markus arrives, he punches Volodya in the face, accusing him of arresting Irina, Markus's girlfriend. Her nipples have been burned with a lighter. Volodya denies this, saying it has nothing to do with Army Intelligence. Markus says he is through with Volodya, and through with Communism. But then two members of the NKVD arrive to arrest Volodya and Markus, but then when Volodya explains who he is, he is not arrested. Volodya's superior, Lemitov, tells Volodya to force Markus to continue working for them, or they will go after Irina again. At home, Volodya's mother, Katerina, explains that Volodya's nineteen year-old sister is bringing home a date. The boyfriend is Ilya Dvorkin, one of the NKVD agents from earlier. Also at dinner is the daughter of an old, dead friend of Volodya's father, Zoya Vorotsyntsev. She is studying physics. With physics, technical developments can be made. Volodya knows he is being set up by his father. The dinner is then interrupted by Lemitov, who plans to send Lemitov to Spain to investigate German spies. Dvorkin will also be going.

Lloyd Williams has been in Spain for ten months, and is in love with the country. Lloyd and Lenny are fighting alongside each other, and they seek to take the town of Saragossa. A beautiful girl named Theresa is embedded into the unit, to teach Spaniards how to read. Lenny offers to show her around. At the same time, Lloyd and Volodya reunite. Volodya reveals to Lloyd that there is a German spy in the platoon somewhere. Volodya and his men find the spy, who Lloyd naturally defends. But the man outs himself, and is taken away. In August, Lloyd goes into battle for the first time. The attack begins well, but then later fails. Afterward, Lloyd saves Theresa from the



Soviets, and Dvorkin and his sidekick try to kill him, but Lloyd's friend, Dave, intervenes and kills Dvorkin's sidekick. Meanwhile, the battle for Belchite gets underway, with new attacks into the town itself. Lloyd is wounded, and the handful of survivors from his unit return- only to be accused of cowardice by a Soviet officer, and shot. Lloyd and Lenny are spared this fate because they are both wounded. Just as this occurs, the town surrenders. Lloyd returns back home to London in October.

In Chapter 5, Macke continues monitoring traitors and subversives in Berlin. It is a good year for the Germans: they have annexed Austria and Czechoslovakia, have allied with Italy, and were friends with Franco's Fascist government in Spain. Macke and his partner, Reinhold Wagner, are tailing Volodya from the Soviet embassy. Volodya shakes them off without effort. He has taken a train to contact Werner Franck, and to expand the network of spies in Germany. Volodya, upon returning to Russia, had discovered that Stalin had purged his people and the Red Army in 1937 and 1938, and his father, Girgori, has been promoted. Werner suggests contacting Heinrich von Kessel, son of the man who brought the Catholic-dominated Centre Party under Hitler's control. Heinrich is stricken with guilt, and serves in the offices of the Supreme High Command, in economic planning and procurement. They head to a bar in Adlon where they meet Heinrich. Heinrich agrees to help. Volodya later learns that the Soviet Union has made a pact with Germany -which confuses and angers Volodya.

At the White House, in Washington, D.C., Woody Dewar, who accompanies his father, sees Joanne Rouzrokh again. She and her family have moved to Florida following the rape accusations. They are happy to see each other. Joanne is now working for the State Department. Woody agrees to meet her later for cocktails. The government is in an uproar over the German-Soviet pact. Woody's father, Senator Dewar, wants to press the president to revive the League of Nations. The Dewars are then brought to the Oval Office. Dewar tells President Roosevelt that Hitler has his sights set on Poland, and Dewar recommends his plan for the League, so that American soldiers don't have to fight and die in Europe. The president agrees. Senator Dewar and his son go to Old Ebbitt for celebratory drinks, and there, Woody sees Greg Peshkov, who, like Woody, is a student at Harvard. Woody's younger brother, Chuck, is going to go into the Navy when he graduates high school. Greg and Woody talk about the situation in Europe, and then Woody sees Jacky out on the street. But Jacky doesn't want to talk, appears frightened, and rushes away. That night, the gathering at Joanne's is more like a party than a small group. Woody is disappointed because he realizes he may not get much time with Joanne to himself. He meets a man named Bexforth Ross, who says he intends to marry Joanne. Woody then leaves.

It is the first day of September, and Carla is now eighteen. Carla will be applying for a scholarship for university. Her mother is now a piano teacher, scraping by, and her father is a broken and defeated man. Indeed, Carla's mother realizes the situation with Germany is seemingly hopeless. She believes the Polish people should give in to Hitler. Werner Franck, and his sister Frieda come to pick up Carla. Carla and Frieda will be taking their bikes. Carla's interview is harsh and short, and she is rejected, being told to go out and make babies. At home, Carla learns that Germany has invaded Poland. The British Parliament is called back into an emergency session to debate the crisis.



England is preparing for war. Three years into her marriage, Daisy is unhappy, but her mother urges her to stay on, because of her title and the titles her children will hold. Eva and Jimmy are happily married, though Eva is worried about her parents, who can't get out of Germany. Daisy wonders when she will have her own children, and wonders if it is her fault that she and Boy cannot conceive. She finds condoms that Boy has been keeping, though not to use with her. Boy confesses that he has two mistresses, a mother and a daughter. Daisy wants to leave him, and go to Hollywood to act in one of her father's films. Neville Chamberlain, meanwhile, addresses the House of Commons, but says nothing about war, only that Germany might withdraw from Poland. Many members of Parliament are unsatisfied, and are staging a sit-in until Chamberlain delivers the Germans an ultimatum. Daisy later tells Eva about everything that has happened with Boy.

Lloyd longs for war with the Fascists. Lenny Griffith has never come home from Spain, meaning he is either dead and missing, or in a prison somewhere. Chamberlain has sent an ultimatum to Hitler, and all of the free world is waiting with baited breath. War has been declared on Germany.

In Chapter 6, Lloyd Williams is now a lieutenant in the British military, training new recruits, and coaching the Welsh Rifles Boxing Team. He is transferred to intelligence because he can speak German. Great Britain is preparing its military forces in preparation for the invasion of France, which everyone knows is coming. The Fitzherbert estate has been transformed into a military encampment, and Lloyd will be staying in the servant quarters in the attic. Lloyd also attends church services with his grandparents, finding strength in his Christian faith, and in the culture of England. Lloyd later runs into Daisy, who comes to visit him in his rooms thereafter. She asks how he is getting along, and they look over an old photograph, with Lloyd's mother in it when she served the Fitzherberts as a maid. On the way downstairs, Daisy feels a sharp pain in her stomach. Daisy's husband has been away with the Royal Air Force, and Daisy is pregnant. Boy says he has a banquet to attend, and cannot come home. When blood appears in Daisy's underwear, she tries calling her husband, only to find out there is no banquet. She calls on Lloyd, who quickly contacts Dr. Mortimer. But he is out, and his wife says Daisy has suffered a miscarriage. Lloyd draws Daisy a bath, which she gets into. From thereon, Daisy and Lloyd begin spending their evenings together. The war is raging. British and French troops are fighting the Germans for control of Norway, but the Allies are losing. One Sunday, they go to visit Peel, Boy's old butler, who is now eighty and living in a ramshackle house. There, they see a photo of the old Earl Fitzherbert, who looks strikingly like Lloyd. Daisy imagines Lady Maud Fitzherbert had an affair, gives the baby to Ethel to raise in London, marries a man named Williams no one knows or meets, who then conveniently dies. The trip to Germany, Daisy theorizes, is so that Maud can see her son again. Lloyd decides to question his grandparents about everything. They don't know much, and their story is slightly different- that Ethel's husband was supposedly killed in France. Lloyd decides to ask Ethel more about things.

Daisy realizes she is in love, and that Lloyd has been in love with her all along. She arranges to meet Lloyd in the West Wing of the mansion, in the Gardenia Suite, to declare her love for him. But Boy comes home early. Daisy is unable to meet Lloyd, who



leaves the next morning to Bournemouth. On Wednesday, May 8, Lloyd and his stepfather, Bernie, watch the proceedings of the House of Commons in the visitor's gallery. Chamberlain and his nonintervention foreign policy are being ripped to shreds. Chamberlain manages to hold onto the prime minister's seat, but not by much. Lloyd wonders if it will compel Chamberlain to resign. The next day, Lloyd confronts Ethel about his real father. She confesses that Lloyd is not Maud's child, but her husband's. Ethel is the mother. Boy is Lloyd's half-brother. On May 10, Germany invades Holland, Belgium, and Luxembourg. French and British troops have massed in France, and are crossing the borders of France to meet the invasion. Conservative Winston Churchill becomes prime minister, and Lloyd learns he is being sent to France.

In Chapter 7, Erik von Ulrich is part of an army medical unit with his friend, Hermann Braun. They are traveling through the Ardennes Forest, headed toward France. Despite his parents' politics, Erik always sends home most of his pay to take care of his family. Carla is training to become a nurse. As the Germans move forward, French artillery units open fire on them, and the German Luftwaffe roars in overhead. Dr. Rainier Weiss, Erik and Hermann's boss, begins to prepare a field dressing station. Erik and Hermann go out to bring in the wounded. Lloyd Williams, meanwhile, is in a soccer stadium between Paris and Calais, helping to dig latrines. The Germans have now overrun France, and Lloyd is a prisoner. He plans to escape on the way to Germany. He sneaks into the truck of a road mender, and then gets out of the truck, realizing he needs to change his uniform. A Frenchman named Maurice helps Lloyd, and gives him a change of clothing and some food. Lloyd decides to head to Spain. Daisy, meanwhile, is beside herself with grief, having heard nothing from Lloyd. Despite the thoughts of all Europeans, the British do not surrender, and continue to fight on. Boy continues being unfaithful, and Daisy follows him to the East End of Aldgate. She confronts Boy as the Germans begin bombing London. As Daisy leaves, a house nearby is flattened, and Daisy helps to rescue the family. An ambulance arrives, and the driver is killed, so Daisy volunteers to bring the ambulance to Saint Bartholomew's hospital.

By October, Lloyd has made it to Perpignan, twenty miles from Spain. He has been working his way south. Lloyd is worried because he has no identity papers, though his clothing, mannerisms, and uncleanness make him look like a French peasant. Nevertheless, he pretends to be a Spanish mason, but is arrested by the French police. But instead of jail, they bring him to Theresa's house, and wish him good luck. Theresa is the same woman who was teaching literacy in Spain. Theresa has fled the Fascists in Spain, and now helps fleeing soldiers get over the mountains. She helps Lloyd get into Spain as well. Daisy, meanwhile, continues driving ambulances in London, working relentlessly. Nevertheless, she feels content, working for a cause greater than herself. The German bombers smash the city all night. One day, Daisy runs into Ethel, and Daisy asks after Lloyd. Lloyd then appears, and Daisy and Lloyd embrace, declaring their love to each other. Daisy's marriage continues, though, nominally only. Daisy and Lloyd begin spending more and more of their time together, but Daisy will not actually cheat on her husband. Lloyd is called to the War Office, because the people there are interested in his escape, and want to set up an underground railroad for downed pilots and escaped soldiers to make their way out of Europe. Lloyd agrees to go back to France. That night, he and Daisy do get in bed together.



In Chapter 8, Carla goes with Ada to visit her son, Kurt, at the mentally handicapped institution in Wannsee. Kurt is now eight, but has the faculties of a two year-old. Ada consents to Kurt's being sent to another institution at Akelburg two hundred miles away. Ada reluctantly consents. Carla goes out for the night with friends, dressing in American style and dancing to swing music. She and Werner dance, and kiss. Carla later hears from Frieda that her younger brother, Axel, who has gone to the same hospital institution as Kurt, has died of appendicitis. Shortly thereafter, the von Ulrichs learn that Kurt has also died of appendicitis, which makes Carla immediately suspicious. Walter is up in arms, and appears to have new life in him, determined to find out the truth. Werner agrees to help find out, and presses Frieda to ask Heinrich von Gottfried for help. Heinrich likes Frieda, but Frieda believes that he is too old for her. They appeal to Heinrich's father, who cannot tell them that handicapped people are being murdered at Akelburg. Carla and Werner later go on a date to see a movie. Werner says he will speak to his superior. They then engage in heavy petting and other sexual acts.

Walter, Carla, and Pastor Ochs go to see Professor Willrich, who oversaw the transfer of Axel and Kurt to Akelburg. The Pastor gets Willrich to admit that ten children have been sent to Akelburg, though he denies he knows what goes on. The Pastor then tells Willrich, who looks as though he may cry, that he will one day answer to a higher authority for his sins. Thomas Macke is now part of the SS, and he has intercepted a letter from Ochs to Justice Minister Franz Gurtner, detailing the atrocities being committed. Macke has to stop the leak of information from the Pastor. He goes to Werner and threatens him to stop asking about Axel. Macke and his goons then threaten Och's family, and Och agrees to withdraw his statement to the Justice Minister. Macke then heads to the von Ulrich house, and arrests Walter. Walter is then beaten with baseball bats. Volodya and Werner later meet to discuss intelligence. Volodya reveals that intelligence says Germany will invade the Soviet Union in June. Volodya wants more information, but Werner reveals his dangerous position. Volodya convinces Werner to drop his investigation of his brother's death, and to continue culling information for the Soviets. In church, Carla prays for the safety of her father. Frieda and Carla decide they must get travel permits to go to Akelburg, to see firsthand what is going on. Werner tells the girls to drop their pursuit, and the girls are furious with him. Back at home, Walter has been dropped off, and he is a mangled, bloody mess. By the time Carla returns with the doctor, Walter is dead. Werner later confirms the German invasion of the Soviet Union, called Operation Barbarossa.

Frieda and Carla head to Akelburg, to the hospital. The place is eerily quiet, and they don't find out much. They spend the night in a youth hostel. A nurse from the institute, Ilse Konig, a pretty girl of nineteen, comes to see Frieda and Carla. Ilse confesses that the institution kills thousands of people. Ilse agrees to bring the girls to the incinerator where the bodies are being burned. There, they see the naked bodies of the dead prepared for cremation. Ilse agrees to go back to Berlin with Frieda and Carla. Volodya, meanwhile, has returned home to Moscow. Eight days before, on June 22, the Germans had invaded the Soviet Union. Stalin's initial defense has been a blunder. Most of his front line soldier had no ammunition, planes were bombed on the runways, and units were wiped out without good intelligence about the Germans. They are now 300 miles into Soviet territory. Stalin is humiliated, having insisted that no such invasion will occur.





Zoya and Volodya meet up. Zoya's nuclear research has been redirected to design a better bomb sight. Stalin has been out of contact for two days, and Volodya, his father, and several other prominent people are going to see whether he is alive or dead. He is alive and despondent, but Volodya's father and the others give Stalin even more power, and convince him to return to work.

In Berlin, Carla decides to ask Heinrich's friend Peter, a Catholic priest, for help. Heinrich explains the situation to Peter, which Ilse corroborates. Peter tells Ilse, who is Catholic, to repent and return to the Church, but says for the rest of them, it will not be so easy. Peter, during mass, announces what is going on at Akelburg. Father Peter announces that such killing is a sin, and that if he and his fellow Catholics remain silent about it, they are also sinners. Father Peter is promptly arrested and tortured by Macke. Other Catholic clergy have also been speaking out, including a bishop, making Macke look like a failure at plugging the leak. Copies of the sermon are printed and passed around. Just as Macke prepares to kill Peter for refusing to give him the name of the informant, Macke is called in by his superior. Public opinion has been so great against the Akelburg program that Hitler has canceled it. Macke then returns to kill Peter. Frieda and Carla continue to be angry with Werner for not doing anything about Akelburg. All of the doctors and nurses at Akelburg are transferred to Russia.

In Chapter 9, Greg Peshkov calls Tom Cranmer, formerly of the hotel security where Jacky made her rape allegations. Greg asks him to look for Jacky Jakes. Greg meets up with Sumner Welles, the Undersecretary of State, Senator Gus Dewar and his son, Woody, as well as Bexforth and some others. The president is considering the League of Nations, but he is worried about public opinion. The Japanese are expanding their empire as quickly as the Germans are expanding theirs. They also want to move to cut off the sale of oil to Japan, and possibly freeze Japan's assets in American banks. Woody and Chuck Dewar go to the beach, and there, Woody sees Joanne again. She is single, having never been engaged to Bexford Ross, and is now working for the Undersecretary for Europe in the State Department. Joanne is with her friend, Diane, who hits it off with Chuck. They all agree to go and see a movie. They all discuss politics, and know that the Japanese must be stopped, but disagree over how. The date goes well. But afterwards, Chuck confesses to Woody that he is gay. Woody agrees to keep Chuck's secret. Cranmer, having found out where Jacky Jakes is now working as a waitress, tells Greg, who writes her a letter, asking about what happened.

Greg, Secretary of State Sumner Welles, and President Roosevelt, along with a convoy of ships, meets with Prime Minister Winston Churchill, and his line of ships, off the coast of Newfoundland. The president and the prime minister dine together, attend church services together, and then get down to business. They are off to a small, but good start. At the same time, Woody and Joanne begin dating amid the wild successes of the Germans and the Japanese. Chuck, on leave from the Navy, has gone back, and is stationed in Hawaii. Joanne and Woody kiss and make out, culminating in heavy petting. Greg Peshkov is now living in his father's rooms at the Ritz-Carlton. He reads the papers. The agreements reached by Roosevelt and Churchill are called the Atlantic Charter, which Hitler says is a declaration of war. Greg later meets Jacky Jakes at the



Electric Diner. She confesses that Greg's father had ordered her to stay away from Greg. They agree to live their own lives.

In Chapter 10, the snow comes in October in Moscow. Volodya's mother worries that the Germans will soon overtake them. Volodya's father believes the Germans will be fought off. Volodya secretly believes the Germans will win as well. The Americans are building a superbomb, and Major Lemitov has Volodya bring in Zoya to understand the physics parts of things. Erik von Ulrich, meanwhile, is thrilled with the invasion of the Soviet Union, and strengthens his faith in Hitler. But the Russian winter has slowed the German advance. Erik and Hermann are sent to attend to some injured SS officers, part of the Einsatzgruppe, which clear out areas of enemy troublemakers and potential resistance fighters. While tending to the officers, Erik hears shooting, and goes to see what it is. Dozens of people -including Jewish children- are being shot by the SS and buried in a mass grave. The scene disturbs Erik. Stalin, whose grasp on power had previously been tenuous with people unhappy with his rule, have all come together to defend against the Nazi invasion. Thirteen divisions from Siberia are called up to counterattack the Germans, and Volodya joins a unit to participate. But the winter has pummeled the Germans, who are in retreat.

## Chapters 1 - 10 Analysis

When Ken Follett begins his novel "Winter of the World" when the world is in late autumn. Although there is peace, it is tentative. In Germany, peace quickly disappears as the Nazis rise to power. While many oppose Hitler and his Nazi Party, the Nazis consist of men like Thomas Macke, who have no morals and no values, and who are absolutely proficient and remorseless in their tactics against their opponents. While Lloyd favors confronting and fighting people like Hitler, many others -such as Neville Chamberlain, and Lloyd's own mother, Ethel- believe that they have to show people that they are not like the Nazis, and so resort to pacifist means of operation. For Hitler's opponents, and for the free world, refusing to confront Hitler proves to be a costly mistake. The Nazis ruthlessly shut down opposition presses, boycott Jewish businesses, round up political opponents and people deemed as unfavorable, such as Jews, lie to the Catholic-dominated Centre Party to coalesce with them, and rearm and refit their military. The result is the annexation of several territories, without opposition from the Western powers. and ultimately, invasion of Poland, France, and the Low Countries, which forces Britain and France into the war anyways.

Lloyd vigorously supports opposing Hitler, Franco, Mussolini, and all other Fascists, wherever he can find them. Lloyd ends up working for the war effort in Europe, helping escaped soldiers and downed pilots to flee the mainland to fight again. Meanwhile, Carla and her friends and family in Germany learn about the heinous crimes being committed by Hitler's goons, such as murdering the mentally handicapped. This causes the Catholic Church to speak out against Hitler, who responds swiftly and terribly by having Catholic priests jailed and killed for their defiance. The expansion of Volodya's spy ring in Berlin brings into the fold Werner Franck, Carla's crush, and many other



disaffected Germans, Catholics, and anti-Nazis. The resistance efforts bear little fruit at first, as Germany is winning the war initially.

Across the ocean, the United States has remained out of the war, and is at peace. Its citizens are prosperous and happy, and do not, for the most part, want to become involved in another European war. However, President Roosevelt, and Woody Dewar's father, Senator Gus Dewar, realize that it is only a matter of time before the United States is drawn into the war, and they begin to prepare for it by making the case to President Roosevelt to help revive the League of Nations. Roosevelt agrees. By 1941, Roosevelt and Churchill have become fast friends, and an alliance is blooming between the nations, although nothing is official in that sense, yet. Nevertheless, innumerable Americans head across the Atlantic to fight for the British, especially in the Royal Air Force, against the German menace.



# Chapters 11 - 20

## Chapters 11 - 20 Summary

In Chapter 11, Woody and Joanne go to Hawaii on vacation to visit Chuck. Woody and Joanna are now engaged. They talk about the war that seems to be looming with Japan, and they talk about the difficulties that will come with marriage, because they both have such serious jobs that require travel. Woody's parents also make the trip. Chuck is worried his parents will find out that he is secretly gay. Senator Dewar is given a tour of the intelligence stations, where Japanese messages are decoded. The Dewar family goes out for dinner on the night of December 6. They have Chinese food. Some of them like it, some of the, like Gus, do not like it. Chuck's secret boyfriend, Eddie, also attends dinner. They all go to Pearl Harbor the following morning, just as the Japanese attack. Woody begins photographing everything. The Americans are hit hard, but respond to the attack. Eddie is wounded, and Joanne is killed.

In Chapter 12, Daisy receives a letter from Charlie Farquharson. He is in London as a volunteer, fighting for the RAF. He invites her and her husband to dinner. Daisy goes to meet Charlie for dinner. Boy is away, and he and Daisy have begun sleeping together again, though she is no longer in love with him. Charlie reveals that Joanne has been killed in the attack on Pearl Harbor. Charlie and Daisy kiss, but she refuses to let him sleep with her. A few days later, Charlie is killed in an air battle. The Japanese, meanwhile, have launched an all-out attack across the Pacific, crippling the British and American forces. The attack on Pearl Harbor, though, has failed to destroy the entire American fleet, and so the United States is still in the fight. Chuck, Eddie, and many believe that the island of Midway -halfway between Japan and Los Angeles- is the next target of the Japanese. Admiral Nimitz is preparing to meet the Japanese threat. The Americans can bring three aircraft carriers to bear, including the U.S.S. Yorktown. The American fleet heads towards the approaching Japanese fleet. The American forces at Midway are also ready to go, and are not caught off-guard. Battle ensues. The Yorktown is sunk, but all four Japanese carriers are sunk as well. A new kind of battle with naval battles fought by planes means that carriers will be all the more important in the future. Between 1943 and 1944, Japan produces seven carriers. The Americans build 90.

In Chapter 13, Carla is stealing medical supplies by falsifying records to bring medical supplies so Dr. Rothmann can secretly continue practicing, which the law forbids him to do. Dr. Berthold Ernst, a handsome, single doctor at the hospital, asks Carla to attend a recital of Wagner with him. Carla turns him down. Frieda and Heinrich have been dating, and Heinrich wants to get married. Maud is giving piano lessons to a German lieutenant named Joachim Koch. He works at the War Ministry. He also agrees to see how Erik is getting along on the Eastern Front for Maud. He also lets slip that a new offensive is being prepared for the Russians in late June. At the Rothmann's house, Carla is horrified to discover the doctor has been arrested, and his son, Rudi, has had both his hands broken. Werner goes to meet Macke, to tell Macke he has changed his ways,



and is no longer causing trouble. Macke is touched. Werner asks about tracking down spies by honing in on their radio signals -goniometry.

In Moscow, Volodya and Zoya meet up at the fountains in the Alexander Gardens. They kiss and talk about the war. They believe a new German offensive is at hand. Carla, meanwhile, believes Frieda is helping the resistance to the Nazis. Joachim has developed a crush on Maud, and spills secrets left and right to impress her. Freida and Carla then go in together, fully opposed to the Nazis. Frieda gives Carla the task of photographing the plans for the new German campaign. Carla agrees, though she knows what the risk for herself and her family is. Erik comes home for a leave. He is now changed. He has seen the horrors of Nazi atrocities, has seen so many people murdered, and he apologizes to his mother for disagreeing with her. Erik's family reveals their plans to use Joachim, and Erik tells them to go ahead, even if it might get Erik killed by letting the Soviets have the upper hand. Werner is given the opportunity to see how Macke handles his efforts to crack down on spies. Joachim brings over the plans, which Carla photographs while Joachim and Maud kiss. But Joachim knows something is up, and attacks Maud. Ada and Carla come to her rescue, knocking Joachim out, killing him accidentally. Ada offers her wardrobe to hide the body to get it out of the house. They set his body near a car accident in the blackout conditions of the city, where bystanders believe him to be a pedestrian killed in the accident.

In Chapter 14, Greg Peshkov has joined the military, and is given a desk job in Washington at the Army Corps of Engineers. The Pentagon is being constructed. Leslie Groves, working on the Pentagon, has been reassigned, and takes Greg with him to meet Secretary of War Henry Stimson, a Republican, and Army Chief of Staff George Marshall. The Manhattan Project is being prepared, and land in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, is purchased for the experimental bomb to be built. Greg asks Margaret Cowdry to lunch. Margaret is an attractive civilian secretary working in the New War Office Building. They have lunch, and Jacky is their waitress. It causes both Jacky and Greg a little discomfort, and Greg explains the past to Margaret, who says she can tell Jacky is afraid of him. They return to the offices, where Greg sets back to work on plans for the bomb. Greg then confronts his father, and threatens Gladys if his father doesn't let Jacky live in peace. On Sunday, Greg goes to visit Jacky, and discovers she has a son-Greg's son. Work on the bomb in Tennessee commences. They are able to cause a chain reaction, controllable by rods. Greg, meanwhile, tells his mother he has a son named Georgy, and his mother is enraged, but calms down. She and her husband both accept Georgy as their grandson.

In Chapter 15, Lloyd is continuing to help downed pilots, escaped soldiers, and persecuted people flee through the Pyrenees to freedom. Lloyd has been promoted to major for his efforts, and to keep control over officers who are escaping. They come across Major Lowther, who attempts to commandeer the truck being used for the escape, by insisting an Englishman named Watermill must be evacuated at once. But Watermill and the others protest, so everyone takes the truck. Lowther vows revenge on Lloyd. Daisy, meanwhile, still has not fallen back in love with Boy, for she is in love with Lloyd. Nevertheless, she and Boy keep trying to have a baby. At a bar, they run into Lowther. He is drunk and knows about Lloyd, telling Boy about it. Boy is enraged, and



demands a divorce. Daisy rents an apartment in Piccadilly, and has no trouble for money, for her own family is rich. Eva comes to visit Daisy, pregnant with her fourth child, and with three children and a nanny in tow. Daisy goes to visit Ethel, and asks her for permission to marry Lloyd. Ethel is happy at the thought. Lloyd comes home on two weeks' leave, and he and Daisy sleep together. Boy finds out he can't have children because he is impotent from the mumps as a child, and he refuses to divorce Daisy. Lloyd then goes to see Boy, who is not happy to see him. Lloyd reveals they are half-brothers, and tells Boy to check with his father for the evidence.

In Chapter 16, Colonel Beck, severely wounded on the Eastern Front, is brought home to recover in Carla's hospital. There, the two of them speak about the dangerous situation in the East. Beck hates the Nazis, and agrees to help with the resistance. Werner is later shown by Macke to a prison, to show how executions are handled. Prisoners are hung and guillotined. Beck delivers intelligence to Carla in a green hospital folder. While waiting at Frieda's house for Frieda, Carla overhears Werner crying, having witnessed executions. Werner reveals he is in charge of the entire network of spies for which Carla operates. Carla gives Werner the intelligence from Beck, and they kiss quickly. Macke's failure to find spies, meanwhile, has resulted in a fiasco for the Germans in Russia. Before their attack can begin, the Soviets attack. Macke suspects Werner is a spy, Werner is caught in a sting operation in the middle of a bombardment. Werner and Macke struggle, and Macke shoots Werner, but the building collapses on top of them. Macke is brought into Carla's hospital, and she considers killing him. Werner is also brought in, with his only real injury being a bullet in his backside. He and Carla confess their love to one another. That night, Werner suffocates Macke with a pillow to the face.

In Chapter 17, Zoya refuses Volodya's marriage proposal because she doesn't want to have children in a war. Volodya makes failed attempts to elicit information from Allied officials in Moscow, among the, Woody Dewar, by using young, sexy girls to seduce them. Meanwhile, Chuck and Eddie have risen through the ranks, and now live off base in Hawaii, where they continue working for intelligence. They decide to volunteer to view landings of the Marines, because the last map made was inaccurate. Woody Dewar and Volodya meet in a bar for drinks, but Woody doesn't drink. He tells Volodya that he is too junior to know anything secretive, and tells Volodya to simply ask him questions instead of sending girls to his room. Woody explains that the Allies want the Russians to be part of the Four Powers Pact, so the Americans can make the case for an invasion of Europe. Chuck and Eddie, meanwhile, make a landing on Bougainville Island with the Marines. Eddie is wounded, and while Chuck attempts to get him to safety, Chuck is killed. Carla, meanwhile, begins working at the Jewish Hospital on her days off, and Dr. Rothmann returns home, missing an eye and limping. Werner comes to see Carla, to reveal he has been reposted to the Eastern Front. Carla is asked to take Werner's place as head of the spy ring. The patients are cleared out to be sent away, and Rothmann goes with them, voluntarily. As Woody and his father leave Russia in triumph, they are informed of Chuck's death.

In Chapter 18, Woody volunteers to fight with the 510th Parachute Regiment. Woody meets up with Eddie, whom Chuck gave his life to save, and they make peace over



what has happened. Greg and Margaret are still dating, and they attend an afternoon symphony concert. Greg is secretly tailing Barney McHugh, a physicist on leave from Los Alamos, New Mexico. The FBI's agent Bill Bicks is also following him. On J. Robert Oppenheimer's word, Barney has been singled out as a Communist. Barney passes his newspaper to a man named Yenkov, who works at the Soviet Embassy. They manage to catch up with Yenkov, to find the newspaper full of designs for a plutonium trigger. Yenkov leaps into his car and drives away. Daisy hosts a party for Americans in her apartment. RAF pilots also happily attend. At the party, Lloyd and Daisy discuss having children, but Lloyd doesn't want an illegitimate child. They also discuss the rumors of an invasion of France. Lloyd reveals that after the war, he is going to try for Parliament, and Daisy is ecstatic. She agrees to help him write speeches and to work for him. Boy swings by the party, and says he will agree to talk about divorce. At the party, Woody meets a girl named Bella Hernandez, and he walks her home, and they kiss. She then performs oral sex on him.

After church the following day, Boy and Daisy meet. Boy has grown more conservative, and is angry about a liberal newspaper opinion slamming him for buying an expensive horse. Boy retorts that Lloyd is unlikely to win a Parliament seat with Daisy in tow. June 6 arrives, and Woody and his unit parachute into Normandy. They become separated in the fog, but then they all come back together. They have to hike four miles to Eglise-des-Soeurs, their target a bridge in that town. They attack one end of it, losing five men in the process. With only four men left, Woody has to think hard about what to do next. He decides to take the other end of the bridge by swimming across under cover fire, and as the sun comes up, Woody captures the bridge. Lloyd Williams, working with other resistance fighters, helps to destroy train by blowing up a tunnel on it. A plane has also attempted to take out the train, but is shot down. The pilot is Boy Fitzherbert, and he dies. Daisy cries when she hears the news, but is happy to learn she can now marry Lloyd. When Daisy visits Ethel, she learns that Lloyd has been selected as a prospective parliamentary candidate for Hoxton, and she is overjoyed. Ethel encourages her, telling her that her own past as a Fascist can be overcome by her service against the Fascists in the current war.

In Chapter 19, Woody is wounded at the Battle of the Bulge, and must use crutches, having defended the town of Bastogne. He is sent home, and returns to work for his father. Back home, the United Nations is preparing to handle refugees, and they are preparing a War Crimes Commission. The Dewars worry that conservative Republican Senator Arthur Vandenberg of Michigan will withdraw his support for the UN if he sees any show of weakness toward the Communists, so the Dewars must be careful about how to proceed. The Soviets have to be kept happy, as does Vandenberg. Volodya is meanwhile posted to the front lines in Germany, to glean intelligence from prisoners. Hate propaganda disturbs Volodya, for it implores Soviets to kill Germans. By April, the Soviets are closing in on Berlin. Erik and his medical unit are captured by the Soviets. President Roosevelt dies in office, and Harry Truman succeeds him as president. The United Nations holds its first conference in San Francisco. While there, Woody goes to see Bella, for that is where she lives. Bella agrees to go on a date with him. At the UN meeting, things are going badly. Some want Poland admitted to the UN, for example, while others won't let Poland be admitted until it has had democratic elections.



Meanwhile, the battle for Berlin continues. The city is being bombarded, both by air and by artillery. Food and water are rationed, and much of the city has been demolished. Carla goes in search of Hannelore, Dr. Rothmann's wife, to see if she can help free her from the Germans who have rounded her and others up. When she finds Hannelore, she is comforted a young girl named Rebecca, whose parents have been killed. The Germans guarding the prisoners are recalled to do fighting, and they abandon the prisoners. Shortly thereafter, the Soviets come upon them, and loot and steal from the prisoners. The Soviets attempt to rape Rebecca, but Carla offers herself to them instead.

In Chapter 20, Hitler commits suicide on April 30. One week later, Germany surrenders. Daisy watches the celebrations in London from her window. Millie, Lloyd's sister, and her two children, show up to visit and celebrate with Daisy. Woody is in love with Bella, and goes to work for the National Press Agency, bringing his photographs from Pearl Harbor. Fifteen days after VE Day, Churchill calls for an election, and Lloyd campaigns. Churchill goes on the radio to denounce the left wing, from socialists to Fascists to totalitarians -and the Williamses are enraged. Greg, meanwhile, witnesses the testing of the atomic bomb in New Mexico. Meanwhile, the election results are being counted in London. Daisy determines that if Lloyd loses, it will have been her fault. But Lloyd Williams wins his election. Labour wins the election, taking 393 seats to the Conservatives' 210. Clement Attlee becomes the new prime minister. Volodya and Zoya are later married in Russia. Stalin attends the wedding. Meanwhile, the Americans are still fighting the Japanese. Word of the first atomic bomb being dropped on Japan reaches the Soviets, who are shaken. Meanwhile, the Peshkovs settle down happily with Greg, Georgy, and Jacky.

## Chapters 11 - 20 Analysis

On December 7, 1941, the peace in the United States is shattered by a stunning surprise attack by the Japanese on Pearl Harbor in Hawaii, the target being the United States Pacific Fleet. At the same time, Japan launches a massive campaign against American and British-held islands in the Pacific, scoring fast successes against the unsuspecting Americans, and the already-stretched British. The United States thereby fully enters World War II. Within a matter of months, the United States is striking back at Japan, mobilizing more military forces, and vamping up its economy for war. The United States quickly enters the European Theater as well, following Hitler's declaration of war against the Americans. Simultaneously, Hitler invades the Soviet Union, and the Soviets who had a non-agresssion pact with the Nazis are caught totally by surprise. Volodya therefore must redouble his efforts to help curtail the German advance, and he continues working through Werner in Berlin, before taking on other intelligence duties.

As the war continues, the casualties mount quickly, especially among the Americans. Daisy's old friend and almost-husband, Charlie, is killed while serving as a volunteer in the Royal Air Force. Chuck is killed while serving in the Pacific. Boy is killed while fighting in France, thereby freeing Daisy to marry Lloyd upon his return from Europe. Joann is killed at Pearl Harbor. The United States begins preparing its secret weapon,





the atomic bomb, while American, British, Canadian, and French troops fight across France to wrest control of the country back from the hands of the Nazis. In the east, the Russians have counterattacked, and a driving the Germans out of Eastern Europe.

All around the world, the Nazis are in retreat, and Fascism is on the run. The Soviets reach Berlin before the Allies do, plundering loot and raping women as they go. Carla's family is no exception to the pain and humiliation caused by the hands of the Soviets. Hitler commits suicide, and a week later, Nazi Germany surrenders. The Americans, meanwhile, perfect the bomb and drop two of them on Japan, forcing the imperial nation to surrender. The cost, on both sides, is terrible. The evil atrocities of the Nazis stand out as blaring reminders of the appeasement of the prewar years, but many know that the Soviet Communists are just as bad. Already, conservative groups in Great Britain and the United States are preparing for an inevitable confrontation with the Soviets. Among them are Churchill and Senator Vandenburg.





# Chapters 21-25

## Chapters 21-25 Summary

In Chapter 21, Volodya and Zoya move into their own apartment following the war. But the NKVD breaks down their door, blaming the Americans for getting the bomb first on Zoya and her fellows. They have come to arrest her, but Volodya tries to stop them, and is promptly beaten up. Volodya later learns that Zoya has been arrested to make sure Volodya comes back on his new mission- to the United States, to convince Wilhelm Frunze to come back to the Soviet side. Volodya is amazed by the beauty and prosperity of the United States. He travels to Albuquerque, There, Volodya meets up with Frunze. Frunze, and many of the scientists, regret their participation in building the bomb. Frunze is able to play on Frunze's emotions to get him to consider helping the Soviets build their own bomb. Two days later, Frunze gives Volodya all of the plans to the bombs. Volodya brings that, and a Sears Roebuck catalog home- and he and Zoya are amazed by the American economy.

In Chapter 22, all the women that Carla knows have been raped by Soviets, but she knows of no one being raped by Americans or the other Allies. Frieda becomes pregnant by being raped, as does Carla. Frieda has an abortion, while Carla has her baby. Postwar Berlin is in a shambles, and the people are cold and hungry. Berlin has been divided up between the Soviets and the Allies. Carla, her mother, and Ada have taken in Rebecca. Carla later gives birth early. She decides to name the baby boy Walter, after her father. Lloyd Williams, meanwhile, addresses Parliament on national insurance. His mother, now minister for schools, and his Uncle Billy, minister for coal, watch. Daisy also watches from the visitors gallery. Lloyd is given the job of Private Parliamentary Secretary to Foreign Secretary Ernie Bevin, the closest friend of the prime minister. Later, Lloyd's real father refuses to become close to him, and Daisy announces she and Lloyd are pregnant.

Erik returns home to Berlin, having been released from Soviet labor camps. Rebecca, now fifteen, helps care for the family, including baby Walter. Meanwhile, sham elections are carried out by the Soviets across Eastern Europe. Frieda, meanwhile, has been trading sexual favors for food and nice clothes. Werner returns home, horrified to hear about the rapes, and he accepts baby Walter. In England, the Labour Party has it so that coal mines can be opened anywhere, without the consent of the landowners. The conservatives are up in an uproar, and even local Labour supporters are against Labour plans. But plans to mine for coal go on anyways.

In Chapter 23, communism is on the rise everywhere, and it looks as if all of Europe will become Communist. Volodya is torn between happiness and unhappiness. Great Britain had rejected Communism, however, as had the United States. Lloyd introduces Volodya to Greg Peshkov while the Americans are in talks with the Russians. Volodya, upon learning that he and Greg might be half-brothers, leaves quickly. It turns out that Lev is indeed Volodya's father, not Grigori. Meanwhile, Lloyd and Bevin plan for splitting



Germany in half, and making the western half of Germany free and independent, and an ally. The United States also prepares to lend money to Western Europe, to reinvigorate their economy, and to form an economic bulwark against Communism. Lloyd and Bevin then head to Paris, to see about such agreements.

In Chapter 24, Volodya travels to Prague to take part in the Red Army talks with the Czech military. He misses Zoya, pregnant with their second child, and their first child, Kotya. Volodya has grown disillusioned with the Soviet system, in every way, shape, and form. In America, even conservative Republican Senator Vandenberg has cheered the Marshall Plan for economic aid to Europe, to oppose the Communists. Because of it, opposition to Communism is springing up everywhere. The Communists begin killing their opponents, much to the horror of Volodya. Greg, meanwhile, is now seeing a girl named Nelly, and he tells her he is the godfather of Georgy. Nelly doesn't believe him, refuses to marry him, and tells him he already has a family. Werner and Carla, meanwhile, marry, and legally adopt Rebecca. Berlin is in the heart of the Soviet part of Germany. The Communists cheat and lie to retain power in eastern Germany. Trade with the Allied sector is banned. Thereafter, Lloyd goes to visit Maud and Carla. The United States Air Force, and the British, are now flying in goods and services to the people of Berlin, in what becomes known as the Berlin Airlift.

In Chapter 25, the Berlin Airlift forces the Soviets to reopen trade and contact with the West. On August 29, 1949, the Soviets successfully test their own atomic bomb, and American global power has been checked. Agent Bicks and Greg are tasked with tracking down the traitor. Frunze and his wife are found guilty of treason, and executed. Lloyd and Daisy have come to Washington for a diplomatic visit. Daisy is happy to be in America again. On Christmas Eve, Maud plays the piano for her family. Carla looks forward to a better future, and a better place to raise her family.

## Chapters 21-25 Analysis

Postwar Europe looks surprisingly like prewar Europe. People are once again caving into evil, this time, in the form of Communism. Rigged elections, a stalled economy, and brutality makes many, such as Volodya, begin to think twice about Communism. Yet, the United States and Great Britain remain defiant against the Communists, seeking to help Western Europe through the Marshall Plan, and participating in the Berlin Airlift. More and more of Europe begins to turn anticommunist, giving Stalin severe opposition across Europe. But at the heart of the free world is the United States, which is the sole unchecked superpower in the world because of its powerful military and the atomic bomb.

Volodya again appears in the plot, ordered by Moscow to penetrate the United States, and orchestrate the stealing of nuclear secrets. Volodya does this successfully, and the Americans are thrown off-balance by the act. Greg, Agent Bicks, and others ultimately trace the treacherous leaks to the very scientists who developed the bomb, and the husband-and-wife team who gave up the secrets are executed. At the end of the novel, the Soviet Union successfully tests its own atomic bomb, emerging as a superpower to



the United States. Soviet control over Eastern Europe solidifies, and the world is plunged into cold war. Even though danger is on the horizon, many, like Carla, hope for a peaceful and prosperous future. Such hope is absolutely baseless at the time, for many continue to cave into the Communists the way that the Nazis were caved into fifteen years before. It is only a matter of time before some kind of war will erupt again, somewhere.



# Characters

## Carla von Ulrich

Carla von Ulrich is the daughter of Maud and Walter von Ulrich, and sister to Erik von Ulrich. Carla is a sweet, kind, brave, and heroic girl, who, together with her parents, opposes the rise of Nazism in Germany. Carla falls in love with Werner Franck, the older brother of her best friend, Frieda. Carla and Frieda both become nurses, smuggling intelligence and first aid supplies to doctors, and to the spy network that Werner manages. Carla even goes so far as to gather hold of intelligence for the network herself, and she even kills a German officer attached to the upper echelons of the German war machine in order to resist the Nazis.

By the end of the novel, Carla has become the head of Werner's spy ring, because Werner has been sent off to fight. When the Soviets invade Germany, and take Berlin, the Soviet soldiers loot, plunder, and rape girls and women of all ages. Rather than see a thirteen year-old girl raped, Carla offers herself up, and she becomes pregnant by one of the Soviet soldiers. She decides to have the baby, and when Werner comes home, they marry, and he accepts the baby into their family. As the novel ends, Carla hopes to raise her family in a quiet, peaceful world.

## Lloyd Williams

Lloyd Williams is the son of Ethel Leckwith, stepson of Bernie Leckwith, and son of Earl Fitzherbert. Lloyd is courageous and intelligent, has a flair for boxing, and can speak fluent German. He is raised in England by Ethel, and travels to Germany to visit Carla's family, and there, Lloyd sees firsthand the rise of Nazi power. Lloyd is a member of the left wing, and goes to fight Franco in Spain. Upon his return, he goes to serve in mainland Europe when war breaks out, ultimately escaping and returning to help other downed pilots and escaped soldiers flee the mainland to fight again. At the same time, Lloyd falls in love with an American girl named Daisy, who has married Boy Fitzherbert. But the marriage is an unhappy one.

Boy is killed later in the war, meaning Lloyd can marry Daisy, which he does. The two of them have two children, and Lloyd successfully runs for Parliament. At the end of the war, he begins to rethink his left wing views, as many in the country oppose the powers the Labour government has assumed, such as the ability to create coal mines wherever they wish, without the consent of the landowners. Lloyd is likewise horrified by the rise of Soviet Communism across Europe, and wonders why more people don't recall the rise to power of the Nazis.



## Volodya Peshkov

Volodya Peshkov is the son of Lev Peshkov, stepson of Grigori Peshkov, and son of Katerina Peshkov. Volodya is fierce, a devout Communist, and a dutiful servant of Stalin, though he questions Stalin's efficacy as leader when World War II breaks out. Volodya has served in Germany, attached to his father's diplomatic posting, and sets up a spy network which he maintains throughout the war, served by his old German friend, Werner. Volodya works in intelligence for the duration of the war, and marries a beautiful female physicist named Zoya. Following the war, Volodya sees the brutal repression orchestrated by the Communists, and grows disheartened with the system. Nevertheless, he undertakes a mission to America to steal nuclear secrets, and is responsible for the Soviets successfully testing their own atomic bomb.

## Daisy Peshkov

Daisy Peshkov is the daughter of Lev and Olga Peshkov, and lives in Buffalo, New York, when the novel begins. She is beautiful, intelligent, and well-loved. Yet her father is a big man financially, with film interests among other things. He sets up a rival theater chain owner, after which the Peshkovs are shunned in Buffalo, and go to England after Daisy's fiancée, Charlie, breaks off their engagement. In England, Daisy meets both Lloyd Williams and Boy Fitzherbert, and falls in love with and marries Boy. But the marriage is unhappy, and for Boy has numerous affairs, and is killed in action in Europe. Daisy later marries Lloyd, and helps him to win a seat in Parliament.

## Werner Franck

Werner Franck is the older brother of Frieda Franck, and Carla von Ulrich's love interest. He works at the Air Ministry, and secretly runs a spy ring for Volodya Peshkov, which he ultimately turns over to Carla when he is called to the front. When he returns home, he discovers Carla has been raped, has a baby, but agrees to marry her and accept the baby. They also adopt an orphan girl named Rebecca, and conceive their own child.

## Frieda Franck

Frieda Franck is the best friend of Carla von Ulrich, and the younger sister of Werner Franck. Frieda is daring and brave, and she and Carla assist Werner's spy ring. Frieda, like Carla, is raped by the Soviets, conceives, but has an abortion.

## Woody Dewar

Woody Dewar is the son of Senator Gus Dewar, and is attached to his father's Senate office for most of the war. Following the death of his fiancée, Joanne, at Pearl Harbor,



and the death of his brother, Chuck, in the Pacific, Woody joins the Army, fights through Europe, is injured, and returns home to marry a girl named Bella Hernandez.

## **Boy Fitzherbert**

Boy Fitzherbert is the son of Earl Fitzherbert, and half-brother of Lloyd Williams. Boy is cold, calculating, a neo-Fascist, and is in an unhappy marriage to Daisy. He refuses her requests for a divorce, wanting to bring her pain and misery, but is ultimately killed in Europe during the war.

## **Thomas Macke**

Thomas Macke is a member of the Nazi intelligence and the Gestapo. He is a thug, unscrupulous, immoral, and evil. He kills innumerable people, arrests countless others, lies, cheats, and conspires to shut down honest businesses, spies, and other dissidents. He is killed by Werner in the hospital, when Werner smothers him with a pillow after Macke has been injured in an air raid.

## **Father Peter**

Father Peter is a Catholic priest, the first who dares to speak out against Hitler's program to purge the mentally-handicapped. He rallies the Catholics and other good Christians to his side, forcing Hitler to scrap the program. For his efforts, Father Peter is tortured, and killed by Macke.



# Objects/Places

## Berlin, Germany

Berlin is the capital of Germany, and is where Hitler runs his Nazi empire. It is where the von Ulrich family lives, where the William family visits, and is invaded by and captured by Soviet troops. It is later divided into quadrants, and the site of an airlift operation by the United States and Great Britain.

## Buffalo, New York

Buffalo, New York, is the home of Daisy Peshkov and her family, as well as many other prominent Americans in the novel. It is a beautiful, quiet place to live, and it is also the scene of a workers strike at the metal plant owned by Les Peshkov.

## Spain

Spain is a country engaged in a civil war between Franco's Fascist rebel forces, and the democratic government. Hitler supports the rebels, while many others, such as Lloyd, go to fight on the government's behalf. During the war, soldiers and downed airmen escape through Spain.

## Moscow, Russia

Moscow is the capital of Soviet Russia. It is where Stalin rules the Soviet Union, and where Volodya and his family live. It also is the target of a failed German invasion.

## France

France is one of the countries conquered by the Germans, and is the scene of major battles between the Allies and Germans, such as the battles of D-Day.

## Pearl Harbor

Pearl Harbor is located in Hawaii, and is the site of the American Pacific Fleet. It is attacked by the Japanese while the Dewars are visiting, culminating in the loss of hundreds of lives, including Woody Dewar's fiancée, Joanne.





## **Newfoundland**

It is off the coast of Newfoundland that Churchill and Roosevelt meet to begin what will eventually become their alliance against Germany and Japan.

## **Intelligence**

Intelligence is highly coveted by both sides, and includes things like troops displacements, numbers, production figures, and so on. Volodya organizes a spy ring in Germany, which Werner expands, in order to collect intelligence to defeat the Nazis.

## **Maps**

Maps are produced by Chuck and Eddie in the U.S. Naval Intelligence departments, for use by ground troops in their invasion of Japanese-held islands. Unfortunately, many of the maps are inaccurate.

## **Atomic Bomb Plans**

Atomic bomb plans are used to build America's atomic bombs, and later, smuggled to Russia by Frunze and Volodya, so the Soviet Union can build its own bomb.



# Themes

## Religion

Religion is a major, underlying theme of Ken Follett's novel, "Winter of the World." Religion affects many of the characters, and influences major events and decisions in the novel. Religion appears in the novel in both positive and negative ways, and each religion in the novel experiences similar and different events.

Negatively, religion is used by Hitler to secure German unity. Hitler does this by lying to the Centre Party, dominated by Catholics, telling them that the Church will be respected in Nazi Germany. Hitler, indeed, preys on the Christian faith of people in order to unite them behind him, finding religion meshed with the state to be useful. Positively, it is the Christian faith of many that encourages them to take a stand against the Nazis, realizing a great rift between Christian morality and Nazi philosophy and practices.

For the Jews, commitment to their faith means persecution at the hands of the Nazis, ranging from torture to concentration camps and death. For the Protestants, opposition to the Nazis means threats and intimidation, such as is the case with Pastor Ohr. For the Catholics, Hitler's lies of peace, and later Hitler's crimes against humanity, prove to be too much. Father Peter encourages his congregation to take a stand, as do other Catholic leaders, all of whom are silenced as can be done. Father Peter is later tortured and killed for his speaking out. For others, still, like Lloyd and Carla, although they have no religious affiliations, they believe in God, and find their moral centers will not allow them to give in to the Nazis, and so they choose to fight and defy them instead.

## War

War is the single most major theme in Ken Follett's novel, "Winter of the World". War appears in three ways in the novel: as a threat, as a physical occurrence, and as a damaging event. In each of these ways, war proves to be destructive and necessary.

In terms of the threat of war, Hitler's rise to power, his militarization and rearmament of Germany, and his calls for Germany's victimization to be amended are taken seriously by many. Among them is Lloyd, who believe the Nazis must be stopped at any cost. For some, like Neville Chamberlain, war is to be avoided at all costs. This policy only allows Hitler to grow in power, and Germany's military to grow in size. The annexation of multiple territories, unchallenged by the West, gives Hitler tremendous confidence to invade Poland. At long last, Britain and France must respond.

War as a physical action is destructive and damaging. Millions of lives are lost, families are broken apart, and homes are destroyed. The war ravages Europe, from the Battle of Britain all the way over to the Pacific Ocean, where the U.S. Navy and the Marines battle Japan. The war claims the lives of many characters in the book, such as Joanne, Chuck, and Boy. However, war is the only thing that can stop Hitler.



War as a damaging event involves the aftermath of war. Most of Europe lies in ruin, millions more are dead, and the Communists are on the rise. Soviet soldiers loot, burn, destroy, and rape girls as they invade Germany, claiming the spoils of their victory against the Nazis. Europe's economy lies in ruins, and her people are unwilling to fight the Communists initially. Carla and Lloyd see a repeat of 1933, this time with the Communists rather than the Nazis. The Soviet stealing of American nuclear plans also brings the world one step closer to a totally new kind of war.

## Family

Family is a major, overlying theme of Ken Follett's novel, "Winter of the World". Family -love, loyalty, affection, and devotion among people who are and are not blood-related- affects characters of the book in two different ways: positive and negative.

Family appears in negative ways among the Peshkov family of Buffalo, New York. Lev Peshkov is a powerful and wealthy man, who is only nominally married to his wife, Olga. He has several mistresses and illegitimate children, and is never around much for his family. He is cruel, vindictive, and angry -a tyrant. He stages rapes to throw his opponents out of business, and spends more time in Hollywood than he does with his child, Daisy. As such, he is not around to provide a father's influence, or properly see to the family's affairs. This in turn gives Daisy a jaded view of the world, putting her faith in material things at first, and only belatedly coming around to important things like love, with Lloyd.

Family also appears in a very positive way in the novel as well, among the Leckwith-Williams family, and the von Ulrich family in Berlin. For the Leckwith-Williams, which are a family held together by stepfather Bernie, family is invaluable. Lloyd is supported and defended by his family through the war, and later through his rise to power in Parliament. For Carla's family, the idea of family is very important. As they oppose the Nazis, they are in the minority, and can only rely on each other for support. Even Erik, who supports the Nazis, is not overcome by his beliefs to turn in his family, for he loves them far too much. Following the death of their father, Erik and Carla watch out for each other, and Carla and Werner adopt Rebecca, whose own parents are dead, and continue living with Carla's mother, Maud, and their maid, Ada. Together, in the coming years, they will be forced to deal with Soviet occupation.



# Style

## Point of View

Ken Follett tells his novel, "Winter of the World" in the first-person and omniscient perspective. This is done primarily for the reason that the novel covers such a vast expanse of time (1933 to 1949), because the novel takes place in far-flung locations such as Buffalo, New York, Berlin, Moscow, and the Pacific, and because of the sheer size and dimensionality of the cast of characters contained within. Because of these immense undertakings, all of them diverse and varying, Follett's decision to tell the novel in the third-person and omniscient narrative is important, because it means that the narrator acts as a constant, uniting, and uninterrupted transitional bridge between the events, places, and people of the novel.

## Setting

Ken Follett's novel, "Winter of the World", deals with the 1930s and 1940s in the world, and moves through World War II. Because of this, much of the novel occurs in Europe, especially in Western Europe, where much of the action of World War II takes place. Much attention is also devoted to the usually left-out Pacific Theater of War, and time is also spent in Moscow, the heart of the Soviet world. Given the events of the novel, the locations Follett chooses to focus on are fitting, instrumental, and critical to the plot of the novel.

## Language and Meaning

Ken Follett tells his novel, "Winter of the World", in language that is simple and straightforward, maintaining a sense of brevity in the process. This is done primarily for the reason that the novel covers an immense amount of time, deals with a multitude of major and minor events, especially through World War II, and maintains a diverse and dramatic assemblage of characters. Because of the sheer size of the novel -more than 900 pages- the fact that the language is simple and straightforward means that the reader is not bogged down unnecessarily in the prose. This also allows Follett to keep the reader interested by moving events along, and not dwelling on things unimportant to the plot itself.

## Structure

Ken Follett divides his novel "Winter of the World" into twenty-five consecutive chapters, with each chapter being further subdivided into smaller sections. Each chapter occurs within a specific year, from 1933 through 1949, and each section in each chapter deals with the events of individual or multiple characters, in conjunction with the events and situations of others, against the greater backdrop of world politics and World War II. This

simple, uncomplicated structure is vitally important, allowing the reader to progress through the events and the chapters without becoming confused or disheartened by an unneeded or unique chapter structure. In so doing, the reader is effortlessly able to move through sixteen years of history.



## Quotes

"I don't care about the building," Walter said surprisingly. "It's our democracy that's on fire" (Chapter 1, p. 30).

"Fascism is on the march," Lloyd began. "And it is dangerously attractive. It gives false hope to the unemployed. It wears a spurious patriotism, as the Fascists themselves wear imitation military uniforms" (Chapter 3, p. 157).

"We don't want our sons to go to war as we did...We can't send American boys to be slaughtered in Europe again. The world needs a police force" (Chapter 5, p. 287).

"I don't care how many bastards your father has. I'm a modern American girl and I won't live with an unfaithful husband" (Chapter 5, p. 312).

"We move by inches, not miles," said Gus Dewar with a smile. "That's politics" (Chapter 9, p. 516).

"I think this will go down as a black day in the history of mankind" (Chapter 14, p. 678).

"Everyone talks under torture" (Chapter 16, p. 722).

"People vote with their hearts, not brains," he said. "They'll want to show their gratitude" (Chapter 20, p. 831).

"If people can have all this," she said, "why would they want to be Communist" (Chapter 21, p. 873).

"Erik was one of those inadequate people who were so scared by life that they preferred to live under harsh authority, to be told what to do and what to think by a government that allowed no dissent. They were foolish and dangerous, but there were an awful lot of them" (Chapter 25, p. 940).

## Topics for Discussion

Discuss the theme of religion in Ken Follett's novel, "Winter of the World." What religions are represented in the novel? How are they portrayed? How do the different religions react to Nazism and Hitler's power? Taken altogether, is religion a positive or a negative force in the book? Why? Provide evidence to support your claim.

Discuss the theme of war in Ken Follett's novel, "Winter of the World". List and describe the ways that war appears in the novel. Is war a positive or a negative thing in the novel, or is it a mixture of both? Explain and defend your answer.

Following World War I, and in the lead-up to World War II, many opposed another war, even though Germany had rearmed and increased the size of its military. Following World War II, many opposed confronting the Communists as they rose to prominence in Europe. In each of these cases, greater evil came to pass. Why was it that few people stood to confront either the Nazis or the Communists? What was their reasoning? Were they correct not to make a stand? Why or why not?

Discuss the theme of family in the novel "Winter of the World" by Ken Follett. What is family? How does it appear amid the events and among the characters of the novel? List and describe the triumphs and tragedies of family in the novel. Is family a positive or negative aspect of the novel? Why?

Is it for the better or the worse that the Soviet Union managed to build its own atomic bomb, and pursue nuclear weaponry? Why or why not? Were Frunze and his wife justifiably executed for their betrayal of the United States? Why or why not? Provide evidence to support your claims.

In Chapter 14, on page 678, one of the developers of the atomic bomb says, "I think this will go down as a black day in the history of mankind." What does he mean by this statement? Is it a statement you agree with? Why or why not? Provide evidence to support your position.