**­Atonement**

**Study Guide- Part III ppgs. 353-300**

1. Does it seem as though Briony is a good nurse? Why did she go into nursing? Why might this be important? See the quote at the top of pg. 269….that might help.
2. What is the rule of etiquette Nurse Langland broke? Why would this rule matter?
3. What is Briony’s contact with her family?
4. In what ways is Briony the same as in Part 1? In what ways has she changed? Has she matured?
5. Why is Briony not surprised when she found out Paul Marshall and Lola were to be married? What does she say about her involvement? Why does this matter?
6. As Briony and her friend, Fiona, are sitting at St. James Park, it becomes clear as to why Briony is so interested in the specifics of war (aside from general interest). Why is she interested? She considers how, “…her secret torment and the public upheaval of war had always seemed separate worlds, but now she understood how the war might compound her crime.” She thinks about Fiona’s easy life and thinks of hers as, “…going to be lived in one room, without a door.” What does all this mean?
7. Consider the parallels between the chapters on Robbie’s time in war and Briony’s time as a nurse- especially the triage after she and Fiona were at the park.
8. What does Briony realize about human beings as she is reflecting on what the experience with this triage has taught her? (Look at the top of page 287) How can this be applied to her accusations against Robbie?
9. What does the letter from the publisher say about Briony’s story, *Two Figures by a Fountain*? Does this give you any hints as to the narrator of Atonement? Explain.