

Till We Have Faces
Seminar Questions

Directions: You will have a unit seminar on the following discussion questions. You must visibly prepare for this seminar by typing up notes for each question. You may use bullet points, but please use complete sentences. Additionally, it will benefit you greatly to include quotes for each response.

1. Now that you have finished novel, discuss the significance of the title and the role that faces play in the book. ¹
2. How does the motif (recurring image or theme) of sight/the veil/light/darkness interact with the notion of a face?¹
3. Discuss the different types of love in the novel. Consider how each of the following individuals perceive what it means to love and/or to be loved: Orual, Trom the King, Psyche, Redival, Lysias the Fox, Bardia, Ansit, and finally, the gods themselves.
4. According to this book, what is the meaning of genuine love? Explain.
5. What does this narrative argue as true beauty? Explain.
6. In what ways was Orual in fact what she had hated in others?
7. Just as Orual is about to commit suicide in the river, she hears the voice of a god who states, “You cannot escape Ungit by going to the deadlands, for she is there also. Die before you die. There is no chance after” (279). What is the meaning of this?
8. Discuss C.S. Lewis’ use of intertextuality. How effective is it?
9. What have you learned about yourself through this book? Have you found new ways to “mine” your heart? Recall the image you conveyed of your heart in the beginning of this unit. Has it changed?
10. What has this novel taught you about life?
11. If you were to speak with Orual today, what would you say to her?