

## Class 11 Main Lesson: *Parzival* – Day 15: Friday

1. Please say the special verse.
2. **Personal Reflection:** (in the back of your book)
  - I. Have you ever (or do you often) 'let go' and let fate decide... ? Have you relinquished micro-controlling yourself and your future, and just trusted that what will happen, will be ok?

Can you think of a specific time? What happened? Was it 'ok'?

- II. Overall reflections on:  
Your Sacrifice. *How did you do?*  
Your Virtue. *How did you do?*  
The experience of Parzival and the Main Lesson.
3. **Prompts for The King part 2:** Use these prompts, and the ones from yesterday, to help you do your final piece of writing: 'The King'.  
Some things to consider (*you don't have to write about them all though!*)
  - What happens with the mysterious knight who is his equal?
  - What does Cundrie reveal this time around? How is her reception and message different?
  - On the way to the grail castle, what is Sigune's fate?
  - What does Parzival ask that heals Anfortas?
  - **WHY? What is the significance?**
  - **Do you think Parzival was even able to ask the question authentically the first time around, even if he knew what to say?**
  - **What has happened/changed in Parzival that he is now able to ask this question authentically?**
  - What happens to Parzival, Condwiramurs, Feirefiz and the others?
  - How does it end?

### **Important extra information:**

- Parzival stays in the castle, while Feirefiz takes the power of the grail out into the land, and transforms the wasteland.
  - Parzival's children are named as King and Prince of Wales.
  - Feirefiz and Repanse de Schoye go to India, where they give birth to **Prestor John** who, interestingly, is definitely a real historical figure who founded a form of mystical Christianity in the East...
  - Consider: Through Parzival's story and the power of the grail, there is a unification of male and female, East and West (Christian and Muslim (Feirefiz)), and matter and spirit. Can you find any other unities?
4. **The King:** please re-tell the last section of Parzival's journey in 100-300 words. Remember to continue narrating with your own inimitable style.

5. Put some kind of artistic touch to The King so that it looks like care has been invested into its construction. It does not have to be an illustration, just something.
6. Finish your Mandala! And include “PARZIVAL” as the title of the Main Lesson.
7. Final Reflection: **what is the grail?** using the prompts from Yesterday’s ‘tasks for tomorrow’, please give serious consideration and answer as best you can the riddle of the grail: a riddle that has captivated mankind for nearly one-thousand years, and which still continues to exert a tremendous influence on collective human consciousness.

There was so much more I wanted to bring to you about this story and about its mythical and mystical origins. Suffice it to say, there is incredible depth in the story, that does not necessarily have to be consciously understood to bring depth and wisdom to your life. There are many layers to the story.

The hero’s journey is another fascinating area that we did not get to discuss, and yet we experienced it, both in the story of Parzival, and in your experience of completing the Main Lesson, and which you will experience again over your Class 12 journey, and then again over the course of your life, in various iterations.

I believe that there will be a **Drop-Off at school on Monday, September 13 – please submit then.**

Thank you all! I hope you have taken something from the study, and I really honestly can’t wait to get your books and have a look at your work.

But before you go, I have a parting gift:

Now you know the worst  
we humans have to know  
about ourselves, and I am sorry,

for I know you will be afraid.  
To those of our bodies given  
without pity to be burned, I know

there is no answer  
but loving one another  
even our enemies, and this is hard.

But remember:  
when a man of war becomes a man of peace,  
he gives a light, divine

though it is also human.  
When a man of peace is killed  
by a man of war, he gives a light.

You do not have to walk in darkness.  
If you have the courage for love,  
you may walk in light. It will be

the light of those who have suffered  
for peace. It will be  
your light.

*Wendell Berry*