

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

Close Reading Organizer - Chapter 4

Directions: Read each summary entry and think about which themes listed in the Themes Key apply to it, then color in those themes in the Theme Tracker. Next, write a few sentences of Analysis to explain how the themes you chose apply to each summary section.

Themes Key

1	Gender Roles
2	Religion and Theocracy
3	Fertility
4	Rebellion
5	Love
6	Storytelling and Memory

Summary	Theme Tracker						Your Analysis
Out of the flashback, Offred continues on her shopping trip. The path through the garden looks like a part in hair, and the worms remind Offred of fertility. The Guardian assigned to the Commander, Nick , polishes the Commander's fancy Whirlwind car. Nick demonstrates a touch of irreverence by rolling up his uniform sleeves and smoking a black-market cigarette. He lives above the garage, but wasn't given a woman, which shows his low rank.	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Nick winks at Offred , which alarms her. She doesn't understand the gesture, which is a risky move that she could report to the authorities, and fears he might be an Eye .	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Offred waits at the corner, recalling Aunt Lydia's advice to	1	2	3	4	5	6	

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<p>be patient and to imagine herself as a seed. She remembers children's ballet classes, pretending to be a tree. Another red-clad handmaid, Ofglen, approaches, and they greet each other, saying, "Blessed be the fruit," and "May the Lord open." Offred knows that they're together not for their own safety, but to spy on each other, and she thinks Ofglen might be a truly faithful Handmaid.</p>							
<p>As the pair walks, Ofglen mentions how some rebel Baptists have been captured. The road is barricaded and heavily guarded, and the women must show passes to two green-clad Guardians of the Faith. The Guardians aren't soldiers like the Angels, but take care of general policing and other lower-status tasks. Last week, the Guardians at a barricade shot a Martha, according to Cora and Rita's gossip.</p>	1	2	3	4	5	6	
<p>The Guardians show respect to the Handmaids by saluting them. One of the Guardians looks around Offred's wings at her face, a rebellious act that makes Offred imagine coming back to him secretly at night. Offred imagines that maybe he thinks about the same thing. Offred thinks about the secretive black vans of the Eyes, which can go through the barricades without pause. Ultimately, Offred decides that the Guardians probably think about nothing more than duty, promotion, and marriage.</p>	1	2	3	4	5	6	

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Still, after passing the barricade Offred walks away in a seductive manner, enjoying her slight sense of power, and hoping that she's aroused the men so much that they'll suffer at night.							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	