

***The Book Thief* Discussion Questions 10 (pgs. 371-403)**

1. When the Hubermans have to leave Max in the basement while they seek shelter during the potential bombing Hans comments, "It's a shame we can't take you (Max) with us. It's a disgrace." To which Max replies, "It's how it is." (372) What does this tell us about Hans? What does it tell us about Max?
2. At the bottom of 375 and top of 376 Death characterizes the German people as both the victims and the aggressors, do we agree with him? Why or why not?
3. Why do you think Max risked everything to get a glimpse of the sky? Why do you think the stars "burned" his eyes?
4. Liesel said the Jews marching through town were "going to Dachau, to concentrate" (388). What does this tell us about the level of understanding the Germans had about what was really going on in these camps?
5. When Rudy and Liesel first see the Jews marching towards them Rudy asked if they were a herd of cows (390). What is the significance of this comment?
6. Why do you think Zizek's put in the definitions com the *Duden Dictionary*? What are their significance in the text?
7. Why do you think death describes the marching Jews as a "catalog of colors" (391)?
8. "Once in a while a man or woman--no, they were not men and women; they were Jews--would find Liesel's face among the crowd." (392) Why do you think Death describes them in this way?
9. Review pages 393-395. How is this an example of how an author takes events in his life and turns them into events in his literature?
10. How did Han's act of kindness help the Jewish man feel more like a human?
11. Does Hans act of kindness make Hans seem more or less heroic now?
12. If Hans felt like he did the humane, morally correct thing, why does he feel as though he should be taken away by the Gestapo? What does this tell us about the culture in Nazi Germany?
13. Do you think that Max leaving was stupid or heroic? Why?
14. What do you think the Gestapo want with Rudy?