

## Things Fall Apart - Chapters 1-4

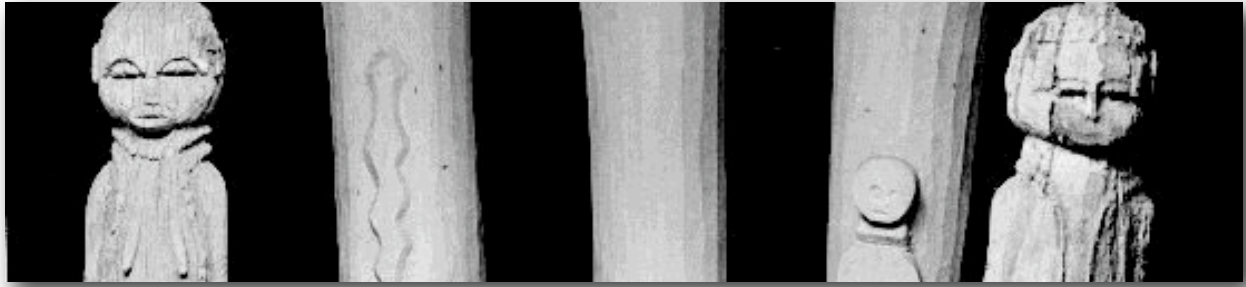


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Turning and turning in the widening gyre  
The falcon cannot hear the falconer;  
Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold;  
Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world,  
The blood-dimmed tide is loosed, and everywhere  
The ceremony of innocence is drowned;  
The best lack all conviction, while the worst  
Are full of passionate intensity.

**gyre** - *noun*. A spinning vortex

~From *The Second Coming* By Yeats

### Part 1

Pick two characters from chapters 1-4. Find three passages for each that help to illustrate who that character is. Copy the passages into your journal and tell us why the passages are important or what they tell you about the character.

### Part 2

Reread the poem by Yeats above. First, what do you think is happening? Is it good or bad?

### Part 3

Look back at the characters that you found passages about in Part 1. Based on what you read in Yeats' poem, what predictions can you make about each of the characters? What do you think might happen as the story unfolds? Why?