



*A Novel*

ILLUSTRATED  
WITH MORE  
THAN 40 ORIGINAL  
DRAWINGS BY  
THE AUTHOR

## the thief of always

"Menacing demons, wondrous miracles, sinister magic,  
and vivid characters. . . . A compulsive, lightning-paced  
tale that almost begs to be read aloud."

—MIAMI HERALD

# CLIVE BARKER

AUTHOR OF *THE HELLBOUND HEART*  
AND *MISTER B. GONE*



# How this Novel Study works:

## For Each Chapter

- Vocabulary in context
- Big Idea
- Summary Quote

## For Every 5 Chapters

- Character Reflection (PATH) and/or Setting Connection (MAP)

## For Every 10 Chapters

- Edmodo Test

# Ch.1 Vocabulary

**interloper** (n) - a person who becomes involved in a place or situation where they are not wanted

**inquisitive** (adj) - showing curiosity in new things.

# Big Idea

Choose one idea for this chapter and explain why it's the big idea.

Acceptance	Emotion	Knowledge	Punishment
Anger	Equality	Logic	Reasoning
Anxiety	Epiphany	Love	Responsibility
Awareness	Experience	Mercy	Risk
Beauty	Family	Nature	Separation
Betrayal	Fate	Necessity	Status
Cause & Effect	Fear	Obedience	Stereotype
Change	Freedom	Observation	Suspicion
Communication	Future	Opposition	Synergy
Connection	Happiness	Pain	Tension
Control	Honor	Past	Tradition
Courage	Hope	Peace	Truth
Creativity	Ignorance	Prejudice	Whimsy
Deception	Instinct	Present	Will
Denial	Intuition	Pride	Wisdom
Desire	Justice	Progress	Youth

## Ch.1 Summary Quote

*“ ‘I want to...I want to...’ He went to the mirror, and quizzed it. ‘What do I want?’ The straw-haired, snub-nosed, brown-eyed boy he saw before him shook his head. ‘I don’t know what I want,’ he said. ‘I just know I’ll die if I don’t have some fun. I will! I’ll die!’ ”*

Why is Harvey being so dramatic?

## Ch.2 Vocabulary

waning (v) - to decrease gradually in size, amount, or intensity.

idle (adj) - Not active or in use.

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## Ch.2 Summary Quote

*“So what if he missed all of the morning at school, he thought, it’d be no great loss. Maybe an hour or two of the afternoon as well. As long as he was back by three. Or four. Certainly before dark.”*

Why was it so easy for Harvey to quickly justify being away from school and home?

## Ch.3 Vocabulary

**djinn** (n) - (in Arabian and Muslim mythology) an intelligent spirit of lower rank than the angels, able to appear in human and animal forms and to possess humans.

**dirge** (n) - a passionate expression of grief or sorrow for the dead

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## Ch.3 Summary Quote

*“ ‘It’s perfect!’ Harvey murmured to himself. Mrs. Griffin caught his words. ‘Nothing’s perfect,’ she replied. ‘Why not?’ ‘Because time passes,’ she went on staring down at the flowers she’d cut. ‘And the beetle and the worm find their way into everything sooner or later.’ ”*

How does Mrs. Griffin’s statement offer Harvey somewhat of a warning?

## Ch.4 Vocabulary

*rudimentary* (adj) - being in the earliest stages of development.

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## Ch.4 Summary Quote

“ ‘What’s solace?’ Harvey asked. ‘It’s something soothing,’ Mrs. Griffin said, getting to her feet. ‘Something that heals the pain in your heart.’ ‘And you don’t have any of that?’ ‘No, I don’t,’ Mrs. Griffin said. She reached out and touched Harvey’s cheek. ‘Except maybe in these tears of yours. They comfort me.’ ”

Why does Mrs. Griffin find solace in Harvey’s tears?

## Ch.5 Vocabulary

**copse** (n) - a small group of trees.

**scrutiny** (n) - critical observation or examination.

**deluge** (n) - a severe flood.



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## Ch.5 Summary Quote

*“They were watching him, he was certain of that, and their scrutiny made him shudder. Were they hungry, he wondered, and praying to their fishy gods that he’d slip on the stones and tumble in? Or were they wishing he’d come with a rod and a line, so that they could be hauled from the depths and put out of their misery?”*

How did seeing the fish make Harvey start to question the magic of the Holiday House?

# Character Reflection (PATH)

Choose a character to reflect on.

What has this chapter revealed about their PATH?

**P**lan *(What are they working towards?)*

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# Setting Connection (MAP)

What has this chapter revealed about the current setting's MAP?

**M**otivation *(How does it motivate the characters to act?)*

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**P**otential *(What might happen if the characters stay?)*

## Ch.6 Vocabulary

**grotesque** (adj) - comically or repulsively ugly or distorted.

**pallor** (n) - an unhealthy pale appearance.

**gangrenous** (adj) - suffering from tissue death.

# Big Idea

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## Ch.6 Summary Quote

*“As he worked through the piles of clothes he found himself wondering about the children who’d left them here. Though he’d always hated history lessons, he knew some of the jackets and shoes and shirts and belts had been out of fashion for many, many years. Where were their owners now? Dead, he presumed, or so old it made no difference.”*

Why does thinking about the clothes’ owners give Harvey a shudder to his spine?

## Ch.7 Vocabulary

**duplicate** (v) - to make an exact copy of something.

**eerie** (adj) - strange and frightening.



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## Ch.7 Summary Quote

*“What shall I ask for? He wondered as he washed the dirt off his face. Something impossible maybe, to see just how much magic the House possessed. A white tiger, perhaps. A full-sized zeppelin? A ticket to the moon?”*

Why does Harvey choose to test the magic of the House?

## Ch.8 Vocabulary

**precarious** (adj) - dangerously likely to fall or collapse.

**flotilla** (n) - a fleet of ships or boats.

**menagerie** (n) - a collection of wild animals kept in captivity for exhibition.

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## Ch.8 Summary Quote

*“Despite all entertainments that the Holiday House supplied so eagerly, it was a haunted place, and however hard he had tried to ignore his doubts and suppress his questions, they could be ignored and suppressed no longer. Whoever, or whatever, that haunter was, Harvey could not be content now until he’d seen its face and knew its nature.”*

Why does Harvey want to know the truth at all costs now?

## Ch.9 Vocabulary

**succession** (n) - the process of similar things following one after the other.

**brood** (n) - a family of young animals, especially of birds that are hatched at the same time.

**conspirator** (n) - a person who takes part in a secret plan to do something unlawful or harmful (a conspiracy).

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## Ch.9 Summary Quote

*“ ‘You never did get Wendell back for that trick of his.’ ‘No, I didn’t,’ said Harvey. ‘Why the heck not?’ ‘I could never think of a way.’ ‘Oh I’m sure we could cook something up between the two of us.’ ”*

Why does Jive remind Harvey about him wanting to get revenge on Wendell?



## Ch.10 Vocabulary

*supplications* (n) - the process of begging humbly for something.

*unpalatable* (adj) - not pleasant to taste.

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## Ch.10 Summary Quote

*“ ‘A Halloween trick. It meant nothing.’ ‘There are those who’d disagree,’ Jive said darkly. ‘Those who’d say that all the great powers in the world are bloodsuckers and soul-stealers at heart. And we must serve them. All of us. Serve them to our dying day.’ ”*

Why did Jive try so hard to convince Harvey to act like a real monster instead of just pretending for the sake of a prank?

# Character Reflection (PATH)

Choose a character to reflect on.

What has this chapter revealed about their PATH?

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**P**otential *(What might happen if the characters stay?)*

# Ch.11 Vocabulary

**vex** (v) - to make someone confused, frustrated, or annoyed.

**goad** (v) - to provoke or annoy (someone) so as to stimulate some action or reaction.

# Big Idea

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## Ch.11 Summary Quote

*“ ‘Now listen to me Harvey. I’ve seen many children come and go through this House - some of them foolish, some of them selfish, some sweet, some brave - but you, you are one of the brightest souls I have ever set eyes on. I want you to take what joy you can from being here. Use the hours well, because there’ll be fewer than you think.’ ”*

Why is Mrs. Griffin so convinced that there is no escaping from the Holiday House?



## Ch.12 Vocabulary

**malformation** (n) - an abnormally formed part of the body.

**talismans** (n) - an object, typically an inscribed ring or stone, that is thought to have magic powers and to bring good luck.

**rendezvous** (n) - a meeting at an agreed time and place.

# Big Idea

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## Ch.12 Summary Quote

*“Clutching her gifts to him like talismans, he trudged away from the lake and down the lawn to keep his rendezvous with Wendell.”*

Why did Harvey think of the retrieved toys as good luck charms for what he is about to attempt next?

## Ch.13 Vocabulary

**waylaid** (v) - to stop or interrupt (someone) and detain them in conversation or trouble them in some other way.

**ambition** (n) - a strong desire to do or to achieve something, typically requiring determination and hard work.

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## Ch.13 Summary Quote

*“If it had not wanted their flesh so badly, he thought, it wouldn’t have come after them at such speed, and brought this pain and humiliation upon itself. There was a lesson there, if he could only remember it. Evil, however powerful it seemed, could be undone by its own appetite.”*

Why was this such an important lesson for Harvey to remember after escaping the House?

## Ch.14 Vocabulary

**abashed** (v) - cause to feel embarrassed or ashamed.

**petty** (adj) - of little importance; trivial.

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## Ch.14 Summary Quote

*“If he’d remained in the House of Illusions, distracted by its petty pleasures, a whole lifetime would have gone by here in the real world, and his soul would have become Hood’s property. He would have joined the fish circling in the lake; and circling; and circling. He shuddered at the thought.”*

Why do all the pleasures of the House seem so unimportant now to Harvey?

# Ch.15 Vocabulary

**forlorn** (adj) - pitifully sad and abandoned or lonely.

# Big Idea

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## Ch.15 Summary Quote

*“Mr. Hood had laid his traps carefully over the years, protecting himself from the laws of the real world. Safe behind the mists of his illusion, he’d most likely already found two new and unwitting prisoners to replace Harvey and Wendell. It seemed his evil would go on, undiscovered and unpunished.”*

Why is Harvey so motivated to figure out how to undo the magic of the House?

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## Ch.16 Vocabulary

**repertoire** (n) - a collection of acts that someone can perform.

**veneer** (n) - a superficial or deceptively attractive appearance, display, or effect.

**blandishments** (n) - a flattering or pleasing statement or action used to persuade someone gently to do something.

# Big Idea

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## Ch.16 Summary Quote

*“Harvey could see by the glazed look in Wendell’s eyes that the House was already working its seductive magic. It could only be a matter of time, he knew, before his own powers of resistance were worn away. And what then? Would he forget his work here entirely, and become an empty-headed boy, laughing like a loon while his soul was sucked away?”*

Why was it so easy for Wendell to be tricked again as they returned to the House?

## Ch.17 Vocabulary

**cavernous** (adj) - like a large cave in size, shape, or atmosphere.

# Big Idea

Choose one idea for this chapter and explain why it's the big idea.

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## Ch.17 Summary Quote

*“ ‘That’s what we’re all here for: to give you whatever your heart desires.’ ” - Rictus*

*“ ‘So you’re getting back into the swing of things, kiddo! Good for you!’ ” - Jive*

Why are Rictus and Jive being so nice to Harvey?

## Ch.18 Vocabulary

**bafflement** (n) - confusion resulting from failure to understand

**brackish** (adj) - (describing water) having a slight salty quality.

# Big Idea

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## Ch.18 Summary Quote

*“She started to struggle, and he felt her magic surging through her fingers into his, attempting to work some change on him. But he didn’t want to be a vampire bat anymore, and he certainly didn’t want to be a worm. He was quite happy to be himself. The magic therefore had no hold on him; instead it flowed back into Marr, who began to shake as though she were being dipped in icy water.”*

Why does the magic no longer work on Harvey?

## Ch.19 Vocabulary

**solemn** (adj) - formal and dignified.

**hindrance** (n) - a thing that provides resistance, delay, or obstruction to something or someone.



# Big Idea

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## Ch.19 Summary Quote

*“He looked back at the pie, and for a moment it seemed he glimpsed the truth of the thing: the gray dust and ashes from which this illusion was made.”*

Why is Harvey not threatened by Rictus or Jive anymore?

## Ch.20 Vocabulary

**bereft** (adj) - lacking something.

**squalid** (adj) - extremely dirty and unpleasant because of poverty or neglect.

**detritus** (n) - waste or debris of any kind.

**perplexity** (n) - inability to deal with or understand something complicated.

# Big Idea

Choose one idea for this chapter and explain why it's the big idea.

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Cause & Effect	Fear	Obedience	Stereotype
Change	Freedom	Observation	Suspicion
Communication	Future	Opposition	Synergy
Connection	Happiness	Pain	Tension
Control	Honor	Past	Tradition
Courage	Hope	Peace	Truth
Creativity	Ignorance	Prejudice	Whimsy
Deception	Instinct	Present	Will
Denial	Intuition	Pride	Wisdom
Desire	Justice	Progress	Youth

## Ch.20 Summary Quote

*“ ‘Perhaps we needn’t be enemies,’ Hood said. Perhaps I should take you under my wing. My west wing.’ He laughed mirthlessly at his own joke. ‘I can nurture you. Help you better understand the Dark Paths.’ ”*

Why is Mr. Hood so quick to offer Harvey a place at his side instead of devouring him?

# Character Reflection (PATH)

Choose a character to reflect on.

What has this chapter revealed about their PATH?

**P**lan *(What are they working towards?)*

**A**dversity *(What challenges did/will they face?)*

**T**houghts *(What is on their mind the most?)*

**H**elp *(What will help them in the next step?)*

# Setting Connection (MAP)

What has this chapter revealed about the current setting's MAP?

**M**otivation *(How does it motivate the characters to act?)*

**A**tmosphere *(What mood or emotions does it evoke?)*

**P**otential *(What might happen if the characters stay?)*

## Ch.21 Vocabulary

*rigamarole* (n) - a set of confused and meaningless statements.

*wits* (n) - mental sharpness and inventiveness.



# Big Idea

Choose one idea for this chapter and explain why it's the big idea.

Acceptance	Emotion	Knowledge	Punishment
Anger	Equality	Logic	Reasoning
Anxiety	Epiphany	Love	Responsibility
Awareness	Experience	Mercy	Risk
Beauty	Family	Nature	Separation
Betrayal	Fate	Necessity	Status
Cause & Effect	Fear	Obedience	Stereotype
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Creativity	Ignorance	Prejudice	Whimsy
Deception	Instinct	Present	Will
Denial	Intuition	Pride	Wisdom
Desire	Justice	Progress	Youth

## Ch.21 Summary Quote

*“They were both useless, fists and tears. He couldn’t soften Hood’s heart with weeping, and he couldn’t bring down the House with blows. He had no weapon against the enemy but his wits, and his wits were about at an end.”*

Why does Harvey feel so helpless despite the power he seems to have that makes Rictus try to bargain so much with him?

## Ch.22 Vocabulary

**ransacking** (v) - to hurry through a place while stealing things and causing damage.

**noxious** (adj) - harmful, poisonous, or very unpleasant.

**facade** (n) - a way of behaving that masks one's true feelings or intentions.

# Big Idea

Choose one idea for this chapter and explain why it's the big idea.

Acceptance	Emotion	Knowledge	Punishment
Anger	Equality	Logic	Reasoning
Anxiety	Epiphany	Love	Responsibility
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Beauty	Family	Nature	Separation
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Creativity	Ignorance	Prejudice	Whimsy
Deception	Instinct	Present	Will
Denial	Intuition	Pride	Wisdom
Desire	Justice	Progress	Youth

## Ch.22 Summary Quote

*“ ‘You’re testing me, aren’t you?’ said Hood. His voice had never been melodious, but it was now uglier than ever: like the rumble of the Devil’s belly. ‘Admit it, thief!’ he said.”*

Why is Hood’s voice compared to “the rumble of the Devil’s belly”?

## Ch.23 Vocabulary

**juggernaut** (n) - a huge, powerful, and overwhelming force or institution.

**vehemence** (n) - the display of strong feeling; passion.

**insubstantial** (adj) - lacking strength and solidity.

# Big Idea

Choose one idea for this chapter and explain why it's the big idea.

Acceptance	Emotion	Knowledge	Punishment
Anger	Equality	Logic	Reasoning
Anxiety	Epiphany	Love	Responsibility
Awareness	Experience	Mercy	Risk
Beauty	Family	Nature	Separation
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Deception	Instinct	Present	Will
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Desire	Justice	Progress	Youth

## Ch.23 Summary Quote

*“To his left, shafts of sunlight pierced the storm clouds in the name of Summer, only to be smothered by Autumn’s fogs, while to his right Spring coaxed its legions out of bough and earth, then saw its buds murdered by Winter’s frosts before they could show their colors.”*

How was Harvey’s last request the most exhausting of Hood’s powers?



## Ch.24 Vocabulary

**vortex** (n) - a whirling mass of fluid or air. (i.e. whirlpool or whirlwind)

## Ch.24 Summary Quote

*“Here, at last, was the evil that had built the Holiday House, shaped more or less as a man. He was not made of flesh, blood and bone, however. He had used the magic Rictus had unwillingly provided to create another body. In the high times of his evil, Hood had been the House. Now, it was the other way around. The House, what was left of it, had become Mr. Hood.”*

How was Hood able to survive despite the war of the seasons that seemed to tear him apart?

## Ch.25 Vocabulary

**filched** (v) - pilfer or steal in a casual way.

**maelstrom** (n) - a powerful whirlpool in the sea or a river.

**blithe** (adj) - showing a casual and cheerful indifference considered to be callous or improper.

**perpetual** (adj) - never ending or changing.

# Big Idea

Choose one idea for this chapter and explain why it's the big idea.

Acceptance	Emotion	Knowledge	Punishment
Anger	Equality	Logic	Reasoning
Anxiety	Epiphany	Love	Responsibility
Awareness	Experience	Mercy	Risk
Beauty	Family	Nature	Separation
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Desire	Justice	Progress	Youth

## Ch.25 Summary Quote

*“Even now, Hood was determined to claim his rags back from Harvey, and conceal the void in him. ‘Give me my coat, thief!’ he howled. ‘It’s all yours!’ Harvey yelled, and tossed the stolen rags toward the waters. Hood lunged after them, and as he did so Harvey flung himself back toward solid ground.”*

Why was Hood so obsessed with covering up his emptiness?

# Character Reflection (PATH)

Choose a character to reflect on.

What has this chapter revealed about their PATH?

**P**lan *(What are they working towards?)*

**A**dversity *(What challenges did/will they face?)*

**T**houghts *(What is on their mind the most?)*

**H**elp *(What will help them in the next step?)*

# Setting Connection (MAP)

What has this chapter revealed about the current setting's MAP?

**M**otivation *(How does it motivate the characters to act?)*

**A**tmosphere *(What mood or emotions does it evoke?)*

**P**otential *(What might happen if the characters stay?)*

## Ch.26 Vocabulary

*incredulous* (adj) - unwilling or unable to believe something.

*cavorting* (v) - jump or dance around excitedly.



# Big Idea

Choose one idea for this chapter and explain why it's the big idea.

Acceptance	Emotion	Knowledge	Punishment
Anger	Equality	Logic	Reasoning
Anxiety	Epiphany	Love	Responsibility
Awareness	Experience	Mercy	Risk
Beauty	Family	Nature	Separation
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Deception	Instinct	Present	Will
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## Ch.26 Summary Quote

*“Harvey resented the presence of all these people. How dare they romp and laugh and fly their kites here, he thought, as though it were just another hill? He wanted to tell them all that they were cavorting on the ruins of a vampire’s house, and see how quickly that wiped the smiles off their faces.”*

Why was Harvey so upset when first seeing people on the hill and why did he then change his mind?

# Socratic Seminar



# Prep Work

- Use Close Reading Annotations as you read through the selected quotes from the novel.
  - **Circle** powerful words or phrases
  - Underline Key Ideas
  - Write thoughts or questions (?) in the margin
  - (!) By important things

# Rank Order Definitions

**logic** - a reasonable way of thinking.

**boredom** - the state of feeling bored.

**ignorance** - lack of knowledge or experience.

**control** - power to influence behavior or events.

**illusion** - a thing that is wrongly interpreted by the senses.

**contentment** - a state of happiness or satisfaction.

# 1st In Importance

**logic** - a reasonable way of thinking.

**boredom** - the state of feeling bored.

**ignorance** - lack of knowledge or experience.

**control** - power to influence behavior or events.

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## 2nd In Importance

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**ignorance** - lack of knowledge or experience.

**control** - power to influence behavior or events.

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## 3rd In Importance

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**ignorance** - lack of knowledge or experience.

**control** - power to influence behavior or events.

**illusion** - a thing that is wrongly interpreted by the senses.

**contentment** - a state of happiness or satisfaction.



## 4th In Importance

**logic** - a reasonable way of thinking.

**boredom** - the state of feeling bored.

**ignorance** - lack of knowledge or experience.

**control** - power to influence behavior or events.

**illusion** - a thing that is wrongly interpreted by the senses.

**contentment** - a state of happiness or satisfaction.

## 5th In Importance

**logic** - a reasonable way of thinking.

**boredom** - the state of feeling bored.

**ignorance** - lack of knowledge or experience.

**control** - power to influence behavior or events.

**illusion** - a thing that is wrongly interpreted by the senses.

**contentment** - a state of happiness or satisfaction.

## 6th In Importance

**logic** - a reasonable way of thinking.

**boredom** - the state of feeling bored.

**ignorance** - lack of knowledge or experience.

**control** - power to influence behavior or events.

**illusion** - a thing that is wrongly interpreted by the senses.

**contentment** - a state of happiness or satisfaction.

# Ground Rules

1. Speak so that all can hear you.
2. Listen closely.
3. Speak without raising hands.
4. Refer to the text.
5. Talk to each other, not just to the leader.
6. Ask for clarification, don't stay confused.
7. Invite and allow others to speak.
8. Consider all viewpoints and ideas.
9. You are responsible for the quality of the seminar.



