

BAEN BOOKS
TEACHER'S GUIDE TO *1632* BY ERIC FLINT



Contents:

- recommended reading levels
- biographical material and links
- background of the book and plot summary
- character sketches
- a separate guide to each of the seven parts of the book, which includes a plot summary of each chapter and may also include some of the following:
 - prepare to read...
 - vocabulary
 - focus questions or initiating activity
 - quiz/reading comprehension questions—multiple choice/short answer questions to testing reading comprehension
 - reflection and discussion questions—may be used to initiate classroom discussion, as short writing assignments, or as test questions
 - suggested activities / inquiry-based exploration—suggestions for activities and projects

Recommended reading levels: The reading level of *1632* has received a Lexile measure of 0650L. Because of the mature nature of some of the material included in the book, including rape, violence, and sexually explicit scenes, classroom use of the book is probably most appropriate for upper-level high school students. The book would be particularly effective for upper-level classes in history and Western civilization.

Biographical information on Eric Flint:

Eric Flint is a popular, prolific, and critically acclaimed author of alternate history, fantasy, and science fiction. He was born in Southern California in 1947, graduated from high school in Los Angeles, and went on to receive a B.A. from UCLA in 1968. He spent three years working on a Ph.D. in Southern African history, but abandoned an academic career when he became a socialist and political activist. For the next thirty years, he worked in a variety of jobs, including longshoreman, truck driver, and machinist. He had written for many years, but decided to get serious about writing professionally in 1992. Since then, as author and co-author, he has written dozens of successful novels, novellas, and short stories.¹

Biographical resources on the web:

¹ The source for the information contained in this biographical sketch is Eric Flint, "Biography," *Eric Flint's place on the web*, <http://www.ericflint.net/index.php/biography/> (accessed November 13, 2010).

- Flint has provided autobiographical information at his own website, *Eric Flint's place on the web*, <http://www.ericflint.net/index.php/biography/>.
- The Eric Flint web page at Amazon contains a short biographical sketch: "Eric Flint," *Amazon.com*, <http://www.amazon.com/Eric-Flint/e/B001ITXFV8>.
- "Eric Flint," *Wikipedia*, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eric_Flint.

Suggested class activity: Have your students read the autobiographical information on Flint's website before they begin the book. Ask them to make notes as they read and, when they finish, write essays on how *1632* reflects Flint's history as a socialist, political activist, and manual laborer.

For further information on Eric Flint and his work:

- Flint's website contains a wealth of material that students may enjoy exploring in addition to his biographical details: photos, a bibliography, discussions, and news about current projects and upcoming appearances (<http://www.ericflint.net/>).
- Wikis about Flint's life and work may be found at http://ericflint.wikia.com/wiki/Eric_Flint_Wiki and http://www.bookrags.com/wiki/Eric_Flint

Bibliographies:

You can find bibliographies of Flint's work at his own website (<http://www.ericflint.net/index.php/bibliography/>), at the website of the Internet Speculative Fiction Database (isfdb.org) (http://www.isfdb.org/cgi-bin/ea.cgi?Eric_Flint), and on Wikipedia (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eric_Flint).

1632 background:

Flint published *1632* with Baen Books in 2000. It is part of the genre known as alternate history. In *1632*, a cosmic incident upsets the space/time continuum and a new version of seventeenth century European history unfolds. It was a popular book and spawned a number of sequels and spin-offs set in what has come to be known as the 163x series, the Ring of Fire series, or the Assiti Shards. The series inspired its own fan site, as well as an e-zine for works written by other authors within the *1632* universe. Students may be interested in exploring *The Official 1632 Fan Site* (<http://1632.org/>) and the e-zine, *The Grantville Gazette* (<http://www.grantvillegazette.com/>).

Plot Summary: The small mining town of Grantville is celebrating the marriage of Tim Simpson and Rita Stearns. In the middle of the wedding reception, a blinding flash and a

thunderous crash startle everyone. When the shaken citizens go exploring and piece together all the evidence they can gather, they conclude that their six mile hemisphere of modern-day West Virginia has somehow been transported to seventeenth century Thuringia in Germany in the midst of the Thirty Years War. Surrounded by violence, rape, pillage and suffering, they resolve to bring American democracy, decency, justice and firepower to their part of the Holy Roman Empire.

Major Characters:

- **Mike Stearns** is a coal miner who led the adventurous life of a soldier, longshoreman, and professional boxer (among other things). When his father died, Mike came back to West Virginia to work in the mines and take care of his family. He is president of the local miners' union.
- **Rita Stearns** is Mike's sister, newly married to Tom Simpson as the story opens. She later becomes one of the first women in Grantville's new army.
- **Tom Simpson** was a football player for West Virginia University. As the story opens, he has just married Rita. He is the son of wealthy parents from Pittsburgh, who disapprove of his choice of college, his playing football, and his choice of a wife (whom they consider "white trash").
- **John Chandler Simpson**, Tom's father, was the chief executive officer of a large petrochemical corporation. He tries to throw his weight around in the new Grantville, but gets nowhere.
- **Sharon Nichols** is Rita's friend and maid of honor.
- **James Nichols** is Sharon's father, a surgeon. He later becomes one of the members of the emergency committee set up to help Grantville survive.
- **Ed Piazza** is the principal of the local high school and another member of the emergency committee.
- **Dan Frost** is Grantville's chief of police. He is shot and wounded in the citizens' first encounter with German mercenaries.
- **Harry Lefferts** is a young miner who is wounded in an early encounter with German mercenaries.
- **Rebecca Abrabanel** is a beautiful young woman the Americans meet during their first encounter with mercenaries in Thuringia. She and her father, Balthazar, are Sephardic Jews who were on their way from Amsterdam to Badenberg. She becomes the first national security advisor of the new Grantville government.
- **Balthazar Abrabanel** is a Jewish philosopher and physician who was expelled by the Jewish community in Amsterdam for heresy. He is also involved in politics and has been sent as a courier to carry money from the Dutch to Gustav II Adolph, king of Sweden.
- **Tilly (Johann Tserclaes, also known as Jan Tzerklas, Count von Tilly)** is one of many historical figures who appears in 1632. He was a general representing the Catholic League in Germany during the Thirty Years' War. See the article "Johann Tserclaes, count von Tilly," in the online version of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* for details on his life.

<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/595893/Johann-Tserclaes-Graf-von-Tilly>).

- **Morris and Judith Roth** are a Grantville couple that take Rebecca and her father into their home.
- **Gustav II Adolf (Gustavus Adolphus)** is another historical figure who plays a large role in *1632*. He was the king of Sweden who, during the Thirty Years War, led Swedish troops into Germany on the side of the Protestants against the Holy Roman Empire. He was largely responsible for the success of Sweden during that war. For details on his life, see the article, “1911 Encyclopædia Britannica/Gustavus II. Adolphus,” [http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/1911_Encyclop%C3%A6dia_Britannica/Gustavus I I_Adolphus](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/1911_Encyclop%C3%A6dia_Britannica/Gustavus_I_I_Adolphus).
- **Axel Oxenstierna**, a historical figure, is a trusted advisor to Gustav II Adolf. See *Encyclopædia Britannica - eleventh edition at us.archive.org*. 1910-1911, pp. 401–402. http://ia311327.us.archive.org/load_djvu_applet.cgi?file=2/items/Encyclopaedia_Britannica1911HQDJVU/Encyclopedia_Britannica_20_Ode_-_Payment_of_members.djvu.
- **William, Landgrave of Hesse-Kassel** is one of Gustav II Adolph’s few German allies.
- **Wilhelm and Bernard, Dukes of Saxe-Weimar**, are two of Gustav II Adolph’s German allies.
- **Lennart Torstensson** is commander of the King of Sweden’s artillery.
- **Alexander Mackay** is the illegitimate son of a minor Scots nobleman. He is the Scottish cavalry officer in command of a small garrison of the king’s men in Thuringia.
- **Andrew Lennox** is Mackay’s second-in-command.
- **Melissa Mailey** is the liberal, acerbic history teacher who becomes part of Grantville’s first emergency cabinet. In her younger days, she was part of the civil rights movement, marched against the Vietnam War, and supports the United Mine Workers of America. She is also a vociferous supporter of rights for women. She is part of the subcommittee to draft a constitution for the new American territory.
- **Members of the first emergency committee in the new Grantville: Mike Stearns, Frank Jackson** (miner), **Ed Piazza, Melissa Mailey, Greg Ferrara** (science teacher), **Henry Dreeson** (mayor), **Dan Frost** (police chief), **Bill Porter** (power-plant manager), **Dr. James Nichols** (surgeon), **Quentin Underwood** (farmer), Willie Rae Hudson (farmer), and **Rebecca Abrabanel**.
- **Julie Sims** is head cheerleader at the high school, a talented sharpshooter, and one of the first women in Grantville’s new army.
- **Hans Richter** is a young German boy who has been conscripted into Tilly’s army.
- **Gretchen Richter** is Hans’s beautiful older sister. Catholic mercenaries raped Gretchen. She managed to become the concubine of Ludwig, the informal leader of a small band of the soldiers. She later marries a young American and becomes a liaison between the Germans and the Americans.

- **Diego the Spaniard** is one of the cruelest of the mercenaries and intends to rape Gretchen's younger sister.
- **Jeff Higgins** is a Grantville high school student who is one of Greg Ferrara's "whiz kids." He and three of his friends played a large role in designing the rockets for the first battle between the American forces and Tilly. They also serve as motorcycle couriers during the battle.
- **Gayle Mason** was one of the first women to work in the mine in Grantville and now serves in its army.
- **Moses and Samuel Abrabanel** are relatives of Rebecca's who come to Grantville to aid in setting up a credit and banking network.
- **Don Francisco Nasi** is the rising star of the Turkish branch of the Abrabanel family. He comes to Grantville and quickly decides to invest with the Americans and also to advise his family to immigrate there.
- **Cardinal Richelieu** is a clergyman, noble and influential political minister in France. His primary goal is to maintain and enhance the power of France.
- **Wallenstein** (also known as Albrecht Wenzel Eusebius von Wallenstein or Albrecht von Waldstein) is supreme commander of the Hapsburg armies during the Thirty Years War.

GUIDE TO PART 1—prologue and chapters 1—14

Prepare to Read...

- Familiarize yourself with the following vocabulary and terms:
 - superstring
 - SETI
 - Thuringia
 - solidarity
 - matchlock
 - cuirass
 - camouflage
 - oblivious
 - *hidalgo*
 - Galen
 - arquebus
 - labyrinth
 - *menorah*
 - excoriating
 - veritable
 - lineage
 - landgrave
 - acerbic
 - Equal Rights Amendment
 - burgher

- Anabaptists
 - naphtha
 - Calvinist
 - inquisition
 - edict
 - heretic
 - *conversos*
 - *auto-da-fé*
 - napalm
 - nubile
 - propriety
 - *anno Domini*
 - Holocaust
- Focus questions and initiating activities:
 - Research and discuss the idea of multiple/alternative universes. What do scientists think about the plausibility of this general idea? (prologue)
 - What are Marquis of Queensbury rules? (chap. 1)
 - Who were the Landsknecht? (chap. 4)
 - Who are the Sephardim and the Ashkenazim? (chap. 4)
 - Who were the *marranos*? (chap. 4)
 - What is the Holy Roman Empire? (chap. 5)
Take a look at the map of the HRE at the beginning of the 30 Years War (1618) at the website of *Emerson Kent.com*:
http://www.emersonkent.com/map_archive/holy_roman_empire_1618.htm
 - Investigate the Siege of Magdeburg. (chap. 5) Helpful sources include the website *Timelines* (<http://timelines.com/1630/11/sack-of-magdeburg>) and the article on Magdeburg at the website of the online *New World Encyclopedia* (<http://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Magdeburg>)
 - Look at the timeline of the 30 Years War provided on the website *Timelines* (<http://timelines.com/topics/thirty-years-war>). What light does this shed the book's title? (chap. 5)
 - Find some portraits of Gustav II Adolph on the web and compare what you see to Flint's description at the beginning of chapter 6.
 - Find a short biographical sketch of Gustav II Adolph on the web and see what you can learn about the man, his character, and his accomplishments. (chap. 6)
 - Why does Flint refer to Gustav II Adolph's attack on the furniture to vent his anger as "a veritable Sicilian Vespers for the seating equipment"? (chap. 6)
 - Do a thought experiment. If you and fifty other people were suddenly stranded on an island with no hope of communicating

with the outside world for many years, what would you do? What would be your immediate concerns? What form of government would you set up? (chap. 8)

- Investigate the Inquisition, its inception, its relationship to Jews, and its role in this time period. (chap. 11)
- Do some research to learn about Buchenwald and the American liberation of that death camp. (chap. 14)

Chapter Summaries:

- Prologue: The Grantville disaster is the “exchange” of a perfectly circular hemisphere about six miles in diameter from medieval Thuringia in Germany to modern West Virginia. The exchange causes a new universe to split off from the old. The event resulted from the negligence of an advanced race called the Assiti, who practiced the art of sculpting space/time. A discarded fragment from one of their art works went astray, with unfortunate results.
- Chapter 1: Most of the population of the small mining town of Grantville, West Virginia is celebrating at the wedding reception of Tom Simpson and Rita Stearns in the high school cafeteria. Tom is a former West Virginia University football star, part of one of the wealthiest families in Pittsburgh. His mother comes from “old Eastern money” and his father, John Chandler Simpson, was the CEO of a large petrochemical corporation. Tom’s parents don’t approve of his choice of college, his playing football, or his choice of a wife. They consider themselves far above the “white trash” citizens of the area.
- Chapter 2: In the middle of the wedding reception, there is a blinding flash and a thunderous crash. Strangely, there seems to be no damage to the cafeteria or its surroundings. Mike Stearns, the president of the local miners’ union, and some of his fellow miners go out to explore the cause of the explosion. They see smoke to the southeast and realize that the telephones and police radio aren’t working. Several of the men head south to find the source of the smoke. They are astonished to find that the highway ends abruptly in a shiny wall about six feet high. It turns out the wall is simply dirt that has been cut so precisely that the surface is perfectly smooth. Suddenly, a body hurtles over the wall. It is a teenage girl who runs screaming away from the men. Then, on top of the wall, they see two armed men in armor and helmets. One of them shoots Dan Frost, the police chief, who in turn blows his attacker’s head off. Coming to the conclusion that something very bad is going on over the wall, they arm themselves and head out.
- Chapter 3: When Mike and the other miners get to the top of the embankment, they discover a terrible scene. Soldiers are raping and torturing the inhabitants of a farmhouse in this strange new territory they have stumbled on. The miners immediately decide to attack and kill the mercenaries to protect the farmers. They can tell from the lay of the land and the trees that this new territory is not part of the West Virginia they knew. The attackers speak a foreign language, dress in what seems to be ancient armor, and use swords. After they kill the mercenaries

and try to give aid to the wounded, the Americans see a horse-drawn coach coming down the road.

- Chapter 4: Inside the coach are Rebecca Abrabanel and her father Balthazar. Balthazar, a Jewish philosopher and physician, has been expelled by the Jewish community in Amsterdam for heresy. They are on their way to Badenburg, Germany to take shelter with a relative. Mike and his men call the coach to a halt. Rebecca looks out from the coach and confronts a scene of violence that horrifies her. When Mike approaches, she assumes he is a *hidalgo*, a Spanish nobleman. Balthazar is having a heart attack. James Nichols, an American doctor, steps in to try to help him. Rebecca warns Mike that they were being followed by a band of mercenaries she calls “Tilly’s men.” They soon have to confront this new band of mercenaries, who fall before superior American firepower.
- Chapter 5: Mike informs Rebecca that she and her father are now under the protection of the people of West Virginia, specifically the United Mine Workers of America. When she hears the word “America,” she feels hopeful, because there are Sephardim in the Americas. Although she understands English well, she is confused by the Americans’ strange accents and the fact that they don’t seem to be treating Mike as a nobleman. Mike, in turn, asks her where they are. She replies that they are in Thuringia. The Americans get everyone back to the high school where a triage center is set up to care for the sick and wounded. It is likely that Balthazar will survive his heart attack but will be incapacitated for some time.
- Chapter 6: Gustav II Adolf, king of Sweden, has a monumental fit of temper when he hears of the massacre of innocent civilians by Imperial forces at Magdeburg, breaking chairs in rage and cursing the German nobles who allowed it to happen. Only three German noblemen, Wilhelm and Bernard of Saxe-Weimar and William, the Landgrave of Hesse-Kassel, have rallied to the king’s Protestant cause. The four of them discuss the prospect of preventing General Tilly, who is on the payroll of Maximilian of Bavaria, from ravaging the Thuringian countryside and laying waste to the cities. The king doesn’t have the forces to stop Tilly, but they develop a defensive plan to hold on until they can garner more Protestant support. The King and his chancellor discuss their financial problems and the fact that so far their finances depend too much on the French. They don’t consider French Cardinal Richelieu a trustworthy ally, since his motivation is to weaken the Holy Roman Empire and advance the interests of France. They are awaiting a courier from Holland with word of support from the Dutch, and they are concerned that he has been waylaid somewhere in Germany.
- Chapter 7: The entire population of the Grantville area meets in the high school gym to discuss their situation. Somehow, and nobody knows how, they and their small surrounding area have been transported to a location somewhere in Germany and to a time almost four hundred years prior to their own. Greg Ferrara, the high school science teacher, tells everyone that the “event” was most likely some sort of natural disaster that they’re lucky to have survived. There is almost no chance of reversing what has happened, so they’re here to stay. The town council puts up a proposal to elect an emergency committee to draw up a constitutional convention to figure out how to govern the new “territory.” John Simpson, a virtual stranger to Grantville, puts himself forward as chairman of the

emergency committee. He argues that, as CEO of a major company and a former Navy officer, he is most qualified to lead. He also argues that the two must seal the border and stop taking in the refugees from the surrounding countryside that are starting to come into the American territory. Angered by Simpson's desire to divide people by class and shut people out, Mike Stearns opposes him. Mike argues that since they are here to stay they can't avoid being a part of this world. They can't shut out the innocent civilians around them, and they can't avoid the war. The Thirty Years War will cause terrible death and destruction. They will need the help of the surrounding population to do the work necessary for all of them to survive. Mike proposes that the best way to survive and flourish is to start the American Revolution a hundred and fifty years ahead of schedule. The town elects him as chairman of the emergency committee. Others members of his cabinet are Frank Jackson (miner), Ed Piazza (principal), Melissa Mailey (history teacher), Greg Ferrara (science teacher), Henry Dreeson (Mayor), Dan Frost (police chief), and Bill Porter (power-plant manager), and Dr. James Nichols (surgeon), Quentin Underwood (farmer), Willie Rae Hudson (farmer), and Rebecca Abrabanel.

- Chapter 8: Melissa Mailey, the liberal and acerbic history teacher, agreed to take notes for the emergency cabinet. Although offended by the sexist implications of one of the two women in the room being the "secretary," she realizes that meticulous notes are required for the Founding Fathers and Mothers of the new . . . whatever it will be. Since they have so much emergency business to take care of, Mike suggests a small subcommittee to work on the constitution. Next they move to the most immediate problem: the power plant. As long as they have electricity, they will have an enormous advantage over everyone else in this "new world." They can keep it running until they run out of critical spare parts in less than two years. They can use that time to build a lower-tech coal-fired plant on the principle of the steam engine. The need to create an army has to take first priority since they have to defend against plundering mercenaries.
- Chapter 9: Michael and Rebecca's relationship develops as they explore their mutual respect and attraction. They decide that they need time to let the relationship develop naturally.
- Chapter 10: Alexander Mackay, a cavalry commander in Gustav's army, and his second-in-command, Andrew Lennox, face the aftermath of an attack by Tilly's men near the town of Badenburg in which they had tortured and killed some of the local farmers. Badenburg had been forced to hire its own mercenaries to protect the town, but the soldiers refuse to stop Tilly's men. Mackay and his few hundred men have been placed in the region by Gustav II Adolph as part of an effort to stabilize his control of Germany's Baltic provinces. On patrol, they spot the farmhouse that was the site of the miners' first battle with Tilly's men. They find the mass grave the miners dug for the fallen mercenaries. What they at first take to be a headstone on the grave turns out to be a warning message from the Americans that the area is now under the protection of the UMWA and that they will not tolerate further harm to the people of the region. Mackay and his men dig up the grave and are puzzled by the nature of the gunshot wounds on the bodies. Suddenly, they sense they are being watched from the woods, and the Americans

confront them. The Scots are relieved when the strangers start speaking a peculiar form of English, and they are delighted when most of them claim some sort of Scottish ancestry.

- Chapter 11: The emergency committee of Grantville realizes that their best way of surviving is to gear down to an essentially nineteenth century industrial economy, which still puts them far ahead of their seventeenth century context. Rebecca and her father are worried about the Inquisition. It is hard for Mike, used to interfaith harmony and openness, to understand the context and experiences that led to that fear. The Scottish soldiers come into town, and Mike invites them to lunch in the high school cafeteria. On the way there, Mackay is struck by the appearance of Julie Sims, head cheerleader. All the soldiers are struck by the scanty clothing worn by all the cheerleaders. Mike refuses to compromise American customs to local mores. Mike makes it clear to the soldiers that the Americans do not plan to pay tribute to any band of soldiers, mercenaries, or lords. They intend to remain independent. Mike brings in all of Grantville's religious leaders to explain to the Scotsmen that Americans enjoy religious freedom and toleration, an idea that is difficult for the Scots to get their minds around. The Scots come to the conclusion that the Americans are not witches and that the whole Ring of Fire event must be God's will.
- Chapter 12: The Abrabanel family have lived in London for well over a hundred years, since the expulsion of the Sephardim from Spain. Although technically banned from the British Isles, the authorities tolerated discreet Jewish communities. The Abrabanel family served England as spies since the time of Queen Elizabeth. Mackay meets with Balthazar, who brought a chest of silver for Gustav from the Dutch. Mackay offers Mike some of the money if the Americans will become part of Gustav's army. He contemptuously replies that Americans will not fight as mercenaries. They will, however, agree to an alliance with Gustav to fight Tilly's army.
- Chapter 13: American and Scottish leaders plan the coming campaign. Mackay contemplates the beauty of Julie Sims and the oddness of the Americans' loose command structure. Julie gives Rebecca a summary of the women's liberation movement. Balthazar enters a medical partnership with Dr. Nichols and Dr. Adams.
- Chapter 14: Balthazar expresses concern about his daughter's interest in Mike to the Roths. They reassure him that Mike, in spite of being a Gentile, is a "prince." This leads them to a discussion of the Holocaust, which Balthazar has been reading about. He discovers the Roths are in Grantville because Mike's grandfather liberated Morris's father from the Buchenwald concentration camp during World War II. He emigrated to West Virginia to be near the man who had saved him. A passing reference leads to a discussion of the play *Henry IV*, and Balthazar reveals that he was a huge fan of the author and never missed one of his plays at the Globe. The Roths are shocked to discover that, according to Balthazar, *Henry IV* and the other plays attributed to Shakespeare were actually written by Edward, Earl of Oxford. Since the writing of plays was considered too disreputable for the nobility, he merely used Shakespeare's name to hide his identity.

Quiz/Reading Comprehension Questions—multiple choice/short answer questions to testing reading comprehension:

1. What is the Grantville disaster? What caused it? (prologue)
2. Why do the Simpsons disapprove of Tom's choice of a wife? (chap. 1)
3. Why do Mike Stearns and Dr. Nichol's hit it off immediately? (chap. 1)
4. Which of the Grantville men is the first one wounded by the foreign mercenaries?
 - a. Dan Frost
 - b. Mike Stearns
 - c. James Nichols
 - d. John Simpson
5. Why is the young girl they encounter at the "wall" running away?
 - a. because of the explosion they all heard
 - b. because the soldiers were trying to rape her
 - c. because she is afraid of Mike and the other miners
 - d. because her parents beat her
6. What language do the mercenaries seem to be speaking when the miners first encounter them?
 - a. Spanish
 - b. Dutch
 - c. German
 - d. English
7. When Mike first sees one of the Abrabanel's, he concludes that the movie they all must be in is
 - a. *Deliverance*
 - b. *Texas Chainsaw Massacre*
 - c. *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly*
 - d. *Cleopatra*
8. The Jews who were expelled from Spain and Portugal in the late middle ages were called
 - a. the Sephardim
 - b. the Ashkenazim
 - c. the Hidalgin
 - d. the Orthodox
9. *Marranos* are
 - a. Spanish noblemen
 - b. "secret Jews"
 - c. long spears or pikes used by soldiers
 - d. a Spanish dish of rice and beans Rebecca teaches Mike to make
10. Rebecca tells Mike that she and her father left Amsterdam because
 - a. they are bankers traveling to do business in Germany.
 - b. they are fleeing Christian persecution.
 - c. Balthazar was expelled by the Jewish community for heresy.

- d. they thought the Jews in Amsterdam had abandoned the faith of their fathers.
11. At the beginning of this chapter, something has so enraged Gustav II Adolf, the King of Sweden, that he is cursing and breaking furniture. What event has caused this rage?
 - a. Richelieu's betrayal
 - b. The fact that the courier expected from Holland has been killed
 - c. The massacre of Magdeburg
 - d. The loss of the battle of Hesse
 12. Gustav II Adolph is
 - a. a devout Protestant
 - b. a devout Catholic
 - c. a "secret Jew"
 - d. an agnostic who is using religion for political purposes
 13. Why does the king think he can't stop Tilly and his forces and save Thuringia?
 - a. the geography favors Tilly
 - b. Gustav II Adolph does not have sufficient forces
 - c. neither of the above
 - d. both (a) and (b)
 14. Who becomes the chairman of the emergency committee to structure the new government?
 - a. John Simpson
 - b. Rebecca Abrabanel
 - c. James Nichols
 - d. Mike Stearns
 15. What war do the Americans find themselves confronting?
 - a. The War of the Roses
 - b. The 30 Years War
 - c. The Revolutionary War
 - d. The 100 Years War
 16. What harsh reality does Melissa Mailey, the liberal history teacher, have a hard time coming to terms with during the first emergency meeting of the Grantville cabinet?
 17. There are several immediate problems they realize they must deal with to survive and thrive in the new world they find themselves in. What are three of them?
 18. What two things do Mackay's men and many of the Americans first find they have in common?
 19. The Scots are astonished by several things during their first visit to Grantville. What are two of them?
 20. Why were Puritans in England more favorably inclined to the Jews than the established Church of England?
 21. Why did Morris Roth's grandfather settle in West Virginia, even though he was the only Jew in Grantville when he arrived.

Answers:

1. The Grantville disaster is the “exchange” of a hemisphere of territory between modern day West Virginia and seventeenth century Thuringia. A shaving from an Assiti art project using space/time caused the disaster.
2. The Simpsons disapprove of Tom’s choice of a wife because they consider her, her family and the town she lives in lower class.
3. They recognize in each other men who have come up the hard way, led adventurous lives, overcome obstacles through their own initiative and become successful in their own ways.
4. a
5. b
6. c
7. d
8. a
9. b
10. c
11. c
12. a
13. d
14. d
15. b
16. That Grantville must have an army for defense, and that some of the young men from the high school will have to serve in it.
17. Several are listed in chapter 8, including the need for a new low-tech power plant; finding sources of coal, oil, and natural gas; the need for an army for defense; food production and supplies; the need to ration gasoline; and the creation of an infrastructure for finance.
18. That they speak English and have Scottish ancestry.
19. The scanty uniforms of the cheerleaders, the motorized vehicles, and the fact that people of different religious beliefs live together peacefully in the town.
20. Their scholars were interested in the Hebrew texts as part of their attempt to “purify” Christianity. Their devotion to the literal text of the Bible leads them to the conclusion that the Jews have a special place in God’s will. They have much in common with the Jews, since both peoples admire hard work and thrift, admire those who acquire wealth as favored by God, and encourage literacy.
21. Because Michael’s grandfather, Tom Stearns, was a sergeant in the American unit that liberated him from Buchenwald in WW II. Tom invited him to come to Grantville, and he wanted to be near the man who liberated him from Buchenwald. It was the safest place he could imagine.

Suggestions for Reflection and Discussion Questions—these questions may be used to initiate classroom discussion, as short writing assignments, or as test questions:

1. In exploring the conflict over Tom and Rita’s marriage, Flint raises issues of class conflict and prejudice that will unfold throughout his story. Discuss the ways in which these issues are reflected in chapter 1.

2. The citizens of Grantville are very well armed for their first encounter with the bad guys. Do you think Flint's assumptions about gun ownership among this population are realistic? Explain your view. (chap. 2)
3. Who were Maimonides, Karaites and Averroes? How does the fact the Balthazar studied them explain his expulsion from Amsterdam for heresy? (chap. 4)
4. Why does Rebecca assume Mike is a *hidalgo*? (chap. 4)
5. Why does Rebecca identify James Nichols as a Moor and associate him with Islamic medicine? (chap. 4)
6. What did you learn about Gustav II Adolph's character and temperament from this chapter? Is it consistent with what you learned in your research on the historical King of Sweden? (chap. 6)
7. One of the themes you will see running throughout *1632* is the theme of class conflict. How does that theme play out in this chapter? (chap. 6)
8. What is Mike's argument for not shutting out refugees from the surrounding population? Do you agree or disagree? What parallels do you see with the current immigration debate in the United States, if any? (chap. 7)
9. How does Simpson's bid for power, and Mike's reaction to it, underscore Flint's exploration of class issues? How does this relate to the refugee question they face? Why are Mike's sarcastic references to "downsizing" and "pink slips" particularly relevant? (chap. 7)
10. What was the Inquisition, and why do Rebecca and her father fear it? (chap. 11)

Suggested Activities / Inquiry-Based Exploration—suggestions for class activities and projects:

1. Investigate some of the arms and armor that the German mercenaries and the miners have in the first battle—swords, single-shot muzzle loaders, matchlocks, cuirass, rifles, modern handguns, and shotguns. What advantages and disadvantages did the miners face in the fight? (chap. 2)
2. Have your students create a project on the Sephardim and/or general attitudes toward Jews during the period of the book. (chap. 4)
3. Investigate the poem Rebecca thinks of during the battle and its author, Samuel ibn Negrela (993-1056). (chap. 4) See Joseph Jacobs and Isaac Broyd , "Samuel Ha-Nagid (Samuel Haleviben Joseph Ibn Nagdela," *The Jewish Encyclopedia*, <http://www.jewishencyclopedia.com/view.jsp?artid=183&letter=S&search=samuel%20ibn%20nagrela>
4. The cuisine developed by Sephardic Jews reflects their adaptations to the countries of the Jewish diaspora. Ask different students and/or parents to volunteer to research and cook Sephardic dishes to bring to class for everyone to try. You might have students present projects or papers and invite others to the class. Some resources for ideas and recipes: "Kosher Food," About.com, http://kosherfood.about.com/od/separdiccuisine/Jewish_Sephardic_Cuisine.htm; "Cuisine of the Sephardic Jews," Wikipedia, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cuisine_of_the_Sephardic_Jews; "What is Sephardic Cuisine," *The Global Gourmet*,

<http://www.globalgourmet.com/food/egg/egg0497/sephardic.html#axzz148klsUtE>
and Joyce Goldstein, *Sephardic Flavors: Jewish Cooking of the Mediterranean*, Chronicle Books, 2000.

5. Investigate the causes of the Thirty Years War. (chap. 5)
6. Research and discuss a popular problem in philosophical ethics: the life boat dilemma. What relevance does it have to the Americans' situation? Set up a classroom debate on a "life boat" scenario. (chap. 7)
7. Investigate the history of the ideas of religious freedom and tolerance. What was the state of these ideas in 1632? How did they develop in the United States? (chap. 11 and chap. 12)
8. The debate about the Shakespeare authorship has a long and lively history. Investigate the various theories of authorship and have a classroom debate on the topic. (chap. 14)

GUIDE TO PART 2—chapters 15—33

Prepare to Read...

- Familiarize yourself with the following vocabulary and terms:
 - peon
 - Julian calendar
 - Gregorian calendar
 - suffrage
- Focus questions or initiating activities:
 - Research the use of the *tercio* as a battle formation. What were some of its strengths and weaknesses?
 - Investigate Seneca Falls and Harriet Tubman. When you have read chapter 23, discuss the reasons that Melissa Mailey thinks that Gretchen will be the "new Harriet Tubman" they need.
 - Jeff Higgins, in coming to a difficult decision, will use what he considers an ancient motto: *Here I stand. I can do no other*. Find the origin of that statement. Why is it particularly appropriate in the context of this book? (chap. 24)

Chapter Summaries:

- Chapter 15: Hans Richter, an eighteen year old boy, serves as an unwilling conscript in the ranks of Tilly's mercenaries. Mercenaries raped his beautiful older sister, Gretchen. She became the concubine of Ludwig, the leader of a small band of the mercenaries. Her status as concubine gives her some protection from the other soldiers. The mercenaries have just looted another small, pitiful German

town. Gretchen is strong and calm, and some of the newly homeless have attached themselves to her, swelling the ranks of her “family.”

- Chapter 16: The Americans and their allies survey the Spanish-style *tercio*, part of Tilly’s army that marches to lay siege to Badenburg. This *tercio* is two thousand men strong, mixing pikemen, arquebusiers, and cavalry packed into a rectangle fifty files wide and forty ranks deep. Mike recruits Hoffman’s Protestant mercenaries from the town to fight on his side, since his intention is not only to turn back Tilly but to liberate Badenburg. Mike’s forces are badly outnumbered, but he is confident because his men have rifles and machine guns and thus a very high kill rate. His confidence proves to be justified. Although Tilly’s men fight courageously, they can’t stand up to modern firepower.
- Chapter 17: When Gretchen hears the fire of the modern guns, she knows the battle is lost. She believes that she must protect her family from the enemy, since she has only experienced soldiers as rapists, looters, and pillagers. Realizing that she doesn’t have time to hide them in the woods, she decides to hide them in the last place soldiers will look: the outhouse. She then faces the oncoming victors, determined to survive.
- Chapter 18: Jeff Higgins, a Grantville high school student and new member of the army, enters the camp and sees Gretchen. He is struck by her calm in the midst of chaos. Then he realizes that she is beautiful. She is surrounded by frightened, crying women and girls, who fear rape and murder. Realizing what they are afraid of, Jeff and his friends take their shotguns and fire at Hoffman’s approaching mercenaries. The “cavalry” then arrives in the form of the Americans’ coal hauling trucks. The terrified Protestant mercenaries surrender, ending Hoffman’s reign of terror over Badenburg.
- Chapter 19: Rebecca and many of the Grantville women reach the battlefield, concerned about their men. Mike goes in search of Rebecca. They embrace, touching and kissing for the first time. They realize that they are irrevocably committed to each other.
- Chapter 20: Gretchen finds Diego the Spaniard, wounded on the battlefield. Diego was one of the cruelest of the mercenaries, and Gretchen knows that he intends to rape her younger sister. Jeff has followed her onto the battlefield. She asks him to look away, because she intends to finish off Diego. Realizing her intention and the reason for it, Jeff shields her from view while she kills Diego. She also wants the pleasure of killing Ludwig, but finds that he is already dead. Ironically, Ludwig’s body screened Hans in the attack. Jeff secures a stretcher for Hans and gets him off the battlefield.
- Chapter 21: Gretchen decides to take on Jeff as her protector. There was something about his eyes that she trusts and that promises some sort of life for her and her family. Jeff is proud and happy that she has chosen him.
- Chapter 22: Jeff takes Gretchen back to Grantville, where she meets Melissa Mailey. Because of her confidence, erect carriage, and good health, Gretchen assumes she is one of the nobility. She is astonished when she encounters recognition and friendliness from Melissa. Gretchen and her family experience the wonders of Grantville, including baths, new clothing, and food. Gretchen finds herself strangely attracted to Jeff.

- Chapter 23: Melissa realizes that Gretchen needs Jeff to guarantee her family's survival and that Jeff won't be able to resist Gretchen's decision that he will be their protector and provider. Urging Jeff and the other American boys to resist the blandishments of German girls who needed to survive would be the first step on the road to a caste society. Melissa goes through a difficult conversion from her modern principles about pacifism, sexual harassment and other liberal totems. Melissa also starts to consider her growing attraction to Dr. Nichols.
- Chapter 24: Jeff realizes that he must make a quick decision about a relationship with Gretchen. He is smart enough and mature enough to realize that she can't wait long for his decision. She has people to take care of, and she doesn't have time to understand the new world in which she finds herself. He decides that he will ask her to marry him. When he does, Gretchen immediately indicates to him that he doesn't have to do this. He replies that he must. Gretchen's response and his own will give them what they need to make it through the hard years ahead, without suspicion of each other.
- Chapter 25: Ed Piazza announces to the emergency committee that they need ten thousand people able and willing to work in order to build the infrastructure that will keep everybody in the area alive through the winter. Food production and shelter are the primary challenges. Jeff interrupts the meeting to announce his and Gretchen's decision to marry.
- Chapter 26: Jeff's announcement causes a heated argument. Rebecca points out that they face a choice between two roads. Jeff's choice leads to a country like the old America. The other leads to a military aristocracy, a land of "pure-blood" Americans ruling over a horde of German peons. She recommends the road to assimilation and democracy. They quickly decide on assimilation, and Willie Ray Hudson offers to give the bride away. They decide to hold the wedding, the first great celebration for the new Grantville, on the Fourth of July.
- Chapter 27: Jeff, his friends, and some of the committee members go to welcome Gretchen, tell her that she and Jeff have permission to marry, and start planning the wedding.
- Chapter 28: Gretchen becomes the liaison between the captured German soldiers and the Americans. The soldiers are mightily relieved to find someone who speaks German. She finds a friend, Heinrich, who led a group of arquebusiers and survived the battle. Heinrich and his men speak English, so she introduces them to Frank Jackson. Soon, the American army has its first German recruits. Within a few weeks, most of the soldiers, camp followers, and refugees have been processed and more or less assimilated into the new American territory.
- Chapter 29: The town has a disorganized but lively parade for what may or may not be the Fourth of July (since there is a dispute between proponents of the Julian calendar and the Gregorian). Michael presents Rebecca with an engagement ring. German tavern-keepers, American farmers and a beer truck operator go into partnership to open a beer garden. Prior to the wedding, Melissa explains to Gretchen that love is important for Americans. Although, in Gretchen's experience, love is a thing for nobles, she is determined to work hard to make Jeff happy.

- Chapter 30: Jeff and Gretchen’s wedding goes off without a hitch in front of a huge crowd. The Germans see the wedding as reassurance that they will be accepted in the new society. For the Americans, the romance of the young couple’s story allows the town to overlook class divides and embrace the future. Before the wedding, Dr. Nichols gives Jeff some words of advice, telling him that his job is to give his people a space where they can build their lives, a roof over their heads and food on the table. Other than that, he should just do his best.
- Chapter 31: Before Jeff and Gretchen make love for the first time, Jeff assures her that he can wait because of what she has been through. She is astonished that he is willing to restrain himself, and realizes that he really cares for her. She wants to keep her family happy and reassures him that she is ready to make love. For the first time in her life, she experienced love-making as pleasurable and realizes that she can love her new husband. When the children come into their room the next day, the youngest calls Jeff “Papa,” and the family is complete.
- Chapter 32: Hans, Gretchen’s brother, finally wakes up from his coma. He finds that Gretchen has married and has also set up a new job for him with the publisher of Grantville’s newspaper. Since their father was a printer, it seems the ideal job to him. One of the first things he prints is the Bill of Rights. The Americans get a television network up and running.
- Chapter 33: In the first tv broadcast, Rebecca announces that there will be enough food for everyone over the winter, although it will require tight rationing. After more public service announcements, they play an old silent movie, which will be accessible to everyone. Once the movie is under way, several of the members of the committee discuss the upcoming elections. The first plank of Mike’s platform is universal suffrage for everyone eighteen or older after three months residency. This is sure to raise opposition from some of the more reactionary elements in the town. After the movie, Rebecca goes back on air for an update of the military situation. She emphasizes the need for citizens to avoid taking sides by creed, since what is at stake is their own liberty.

Quiz/Reading Comprehension Questions—multiple choice/short answer questions to testing reading comprehension:

1. Who formed the heart of the *tercio* in this chapter?
 - a. pikemen
 - b. cavalry
 - c. arquebusiers
 - d. riflemen
2. Why is Mike so confident of victory even though his forces are badly outnumbered?
 - a. His men aren’t mercenaries
 - b. The Scots are more courageous than Tilly’s men
 - c. The Americans have rifles and machine guns
 - d. Hoffman’s men are fighting on his side
3. Who does Gretchen meet and think of as “The Duchess”?

- a. Rebecca Abrabanel
 - b. Judith Roth
 - c. Rita Stearns
 - d. Melissa Mailey
4. When does the emergency committee decide to schedule Jeff and Gretchen’s wedding?
- a. immediately
 - b. July 4th
 - c. Christmas
 - d. As a New Year celebration

Answers:

- 1. a
- 2. c
- 3. d
- 4. b

Suggestions for Reflection and Discussion Questions—these questions may be used to initiate classroom discussion, as short writing assignments, or as test questions:

- 1. Discuss Flint’s take on the “religious” nature of the Thirty Years War. (chap. 15)
- 2. Comment on this sentence: “For the first time in her life, one of the world’s mighty had gazed upon Gretchen Richter, and seen nothing but another human being.” (chap. 22)
- 3. Discuss Melissa Mailey’s conversion from some of her life-long liberal principles. What ideas does she give up and why? What arguments would modern conservatives make that the reasons for her conversion apply just as well today? (chap. 23)
- 4. What parallels do you see between the debate in chapter 26 and current immigration arguments in the United States? Discuss.
- 5. As a class, read the Bill of Rights. Why do you think Hans (a) found it insane and (b) fell in love with it? (chap. 32)

Suggested Activities / Inquiry-Based Exploration—suggestions for class activities and projects:

- 1. Many people involved in the Thirty Years War were convinced that the apocalypse had come. Investigate some of the apocalyptic imagery in this chapter, including the references to the “Beast” and the “Lord of Flies.” Look at some of the woodcuts from the era that refer to the apocalypse. (chap. 15)
- 2. In chapter 33, Mike puts forth his proposal for suffrage in the new territory. What is his proposal? What does the class think standards for suffrage should be in the U.S.?

GUIDE TO PART 3—chapters 34 - 36

Prepare to Read...

- Familiarize yourself with the following vocabulary and terms:
 - musket
 - musketeers
 - caracole
 - fortifications
 - cuirassiers

Chapter Summaries:

- Chapter 34: This chapter recounts the historical battle of Breitenfeld, in which Gustavus Adolphus and his inferior Protestant forces were able to defeat Tilly's superior Catholic forces. It was a pitched battle between two large armies, a rare thing in that period. Tilly's army numbered somewhere between thirty-two and forty thousand men. Even though his allies broke, the Swedish king stood his ground and changed the course of history. According to Flint's account, history pivoted on the soul of one man, Gustav II Adolph. The legacy of Gustav's victory in this battle is enshrined in a monument which now stands on the battlefield, which proclaims: "Freedom of Belief for All the World."
- Chapters 35 and 36: In these chapters, Flint recounts the battle from Gustav's point of view.

Suggestions for Reflection and Discussion Questions—these questions may be used to initiate classroom discussion, as short writing assignments, or as test questions:

1. What are some of the reasons people have given for calling Gustav II Adolph the Father of Modern War?
2. How does the battlefield monument Flint refers to in chapter 34 explain the significance of the Battle of Breitenfeld? Why was Gustav's victory such a significant point in Western history?

Suggested Activities / Inquiry-Based Exploration:

1. Read Don Hollway's article, "Thirty Years War: Battle of Breitenfeld," from *Military History*, February 1996 at the website HistoryNet.com (<http://www.historynet.com/thirty-years-war-battle-of-breitenfeld.htm/1>).

Compare his account of the battle with Flint's. How does each of them account for the victory?

GUIDE TO PART 4—chapters 37 - 44

Prepare to Read...

- Familiarize yourself with the following vocabulary and terms:
 - biathlon
 - belligerent
 - disgruntled
 - hardscrabble
 - fledgling
 - flamboyantly
 - caparisoned
 - skirmishers
 - conquistadores
 - sagacity
 - quartermasters
 - Mennonites

- Focus questions or initiating activities:
 - Investigate Jim Crow laws in the history of the U.S., especially as they relate to elections. (chap. 42)

Chapter Summaries:

- Chapter 37: Word of Breitenfeld reaches Grantville, and Protestants and Catholics alike celebrate. Most common Germans are indifferent to their neighbor's religion. The German aristocracy and princes used religion as an excuse to force the issue on the Holy Roman Empire. Their true concern was their own power and privileges. A splinter group from Tilly's army hears that Thuringia is largely unravaged by the war, so they head there seeking food and shelter for the coming winter. The university town of Jena, thirty miles from Grantville, lies unwalled and unprotected. Their leaders receive an unexpected offer of aid from Grantville. In spite of the fact that they have heard rumors that Grantville is populated by witches and sorcerers, the leaders of Jena decide it is God's will that they accept American aid.
- Chapter 38: Jeff and his friend Larry are on reconnaissance outside Jena and spot the oncoming mercenaries. The Americans prepare their positions. Meanwhile, Gretchen has gone into Jena to form a Committee of Correspondence among the poor citizens to support the army's efforts.
- Chapter 39: Julie Sims, a former biathlon athlete, sets up on a ridge as a sharpshooter, with a Remington Model 700. Mike asks her if she really is willing

to kill long-distance. Julie assures him that she has no compunction about killing the enemy, considering what they have done and will do if they get the chance. She easily picks off enemy soldiers at 400 yards. Frightened and confused by Julie's shooting and the American armored personnel carriers, the mercenaries surrender. While Gretchen is still talking to the women she is recruiting in Jena, Max Jungers, a local hooligan and would-be pimp, shows up. When he threatens her, she shoots him with the 9mm she had hidden in her bodice.

- Chapter 40: Mike reports to the committee that the economic situation in the province is going to be desperate soon, but the area is flush with hard currency. The Americans can keep the people in the region alive through the winter. The economic situation is promising, with electrical power guaranteed and food supplies looking adequate. Some pressing problems are the shortage of hard currency and the primitive state of banking and credit in Europe. Rebecca announces that several of her relatives will be arriving in Grantville soon, all well-connected in banking and financial affairs. Mike thinks they need to hold another election, since the "temporary emergency committee" has gone about as far as it can. The subcommittee presents its proposal for the constitutional convention, and they decide to call themselves the Fourth of July Party.
- Chapter 41: Moses and Samuel Abrabanel come to Grantville to assess the advantages to the family of becoming involved in credit and banking in the new territory. They are favorably impressed by the Americans' military capability. They conclude that if they invest in Grantville, their fortunes will be safe enough.
- Chapter 42: Mike makes a speech defending the idea of at-large elections for the first constitutional convention of the American territory. They need to decide the crucial question of who will vote for those who decide policy. This franchise is the ultimate power. Simpson sponsors a party that wants strict control of the franchise. In order to vote under Simpson's proposal, someone would have to have absolute command of English, satisfactory literacy, and a sound knowledge of American history. Mike's party wants universal suffrage for adults with three months residence.
- Chapter 43: Grantville has become a classic boom town, with new businesses and industries springing up like mushrooms. Food has proved to be less of a problem than they at first feared, since there is more trade than they expected and many traders have moved their base of operations to Grantville. Game is also plentiful in the Thuringian forests. Mackay and Julie's former boyfriend, Chip, have the first duel in Grantville's history. Don Francisco Nasi, the Abrabanel representative in Istanbul, arrives in Grantville. The first thing the citizens want him to do is establish a coffee trade, since Grantville has long run out of that beverage. Francisco decides quickly to invest his branch of the family's money with the Americans. He further announces that they intend to immigrate to Grantville. Since he believes in ties of blood, he advises Rebecca to wed Michael as soon as possible.
- Chapter 44: The new constitution proposed by the Fourth of July party passes with an overwhelming majority. In the political campaigning that follows, Mike comes into conflict with the older members of the UMWA. They want to pass a law requiring the unionization of all businesses employing more than 10 workers.

The German citizens are opposed, since they think in terms of the oppressive guilds they are used to. Mike and the younger UMWA members take the side of the Germans. Soon, however, the Germans realize that they need the protection of unions, and the controversy is over. Mike wins the election for president with eighty-seven percent of the vote, and Rebecca becomes the sole Senator of the new United States.

Quiz/Reading Comprehension Questions—multiple choice/short answer questions to testing reading comprehension:

1. Why haven't the American integrated their army instead of keeping Americans and Germans in separate contingents?
 - a. prejudice
 - b. language barrier
 - c. the Germans haven't learned to shoot with rifles
 - d. the Americans don't trust the Germans not to defect
2. The new German recruits in Grantville's army go into the battle of Jena armed with
 - a. rifles
 - b. arquebuses
 - c. pikes
 - d. shotguns fitted with bayonets
3. Who turns out to be the best sharpshooter in the new American army?
 - a. Julie Sims
 - b. Mike Stearns
 - c. Jeff Higgins
 - d. Gretchen Higgins
4. What is Rebecca's solution to the new territory's need for hard currency?
 - a. print money
 - b. get a loan from the French
 - c. recruit her banking relatives
 - d. turn to barter instead of currency
5. What is the name of the political party founded by Mike and the other members of the emergency committee?

Answers:

1. c
2. d
3. a
4. c
5. The Fourth of July Party

Suggestions for Reflection and Discussion Questions—these questions may be used to initiate classroom discussion, as short writing assignments, or as test questions:

- Discuss the controversy over unionization that breaks out in chapter 44. How is it resolved?

Suggested Activities / Inquiry-Based Exploration:

- Explore how the idea of who has the franchise to vote changed throughout history, including how it has changed in America since its founding. Then have a debate about one of the following: (1) should people have to pass a civics test before they qualify to vote or (2) should illegal immigrants have the right to vote in U.S. elections.

GUIDE TO PART 5—chapters 45 - 48

Prepare to Read...

- Familiarize yourself with the following vocabulary and terms:
 - protracted
 - depredations
 - dispensation
 - machinist
 - ordnance
 - armament
 - decorum
 - bombardment

Chapter Summaries:

- Chapter 45: The Saxe-Weimar brothers ask Gustav II Adolf to send an expedition to Thuringia, but he refuses. Axel Oxenstierna, the king's adviser, is concerned that power in Thuringia has been seized by a republic (the Americans). Gustav says that power went to the Americans because the German nobles were not willing to take care of their own people as they should have. He points out that he also looks kindly upon the American effort because he is Vasa. His grandfather, Gustav Vasa, founded the dynasty and created the nation of Sweden. Gustav II Adolph shares his grandfather's contempt for the aristocracy. He resolves to let Thuringia settle its own affairs. Gustav has received word from Mackay about the origins of the Americans. Gustav accepts his account, unlikely as it is. He decides the American presence is God's will instead of witchcraft and resolves to use it to

accomplish his goal of a north European Protestant confederation under the leadership of Sweden.

- Chapter 46: The Americans ready their first shipment of cannons to the Swedes. Julie Sims and Rebecca insist on going to meet with the Swedes over the objections of their menfolk. Rebecca emphasizes that they need to reassure the king that they are real and not witches.
- Chapter 47: The king meets with the representatives from American territory. He is soon convinced that they are not witches. He is especially interested that Rebecca is a Jewess and realizes that freedom of religion in the new territory has an expansive meaning that even he had not imagined. Rebecca offers the king financial assistance for his forces, agreeing that the Americans will serve as a conduit for supplies and the Abrabanel will offer him generous credit.
- Chapter 48: The Swedes and the Americans scope out Tilly's positions and prepare for the next battle. Julie demonstrates her shooting prowess to Gustav's amazement. In the battle the next day, Tilly's forces can't stand up to the firepower of the allies' guns. Tilly dies two weeks later from wounds received in the battle.

Quiz/Reading Comprehension Questions—multiple choice/short answer questions to testing reading comprehension:

1. When the king says that he is “Vasa,” he is referring to
 - a. the line of his grandfather, Gustav Vasa
 - b. the Swedish word for king
 - c. the sect of Protestantism to which he belongs
 - d. the fact that he is anointed by God
2. Gustav concludes that the presence of the Americans is
 - a. Satan's work
 - b. witchcraft
 - c. God's will
 - d. a cosmic accident
3. What help does Rebecca offer the king of Sweden?

Answers:

1. a
2. c
3. A conduit for supplies and credit from her relatives

Suggestions for Reflection and Discussion Questions—this question may be used to initiate classroom discussion, as a short writing assignment, or as a test question:

- What are some of the reasons that Gustav II Adolph is favorably disposed toward the Americans?

Suggested Activities / Inquiry-Based Exploration:

- One of the themes that appears in this section of the book is the concern about witchcraft and whether the Americans are witches. Explore the attitudes toward witchcraft and sorcery during this period of history.

GUIDE TO PART 6—chapters 49 - 58

Prepare to Read...

- Familiarize yourself with the following vocabulary and terms:
 - Counter Reformation
 - functionaries
 - proxy
 - terrain
 - maneuvers
 - APCs
 - badinage
 - parapet
 - *blitzkrieg*
 - Claymore mines
 - jury-rigged
 - *pièce de résistance*
- Focus questions or initiating activities:
 - Find out about the life and influence of Cardinal Richelieu (chap. 49)
 - Who were the Hapsburgs? (chap. 49)
 - Investigate the life of Albrecht von Wallenstein and his role in the Thirty Years War. (chap. 49)
 - What is the significance of the reference to Matewan? (chap. 57)

Chapter Summaries:

- Chapter 49: Cardinal Richelieu pays lip service to the Counter Reformation, but his true aim is to strengthen France. In order to do that, he must humble the Hapsburgs, especially the Spanish branch, since they are the strongest military power in Europe. One of Richelieu's spies reports that he has been to Grantville and does not believe the Americans' skills and influence result from witchcraft.

Since it served the Cardinal's purposes, he insists that it is indeed sorcery, and that Satan's hand is over Thuringia. Richelieu agrees to a request from the Spaniards to send money to Bernard of Saxe-Weimar. Bernard has agreed to betray his alliance with the King of Sweden. Bernard will move his forces aside so that Spanish troops have a clear line of march on Thuringia. Richelieu feels he must defeat Gustav. He cannot tolerate a Sweden, made rich by association with the Americans, dominating central Europe. General Wallenstein, leader of the imperial forces, plans to draw the Americans off at Suhl and Eisenach, while Croatian mercenaries strike at Grantville itself.

- Chapter 50: Gustav is worried because Bernard of Saxe-Weimar has moved his troops far south of Cologne. There is no logical reason for it. Gustav's forces have built large fieldworks near Nürnberg, and Wallenstein's huge army of sixty thousand troops is moving toward the city. Another twenty thousand of Tilly's former men are moving to meet him, as are another twenty thousand led by Pappenheim from the west. Gustav is determined that Nürnberg will not be another slaughter like Magdeburg. Wallenstein, preferring siege warfare, has refused to engage Gustav's troops in the field. He thinks hunger and disease will do his work for him. Gustav figures out that Bernard's betrayal is aimed toward leaving Thuringia open for attack.
- Chapter 51: Gustav decides to use a certain Captain Gars to lead a small expedition to Thuringia to investigate. They find that two thousand Croatian light cavalry troops are heading to attack Grantville and destroy it.
- Chapter 52: American forces engage the enemy near Eisenach. The Americans suffer only one casualty, but the damage they inflict on the enemy is horrendous. Claymore mines kill hundreds. The survivors retreat to Wartburg Castle. Mike decides to wait until dawn to attack the castle to give the men inside the opportunity to surrender.
- Chapter 53: Julie finds out she is pregnant and is afraid her fiancée, Captain Mackay, will be furious. Mackay is sensitive to the fact that he is a bastard, which will make him particularly upset. Rebecca is due to have her baby in a couple of months, seven months after she and Mike married. Gretchen announces to Jeff that she is pregnant.
- Chapter 54: The Americans bombard Wartburg Castle with . . . music. Bob Dylan and Elvis Presley, among others, assault the ears of the enemy, followed by Stravinsky and Wagner. Loud music and bright lights spread fear among the soldiers and priests holed up in the castle. American sharpshooters pick off many of the Spanish soldiers on the battlements. After a night of this, the Americans make a loudspeaker announcement promising good treatment if the soldiers surrender. Rebecca goes out for a morning walk alone and is spotted by Croat cavalry troops who intend to rape and kill her.
- Chapter 55: The Spaniards in the Wartburg refuse to surrender, so the Americans use napalm. The castle starts to burn, and soon dozens of unarmed Spaniards pour out of the castle to surrender. The Croat cavalry soldiers swoop down to attack Rebecca. She pulls a sawed-off shotgun from her bag and shoots the horse out from under one of them. She can't kill all of them, however. Luckily, Jeff Barnes comes on the scene and kills the others.

- Chapter 56: With the Croat cavalry coming toward Grantville, some of the citizens surround the school cafeteria with school buses, blocking the windows and entrances. With the army away at Eisenach, they have very few guns for defense. The main part of the town is able to evacuate out of the main path of the attack. Mike and the others at Eisenach realize they've been suckered and that a whole army was sent to draw them away from Grantville. Most of Mike's forces head for Grantville, but they may be too late.
- Chapter 57: Seven hundred Croats pour into the town of Grantville, hoping to kill everyone—especially the Jews. Fifteen hundred Croats surround the high school, furious that buses have blocked easy access to the building. Captain Gars and his detachment of four hundred cavalry hear the gunfire and charge toward Grantville. Dan Frost, the sheriff, goes out alone to meet the Croats coming toward the downtown area of Grantville. He manages to kill many of the horses in the front rank of the charge, so that the charge piles up like water hitting a dam. Grantville residents perched in the upper stories of the downtown buildings open fire on the cavalry as well.
- Chapter 58: The town has been saved, but the Croats are still attacking the school. A large number of the enemy has finally pushed their way into the narrow space between the buses and the front wall of the school. They are able to smash in all the windows of the cafeteria and surge into the school building. Captain Gars and his men join the fight. With Gars' help, the Americans manage to turn the tide. Gars is wounded, and as his wounds are being tended, Julie Sims recognizes him as Gustav II Adolph. Rebecca informs everyone that the king was known for traveling in disguise and had probably scouted half of western Europe in that fashion.

Quiz/Reading Comprehension Questions—multiple choice/short answer questions to testing reading comprehension:

1. According to the book, Cardinal Richelieu's primary motivation is
 - a. doing the will of God
 - b. building his personal wealth and power
 - c. love of the Church
 - d. advancing the interests of France
2. Which of Gustav's allies betrays him?
 - a. Bernard of Saxe-Weimar
 - b. William of Hesse
 - c. the Americans
 - d. the Dutch
3. Who is Captain Gars?
 - a. the bastard son of the king of Sweden
 - b. Gustav II Adolph in disguise
 - c. Wallenstein's best cavalry officer
 - d. Mackay's second in command
4. The Americans first bombard Wartburg castle with

- a. napalm
 - b. cannon fire
 - c. music
 - d. burning oil
5. When the Croats attack, the Americans at the high school put up a barricade of
- a. school busses
 - b. APCs
 - c. burning tires
 - d. coal trucks

Answers:

1. d
2. a
3. b
4. c
5. a

Suggestions for Reflection and Discussion Questions—these questions may be used to initiate classroom discussion, as short writing assignments, or as test questions:

1. Do you think the Americans were morally right in their decision to use napalm on the castle? What are the pros and cons? What ethical standard did you use to make your decision? (chap. 55)
2. Do you think the book is right in its assessment of Cardinal Richelieu's motivations?

GUIDE TO PART 7—chapters 59 - 61

Prepare to Read...

- Focus questions or initiating activities:
 - What was Gustav's idea for the *Corpus Evangelicorum*?

Chapter Summaries:

- Chapter 59: Mike and his men get word that the raid on Grantville by Imperial forces has been turned back with light casualties. Harry Lefferts tries to convince Mike to set up fortresses with massive expansion of the military to prevent an attack against them from ever succeeding. Although Mike understands the logic, his vision of the new America isn't of a massive armed camp that must

- continually expand in order to avoid attack. He points out that the reason Wallenstein wanted to destroy the Americans is because he feared their ideas.
- Chapter 60: Mike and King Gustav argue over whether or not there must be an established church in Europe. Mike tells the king that he has no problem with an established church in Lutheran territories, if that's what they want. The Americans, however, control Thuringia, and they will not accept an established church. Separation of church and state is a principle they are not willing to compromise. Rebecca suggests a clever way for Gustav to get out of what he considers his duty to establish a state church throughout Europe. In his persona as Captain General Gars, Gustav II Adolph could pass the title to his heirs without being bound, as a king ruling by divine right, to enforce an established church. Mike is trying to buy the Americans breathing room as part of a larger Confederacy of Europe. The king accepts the deal.
 - Chapter 61: Julie confesses her pregnancy to Alex. Gustav himself arranges their wedding for the following day. Axel Oxenstierna disapproves strongly of the king's political plans. Gustav takes him to a place called Buchenwald and tells him that, in another universe, this will be just one of many places of slaughter. In that universe, Gustav will soon die leading a cavalry charge. His death will end any chance of rescuing Germany from the princes. He sees the American "intrusion" into his world as a chance to change that history. He believes God ordained the event called the Ring of Fire. A month after her wedding, Julie takes out General Wallenstein himself with sniper fire. He is severely wounded and will not be there to rally his men, turning the tide in favor of the allies. The book ends with the birth of Mike and Rebecca's baby, Sepharad.

Suggestions for Reflection and Discussion Questions—these questions may be used to initiate classroom discussion, as short writing assignments, or as test questions:

1. Discuss the competing visions for the new America expressed in this part of the book. What are the arguments for each? Which vision do you think is closer to where we find ourselves in modern-day America?
2. How do the Americans and Adolph II Gustav resolve the question of the separation of church and state?
3. How does Gustav convince Axel Oxenstierna that he has made the right decision?

Suggested Activities / Inquiry-Based Exploration:

1. Have your class create a project based on the development of the idea of separation between church and state. What is its history?
2. Have each member of the class pick one of the book's characters to analyze. How did they grow over the course of the book? What virtues did they have or develop that enabled them to survive and contribute to the new American territory?