

Chapter & Pages with brief summary (Tyler's 1998 paperback edition of *Blindness*)

Chapter 1: 1-15	1 st blindness: First blind man
Chapter 2: 16-25	More blindness: dr, thief, girl
Chapter 3: 26-36	Quarantine
Chapter 4: 37-55	Govt rules; girl and boy, thief arrive
Chapter 5: 56-76	More arrive, "hell" begins; thief killed
Chapter 6: 77-93	Excrement; soldiers shoot; burying the dead
Chapter 7: 94-113	200 blind arrive; food struggles; discussions of governance
Chapter 8: 114-130	Old Man newly arrived tells about outside world
Chapter 9: 131-148	Bullies in Ward 3 demand \$\$ and jewels
Chapter 10: 149-159	Wife checks out the bullies
Chapter 11: 160-185	Dr and Girl sleep together; 1 st rape scene; washing bodies
Chapter 12: 186-216	2 nd rape scene and murder; Naomi from Ward 2; fire
Chapter 13: 217-239	Freedom! 1 st supermarket trip; dog of tears; old man & girl
Chapter 14: 240-269	Move in group, roped, to girl's flat; old woman and hens
Chapter 15: 270-294	Doctor's house; 2 nd washing bodies scene; visit with Writer
Chapter 16: 295-307	Doctor's surgery; death & burial of old woman; old man & girl
Chapter 17: 308-326	2 nd Supermarket sc; church sc; blindness gone; wife at end.

Two optional suggestions for further reading. Jill Lepore, the Harvard Historian who wrote *These Truths: A History of the United States*, wrote an article last spring in *The New Yorker* "What Our Contagion Fables are Really About" (March 30, 2020)

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2020/03/30/what-our-contagion-fables-are-really-about>

and she was interviewed for the National Book Festival and the Library of Congress on "How This Pandemic Will Go Down in History" on May 21st:

<https://www.facebook.com/libraryofcongress/videos/3241920699366386>

One comment she made in this video is that *Blindness* is a "celebration of endurance and compassion," and, although students read *The Plague* as having this same message, she disagrees. I wish she had elaborated. Food for thought!

Lastly, I provided some page numbers for narrative voice in the second half of *Blindness* (and in both halves there are more than I can mention), here are a few from the first half: pages 16-18 (chapter 2), 106 (chapter 7), 151 (chapter 10). Also pages 12, 22-23, 78, 83, 115, 128, and many more!