

### **“The Hearth and the Salamander” Reader Response Quotes**

- “It was a pleasure to burn. It was a special pleasure to see things eaten, to see things blackened and changed” (p. 1).
- “He wore his happiness like a mask and the girl had run off across the lawn with the mask and there was no way of going to knock on her door and ask for it back” (p. 9).
- “There are too many of us....There are billions of us and that’s too many. Nobody knows anyone” (p. 14).
- “He felt his body divide itself into a hotness and a coldness, a softness and a hardness, a trembling and a not trembling, the two halves grinding one upon the other” (p. 21).
- “I’m afraid of children my own age. They kill each other. Did it always use to be that way?...I’m afraid of them and they don’t like me because I’m afraid” (p. 27).
- “Had he ever seen a fireman that didn’t have black hair, black brows, a fiery face, and a blue-steel shaved but unshaved look? These men were all mirror images of himself!” (p. 30).
- “And he remembered thinking then that if she [Mildred] died, he was certain he wouldn’t cry. For it would be the dying of an unknown, a street face, a newspaper image, and it was suddenly so very wrong that he had begun to cry, not at death but at the thought of not crying at death...” (p. 41).
- “We need not to be let alone. We need to be really bothered once in a while. How long is it since you were really bothered? About something important, about something real?” (p. 49).
- “People want to be happy....Don’t we keep them moving, don’t we give them fun? That’s all we live for, isn’t it? For pleasure, for titillation? And you must admit our culture provides plenty of these” (p. 56).
- “Any man who can take a TV wall apart and put it back together again, and most men can, nowadays, is happier than any man who tries to slide rule, measure, and equate the universe, which just won’t be measured or equated without making man feel bestial and lonely” (p. 58).
- “We’ve got to start somewhere here, figuring out why we’re in such a mess, you and the medicine nights, and the car, and me and my work....We haven’t anything to go on, but maybe we can piece it out and figure it and help each other” (p. 63-64).

### **“The Sieve and the Sand” Reader Response Quotes**

- “Maybe the books can get us half out of the cave. They just might stop us from making the same damn insane mistakes!” (p. 70).
- “The train radio vomited upon Montag, in retaliation, a great tonload of music made of tin, copper, silver, chromium, and brass. The people were pounded into submission; they did not run, there was no place to run...” (p. 75).
- “I often wonder if God recognizes His own son the way we’ve dressed him up, or is it dressed him down? He’s a regular peppermint stick now, all sugar-crystal and saccharine when he isn’t making veiled references to certain commercial products that every worshiper absolutely needs” (p. 77-78).
- “I’m one of the innocents who could have spoken up and out when no one would listen to the ‘guilty,’ but I did not speak and thus became guilty myself” (p. 78).
- “Books were only one type of receptacle where we stored a lot of things we were afraid we might forget. There is nothing magical in them, at all. The magic is only in what books say, how they stitched the patches of the universe together in one garment for us” (p. 79).

- “The things you’re looking for, Montag, are in the world, but the only way the average chap will ever see ninety-nine percent of them is in a book. Don’t ask for guarantees. And don’t look to be saved in any one thing, person, machine, or library. Do your own bit of saving, and if you drown, at least die knowing you were headed for shore” (p. 82).
- “Those who don’t build must burn. It’s as old as history and juvenile delinquents” (p. 85).
- “If you hide your ignorance, no one will hit you and you’ll never learn” (p. 100).

### **“Burning Bright” Reader Response Quotes**

- “It was pretty silly, quoting poetry around free and easy like that. It was the act of a silly damn snob. Give a man a few lines of verse and he thinks he’s the Lord of all Creation” (p. 111).
- “Faber’s would be the place where he might refuel his fast draining belief in his own ability to survive. He just wanted to know that there was a man like Faber in the world” (p. 118).
- “I could feel it for a long time, I was saving something up, I went around doing one thing and feeling another....It’s a wonder it didn’t show on me, like fat” (p. 125).
- “He could feel the Hound, like autumn, come cold and dry and swift....The Hound did not touch the world. It carried its silence with it, so you could feel the silence building up a pressure behind you all across town” (p. 130).
- “Here was the path to wherever he was going. Here was the single familiar thing, the magic charm he might need a little while, to touch, to feel beneath his feet, as he moved on into the bramble bushes and the lakes of smelling and feeling and touching, among the whispers and the blowing down of leaves” (p. 138).
- “The most important single thing we had to pound into ourselves is that we were not important....We’re nothing more than dust jackets for books, of no significance otherwise” (p. 146).
- “Everyone must leave something behind when he dies....A child or a book or a painting or a house or a wall built or a pair of shoes made. Or a garden planted. Something your hand touched some way so your soul has somewhere to go when you die, and when people look at that tree or that flower you planted, you’re there” ( p. 149-150).
- “We’ll just start walking today and see the world and the way the world walks around and talks, the way it really looks....And while none of it will be me when it goes in, after a while it’ll all gather together inside and it’ll be me” (p. 154).