Name:	
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BIBLIOSCOPIC DIALOGUE: The Scarlet Letter

Summarize this story by filling out the story chart on the next page. In the "Theme" bubble, show how the story addresses the idea of *memory*.



Climax:

SETTING

Dimmesdale climbs the scaffold to publicly confess his guilt and own Pearl; he encourages Hester to trust in God's mercy.

CHARACTERS

Rising Action:

Chillingworth works to keep Dimmesdale's guilt an ever-present irritant in his mind and heart. Hester invites him to flee society with her and Pearl.

THEME

Exposition:

Dimmesdale participates with the governing authorities in sentencing Hester. He pleads with her to reveal the identity of Pearl's father. Men cannot flee guilt from the Law; grace comes from confession of sin and repentance. Ancestors are mirrors for self-knowledge and conduits of grace. Significance of memory.

PLOT

Denouement:

Chillingworth admits his defeat; Dimmesdale finds peace in his final moments; Pearl shrives him with a kiss.

Conclusion:

Dimmesdale's confession leads Hester to rejoin the community; she becomes a minister of grace to fellow sinners in her company.

CONFLICT

Man vs. God: Will Dimmesdale find freedom through Divine Law?

