

English 374 : *Winesburg, Ohio*
Outline for Discussion
Dr. Mangum
Fall 2021

I. General Introduction: Relation between Anderson, the old man, and George Willard

- A. Method of Narration looks ahead to *The Waste Land* narration
- B. Idea of union of opposites personified in girl in knight's mail
- C. Process of individuation of George
- D. Relation of old man's dreams to the process of individuation

II. The Making of a Grotesque

- A. Starts with a truth
- B. The truth takes over the life
- C. Channels of communicating the truth become closed
- D. Repression (suppression) of truth leads to "neurotic" symptoms

III. Unity of Book

- A. George Willard's Presence
- B. House Images
- C. Town/Outskirts/City Images
- D. Thematic Unity

IV. Individual Truths: Below are listed sections from the book (the ones we will read and address). You might go through these with the idea of stating what you see as the individual "truth" of each of the main characters.

- A. The Book of the Grotesque
- B. Hands
- C. Paper Pills
- D. Philosopher
- E. Nobody Knows
- F. Adventure
- G. Strength of God
- H. The Teacher

V. George's Individuation: "Sophistication" and "Departure"