

## Chapter 5-6 Discussion Questions

1. Explore Hamid's portrayal, and Changez's reaction to, 9/11. (72-4)
2. Explore the extent to which the relationship between Changez, Erica, and Chris is metaphorically analogous to the relationship between the Muslim world and Christian America.
  - When does Hamid's symbolic, allegorical use of the sex motif metaphorically analogous of the power, intimacy, and trust between disparate cultures/nations?

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1. Analyze the foil that Hamid's addition of Manila, Philippines as a setting adds—what does Manila reveal about New York and about Lahore?
2. Analyze the significance of Erica's literary career.
3. Hamid has Changez say that he is “sufficiently unsettled by this particular series of events—or impressions, really, for they hardly constituted events...”—to what extent is the book itself comprised of impressions, rather than events? Connect Hamid's purpose for the text's second-person dramatic monologue form to this quote.
4. Explore the layers of symbolism inherent in the episode when Changez's team determines the “value” of a Philippine “recorded music” business.
5. Motif Tracking: Italics, stereotypes, bats/foxes (63, 75, 77), rock pool (68), others you've noticed?