

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

*based on the novel by Ken Kesey

1. Chief Bromdon

- Physical Description:

- What is wrong with him?
- What literary role does the Chief play?
- What does McMurphy hint towards when he and the Chief hide from the night watchman?
- If McMurphy is right, what does this say about Chief?

3. Dale Harding

- Age:
- Physical Description:

- What is his title on the ward:

- Describe his wife. Why is this important? (think about the role of women)

- According to the log book, how does he feel about his wife?

- What does Scanlon accuse him of? Literary purpose?

- What does he think of the group meetings?

2. Nurse Ratched

- Age:
- Physical Description:

- What does McMurphy accuse her of being during the group sessions? Is he right?

- What two things happen if one challenges her authority?
 - 1.

 - 2.

- What does she suggest has happened in the ward since McMurphy's arrival? Why does she seem to feel threatened?

- What does she want done to punish McMurphy? Why?

4. Billy Bibbit

- Age:
- Physical Description:

- Billy's physical problem? What does he do to himself? Why?

- What is the source of Billy's mental problem? (role of women)

- Why does Billy not get married? (role of women)

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5. Randle Patrick McMurphy

- Age:
 - Physical Description:

 - What is his immediate impact on the ward? Consider how he introduces himself to the inmate playing cards and the type of cards he brings.

 - Why is he being institutionalized?

 - How is the ward divided?
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - Describe his first meeting with Nurse Ratched:

 - What does he suggest he and the other patients use cigarettes for?

 - What do we learn about his background when Dr. Spivey arrives?

 - What was he arrested for?
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - What in McMurphy's file catches Dr. Spivey's attention?
- Discuss the wager he makes with the other inmates about Nurse Ratched. How does this develop his character further?

 - McMurphy and Dr. Spivey propose that the ward should have a ...
 - For what purpose...
 - Nurse Ratched responds...
 - What is McMurphy's purpose in creating this relationship with Spivey?

 - McMurphy holds a group vote on TV time. What does he want to watch?
 - What is the result of the vote?

 - How does he claim he can escape from the ward?

 - How does the Chief react to this attempt? What does it show you about Chief's character?

 - What does he plan to do with Candy and the "guys"?

 - In order to watch the World Series, they need to have a unanimous vote. How are they tricked on the second vote (in regards to Chief)?

 - How does Ratched justify her decision after Chief raises his hand and how do the "guys" react?

 - What has McMurphy done to Nurse's power over the ward?