

Study Guide for *Monster* by Walter Dean Myers

Name \_\_\_\_\_

*Record your opinion here after reading each scene*

**Journal Entry: pp. 1-5**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What does Steve reveal about himself in this entry?*

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**Flashback: Stuyvesant High School, pp. 18-19**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What happens in this scene?*

Sawicki criticizes a film for its predictable ending; “When you make a film, you leave an impression on the viewers, who serve as a kind of jury for your film. If you make your film predictable, they’ll make up their minds about it long before it’s over.”

*What information does this scene provide regarding Steve’s innocence or guilt?*

Myers puts this in at the start of the trial. Is he suggesting that this statement also true for the trial jury? Is the outcome of the trial predictable? O’Brien seems to think it is.

**Witness Testimony: Jose Delgado, pp. 28-32**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What can you infer from this testimony?*

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**Witness Testimony: Sal Zinzi, pp. 32-41**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What can you infer from this testimony?*

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**Flashback: Rock-throwing Incident, pp. 41-43**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What does this scene tell you about Steve?*

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**Journal Entry: pp. 45-46**

*What does Steve reveal about himself in this entry?*

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**Flashback: Stoop on 141<sup>st</sup> Street, pp. 49-51**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What happens in this scene?*

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*What information does this scene provide regarding Steve's innocence or guilt?*

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**Flashback: 28<sup>th</sup> Precinct, pp. 71-73**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What happens in this scene?*

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*What information does this scene provide regarding Steve's innocence or guilt?*

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**Waiting room outside courtroom: pp. 78-80**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What social issues does this scene raise?*

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**Flashback: Neighborhood Stoop, pp. 80-82**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What happens in this scene?*

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*What information does this scene provide regarding Steve's innocence or guilt?*

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**Witness Testimony: Osvaldo Cruz, pp. 82-88**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What can you infer from this testimony?*

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**Journal Entry: pp. 89-98**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What does Steve reveal about himself in this entry?*

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**Witness Testimony: Osvaldo Cruz, pp. 99-109**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What change did you notice in Osvaldo?*

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*What information does this scene provide regarding Steve's innocence or guilt?*

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**Journal Entry: pp. 115-116**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What does Steve reveal about himself in this entry?*

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**Flashback: Steve's Neighborhood, pp. 117-121**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What happens in this scene?*

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*What information does this scene provide regarding Steve's innocence or guilt?*

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**Flashback: Steve's Apartment, pp. 121-126**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What happens in this scene?*

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*What information does this scene provide regarding Steve's innocence or guilt?*

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**Flashback: Steve's apartment, pp. 123-126**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What does this scene show us about Mrs. Harmon's relationship with Steve?*

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*How does Williams treat Steve? Compare this to how Karyl treats Steve on pp.71-73.*

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*What conclusions can you draw from Steve's actions in this scene?*

**Journal Entry: pp. 127-130**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What does Steve reveal about himself in this entry?*

**Journal Entry: pp. 137-148**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What does Steve reveal about himself in this entry?*

**Flashback: Marcus Garvey Park in Harlem, pp. 149-151**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What does this scene show us about Steve's role in the crime?*

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*What is the effect of repeating the last phrase?*

**Journal Entry: pp. 153-159**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What does Steve reveal about himself in this entry?*

**Witness Testimony: Lorelle Henry, pp. 161-171**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*Why are the questions about the photos and the line-up so important? Should they be?*

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*What social issues come up in this scene?*

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*Why was Petrocelli's redirect so short? Was it effective?*

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**Witness Testimony: Bobo Evans, pp. 185-199**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What does this selection show about Bobo's reliability?*

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*What does this do to Osvaldo's testimony? Was this intentional on O'Brien's part?*

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**Journal Entry: pp. 201-205**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What does Steve reveal about himself in this entry?*

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**Film class; Courtroom, pp. 214-219**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What does Mr. Sawicki say about being aware of your audience when making a film?*

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*Does O'Brien follow this advice when telling the story to the jury (her audience)?*

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*How does putting the classroom scene right before the courtroom scene increase your understanding?*

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**Courtroom, pp. 224-229**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What is your initial reaction to this scene?*

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*Based on what you know from Steve's journal and the flashback scenes, is Steve telling the truth?*

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**Courtroom, pp. 234-238**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*Why does O'Brien bring Sawicki to the stand?*

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*Why would O'Brien have him as her last witness?*

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*How does his testimony fit in the trial?*

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**Journal Entry: pp. 269-271**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What does Steve reveal about himself in this entry?*

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**Courtroom—verdict, pp. 276-277**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*What does this final scene show?*

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*Why did Steve choose not to have sound for this scene?*

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*How does his last image affect you?*

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**Journal Entry: pp. 279-281**

Guilty \_\_\_\_\_ Not Guilty \_\_\_\_\_

*Why do you think Myers included this final entry?*

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*Why has Steve been producing films?*

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*What do you think Miss O'Brien saw?*

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