

Monday 13 February 2012

- Read each of the assigned stories at least twice. Highlight passages that you find confusing, interesting, etc. Think about responses to the questions below, but come to class prepared to initiate other topics for discussion that these stories raise.

- Discussion questions for *Man on Pink Corner*.
 - What is your reaction to this story? How is it like or unlike other stories you have read?
 - Who killed the Yardmaster (Francisco Real)? What is your evidence?

- Discussion questions for *The Circular Ruins*
 - Who are the characters in this story? Where/when does it take place?
 - What happens in this story?
 - What is the foreigner/sorcerer's goal? How does he go about achieving it?
 - What do you think of the ending? Did it surprise you?
 - Describe the sorcerer's feelings for his creation. Why did he fear that the youth would learn that he was a "simulacrum?"
 - Who tells the story?
 - Is this story possibly about anything other than what it appears to be ... a fantasy?
 - What lessons does this story carry regarding the creative process? Who ultimately dreamed up the youth ... and the foreigner? What does this story say about authorship?
 - What is "circular" about this story?
 - Does this story remind you of other stories or movies you know?