*A Separate Peace*

Chapter 1 discussion

1. The friendship between Gene and Finny
   1. “We were the best of friends at that moment” (18).
   2. “. . . Bobby and Leper and Chet were urging us from ahead . . . to hurry up, and then Finny trapped me again in his strongest trap, that is, I suddenly became his collaborator. As we walked rapidly along I abruptly resented the bell and my West Point stride and hurrying and conforming” (19).
2. The relationship between the war and the happenings and characters at Devon
   1. “The class above, seniors, draft-bait, practically soldiers, rushed ahead of us toward the war. They were caught up in accelerated courses and first-aid programs and a physical hardening regimen, which included jumping from this tree” (15).
   2. “’Well,’ he cried out, ‘here’s my contribution to the war effort!’ and he sprang out, fell through the tops of some lower branches, and smashed into the water” (16).
3. Finny as a character
   1. “’What I like best about this tree,’ he said in that voice of his, the equivalent in sound of a hypnotist’s eyes, ‘what I like is that it’s such a cinch!’” (14).
   2. “Naturally Finny was going to be the first to try, and just as naturally he was going to inveigle others, us, into trying it with him” (15).
   3. “Phineas didn’t really dislike West Point in particular of authority in general, but just considered authority the necessary evil against which happiness was achieved by reaction, the backboard which returned all the insults he threw at it” (19).
4. Gene as a character
   1. “Looking back now across fifteen years, I could see with great clarity the fear I had lived in, which must mean that in the interval I had succeeded in a very important undertaking: I must have made my escape from it” (10).
   2. How much he talks about Finny (pages 14-16)
   3. “What was I doing up here anyway? Why did I let Finny talk me into stupid things like this?” (17).
5. Competition
   1. “He weighed a hundred and fifty pounds, a galling ten pounds more than I did, which flowed form his legs to torso in an uninterrupted, unemphatic unity of strength” (16).
   2. “We struggled in some equality for a while, and then when we were sure we were too late for dinner, we broke off” (19).
6. Honesty
   1. “I had been claiming five feet nine inches before he became my roommate, but he had said in public with that simple, shocking self-acceptance of his, ‘No, you’re the same height I am, five-eight and a half. We’re on the short side’” (16).
   2. “’I never backed away from anything in my life!’ I cried, my indignation at this charge naturally stronger because it was so true” (18).

Chapter 2 discussion

1. The friendship between Gene and Finny
   1. “‘Yes. It sure was boring. Who did most of the talking anyway?’ Finny concentrated. ‘Mr. Patch-Withers was pretty gassy, and his wife, and . . .’ ‘Yeah. And?’ Turning a look of mock shock on me, ‘You don’t mean to infer that *I* talked too much!’” (29).
   2. “Finny had practically saved my life” (32).
2. The relationship between the war and the happenings and characters at Devon
   1. “We reminded [the Devon faculty] of what peace was like, of lives which were not bound up with destruction” (24).
   2. “‘I don’t really believe we bombed Central Europe, do you?’ said Finny thoughtfully (29).
3. Finny as a character
   1. “He pressed his advantage because he saw that Mr. Prud’homme was pleased, won over in spite of himself” (22).
   2. “The Devon faculty had never before experienced a student who combined a calm ignorance of the rules with a winning urge to be good, who seemed to love the school truly and deeply, and never more than when he was breaking the regulations, a model boy who was most comfortable in the truant’s corner” (23).
4. Gene as a character
   1. “This time [Finny] wasn’t going to get away with it. I could feel myself becoming unexpectedly excited at that” (27).
   2. “He got away with everything because of the extraordinary kind of person he was. It was quite a compliment to me, as a matter of fact, to have such a person choose me for his best friend” (29).
5. Competition
   1. “I was beginning to see that Phineas could get away with anything. I couldn’t help envying him that a little, which was perfectly normal. There was no harm in envying even your best friend a little” (25).
   2. “We’ll form a suicide society, and the membership requirement is one jump out of this tree” (31). (spoken by Finny)
6. Honesty
   1. “Everything he said was true and sincere; Finny always said what he happened to be thinking, and if this stunned people then he was surprised” (23).
   2. “He had gotten away with everything. I felt a sudden stab of disappointment. That was because I just wanted to see some more excitement; that must have been it” (28).

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Chapter 3 discussion

1. The friendship between Gene and Finny
   1. “[Finny] was everywhere, he enjoyed himself hugely, he laughed out loud at passing sea gulls. And he did everything he could think of for me” (47).
   2. “‘ . . after all you can’t come to the shore with just anybody and you can’t come by yourself, and at this teen-age period in life the proper person is your best pal.’ [Finny] hesitated and then added, ‘which is what you are,’ and there was silence on the dune” (48).
2. The relationship between the war and the happenings and characters at Devon
   1. “The war was and is reality for me. I still instinctively live and think in its atmosphere” (40).
   2. “In such a period [of war] no one notices or rewards any achievements involving the body unless the result is to kill it or save it on the battlefield, so that there were only a few of us to applaud and wonder at what [Finny] was able to do” (42).
3. Finny as a character
   1. “In such a nonstop game he also had the natural advantage of a flow of energy which I never saw interrupted. I never saw him tired, never really winded, never overcharged and never restless” (39).
   2. “ . . . Finny had tremendous loyalty to the class, as he did to any group he belonged to, beginning with him and me and radiating outward past the limits of humanity toward spirits and clouds and stars” (42).
4. Gene as a character
   1. “I wouldn’t have turned around, and so lost my balance, if he hadn’t been there. I didn’t need to feel any tremendous rush of gratitude toward Phineas” (33).
   2. “Going [to the beach] risked expulsion, destroyed the studying I was going to do for an important test the next morning, blasted the reasonable amount of order I wanted to maintain in my life, and it also involved the kind of long, labored bicycle ride I hated” (46).
5. Competition
   1. “Finny never permitted himself to realize that when you won they lost. That would have destroyed the perfect beauty that was sport. Nothing bad ever happened in sports; they were the absolute good” (35).
   2. “And there were few relationships among us at Devon not based on rivalry” (45).
6. Honesty
   1. “. . . Finny could shine with everyone, he attracted everyone he met. I was glad of that too. Naturally. He was my roommate and my best friend” (40).
   2. “I should have told him then that he was my best friend also and rounded off what he had said. I started to; I nearly did. But something held me back. Perhaps I was stopped by that level of feeling, deeper than thought, which contains the truth” (48).

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Chapter 4 discussion

1. The friendship between Gene and Finny
   1. “My brain exploded. He minded, despised the possibility that I might be the head of the school” (52).
   2. “He had never been jealous of me for a second. Now I knew that there never was and never could have been any rivalry between us. I was not of the same quality as he” (59).
2. The relationship between the war and the happenings and characters at Devon
   1. “It was all cold trickery, it was all calculated, it was all enmity” (53).
   2. “We were even after all, even in enmity. The deadly rivalry was on both sides after all” (54).
3. Finny as a character
   1. “In class he generally sat slouched in his chair, his alert face following the discussion with an expression of philosophical comprehension, and when he was forced to speak himself the hypnotic power of his voice combined with the singularity of his mind to produce answers which were often not right but could barely be branded as wrong” (54).
   2. “Why didn’t you say you had to study before? Don’t move from that desk. It’s going to be all A’s for you” (58). (spoken by Finny)
4. Gene as a character
   1. “There was a swift chain of explosions in my brain, one certainty after another blasted—up like a detonation went the idea of any best friend, up went affection and partnership and sticking by someone and relying on someone absolutely in the jungle of a boys’ school, up went the hope that there was anyone in this school—in this world—whom I could trust” (53).
   2. “I became quite a student after that. I had always been a good one, although I wasn’t really interested and excited by learning itself, the way Chet Douglass was” (54).
5. Competition
   1. “If I was head of the class on Graduation Day and made a speech and won the Ne Plus Ultra Scholastic Achievement Citation, then we would both have come out on top, we would be even, that was all. We would be even. . . .” (52).
   2. “The thought was, You and Phineas are even already. You are even in enmity. You are both coldly driving ahead for yourselves alone” (53).
6. Honesty
   1. “I believed him. The joking manner was a screen; I believed him” (52).
   2. “What he meant was clear enough, but I was groping for what lay behind his words, for what his thoughts could possibly be” (58).

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Chapter 5 discussion

1. The friendship between Gene and Finny
   1. “‘Oh, you know Finny.’ I didn’t, I was pretty sure I didn’t know Finny at all” (63).
   2. “And I had thought we were competitors! It was so ludicrous I wanted to cry” (66).
2. The relationship between the war and the happenings and characters at Devon
   1. “It was as though they felt it especially unfair that it should strike one of the sixteen-year-olds, one of the few young men who could be free and happy in the summer of 1942” (61).
   2. “‘My God, what energy,’ he said, falling back against the pillows. ‘You sound like General MacArthur’” (66).
3. Finny as a character
   1. “I did have this idea, this feeling that when you were standing there beside me, y— I don’t know, I had a kind of feeling. But you can’t say anything for sure from just feelings. And this feeling doesn’t make any sense. It was a crazy idea, I must have been delirious. So I just have to forget it. I just fell” (66). (spoken by Finny)
   2. “It was only a feeling he had, and at this moment he must of have been formulating a new commandment in his personal decalogue: Never accuse a friend of a crime if you only have a feeling he did it” (66).
4. Gene as a character
   1. “I burst out crying into my hands; I cried for Phineas and for myself and for this doctor who believed in facing things. Most of all I cried because of kindness, which I had not expected” (64).
   2. “It was [at Devon] that I had done it, but it was [at Finny’s house] that I would have to tell it. I felt like a wild man who had stumbled in from the jungle to tear the place apart” (69).
5. Competition
   1. “Sports are finished for him, after an accident like that. Of course” (63). (spoken by Dr. Stanpole)
   2. “‘I’ll kill you if you don’t shut up.’ ‘You see! Kill me! Now you know what it is! I did it because I felt like that! Now you know yourself’” (70).
6. Honesty
   1. “If Phineas had been sitting here in this pool of guilt, how would he have felt, what would he have done? He would have told me the truth” (66).
   2. “‘You aren’t going to start living by the rules, are you?’ I grinned at him. ‘Oh no, I wouldn’t do that,’ and that was the most false thing, the biggest lie of all” (71).

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Chapter 6 discussion

1. The friendship between Gene and Finny
   1. “Until the back of my hand cracked against Quackenbush’s face I had never pictured myself in the role of Finny’s defender, and I didn’t suppose he would thank me for it now. . . . But it didn’t feel exactly as thought I had done it for Phineas. It felt as thought I had done it for myself” (80).
   2. “ . . . and I lost part of myself to him then, and a soaring sense of freedom revealed that this must have been my purpose from the first: to become a part of Phineas” (85).
2. The relationship between the war and the happenings and characters at Devon
   1. “Five of the younger teachers were missing, gone into the war. Mr. Pike had come in his Naval ensign’s uniform; some reflex must have survived Midshipman’s School and brought him back to Devon for the day. His face was as mild and hopeless as ever; mooning above the snappy, rigid blouse, it gave him the air of an imposter” (73).
   2. “It was as though football players were really bent on crushing the life out of each other, as though boxers were in combat to the death, as though even a tennis ball might turn into a bullet. This didn’t seem completely crazy imagination in 1942, when jumping out of trees stood for abandoning a torpedoed ship” (84).
3. Finny as a character
   1. “Not of the tree and pain, but of one of his favorite tricks, Phineas in exaltation, balancing on one foot on the prow of a canoe like a river god, his raised arms invoking the air to support him, face transfigured, body a complex set of balances and compensations, each muscle aligned in perfection with all the others to maintain this supreme fantasy of achievement, his skin glowing from immersions, his whole body hanging between river and sky as thought he had transcended gravity and might by gently pushing upward with his foot glide a little way higher and remain suspended in space, encompassing all the glory of the summer and offering it to the sky” (75). (You shouldn’t normally use quotations this long.☺)
   2. “‘But anyway, you wouldn’t have let them put anyone else in there, would you?’ Friendliness, simply outgoing affection, that was all I could hear in [Finny’s] voice” (83).
4. Gene as a character
   1. (Gene, writing about the summer): “Ours had been a wayward gypsy music, leading us down all kinds of foolish gypsy ways, unforgiven. I was glad of it, I had almost caught the rhythm of it, the dancing, clicking jangle of it during the summer” (74).
   2. “For I wanted no more of sports. They were barred from me, as though when Dr. Stanpole said, ‘Sports are finished,’ he had been speaking of me” (84).
5. Competition
   1. “ . . .I even sympathized with [Quackenbush’s] trembling, goaded egotism he could no longer contain, the furious arrogance which sprang out now at the mere hint of opposition from someone he had at last found whom he could consider inferior to himself” (78-79).
   2. “Phineas losing even in those games he invented, betting always for what *should* win, for what would have been the most brilliant successes of all, if only the cards hadn’t betrayed him” (81).
6. Honesty
   1. “‘Well, I did have just a *trace* of doubt, that was because you talked so crazy here. I have to admit I had just a *second* when I wondered. I’m sorry about that, Gene. Naturally I was completely wrong. You didn’t let them put anyone else in my spot.’ ‘No, I didn’t let them’” (83).
   2. “So to Phineas I said, ‘I’m too busy for sports’” (84).

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Chapter 7 discussion

1. The friendship between Gene and Finny
   1. “But I was used to finding something deadly in things that attracted me; there was always something deadly lurking in anything I wanted, anything I loved. And if it wasn’t there, as for example with Phineas, then I put it there myself” (101).
   2. “Everything that had happened throughout the day faded like that first false snowfall of the winter. Phineas was back” (102).
2. The relationship between the war and the happenings and characters at Devon
   1. “In the same way the ward, beginning almost humorously with announcements about maids and days spent at apple-picking, commenced its invasion of the school. The early snow was commandeered as its advance guard” (93).
   2. “Stranded in this mill town railroad yard while the whole world was converging elsewhere, we seemed to be nothing but children playing among heroic men” (97).
3. Finny as a character
   1. “[Finny] was seated in my chair at the desk, bending down to adjust the gross encumbrance of his leg, so that only the familiar ears set close against he head were visible, and his short-cut brown hair”(102).
   2. “[Finny] looked up with a provocative grin, ‘Hi pal, where’s the brass band?’” (102).
4. Gene as a character
   1. “With Leper it was always a fight, a hard fight to win when you were seventeen years old and lived in a keyed-up, competing school, to avoiding making fun of him. But as I had gotten to know him better this fight had been easier to win” (96).
   2. “But I was used to finding something deadly in things that attracted me; there was always something deadly lurking in anything I wanted, anything I loved. And if it wasn’t there, as for example with Phineas, then I put it there myself” (101).
5. Competition
   1. “But Brinker came in. I think he made a point of visiting all the rooms near him the first day” (87).
   2. “They laughed at him a little, and he squirmed and looked guiltier than ever. He had a very weak foothold among the Butt Room crowd, and I had pretty well pushed him off it” (91).
6. Honesty
   1. “‘Don’t be nutty, Brinker,’ I turned back toward the desk and began moving books with rapid pointlessness, ‘what a crazy thing to say.’ My voice sounded too strained even to my own blood-pounded ears” (88).
   2. “. . . I only had to add, ‘pushed him out of the tree’ and the chain of implausibility would be complete, ‘then I . . .’ just those few words and perhaps this dungeon nightmare would end. But I could feel my throat closing on them; I could never say them, never” (90).

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Chapter 8 discussion

1. The friendship between Gene and Finny
   1. “Phineas was shocked at the idea of my leaving. In some way he needed me. He needed me. I was the least trustworthy person he had ever met. I knew that; he knew or should know that too. I had even told him. I had told him” (108).
   2. “I stood there pitying Mr. Ludsbury for his fatal thinness and reflecting that after all he had always had a gullible side” (122).
2. The relationship between the war and the happenings and characters at Devon
   1. “So the war swept over like a wave at the seashore, gathering power and size as it bore on us, overwhelming in its rush, seemingly inescapable, and then at the last moment eluded by a word from Phineas; I had simply ducked, that was all, and the wave’s concentrated power had hurtled harmlessly overhead, no doubt throwing others roughly up on the beach, but leaving me peaceably treading water as before” (109).
   2. “The fat old men who don’t want us crowding them out of their jobs. They’ve made [the war] all up. There isn’t any real food shortage, for instance. The men have all the best steaks delivered to their clubs now. You’ve noticed how they’ve been getting fatter lately, haven’t you?” (115). (spoken by Finny)
3. Finny as a character
   1. “‘ . . .when you really love something, then it loves you back, in whatever way it has to love.’ I didn’t think that this was true, my seventeen years of experience had shown this to be much more false than true, but it was like every other thought and belief of Finny’s: it should have been true” (111).
   2. “‘Why should you get it and all the rest of us be in the dark?’. . . . ‘Because I’ve suffered,’ [Finny] burst out’” (116).
4. Gene as a character
   1. “Now, in this winter of snow and crutches with Phineas, I began to know that each morning reasserted the problems of the night before, that sleep suspended all but changed nothing, that you couldn’t make yourself over between dawn and dusk” (105-6).
   2. “[Finny] wanted me around. The war the passed away from me, and dreams of enlistment and escape and a clean start lost their meaning for me” (108).
5. Competition
   1. “. . .and to my surprise we went on past the Trophy Room, where his name was already inscribed on one cup, one banner, and one embalmed football. I was sure that this was his goal, to mull over these lost glories” (113).
   2. “‘Did I ever tell you,’ [Finny] began in a husky tone, ‘that I used to be aiming for the Olympics?’” (117).
6. Honesty.
   1. “‘We’ll say I fainted from exertion on the way from chapel,’ [Finny] looked at me with a phantom’s smile, ‘and you had to tend me’” (112).
   2. “Phineas was a poor deceiver, having had no practice” (113).

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Chapter 9 discussion

1. The friendship between Gene and Finny
   1. “[Finny] drew me increasingly away from the Butt Room crowd, away from Brinker and Chet and all other friends, into a world inhabited by just himself and me, where there was no war at all, just Phineas and me alone among all the people of the world, training for the Olympics of 1944” (127).
   2. “Now we’re going to have the Decathlon. Quiet everybody, our Olympic candidate Gene Forrester, is not going to qualify” (136). (spoken by Finny)
2. The relationship between the war and the happenings and characters at Devon
   1. “For a few days [after Leper’s departure] the war was more unimaginable than ever. . . . At last Brinker found a workable point of view. . . . Leper sprang up all over the world at the core of every Allied success” (126).
   2. “It wasn’t the cider which made me surpass myself, it was this liberation we had torn from the gray encroachments of 1943, the escape we had concocted, this afternoon of momentary, illusory, special and separate peace” (137).
3. Finny as a character
   1. “And because [the Winter Carnival] was Finny’s idea, it happened as he said, although not as easily as some of his earlier inspirations” (129).
   2. “Under the influence not I know of the hardest cider but of his own inner joy at life for a moment as it should be, as it was meant to be in his nature, Phineas recaptured that magic gift for existing primarily in space, one foot conceding briefly to gravity its rights before spinning him off again into the air. It was his wildest demonstration of himself, of himself in the kind of world he loved; it was his choreography of peace” (136).
4. Gene as a character
   1. “Not that I ever believed that the whole production of World War II was a trick of the eye manipulated by a bunch of calculating fat old men, appealing though this idea was. What deceived me was my own happiness; for peace is indivisible, and the surrounding world confusion found no reflection inside me. So I ceased to have any real sense of it” (123).
   2. “I took the telegram from Phineas, facing in advance whatever the destruction was. That was what I learned to do that winter” (137).
5. Competition
   1. “Much like the rest of us on the surface, [Chet] had an underlying obliging and considerate strain which barred him from being a really important member of the class. You had to be rude at least sometimes and edgy often to be credited with ‘personality,’ and without that accolade no one at Devon could be anyone” (132-33).
   2. “. . . it wasn’t cider which made me in this moment champion of everything [Finny] ordered . . . to accept at the end of it amid a clatter of applause—for on this day even the schoolboy egotism of Devon was conjured away—a wreath made from the evergreen trees which Phineas placed on my head” (136).
6. Honesty
   1. “This was not shaken even by the enlistment of Leper Lepellier. In fact that made the war seem more unreal than ever. No real war could draw Leper voluntarily away from his snails and beaver dams” (123).
   2. “ . . . and then we need somebody to kind of beautify the place, a few holly wreaths and things like that. Someone good with plants and shrubbery. I know. Leper” (129). (spoken by Finny)

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Chapter 10 discussion

1. The friendship between Gene and Finny
   1. “‘Like a savage underneath. Like,’ now there was the blind confusion in [Leper’s] eyes again, a wild slyness around his mouth, ‘like that time you knocked Finny out of the tree’” (145).
   2. “Still laughing, ‘Like that time you crippled him for life.’ I shoved my foot against the rung of his chair and kicked” (145).
2. The relationship between the war and the happenings and characters at Devon
   1. “For if Leper was psycho it was the army which had done it to him, and I and all of us were on the brink of the army” (144).
   2. “‘. . . psycho. I guess I am. I must be. Am I, though, or is the army? Because they turned everything inside out. I couldn’t sleep in bed, I had to sleep everywhere else. I couldn’t eat in the Mess Hall, I had to eat everywhere else’” (150). (spoken by Leper)
3. Finny as a character
   1. “For if Leper was psycho it was the army which had done it to him, and I and all of us were on the brink of the army” (144).
   2. “I left Leper telling his story into the wind. He might tell of it forever, I didn’t care. I didn’t want to hear any more of it. I had already heard too much. What did he mean by telling me a story like that! I didn’t want to hear any more of it. Not now or ever. I didn’t care because it had nothing to do with me. And I didn’t want to hear any more of it. Ever” (151).
4. Gene as a character
   1. “As a last defense I had always taken refuge in a scornful superiority, based on nothing. I sank back in the chair, eyebrows up, shoulders shrugging” (144).
   2. “‘Do you think I want to hear every gory detail? Shut up! I don’t care! I don’t care what happened to you, Leper. I don’t give a damn! Do you understand that? This has nothing to do with me! Nothing at all! I don’t care!’” (151).
5. Competition
   1. “‘Like a savage underneath. Like,’ now there was the blind confusion in [Leper’s] eyes again, a wild slyness around his mouth, ‘like that time you knocked Finny out of the tree’” (145).
   2. “Still laughing, ‘Like that time you crippled him for life.’ I shoved my foot against the rung of his chair and kicked” (145).
6. Honesty
   1. “I know longer wanted [Leper’s ‘escape’] to be true, I no longer wanted it to be connected with spies or desertion or anything out of the ordinary. I knew it was going to be, and I no longer wanted it to be” (143).
   2. “I left Leper telling his story into the wind. He might tell of it forever, I didn’t care. I didn’t want to hear any more of it. I had already heard too much. What did he mean by telling me a story like that! I didn’t want to hear any more of it. Not now or ever. I didn’t care because it had nothing to do with me. And I didn’t want to hear any more of it. Ever” (151).

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Chapter 11 discussion

1. The friendship between Gene and Finny
   1. “‘Do you realize you won every gold medal in every Olympic event? No one’s ever done anything like that in history.’ ‘And you scooped every newspaper in the world on every story.’ The sun was doing antics among the million specks of dust hanging between us and casting a brilliant unstable pool of light on the floor. ‘No one’s ever done anything like that before’” (164).
   2. “[Finny] shook his head sharply, closing his eyes, and then he turned to regard me with a handsome mask of a face. ‘I just don’t care. Never mind,’ and he started across the marble floor toward the doors” (176-77).
2. The relationship between the war and the happenings and characters at Devon
   1. “There was little left at Devon any more which had not been recruited for the war. The few stray activities and dreamy people not caught up in it were being systematically corralled by Brinker” (158).
   2. “And you told me about Leper, that he’s gone crazy. That’s the word, we might as well admit it. Leper’s gone crazy. When I heard that about Leper, then I knew that the war was real, this war and all the wars” (163). (spoken by Finny)
3. Finny as a character
   1. “I waited for him to take it up, to unravel once again his tale of plotting statesmen and deluded public, his great joke, his private toe hold on the world. . . . He brought his wide-set eyes up, his grin flashed and faded, and then he murmured, ‘Sure. There isn’t any war’” (158).
   2. “‘Naturally I don’t believe books and I don’t believe teacher,’ [Finny] came across a few paces, ‘but I do believe—it’s important after all for me to believe *you.* I’ve got to believe you, at least. I know you better than anybody’” (163).
4. Gene as a character
   1. “‘Anyway,’ said Finny, ‘then I knew there was a real war on.’ ‘Yes, I guess it’s a real war all right. But I liked yours a lot better.’ ‘So did I’” (164).
   2. “I wanted to see Phineas, and Phineas only. With him there was no conflict except between athletes, something Greek-inspired and Olympian in which victory would go to whoever was the strongest in body and heart. That was the only conflict he had ever believed in” (153).
5. Competition
   1. “I wanted to see Phineas, and Phineas only. With him there was no conflict except between athletes, something Greek-inspired and Olympian in which victory would go to whoever was the strongest in body and heart. That was the only conflict he had ever believed in” (153).
   2. “Suddenly he turned his fire [in the snowball fight] against me, he betrayed several of his other friends; he went over to the other, to Brinker’s side for a short time, enough to ensure that his betrayal of them would heighten the disorder. Loyalties became hopelessly entangled. No one was going to win or lose after all” (154).
6. Honesty
   1. “It was one of the few ironic remarks Phineas ever made, and with it he quietly brought to a close all his special inventions which had carried us through the winter. Now the facts were re-established, and gone were all the fantasies, such as the Olympic Games for A.D. 1944, closed before they had ever been opened” (158).
   2. “[Finny] whirled as though being attacked from behind. ‘You get the rest of the facts, Brinker!’ he cried. ‘You get all your facts!’” (177).