Final Seminar Questions - Student Created

* On page 550, Death says, “I am haunted by humans.” What does he mean by this? Does it have anything to do with the leftover humans/survivors he talks about on page 5. Why does he tell this to Liesel?
* How does Liesel’s view of the power of words change throughout the story?
* Who do you think has struggled more, Max or Liesel?
* On page 528, it says the last line in the Book Thief, Liesel’s story, “I have hated the words and I have loved them, and I hope I have made them right.” What do you think this saying means to her? Why did she choose it for her last line?
* Do you think Liesel’s obsession over books and reading was an escape or motivation?
* Do you think Death wants to talk to Liesel at the end of this story because he feels survivor’s guilt?
* Why does Death have such a strong connection with Liesel?
* If Max could have stayed in the basement, would more of the Hubermanns survived?
* When describing Papa, Liesel says he has silver eyes. When Death talks about his soul coming out, he describes it as silver. On page 547, they say the sky was grey and glossy, a silver afternoon. Is there a correlation between this and Papa?
* Does Death’s view of Rudy change throughout the story, or does it stay the same?
* How would the story be different if Rudy survived and found Liesel dead?
* Why do you think Max constantly feels guilty about the help he receives? Does he make himself feel guilty? (398)