

The Other Boleyn Girl : Questions for the Movie

1. The textbook suggests that alongside the religious moral code of the Renaissance, there was also an honour code at work. How do we see the Renaissance honour code at work in the movie? Please post your answer to this question to the blog, in the "film" category. Follow the blog guidelines in terms of word length. You may post a reply to another person's comment, provided you supply new information/interpretation. (Reread the text pages on the honour code *before* seeing the film. ☺)
2. *The Other Boleyn Girl* is really a movie about power; who has it, how they use it, who loses it, and why. It is the battle of the sexes *par excellence*. Using the chart provided, give an example of how each character in the movie betrays another, and why. Who, in your opinion, is the very *worst* person in the film (remember, they were all REAL people), and who is the very *best*? Please post your answer to this question to the blog, by Wednesday's class. Follow the blog guidelines in terms of word length. You may post a reply to another person's comment, provided you supply new information/interpretation.
3. Based on what you seen in the film, what are the individual problems for a women when she is a wife, and when she is a mistress?
4. When Mary is first presented to the Queen, Katherine of Aragon seeks to discover the «special talent» Mary possesses. Why? Contrast Queen Katherine's treatment of Mary with her treatment of Anne, after the Queen leaves her trial. What is your impression of Katherine of Aragon?
5. Contrast the scene in which Katherine of Aragon defends herself in her trial in the movie, with that of «The Tudors» episode. Which was more powerful, in your opinion? Please post your answer to this question to the blog, by Wednesday's class. Follow the blog guidelines in terms of word length. You may post a reply to another person's comment, provided you supply new information/interpretation.
6. The King declares Anne «changed» when she returns from the French court. In the scene where Anne is looking for a «great man», what scene, earlier in the film, is Anne referring to, when she gives Henry VIII her definition of a «great man»?
7. Why do you suppose George Boleyn dislikes his wife so much?
8. At one point, the Lady Elizabeth instructs her daughter to «let the men believe they are in charge.» Does she live by this motto? Is it good advice, do you

think, for her daughters? Do you believe any of the women in the film exercise this «wisdom»?

9. In her novel, Philippa Gregory has one of her characters declare, «If Queen Katherine loses this case, no wife in England will be safe.» What are the *social* implications of Henry VIII's break with Rome?
10. Compare the two scenes where Henry VIII "takes" the Boleyn sisters. How do they differ? What do the film makers suggest about love with these very different scenes?
11. On the chart provided in the «Character Profile» download, compare the character of each of the Boleyn girls. Choose 4 adjectives for each, and back up each adjective with an example from the film.