Questions and Topics for discussion

Lecture 5

Swann in Love

1. Swann and Odette, the Proustian analysis of love.
2. Analyze Swann’s jealousy and his art of torturing himself.
3. What does Swann conclude at the end of “Swann in Love” regarding his affection for Odette? Remember his exact words when we see Odette in her final appearance in Time Regained, long after Swann’s death.

Place-Names: The Name

4. Who has the Swann of Combray now become?
5. What are the anticipated differences between the name and the place Balbec?
6. Why does Marcel begin his walks in the Champs-Élysées accompanied by Françoise?
7. What color is Gilberte’s hair?
8. What is Mme Blatin reading?
9. Why does Marcel request the Bergotte booklet?
10. Note the time shift at the end of the volume. The narrative moment is now. What has changed? What is the conclusion of this passage regarding space and time? In Search in Lost Time ends with a meditation on space and time. We can compare Marcel’s vision now and at the end of his quest.