

# Grendel Chapter 8

**Directions:** Read the summaries for the zodiac sign and philosophy (below). Read chapter 8 of Grendel. Answer the questions. When finished place document in your Grendel folder.

## **Zodiac Sign: Scorpio**

Dates: October 23- November 21 (Fall)

Element: Water

Ruling Planet: Pluto(the planet of power and regeneration)

Symbol: The Scorpion

Stone: Opal

Life Pursuit: to survive against all opposition

Desire: to have complete and total control

Ruled by the all-powerful and seductive Scorpion, Scorpio is perhaps the most misunderstood and mysterious sign of the zodiac. Secretive by nature, this sign brings them to shadowy and hidden places that many don't usually have the courage to face. The sign of life, death and resurrection, Scorpio energy embraces these life cycles and continually transforms and reinvents itself. There are actually four incarnations of Scorpio: the first is the venomous, possessive Scorpion itself; the second is the slippery, charming-yet-deadly snake; the third is the soaring eagle whose piercing gaze sharply observes the landscape (and its prey) below; and the final version is the ever-burning, all-seeing Phoenix that rises up from the ashes into eternal rebirth. Under a Scorpio planetary transit, they may find themselves dealing with some intense people and energy, even holing themselves up late at night to process complex emotions or channel our overwhelming feelings into focused work and creativity. The essence of Scorpio energy is magnetic, passionate, loyal, protective, trendsetting, controlling, powerful, charismatic, transformational, focused, loyal, healing, psychic, bonding-oriented and brave. On the flipside, negative Scorpio energy can be obsessive, possessive, jealous, secretive, vengeful, cruel, calculating and manipulative.

## **Philosophy: Political Philosophy of Niccolo Machiavelli**

Niccolo Machiavelli (1469-1527) viewed the state as an organism with its ruler as the head and its people as the body. He maintained that a healthy state is unified, orderly, and in balance, and that its people have happiness, honor, strength, and security. But an unhealthy state is disorderly and unbalanced, and may require strong measures to restore it to normal. Machiavelli called for a leader to use any means necessary to preserve the state, resorting to cruelty, deception, and force if nothing else worked. As a result, many people thought he supported the use of cruelty and deceit in politics. The word Machiavellian came to mean cunning and unscrupulous. Machiavelli explained most of his ideas in *The Prince*, his best-known book, which was written in 1513 and published in 1532. This book describes the methods by which a strong ruler might gain and keep power.

[More on Machiavelli](#)

## Questions:

1. In bullet points, list the key events and characters in this chapter:
0. Zodiac Connection. How does Gardner allude to the zodiac sign Scorpio? List three examples:
0. Philosophy Connection. How does Gardner allude to Machiavellian philosophy? List five examples:
4. How does this chapter show the development of Grendel's use of language. What does he seem to be copying? What parts seem to be copied or imitated?