

When the lights come up again, Winston is alone and on the floor, almost delirious, mumbling to himself and thrashing about. He speaks in a singsong way. The squealing of the rats can still be heard in the background.]

WINSTON. Freedom is Slavery. [Pause.] Big Brother is Power. [Pause.] Two plus two make five. [He sits up and counts on his fingers, proving it to himself over and over again.] How long have I been here? How long? They've been good to me lately. They even give me food . . . nice food . . . food from Big Brother. [He rummages in his rags and finds a small piece of bread. He gobbles a piece and throws the rest of it into the darkness upstage. The squeaking and scurrying of the rats increases for a moment. WINSTON reacts in terror.] When will they shoot me? [Pause.] Jones, Aaronson and Rutherford were guilty of the crimes they were charged with. Of course they were. I made all the other up. [Pause.] When will Big Brother shoot me? When? Soon, perhaps. I hope soon. I want him to shoot me. [Pause.] I wonder why I ever rebelled. It's all so easy if you try. O'Brien says he can float off the floor like a soap bubble and I can make myself see him do it . . . and then he does it. All happenings are in the mind. Whatever happens in all minds truly happens. [He looks at four fingers.] Yes, five. I have a five-finger hand. [Pause.] How much longer before they shoot me? Five days? [He holds up four fingers again and looks at them.] They always shoot you in the back of the neck when you are walking down a corridor. I'll know when it's coming, and the second before it happens I won't change a muscle in my face. I'll think right, feel right, dream right—up till that very moment. Then—I'll hate them while the bullet is on the way to my brain . . . when it is too late to call it back. Oh, how long . . . how long? [Pause. Complete silence for a long moment. Suddenly he cries out as if in pain.] Julia! Julia! Julia! My love, Julia!

[He struggles to sit up, suddenly fearful of what he has said.]

Monologue for men and women.
I want to see what you do with this.
This character is being tortured. He has been held for quite a bit of time at this point.