

FRST 101: Freshman Studies II Winter 2012
Instructor: Stoneking
Handout #12: BORGES COLLECTED FICTIONS

Wednesday 22 February 2012

- *The Gospel According to Mark*
 - What happens to Espinosa at the end of this story and why?
 - What does Espinosa think of the Gutres?
 - What do the Gutres think of Espinosa?
 - To what other Borges stories might we compare/contrast this one?
 - How did Professor Allan use this story in her lecture?

- *The Book of Sand*
 - Why does the narrator (Borges?) begin the story and then start over?
 - What words or references did you need to look up? Did they illuminate any aspect of the story or its themes?
 - For example, why would the narrator admire Stephenson and Hume, but not Burns?
 - What are the various names for The Book? What might it represent?
 - What effect does the book have on the narrator?
 - Who is "I"?
 - What Borgesian themes do you find in this short story?
 - Is there any humor in this story?