Questions for **“The Ones Who Walk away from Omelas"**

**Directions: you don't have to write down your answers, but you might be asked to write about this in class, so consider what you would say. This is practice for both your critical analysis part and the in-class assessment assignment.**

**1. This story was written in 1973. How does it reflect the concerns and values of American society at that time?**

**2. How does it relate to our own times, more than 40 years later? How have our notions of an ideal society changed? (Or have they remained essentially the same?) Do we face any moral dilemma such as the one in the story? Does our happiness and prosperity depend on the suffering of innocents?**

**3. What do you think happens to the ones who walk away? If they were to meet up with others who had done the same, what kind of society might they try to create?**

**4. What other options do the Omelas citizens have besides walking away or staying and accepting the status quo?**

**5. What do you think the author believes is the most ethical choice?**

**6. What does this story say about the inherent complexities and difficulties of trying to conceive and work toward a better world?**