Reading Questions from Partanen, Chapter 2, Nordic Theory of Love

1. An overarching question that pertains to this chapter as well as others: What is freedom? What are the basics of how Partanen explains how government help can empower freedom.
2. What made Tragardh confused as a college student, and how does this story relate to the previous question?
3. What exactly is the Nordic theory of love?
4. What is the single, predominant goal (with three key words) in the Nordic nations?
5. In the United States, what is the biggest perceived enemy to individual freedom?
6. How does Partanen respond to American critics of Nordic success who condemn its countries as being “socialist nanny states?” (there are over two pages written on this!)
7. When UNICEF looked at children’s well-being throughout the different rich nations of the world, what metrics were some of the metrics listed by Partanen that it looked at?
8. How well did the Nordic countries rank in the UNICEF study, relative to the United States?
9. In The Nordic Way report, how do the authors describe the role of the family in Nordic countries?
10. In this vien, how do the authors describe the Nordic theory of love as it applies to elder care? (and what can be learned from surveys about elders opinions?
11. Have the Nordic countries committed/immersed in modern capitalism? Explain.
12. Summarize the content of the paragraph that begins at the end of page 59.
13. Partanen summarizes the writings of David Brooks about the talent society in the United States. Be familiar with the basics. But then what does Partanen add to what Brooks wrote?
14. As the twenty-first century progresses, Partanen believes that countries that figure out their own version of the Nordic theory of love will have a long term advantage. Explain.