

Fiela's Child

These questions are practice – you may use them to help you better understand the text and may use them in any final assessments we complete for *Fiela's Child*.

Chapter 1

1. What is Elias van Rooyen's job? Why is his job better than other jobs on Barnard's Island?
2. What were the two ways Elias thought he could make more money?
3. Why did Elias think Lukas was not missing?
4. How long did they search for Lukas? Why did they stop?
5. What was found seven months after Lukas' disappearance?

Chapter 2

1. Explain what a hand-child is?

Chapter 3

1. Foreshadowing: What should the omens have suggested to Fiela?
2. Explain how the phrase, "idleness and trouble were the best of friends," relates to Selling.
3. What have the children been doing all weekend?
4. Fiela's family is unique in several ways. List three.
5. What inferences do the Census Men make about Benjamin?

Chapter 4

1. How are the ostriches tamed?
2. Who are referred to as "Masters"? Why?
3. How does Fiela think she'll be able to buy more land? Give two reasons.

Chapter 5

1. What is your impression of Elias van Rooyen? Why?
2. What is Elias' plan to make money? What does he tell his wife Barta?
3. Why did Elias lie to Fred about being in the woods?
4. How did the elephants respond to Elias' trick?
5. How do the elephants take revenge on Elias?
6. What does the owl foreshadow?
7. Why would Elias assume a "message from the magistrate" could only mean trouble?

8. How does Elias react to the news he receives?

Chapter 6

1. How is the Komoetie house different than the van Rooyen house?
2. What is Fiela's plan for this morning?
3. What news does Fiela get from the magistrate?
4. Why must Benjamin appear before the magistrate?
5. How will they ensure Benjamin appears before the magistrate?
6. Name 2 – 3 things that Fiela said to Benjamin to calm him down that night before he leaves.
7. How does Fiela prepare Benjamin for his trip?

Chapter 7

1. Why does Benjamin call the men taking him to Krysna "Master"?
2. Why was the first ½ of the trip so hard for Benjamin?
3. Why did the woman (pg. 77) ask Benjamin about the lashes on his legs? Who did she think might have hurt him?

Chapter 8

1. What is the saying about elephants (p. 81) and how does it relate to Elias?
2. How is Barta acting on her walk into Krysna?
3. How/Why would Barta's shoes embarrass Elias in front of the magistrate?

Chapter 9

1. What dangerous task did Benjamin and Dawid pull off? Explain.
2. Why does Benjamin think of this story waiting to see the magistrate?
3. What happens in front of the magistrate?

Chapter 10

1. Why does Fiela decide to go to Krysna?
2. Where does Benjamin/Lukas end up? Why?

Chapter 11

1. How did Selling tell Fiela to act in Krysna?
2. What do we learn about Selling's past? Why does Fiela think it might hurt the family?
3. What happened to Selling? Why was he not hung?
4. What did Fiela do when she learned that Selling was on a chang-gang?
5. How did Selling get out of jail? Explain Selling's condition when he got out?
6. Why does Fiela want to buy the Laghaans land?

Chapter 12 – Benjamin will now be referred to as Lukas

1. What did the van Rooyen's do with Lukas' items?
2. What is Lukas' plan?
3. What 'secret' does Nina share with Lukas? What secret does Lukas share with Nina?
4. How does Nina get roped into helping Lukas and her dad?
5. Why does Elias not like Malie?
6. What does Mali's story symbolize?
7. How do we know Lukas has put his plan into action?

Chapter 13

1. What does Fiela think about the wood-cutters she sees? How does this connect to the story?
2. How is Fiela naïve when it comes to the magistrate?
3. What news does Fiela receive?

Chapter 14

1. How does Nina push her father's buttons?
2. What was Lukas' punishment for "running away"?
3. What was Nina's punishment for going out to play?

Chapter 15

1. Why does Fiela look for the Bible story about the two mothers?
2. Why did Fiela not want Petrus' help finding Benjamin?
3. When Fiela returns to Krysna, how does she incorporate the Bible story into her request?
4. What is the outcome of Fiela's discussion with the magistrate?
5. How are things beginning to look up for the Komoeties? (Name two things)

Chapter 16

1. Why did Elias send Lukas into the forest?
2. Prediction – Why does Elias want Barta to prepare a week's worth of meat?

Chapter 17

1. Things are looking up at Wolwekraal. What has changed?
2. What news does Petrus bring to Fiela and her family?
3. Why does Fiela not believe Petrus when he says Benjamin is adjusting well?

Chapter 18

1. What changed in Benjamin on his 41st day in the woods? Why?
2. How did Barta make an effort with Lukas?
3. What is Elias' new job for Nina and Lukas? Why?
4. How does Fiela not obey the magistrate?
5. What does Elias threaten to keep Lukas in line?
6. Once Nina and Lukas started working for Elias, what did he do?
7. What news does Willem bring about the elephants? How does this effect Elias?
8. Nina brings what news to Lukas?

Chapter 19

1. What happened to Elias when he went to see the pit?
2. Why did Nina want to go to town?
3. How did Nina acquire the mouth organ? Why?
4. Who came to visit the van Rooyen one Sunday and why?
5. What did Lukas have to do with Nina? What were his thoughts as he returned home?

Chapter 20

1. How are Kristoffel and Lukas alike?
2. What happened to Nina twice in the village? How did this effect Elias?

Chapter 21

1. What happened to Dawid seven years after Benjamin left?
2. What good things have come to Wolwekraal since Benjamin left?
3. Why is it so important to Fiela that Benjamin learns about Dawid's death?

Chapter 22

1. What happened to Elias over the years? What did he continue to purchase with no success?
2. Lukas is sent into town? Why? Why does he not want to go?
3. When Lukas gets to the village what does he choose to do?
4. Explain the "Ghost Ship"?
5. What does Lukas learn about Nina?
6. What has Nina told her new employer?
7. Why is Miss Weatherbuy a better employer for Nina?
8. What did Nina tell Miss Weatherbuy about her past? Why is this funny?
9. What does Lukas become enamored with near the village?
10. What decision does Lukas make?

Chapter 23

1. What was the forest like to Lukas?
2. What does Lukas need to learn?
3. Who gives Lukas a job? Doing what?
4. What is Kaliel's house made of?
5. Why did Lukas refuse to lay blue-buck traps?
6. Why does Kaliel think he was passed up for promotion by John Benn?
7. How does Kaliel insult Nina?
8. What does Lukas learn about Nina at the end of the chapter?

Chapter 24

1. What does Elias decide to do? How does he ensure his safety?

Chapter 25

1. Explain John Benn's job as a captain of a pilot boat.
2. What kind of ships does Kaliel like? Which kind does he hate? Why?
3. What does Lukas admit about Nina?
4. Why does Lukas think he is going to have an opportunity to row? What actually happens?
5. What news does Lukas get from Nina?

Chapter 26

1. What is the ship attempting to do? Why?
2. What is the difference between the birds of the sea and the birds of the forest? Why is this important to Nina?
3. Why does Lukas hope he is not Lukas van Rooyen?
4. What is Nina's fear about Lukas going to Long Kloof?

Chapter 27

1. Where did Lukas finally learn to row?
2. What does Fiela tell Lukas about the land? How does he feel about this? Why?
3. What does Lukas admit to Fiela? What does Fiela think this proves?

Chapter 28

1. What happened to Elias? Why?
2. How does Lukas help the van Rooyen's? Why?
3. What does Barta say to Lukas' question? Do you believe her? Why or why not?

Chapter 29

1. How did Lukas finally get his wish?
2. Why is John Benn hesitant to bring this boat in?
3. What did Lukas realize watching the seaman die?
4. Why does Lukas go back to the forest again?
5. What does Barta finally admit?

Chapter 30

1. What do we learn about Tollie?
2. What do we learn about Nina?

Chapter 32

1. How does John Benn notice a change in Lukas?
2. Predict what will happen to Lukas.