

Tuck Everlasting (Chapter Questions)

Introduction

1. If you could drink a potion, and it would magically make you live forever, would you take it? (Yes or No)
2. What would be the positive effects of drinking the potion?
3. What would be the negative effects of drinking the potion?

Prologue

1. What three events took place as the story began?
What connected these events?
2. What is at the center, or hub, of the narrator's wheel?
What do you think the wheel itself represents?

Chapter 1

1. What was strange about the wood? What effect did it have on the cows?
2. According to the narrator, why wasn't Winnie curious about the wood? Do you agree with the narrator's generalization?
3. Personification means to give human characteristics to inanimate objects. Give example from the chapter of how the road, the grass, the house, and/or the wood are personified.

Chapter 2

1. Why had Tuck been smiling?
2. What did Mae take with her on her way to visit her sons? Why?
3. What surprise did we learn at the end of this chapter?
4. Mae Tuck was described in great detail in chapter two. Draw a picture of Mae using the information provided in the chapter.

Chapter 3

1. To whom did Winnie voice her frustrations? Evaluate her choice.
2. Why did Winnie wish she had a brother or a sister?
3. Predict whether or not Winnie will really run away. Explain your opinion.
4. Have you ever wanted to run away? Write a few sentences about a real or imaginary time when you ran away or thought about running away.

Chapter 4

1. Explain why the reader is a little uneasy about the stranger?
2. Winnie's grandmother believed that the music they heard was elf music. What was it really? When had her grandmother heard it before?
3. Guess why the stranger had an expression of intense satisfaction.

Chapter 5

1. What prompted Winnie to venture into the wood for the first time?
2. Why were the pebbles piled upon the spurt of water?
3. Guess why Jesse wouldn't let Winnie have any of the water. What do you think he meant when he said, "I knew this would happen sooner or later" ?
4. Draw a picture of Jesse using the description from the middle of chapter five.

Chapter 6

1. Contrast Winnie's kidnapping with the way Winnie had envisioned a kidnapping.
2. Why did Winnie begin to cry? How did Mae console her?
3. Why do you think the Tucks avoid having a plan of action in case they were ever discovered?

Chapter 7

1. Why did Miles's wife take the children and leave him?
2. What led the Tucks to conclude that the spring water was the source of their immortality?
3. How did Tuck prove beyond doubt about his immortality? Judge his actions.

Chapter 8

1. Mae said to Winnie, "We'll bring you back tomorrow. All right?" Winnie answered, "All right." In your opinion, what would have happened if Winnie had answered, "No"?
2. Describe the way the Tucks make Winnie feel.
3. In addition to Winnie, who heard the whole story about the spring? Predict what he will do.

Chapter 9

1. The long journey exhausted Winnie. How did Mae and Miles help?
2. Upon seeing Winnie, Tuck smiled. Why was this unusual?
3. How did Tuck make Winnie feel?
4. Imagine that you could live forever, remaining at an age of your choice. Write a few sentences explaining why you would choose that age.

Chapter 10

1. What surprised Winnie most about the Tuck's house?
2. How long had the Tucks lived in this house? Why would they probably move soon?
3. Mae said that Jesse and Miles were somewhat different and, therefore, didn't always get along. Cite examples of those differences.

Chapter 11

1. What seemed strange to Winnie about supper with the Tucks?
2. What caused Winnie's happiness to go away?
3. Why did the thought of the man in the yellow suit cause Winnie to feel a surge of relief?

Chapter 12

1. Tuck used a metaphor by comparing his family to a rowboat. Explain this metaphor.
2. Judge Tuck's statement about life: you can't pick out the pieces you like and leave out the rest.
3. What do you think would happen if word got out about the powers of the spring?

Chapter 13

1. Why were the lights on in the Fosters' home although it was very late?
2. Pretend that you are Winnie. Write a journal entry in which you express your thought about your conversation with Tuck.

Chapter 14

1. How did the author use foreshadowing at the beginning of this chapter? (*Foreshadowing is a clue about what will happen later in the story.*)
2. What made Winnie feel homesick?
3. What made Winnie feel guilty?
4. Judge Jesse's suggestion. Do you think he had Winnie's best interests in mind?

Chapter 15

1. What deal did the man in the yellow suit propose to the Fosters?
2. Do you think the agreement would hold up in a court of law? Explain your answer.
3. What do you think the man in the yellow suit wanted in the wood? Predict what would happen if he got it?

Chapter 16

1. What excuse did the man in the yellow suit give for not reporting the kidnapping sooner?
2. What caused the constable's eyes to go round?
3. Did you believe the man in the yellow suit when he said, "So I'll go on ahead and wait outside the house till you get there"? Explain your answer.

Chapter 17

1. Judge Miles's decision not to try to find his family when he learned about the spring.
2. Why did Winnie insist that Miles let the fish go free?
3. Think about Miles's statement, "It's no good hiding yourself away, like Pa and lots of other people. And it's no good just thinking of your own pleasure, either. People got to do something useful if they're going to take up space in the world." Whom would you be like in a similar situation: Miles, Pa, Jesse, or Mae? Explain your answer.

Chapter 18

1. Why do you think Winnie's stomach was fluttering?
2. Who was "the dearest of them all" to Winnie? Why do you suppose she feels this way?
3. Why would a knock at the door cause Mae to drop her fork?

Chapter 19

1. How did the man in the yellow suit first learn about the Tucks?
2. How might the story have differed if Mae hadn't brought the music box with her when she went to meet her sons?
3. Describe the plan of the man in the yellow suit. How did the Tucks and Winnie fit into his plan?

Chapter 20

1. Judge the fact that Mae was arrested in light of the fact that the man had been threatening Winnie.
2. Explain the following simile: Tuck was "like a starving man looking through a window at a banquet."
3. What would be Mae's punishment if the man died?

Chapter 21

1. Why did Winnie's family feel as though "some part of her had slipped away"? How had Winnie changed?
2. Why was the news about the man dying both good and bad?
3. To what did Winnie compare Mae's killing of the man? Compare and contrast the two events.

Chapter 22

1. Describe Miles's plan. What was the drawback of the plan?
2. What did Jesse give to Winnie?
3. How did Winnie offer to help rescue Mae?
4. Write a few sentences describing what you would do if you owned the magic spring.

Chapter 23

1. How did Winnie rationalize her involvement in the escape plan? Have you ever used this excuse to do something you knew you shouldn't do?
2. How did Winnie get her mind off the horror of Mae's predicament?
3. Predict whether or not Winnie will drink the water when she turns seventeen. Explain.

Chapter 24

1. In what ways did the weather affect their escape plan?
2. What did Jesse mean when he said, "Remember"?
3. How would you have felt if you had been in Winnie's place at the end of this chapter? Would you have volunteered as she had?

Chapter 25

1. In your opinion, was Winnie a criminal? Explain.
2. What caused Winnie's family to rally around her?
3. Judge the fact that Winnie poured the water on the toad.

Epilogue

1. Mae and Tuck were accustomed to change; nevertheless, these latest changes upset them. Why?
2. What did Tuck learn in the cemetery?
3. What was ironic about Tuck's statement regarding the toad, "durn fool thing must think it's going to live forever" ?