

The Book of Lost Things
By: John Connolly

What you will need to use the study guide?

This guide will require you to annotate your text. To annotate means to write notes and comments directly on the pages in the book. Annotating is an important strategy that good readers use to help them better understand the texts they encounter. Typically when you highlight a passage, **it is important to write a little note about what you just highlighted (annotating)**. Annotating will be required in most of your English classes and is a great study skill to develop over the course of your schooling. Therefore, in addition to this guide, you will need a copy of *The Book of Lost Things*, by John Connolly that you can write in, a highlighter and a pencil.

What is in this guide?

Many works of literature are challenging, especially when you are reading them for the first time. This interactive reading guide will give you the tools you need in order to make sense of this novel. Here is what you will find in the study guide:

Outside References: This area will give you some additional information before you begin reading the novel. It is important to be familiar with the stories the David grew up reading. The material I have attached is strictly for additional support.

Keep Track: By reading with a highlighter and a pencil in hand, you'll become a more active reader. You will often be asked to underline or circle passages as you read or to take notes in the margins. It is your job to make sure you are writing some kind of annotation in the margin, throughout the novel.

Pause and Reflect: This section will be your key to your understanding of the material. It is important to write some reactions, make connections and explore your thoughts while you read. Material that you can relate to or connect with is more likely to stay in your long term memory. For this reason, at the end of the chapter, I have asked you to respond to a question, quote or comment or give a short summary. In your summaries, you can write a question about something you may have been confused about or something you need more information about. You can write the comment about how what is happening in the story or how the content may relate to your own life or the life of someone you know. Imagine what it must have been like to grow up as David. Think about the fairy tales you may have read as a child, how are these different from David's? Also think about your fears as a child, did these seem like rational fears, looking back. Remember, every fairy tale has a moral, can you recognize what each is trying to teach David? At the end of each section, you see the ☺ symbol; this will let you know you need to respond to something regarding the chapter.

Building Background Information



About the Author

All information is taken from John Connolly's website
<http://www.thebookoflostthings.com>

John Connolly was born in Dublin Ireland. He attended Trinity College in Dublin, where he studied English, then went on to Dublin City University to study Journalism. He worked a variety of jobs ranging from a journalist, to a waiter. He still contributes articles to *The Irish Times*. Most of his novels are crime dramas, based on a character Charlie Parker. *The Book of Lost Things*, is written for the child in all of us remembering the time when we began to grow up and leave our childhood behind.

About the Book

David is a twelve year old boy who loses his mother to a terrible illness. He is mesmerized by the stories she has told him since he was a young child. Stories of heroes and villains, fairy tales, tales of Greece and Rome, war and peace, true love, myths and the heroes quest for greatness. After his mother's death, he begins to retreat into a world of his own creation, a way to deal with his extreme guilt and grief. This world is based on everything he has grown to love, his mothers stories. David's reality is based on fear and mistrust; Hitler's advancing army, attacks on England, his father's remarriage, a new step-brother, a new home in the countryside and his father's long absences. He retreats further and further into this fantasy world, where he searches for all things lost. Through this journey, we are able to witness the tale of our hero David and his quest to find his way back to his family.

Background Information

Outside References: This area will give you some additional information before you begin reading the novel. It is important to be familiar with the stories the David grew up reading. Here is a list of various literary/mythical allusions that are referenced in the book (all are Grimm tales except those that are marked ***):

Rumpelstiltskin	The Water of Life	Little Red Ridinghood
Hansel and Gretel	3 Billy Goats Gruff ***	Snow White
Goldilocks	The 3 Army Surgeons	The Goose Girl
Beauty and The Beast	Sleeping Beauty (Briar Rose)	"Childe Roland to the Dark Tower Came" – Robert Browning***
Centaur***	Harpies***	The Death of Manius***
Carl Jung***	?	?

How do each of the following famous stories/fairy tales relate to the book?

The Wizard of Oz



Dorothy is a young girl who lives on a Kansas farm with her Uncle Henry and her Auntie Em. A tornado rips through their town and Dorothy is transported into the magical world of Oz complete with Munchkins, Glinda the good witch and a Wicked witch. As she tries to figure out her way home, the Munchkins tell her of a great wizard in the Emerald City who can help her; in order to get there, she must follow the yellow brick road. Dorothy sets out on quest to get to the Emerald city. Along the way she meets the

Scarecrow, who is looking for a brain, the Tinman who is looking for a heart and the Cowardly Lion who is looking for courage. The group sets out to find the wizard so he can help them. Throughout their journey, they have to face many challenges, especially the Wicked Witch of the West, but are always victorious. When they arrive at the Emerald City, they find out the Wizard is nothing but a fake, he has no real power and can do nothing to help the group. He is just trying to get home like Dorothy. He explains the Scarecrow, Tinman and Lion that they do not need brains, a heart and courage, they already have that inside of them; but there is nothing he can do about Dorothy. Glinda the good witch appears and tells her to click her ruby red slippers three times and say "there is no place like home" She says good bye to her friends and leaves Oz. When she arrives home, she finds out she was injured in the tornado and looks up to see her family and friends around her bedside. She is puzzled by the resemblance each one has to someone she met in Oz.

Little Red Riding Hood



Little Red Riding Hood is the young girl who visits her Grandmother once a week to bring her some food. She is identifiable through her bright red coat and hood. While walking through the forest, she meets the Big Bad Wolf, who wants to eat her, they speak for a minute and then Little Red Riding hood is on her way; but he does not give up. He goes to her Grandmother's house and pretends to be Little Red Riding Hood, she lets him in and she is eaten!. Little Red Riding Hood arrives at her grandmother's house the next day only to find the Big Bad Wolf disguised as her Grandmother. He ends up eating Little Red Riding Hood. Both Little Red Riding Hood and her

Grandmother are alive but in the Wolf's stomach. A woodsman comes to the cottage and frees them both by cutting open the Wolf. They then fill him with rocks and sew him back up. He is never heard from again and they all live happily ever after.

Hansel and Gretel



Hansel and Gretel are the children of a poor woodcutter. Things are very hard at home and the family is facing starvation. The evil step mother convinces the woodcutter to send the children out into the woods to get rid of them. The children overhear the plan and bring breadcrumbs to find their way home. The evil step mother again convinces their father to send them out into the forest. The kids again bring bread crumbs but they are eaten by the animals in the forest and they are lost. The children come across a ginger bread house and they begin to eat it. There is an old woman who lives inside and invites the kids inside. They are taken prisoner. The

kids figure out the woman keeps her ginger bread house to “fatten” up the children so she can cook them! Right as she is getting ready to cook the kids, they trick her and she ends up in the stove. The kids steal her jewels and are reunited with their father (the evil step mother has died) and they all live happily ever after.

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs



Snow white is the beautiful young daughter of the king. She has lips as white as snow, hair as dark as night(black) and lips as red as blood. The king re-marries and Snow White finds herself with a new step mother. Each day, the evil queen asks her mirror, “*mirror, mirror on the wall, who’s the fairest of them all?*” The mirror answers Snow White. She is angry and sends her hunter out to have her killed in the forest. The Hunter seeing how kind and sweet she is tells her to stay in the forest to avoid her evil step mother and never return to the castle. Snow White comes upon a small house that is a mess. She cleans up the messy house and takes a rest, when she awakens, she finds the seven dwarfs: Happy, Sleepy, Dopey, Bashful, Sneezy, Grumpy, and the leader Doc. These men work at the diamond mine. The evil queen finds out she is still alive and disguises herself and brings Snow White a poisoned apple. Snow White eats it and falls into a deep sleep. The spell can only be broken by true love. The dwarfs take care of her and eventually, Prince Charming comes and kisses her and the spell is broke. Snow White and Prince Charming lived happily ever after.

Goldilocks and the 3 Bears



Three bears live in a little cottage in the forest; a mother, father and cub. The mother makes some porridge but it is too hot to eat, so the family goes on a walk in the forest. A young girl named Goldilocks enters the cottage. She tries the porridge (like oatmeal) (too hot, too cold, just right). She tries also tries out their chairs and their bed. Each time, she finds the baby bear's one just right. The bears come home to find their porridge eaten, their chairs broke and a strange girl sleeping in their bed. Frightened, she leaves. (In some stories, she stays and becomes friends with the baby bear)

Sleeping Beauty (somewhat similar to Snow White)



Aurora is the light of her mother and father's life. She has beautiful blond hair and blood red lips. Her parents promise her hand in marriage to the young Prince Phillip. She has 3 fairy Godmothers who each bless her at her christening. Before the third fairy Godmother has a chance to bless the child, an evil witch casts a spell on Aurora in which she will die at age sixteen when she pricks her finger on a spinning wheel. The third fairy Godmother reverse the curse to say that she will fall into a deep sleep in which she can only be waken by loves true kiss. The Godmothers raise the girl in a small cottage in the forest in order to keep her safe. While in the forest, she meets a mysterious man riding in the forest ("Prince Philip") and they fall in love. The Godmothers decide to return Aurora back to the castle. The evil witch tricks her into touching the spinning wheel and she is cast into a deep sleep. The Godmothers go to Prince Phillip and ask him for his help, but he has been captured by the evil witch. The Godmothers rescue him and armed with his sword and shield, he goes to rescue Aurora. He must fight the evil witch who has turned herself into a fire breathing dragon. He slays the dragon and wakes up his true love with a kiss. They learn that they were destined to be married and live happily ever after.

Rumplestiltskin



A poor man, with a beautiful daughter, met the King of his land. He promised the King his daughter could weave straw into gold. The King did not believe the man and took his daughter to the castle and put her in a room filled with straw. He closed the door and she began to cry. Suddenly, a dwarf appears and tells her he will help her if she gives him something in return. She promises him her necklace. The room was immediately filled with gold. The King comes back the next day and is very impressed and asks the girl to do it again. She begins to cry again, because she can not weave straw into gold. The dwarf appears once again and will help but he wants something in return. The girl gives him her ring. The King is once again happy and tells the young girl that he will marry her if she can once again fill the room with gold. The King leaves and the girl begins to cry. The dwarf returns but the girl has nothing else to give him. He says he will help her if she gives him her first born child when she is Queen. She agrees. They are married and a year later she has a son. The dwarf returns for his payment. He will let the Queen out of the deal if she can guess his name. She sends a servant out to find out the dwarfs name. For two days he comes back with no information, amusing the dwarf. On the third day, he comes back with the tale of a rhyming man called Rumplestiltskin, who will take the royal child. When the dwarf comes back, the Queen calls him by his name and wins the bet! Rumplestiltskin is so angry he leaves and is never heard from again. The King, Queen and their child lived happily ever after.

Completing the Study Guide:

Use the attached study guide as you read *The Book of Lost Things*. You do not need to write out the answers to this study guide on paper. Just remember to follow the reading symbols, highlight when asked to and annotate when asked to.

In addition to annotating your book, you may want to put a circle around any words you don't understand and a ? next to the parts of the story you don't understand. The first part of the study guide is more guided, as you get more into the novel, you will take a more independent role in annotating. Continue the patterns you have started and all will be fine!

Good Luck and Happy Reading!

Of All That Was Found and All That Was Lost

In this chapter, we meet David, the young boy who is losing his mother. We learn about his love for book and obsessive tendencies, hoping to keep his mother alive. David's mother dies and as he put it "that is where the trouble started".

Highlight the members of David's family.

What does David do to try to keep his mother alive? Keep note of some of the routines that he does each day.

Describe her books. How does his mother feel about reading?

Highlight the feelings David has regarding his "failure" to keep his mother alive. Label this section **guilt**.

Highlight some aspects of the wake and funeral.

What does David do after leaving the Church? Underline what he equates death to feel like. Label this section **feeling of death**.

Is David's father interested in books? What are his interests? Who becomes the protector of David's mother's books?

☺ Comment on the following statement: "These stores were very old, as old as people, and they had survived because they were very powerful indeed...They were both an escape from reality and an alternative reality themselves ...sometimes the wall separating the two became so thin and brittle that the two worlds started to blend into each other".

Of Rose and Dr. Morberley and the Importance of Details

David continues to deal with his mothers death. His intense feelings of guilt haunt him. His father introduces him to a "friend" called Rose, she worked at the hospital where his mother was staying. He begins to have "attacks" and is forced to see Dr.. Morberley.

What is life like for David with his mother gone? What is life like in London?

How is David doing with his routines? Are these routines still important to keep up?

Describe Rose. Who does she remind you of? Highlight this and label it **Rose**. Highlight some of the details of their first meeting.

What happens before and after his first black out?

What does Dr. Morberley ask David to do?What kind of doctor is he?

Who does David see at the end of the Chapter?

☺ Predict: What do you think is wrong with David? (I will ask you this several times during your reading)

Of the New House, the New Child, and the New King

This chapter begins with much change. David's father and Rose are expecting a new baby, London is no longer safe with Hitler's army advancing. David learns of his father's new job and how it will require a lot of time away, it will also require a move to the countryside. At his house, David continues to withdraw and have more frequent "nightmares". He finds a strange book that has stories that resemble his mothers but with a more violent twist.

What is going on in David's life that may cause him some new stress. Label this **background info**.

Highlight the information about London during the early years of World War II. Label this **Germans/WWII**.

What is going on with David physically?

Carefully read about David's almost attack after he finds out Rose is pregnant. Highlight some things you may see that could medically explain his attacks?

What happened after the birth of Georgie? Why did they have to move?

What is David's father's job? Why is this important?

Highlight some important details about David's new room. Highlight the books, and how they books react to the new additions. Circle all of the types of books David finds in his new room. (this will be important later in the book). Pay attention to the book about communism.

What is odd about the book he finds that "were similar to his own"? Take some notes on how these were different from the stories of his mother told him.

What is going on in David's room at night? Why might this be important?

What does David dream of at the end of the chapter?

☺ Write a question, comment, or short summary at the end of this section.

Of Jonathan Tulvey and Billy Golding and Men Who Dwell by the Railroad Tracks

David is settling into Rose's family's country house. He continues to read his book of fairy tales while further and further disconnecting from the family. Rose and David are barely civil and his father is at work a lot of the time. The war is ranging in London, more bombings are taking place. David finds the book is owned by Jonathan Tulvey and asks Rose about this. She explains that this is her great-uncle who disappeared with a young girl the family adopted, both never to be seen again. His parents left the room as it was, as did Rose's parents, as did Rose, always with the hope he and Anna would return. David is staying in this room. In a flashback, we learn about Billy Golding.

is a boy who was abducted in the park. He was found days later and there were signs of sexual abuse. A man was arrested later that week and his mother warned David never to go with strange men, no matter what they offered you.

Highlight some characteristics of David's room. Does this remind you of something?

Where does David prefer reading (page 36) Highlight this and label this **outside looking in. Then highlight some details about the garden.**

What is David's relationship with Rose? Why is he feeling this way? What is Rose doing to try to change David's mind? How does David feel about his father? Label this part **betrayal.**

Take notes on the story of Jonathan Tulvey and Anna. Look at any **similarities** you may see in comparison to David's story. What do you think happened to Jonathan and Anna? Take particular notice to the man in the book store. Label this **The Crooked Man**

Take notes on Billy Golding. David he knew "something very bad had happened" to Billy? Do you think David has an idea of what may have happened to Billy? What does David's mother tell him about "strange men"? Label this **Roland.**

London is being heavily bombed by German during the early days of the war. This is something discussed at the dinner table each night. Highlight some details of the battles. Label this **fear of WWII.**

What does David dream of at the end of the chapter?

☺ Comment: Do you think Rose has true motherly feelings for David or do you believe she is just trying to keep the peace? How do you think David feels about Georgie? Are his feelings real or is he just feeling left out of the family?

Of Intruders and Transformations

Rose is having a hard time with the baby, he is very fussy and she is very tired. David and Rose are not getting along at all and his father is stressed because he can not keep the peace between the two. David is experiencing "waking dreams" and is hearing his mother's voice. He spends more and more time in his room reading and watching the garden. While out in the garden one day, he sees the Crooked Man in his room. He is looking at the book and it drops when he hears the baby cry. David tells his father and he finds a bird in the room, but David know the Crooked Man wants something from him.

Describe how the Crooked Man enters into David's world. This will happen over the course of the chapter, so be a careful reader. Pay close attention to the stressors in David's during the chapters. Label these parts **David and Roses relationship, David and his father's relationship, David and Georgie's relationship, His mothers voice, The Crooked Man in the House**

In what ways are David's dreams changing? Physically, what is he experiencing. Label this **symptoms.** What do you think this means?

Put() around the sentences that describe what David is holding back from Dr. Morberley. Label this **fear of being seen as crazy.**

What did the commotion in David's room turn out to be? Does he believe this?

☺ Comment on the following quote "And David knew then that the time was quickly approaching when he would have to enter that place and face at last what lay within."

Of the War, and the Way Between Worlds

David is missing his father, he is at work for longer hours and when he comes home he is very tired. David is worried about the war and his father tries to assure him that the allies are holding their own. David feels alone and scared. David and Rose have a terrible fight. They both say horrible things that neither can take back. David's father punishes David by sending him to his room. David has a seizure and blacks out again for a good portion of the night. When he finally wakes he is pretty out of it, he hears his mom's voice calling for help. He goes out into the garden and sees a plane crash into the forest.

This chapter takes us through some family drama. Take notes on the David's feeling throughout the chapter... pay close attention **to the feelings** for his fathers absence, his fight with Rose, his feelings after his father came home and "sided" with Rose.

Physically, what happens to David in his room? Have you seen signs of this illness before? Label this **David's illness**.

What bring David outside? Label this **voices**. What does he see in the sky? Label this **crash**.

☺ Write a question, comment, or short summary at the end of this section.

Of the Woodsman and the Work of His Ax

David finds a hole in the garden wall and he climbs through it, through the trunk of a tree and finds the wreckage of a plane crash. He finds the body of a wolf in humans clothing and becomes scared. He tries to return but can not find his way, as the trees have surrounded him in the forest. He runs into a woodsman who takes him from the danger that is approaching.

Highlight what David finds. Label this **German bomber**. Read on and see what he finds in the plane. Label these **plans for bombing raids**.

What do the flowers represent? What happens when David walks past these flowers? Why do you think this happens? Highlight this in the book.

What does he find next to the plane? Label this **wolf man**. Highlight he description of the man he meets in the forest. How does David feel about him at first meeting? Label this **Woodsman**.

How does he mark the tree in order to help David find his way home? Which fairy tale can this be associated with?

☺ Write a question, comment, or short summary at the end of this section.

Of the Wolves, and Worse-Than-Wolves

David and the Woodsman run through the forest, as they come close to the cottage, they run into the wolf man. The Woodsman and the wolf man discuss how the woods are changing, but both seem to be on different sides. .

Highlight some the key aspects of the relationship between David and the Woodsman. How would you describe this?

Describe the cottage. Label this **Fortress**.

We run into these creatures again. Highlight some descriptions of these animals. Label this **wolf man**.

Highlight some of major parts of the argument between the Wolf man and the Woodsman. Pay close attention as they talk about the Kingdom and a new order. How does the Woodsman continue to protect David(page 80)? Do you see a distinct difference between how the Woodsman views the wolf man?

Highlight some of the characteristics of the forest. What do you seen as unusual?

Where do they want to take David?

☺ Do you believe David is dreaming? How do you explain what is happening?

Of the Loups and How They Came into Being

Inside the cottage, the Woodsman takes care of David. The Woodsman tells his first “story” of the forest. He tells David of the wolf men, know as the Loups, their leader Leroi. We also hear about a “trickster” who is seen in this world. It turns out this is the same Crooked Man David has seen in his dreams and his room.

Highlight some of the way, the Woodsman takes care of David. He tends to his needs, pays attention to him and most importantly listens to him and does not dismiss him. Why is this important?

The Loups are described in detail. Highlight some characteristics about these creatures and how they came into being. Label this **Loups**. Look for the Loups ultimate goal. **Label this goal.**

☺ Comment on the following quote “ And there was something so sad and yet so angry about the way the Woodsman spoke of the Crooked Man and David wondered if Leroi, the leader of the Loups, was wrong. Perhaps the Woodsman had had a family, once, but something very bad had happened and he was entirely alone.

Of Tricksters and Trickery

David is having trouble falling asleep. He wants to return home, worries that his father will be missing him and the other possibility that his father is happy he is gone. David continues to open up to the Woodsman about his family life and his routines, the Woodsman has a different perspective on this, but David is not ready to accept that. They decide it is too dangerous for David to stay in the forest. They return to the part of the forest to only to find that the trees they had marked the day before are gone. There

is no way to get home. The Woodsman decides the only person who may be able to help is the King.

How is David feeling as he tries to sleep at the cottage. Label this (according to where you see him express these feelings) **Fear, Hope, Regret and Exhaustion.**

How does the Woodsman help David with his routines? Highlight the section where the Woodsman talks about how he should be looking after those who are “weaker” than you. Why does David have a problem with this?

What does the Woodsman say about David’s mom? Is he really hearing her voice?

What happens when they return to where David was found? What do they find?

What does the King have that may help David return home? What is this called? Label this section **Lost Things.**

☺ Predict: Who do you think emerges at the end of the chapter? Why does he take David’s things?

Of the Children Lost in the Forest and What Befell Them

David and the Woodsman gather up supplies and move out from the cottage. On their way to see the King, David finds out about the flowers. He hears a another “story” from the Woodsman. This time it is a take off of Hansel and Gretel.

Highlight some of the supplies they take with them for the journey, particularly what the Woodsman gives to David. What does this symbolize? Label this **hero.**

Pay close attention to the flowers. Highlight aspects of their stories. What can you relate this to in David’s “real” life.

The Woodsman speaks about the Loups. What does this relate to in 1939 Europe?

☺ Compare the story of the Gingerbread house to Hansel and Gretel. What is this telling us? What are your thoughts on this (Hint: think about how David is feeling these days in relation to his family)?

Of Bridges and Riddles, and the Many Unappealing Characteristics of Trolls

In this chapter, David and the Woodsman run into some trolls guarding the bridge they need to cross in order to get to the King. Above the bridge, Harpies are flying above waiting for a kill and behind them the Loups and the wolves are waiting to attack. David recognizes that the trolls are offering a riddle and in order to find the right bridge to cross he must solve it. David solves the riddle but the Woodsman encourages David to move on without him while he holds off the Loups and the wolves.

Look for details of how David is able to get across the bridge. Mark this **David’s first quest.**

What is odd about the Harpies? What can you predict about what is going on with David based on his view of the Harpies? (Page 111) How does he feel after he realizes this? What do you think this means?

☺ How do you see David changing in his first major task on his journey?

Of Dwarfs and Their Sometimes Irascible Nature

On his solo journey, David runs into some very odd dwarfs. The dwarfs are following the basic rules of communism. We also find out what really happened to Goldilocks.

Circle or highlight any communistic references you find in the **next 3 chapters**. Label this **communism**.

Highlight the characteristics of the woman the dwarfs are talking about. How does this compare to the story you are familiar with. What are the dwarfs looking for? Label these **SW7D**

What do the dwarfs have to say about bears? How is this different from the Goldilocks and the Three Bears? Label these **G3B**.

☺ Comment on the following quote, “ His eyes grew teary again, but he refused to allow himself the luxury of crying” What do you think this means?

Of Snow White, Who is Very Unpleasant Indeed

This chapter continues David's time with Snow White and the Seven Dwarf.

Describe Snow White. (page 132)

What word do the dwarfs continue to use when they describe their treatment? Circle this and label it **communism**.

Highlight some important aspects of the dwarfs' job. Comment on the similarities and differences you see.

What does David dream about that night?

☺ What is the theme we see so far with the stories and characters David is running into on his journey?

Of the Deer Girl

On his travels, he runs into a deer girl who is begging him to help her, she is being hunted. She is killed and the hunter takes her head as a trophy. David is sacred of what he sees and then is captured by the hunter.

Highlight the description of the deer girl and the hunter. Label this **hunted**.

☺ Write a question, comment, or short summary at the end of this section.

Of the Three Surgeons

David and the hunter travel for a long time, he comes to a stone house in the forest. Upon entering the house, he notices the heads mounted as trophies all around him, some are animals but most are human. He meets the huntress who shares her story with him. She is always looking to create new “prey”. She is able to do this because she ran into 3 surgeons in the woods who shared with her a salve (ointment) to put back together any part of the body that has been severed. She decides that David will be her next hunt!

Highlight some of the **trophies** he finds in the house. Why is the woman hunting these people? How does David describe the **huntress**? Who do you think they are? As you read, pay close attention to the **oak tables**, what do you think these are used for?

☺ Predict: Along David’s journey for the Book of Lost Things, he continues to run into people and objects that have been lost. What do you think this means?

☺ Comment on the following quote, “He recalled his tales and returned to the memory of the Woodsman telling him of the gingerbread house. In every story, there was something to be learned.”

Of the Centaurs and the Vanity of the Huntress

David awakes with a “sense of purpose”, his survival is completely up to him. In order to buy him time, he tells her of the mythological character of a centaur (half man and half horse). She is fascinated and decides she must create it. She must become a centaur. They make a deal that David will be free if he performs the surgery and he agrees. With his plan in mind, he makes his heroic escape.

☺ Pay close attention to **David’s plan** for the Huntress. He uses his knowledge from his readings to make this happen. This is the first time we see David’s **bravery**. How does he deal with the huntress? Highlight some major parts of his plan and how he is successful in his **second quest**. How does the Huntress meet her end?

Of Roland

With the help of the Huntresses’ map, David escapes. He realizes for the first time that he is alone on his quest, when he runs into a knight in shining armor. The knight’s name is Roland and he is on a quest and will need a squire (a young boy who serves a knight), in return, Roland will take David to see the King. David, Roland and Scylla, set off through the forest. David and Roland run into a very strange scene and are taken back by the talk of the “beast” and the carnage she can unleash on people.

The description of Roland is right out of a **fairytale**, as if he is coming to rescue the beautiful princess. Highlight some details from this passage. Along their quest, they run into a horrific site in the forest. Highlight some similarities between **reality** (WII) and David’s dream. What is this saying?

Pay very close attention to the old man. Who is he? Highlight some details of the beast. The old man taunts David about his **mother**, what **images** are shown to make David feel as if he is still not a part of his own family?

Put a () around the quote on page 173 which hints to what he wants from David, what do you think it is?

What does Roland tell David after he attacks the old man? Why is this important? Highlight the passage.

☺ David continues to have thoughts of home, his father, Rose even Georgie. He begins to wonder if the trip to the King is the right thing. Do you believe David is dreaming? Can you interpret his dream?

☺ Along the way, the character's David meets continue to tell him that he does not belong here, do you think he belongs in this world?

Of Roland's Tale and the Wolf Scout

David and Roland stop to rest for the night in a church. They talk about religion and of David's family. Roland tells David a tale of a false prince and they discuss punishments. Roland tells David a little about his friend Raphael. As they continue on their journey, a scout is following David and could lead to danger.

What are Roland's thoughts of religion? Why is this important to David?

Put () around the quote from Roland to David about how much has been taken from him- page 178.

Highlight some details of Roland's story. Write the message behind the story in the margin.

David and Roland continue to discuss life, Who is **Rafael**? Label this **Roland's quest**. As they continue on, pay close attention and highlight some of the **dangers** that surround David.

☺ Write a question, comment, or short summary at the end of this section.

Of the Village, and Roland's Second Tale

Roland tells David of the people's fear of the way their world is changing. They run into some hunters and are taken in to their small village for food and shelter. The men are very concerned about the beast and how she threatens their land and people.

Roland tells David why people are not out of their homes these days. Does this sound familiar to David?

Describe the Fortress of Thorns. What do the villages say about this strange occurrence? Do you think Raphael traveled her before Roland? How is Roland feeling after he hears the story from Fletcher? Why do you think this?

Highlight some areas of Roland's second tale to the young children. Pay close attention to the end. How does this story continue with the fairy tales we have seen so far in this novel?

Label and highlight the **villagers plan** to deal with the beast. What do you find in the **center of the village** (this is were they meet and gather)? Do you think this is keeping the village together? What does this say about David's reality? What does the village decide?

☺ Write a question, comment, or short summary at the end of this section

Of the Coming of the Beast

The village and our heroes make preparations for the upcoming battle against the beast. Some of the people in the village begin to doubt the plan and want to send David and Roland away, again Fletcher is the voice of reason. At night, Roland and David talk about life, love and death. David begins to question why he is here, is it real or is it a dream. The battle ensues and it appears the beast is after David. Again Roland and David save the day, but the town has been destroyed. .

Roland and David talk for a long time about Raphael, **death and the fear of dying**. Label this section. What does Roland tell David? How does **Roland feel about Raphael**? Is this strange to David or do you think he has known all along?

Highlight some details from the **battle and David's third quest**, particularly **the beast**. How do they defeat her? How are David and Roland **saved from the destruction**? Why is this **ironic** and what do you think the author is trying to say?

☺ David is beginning to question his existence in this world. Roland tries to guide him along the way but, David is unsure. What are your thoughts, is David dead, is he dreaming? Did he really travel into this world of heroes, villains and great tales?

Of the Crooked Man and the Sowing of Doubt

Roland and David leave the next day. They are greeted with some hostility by the villagers but Fletcher is very grateful for their help. Fletcher gives David a token and they are on their way. David and Roland talk again about their families and we find out a little bit more about Roland past. Roland tells David some stories he has heard about the King. As they continue to ride, David is taken by the Crooked Man. The Crooked Man taunts David and tries to make him doubt his own bravery and most of all, his friend Roland. We finally learn what the Crooked Man wants from David.

How will the town rebuild? What are Fletcher's thoughts to David before they leave? Label this important quote. (page 219) What does Fletcher give to David as a sign of thanks? Do you think this will be important?

Highlight some of the details of Roland's past. David is taken underground by the Crooked Man and is told some things that upset him about Roland. Does he defend Roland? Why is he feeling uncomfortable about Roland? What story does this tie into from David's reality?

☺ The Crooked Man tries to build doubt in David's abilities, he tries to take away his victories and tell him this was all a game run by the Crooked Man. What does this do to David's self-esteem and his relationship with Roland? What does he want from David? Why? Comment on these ideas at the end of the chapter.

Of the March of Wolves

Things are very strained between Roland and David. David feels horrible about the way he reacted to Roland, even though he was just trying to help. While he continues to struggle with the relationship between Roland and Raphael, he does not believe that Roland would ever hurt him. Roland warns David to be careful of trusting the Crooked Man. That night when he sleeps, he begins to doubt Roland again; the words of the Crooked Man are ringing through his head, while Fletcher meets the Loups.

☺ Comment on the relationship between Roland and David. He struggles to trust him because of society's view of Roland as being "unnatural", but on the other hand, Roland has been a protector, mentor and friend. How do you think this will be resolved?

Of the Fortress of Thorns

David wakes up to find Roland gone, at first he is relieved, but then scared. Roland comes back and they talk about what the Crooked Man said to David. David apologizes and they are on their way to find the fortress. Roland enters, determined to find out what happened to Raphael. David is to wait outside with Scylla. During the night, he dreams of home, and Roland in trouble inside the castle. He wakes to hear his mother's voice calling to him and enters the castle.

Highlight some of the important things that Roland says to David on page 234. How will this help David get home.

*Describe the **fortress, both inside and out**. How is Roland able to get in? Put () around the quotes describing **their last good bye** and **David's thoughts on Roland's bravery**. page 239*

☺ Comment on the following quote, "As for you, you are my friend. You are brave, and you are both stronger than you look and stronger than you believe yourself to be. You are trapped in an unfamiliar land with only a stranger for company, yet you have defied wolves, trolls, a beast that destroyed a force of armed men and the tainted promises of the one you called Crooked Man. Through it all I have never seen you despair."

Of the Enchantress and What Became of Raphael and Roland

David enters the fortress and finds bodies of brave knights scattered about the floor as he goes up the stairs. Armed with only his sword, he continues to climb. Inside, David is tricked with poisoned food, images of his family and the voice of his mother promising her return. He sees the sleeping lady under the enchantress's spell. He sees the bodies of his friend and becomes very angry, determined to get revenge. He battles with the woman and is again victorious.

How does David describe the inside of the castle? This will continue through out the chapter, make sure you take notes on all of the rooms David enters. Label his trials (tests) as you read, **David's fourth quest**.

Describe the sleeping lady. What does David see as he enters this room, how does he feel about it? What does David see when he looks around? David is almost tricked into kissing the sleeping lady, who helps him? Highlight Rose-Not Rose. What do you think this is saying?

☺ Comment on David's touching tribute to his friend Roland at the end of the chapter. What does this say about David?

Of Two Killings and Two Kings

As David and Scylla travel on, he begins to realize all he has lost, the Woodsman, Roland and his mother (again). He starts to consider taking the Crooked Man's offer if the king can not help him, but he remembers Roland's words. Along the way he meets two thieves who threaten him and Scylla and he kills them with his sword. Behind him Leroi is catching up with David, he is at the fortress.

As Leroi continues to follow David, he is turning more into a man and less like a wolf. Why? Write your thought in the margin.

☺ David kills two people in this chapter. Highlight some of the emotions he feels. How does he handle his kills? Why do you think he cries?

Of the Castle, and the King's Greetings

David approaches the castle. He is tired and continues to feel the pain of all that he has lost. He runs into the Crooked Man along the way, who continues to tell him that he is responsible for David's victories, not David. He encourages David to go to the King, he is expected. David is met by some knights who welcome him to the kingdom. He meets the King for a short moment and then is taken to clean up, eat and sleep; they will talk in the morning. He sneaks out that night to explore the castle. He overhears the King and the Crooked Man discussing their plan. He waits until they are gone, and takes the Book of Lost Things.

How does the author describe **the road to the castle**? Highlight this. Describe the **castle**, as seen by David on his horse. Is this familiar?

What are the plans the Crooked Man and the King are making? What **"deal"** have they made? Do you think **David** has any **place in this "deal"**?

☺ Predict: Who do you think the King really is? What do you think is in the Book of Lost Things?

Of the Book of Lost Things

David opens and looks at the Book of Lost Things. It is a memory book of a child, Jonathan Tulvey. On his way back to his room, he ends up in a strange room with an hourglass in which the time is almost up. Here he meets Anna. Anna tells David she is dead and has been here for many years and the other children who have come and gone. She also talks of her brother, the King. Anna tells David how she and Jonathan ended up in this world so many years ago. David takes Anna and the leave.

Highlight some of the **memories in the Book of Lost Things**. What does David deduct about **how Jonathan got to this land** and how he became **King**.

David tells Anna about how **Jonathan was jealous** of her. It sounds like he has some **personal experience** with this subject. How do Anna and Jonathan **get to this world**? **What happened to Anna**? How does **Anna speak of Jonathan**? Does she have any negative feelings towards him?

☺ David finally realizes what the Crooked Man wants. What are your thoughts? What do you think David will do?

Of the Crooked Man's Hidden Kingdom and the Treasures That He Kept There

David and Anna try to escape from the Crooked Man's underground hide away. They find some very disturbing items and trophies in his lair. David realizes he keeps them to relive the story he created. Meanwhile, the Crooked Man is very impressed by David's drive to get back home. He is more determined than ever to get David to say Georgie's name out loud so he can take the child and extend his life; he has less than a day to live. David must continue on with his journey, Anna asks to be set on a shelf where she can look out at the world.

Who does he relate the Crooked Man too? Why does he not say his name? Highlight some of **David's thought** about the Crooked Man? Highlight some details of what David finds down in the **lair**? Relate what he finds to **problems/situations/stories** from his **reality** before entering this world,

What does **Anna teach David about love and family**? Highlight parts of their very important conversation?

☺ David begins to find a lot of disturbing things in the lair. As the novel concludes, we see a lot of parallel ideas from David's world to the enchanted world he entered. Do you think any of these "lost things" help David to connect to stories or situation from his reality? As David continues this journey and becomes more and more a young man, will he be ready to go home soon?

Of the Crooked Man's Act of Betrayal

David, reluctantly leaves Anna when he is taken to see the King. Outside the castle, he sees the wolves and the Loups lining up for their attack; they are hungry and out for blood. The knights assure David that no one has ever penetrated the castle so there is nothing to fear. The Crooked Man has a plan to get the Loups and wolves inside the

castle walls and betray everyone, but he must get them side using the tunnels. He attacks some of the wolves and Loups and then they chase him right into the ground—the Loups have now found their way into the castle.

Highlight some important parts of the **Crooked Man's plan** to get the Loups and the wolves inside the castle.

☺ Write a question, comment, or short summary at the end of this section

Of the Battle, and the Fate of Those Who Would Be King

David meets the King at his throne. They talk of Kings and Queens before him and how it is David's turn to take the thrown. He confirms that it was the Crooked Man who helped David be victorious with his quest, not David's bravery, but he must accept the throne or David will be killed. David calls the King out on his lies and says he does not want any part of this life. The Crooked Man appears and threatens to kill David if he does not take over the kingdom. They are attacked by the Loups and the wolves. A battle ensues and David refuses to give up Georgie's name.

David meets with the King and listens to his story. Highlight some aspects of this. What does David realize about the King? How does this make David feel?

What insights does the Crooked Man have into "David's World"? Does this help you put into perspective some of David's quest as he entered this world? Put some thoughts into the Margin.

Describe the **battle**. What happened to the **King, Anna, Leroi and the Crooked Man**? Who appears to **lead David back home**?

☺ What do you make of the Crooked Man's predictions of David's life if he returns to his world; are they valid, are they real?

☺ Comment on the following quote, "I made you do nothing, Jonathan," replied the Crooked Man. "You did it because you wanted to. No one can make you do evil. You had evil inside you, and you indulged it. Men will always indulge it.

Of Rose

David is reluctant to return to his world, he feels there are more adventures to see but the Woodsman assures him that there are people waiting for him. He says his good byes and returns to his world.

What does the Woodsman tell David when David asks him about the children's clothes, what is his answer? What do you think he is saying? Write some thoughts in the margin.

Can David ever return to this world? What does he mean? When David opens his eyes, where is he?

☺ Comment on the quote, “ You were a child when I first found you, but now you are becoming a man.” How does what the Woodsman tells him effect his behavior when he returns home?

Of All That Was Lost and All That Was Found

Over the next few days, David learns of what happened in his world while he was gone; he had been in a coma. This last chapter talks about David's growth since his visit to find the Book of Lost Things. He values his family, he and Rose have finally made peace and Georgie is an important part of his life. We get a glimpse of David's adult years, his death at an old age and his chance to return to a place that changed his life forever.

☺ Who does the Woodsman remind David of? Why is this important? What does David's life hold in store for him as he grows older? Is there a resolution to the problems he had before he went through the crack in the garden wall? How has his relationship with his family changed?

☺ How does this story tie into the Wizard of Oz? List the similarities from the book to the movie/story?

☺ Overall, what were your thoughts on this book? John Connolly describes it as “ A story of hope for all who have lost and for all who have yet to lose. It... reminds us of the enduring power of stories in our lives.”

The Book of Lost Things
By John Connolly



