



CLOSE-READING QUESTIONS AND JOURNALISM ASSIGNMENT

CLOSE-READING QUESTIONS:

1. What does Janie have in the hidden pocket inside her coat, and why?

2. What happens that gives Janie an opportunity to escape the life she's trapped in, working for Malvo?

3. What does Frederick say in the observation car that makes Janie nervous? To whom does he say it?

4. Look at the map on pages 40–41. What details help give a sense of the Cascade Mountain Range?

5. Why does Mr. Riggins decide to risk walking five miles in the blizzard to Scenic?



Name: _____

I Survived The Wellington
Avalanche, 1910

CLOSE-READING QUESTIONS AND JOURNALISM ASSIGNMENT *(CONTINUED)*

6. What leads to Frederick discovering that Janie has the stolen jewels?

7. What does Mr. McBride say while Janie is hiding in the storage room in Bailets that Janie misunderstands?

8. What happens that cuts short Janie's conversation with Frederick, Mr. McBride, and Miss Wade in which Janie says, "I'm not a monster"?

9. When Janie is buried alive underneath the snow after the avalanche, alone and unable to breathe, what gives her the motivation to try to get out?

10. What physical evidence will Janie always carry with her of the avalanche?

ANSWERS

CLOSE-READING QUESTIONS:

1. Janie has stolen diamonds in the hidden pocket of her coat. She is an orphan who is being forced to carry the diamonds for a gangster named Malvo.
2. When Hammer gets arrested in the train station, she realizes that she can still deliver the diamonds as if everything is fine and then use the money to get away before anyone realizes what happened.
3. Frederick tells Miss Wade, the journalist, that he thinks whoever was working with the jewel thief that got arrested in the station is probably on the train.
4. The mountains pop up off the map, covered in snow and snowy trees. The train appears to be going upward, giving a sense of how tall the mountains are relative to everything else on the map.
5. He realizes that the same thing that happened in Cascade could happen in Wellington—an avalanche could come through and destroy everything. He decides it's riskier to stay in the Wellington than to walk to Scenic.
6. When Violet is looking for a scarf for her snowman, she goes through Janie's bag and pulls out the sock in which Janie has hidden the jewels. When Janie tries to take the sock back from Violet, the jewels fall onto the floor in front of Frederick.
7. He says, "We'll find her. And I swear to you. I will not rest until that monster is in jail." Janie thinks that he is referring to her when he says, "the monster," but he's actually talking about Malvo.
8. She hears a *whump*, and the ground starts to tremble. When she looks up at the mountain, she can see that it has shattered apart, and an avalanche is coming straight for them.
9. Janie hears in her head the words from the story the librarian Miss Eva used to tell her and Dash, about the little steam engine that must pull the train up the mountain—*I think I can, I think I can*.
10. Janie has scars on her hands from clawing, digging, and pushing her way out of the snow.

JOURNALISM ASSIGNMENT:

Answers will vary but there should be one answer from Janie, one from Frederick, and one from Mr. McBride.