

Literature Guide

The Outlaws of Ravenhurst by Sister Imelda Wallace

Chapter 1

1. What was the “bundle the man was carrying? A baby boy
2. How did the man feel about the baby? He loved him. How do you know? He kissed him and was sad to leave him
3. Why do you think the man left him by the side of the road? So that the missionary would take him
4. Where does this story start? Along the shores of the Chesapeake Bay in Maryland

Chapter 2

1. Describe what is happening now several years later. We find “George” living with a family. He thinks he has a twin brother, Joel, who is a red head.
2. What are the boys doing? Going fishing.
3. Describe the mischief the boys get into. Stung by a bee, fishing hook caught in Joel’s foot, chased by a mother bear, shot a mother bear with a huge amount of gun powder, thought George was dead because the bear fell on him
4. Who came to help the boys? Their father, John Abell

Chapter 3

1. Why was George’s mother upset? George’s real uncle had come to take him away
2. Why was Mary worried about giving George back to Uncle Roger? He cursed when he saw an image of Our Lady
3. What advice did John give George? Be strong in the faith
4. Who is George? Charles Gordon and from one of the noblest families in Scotland
5. How did Sir Roger treat the Abells? He made fun of them. How did George respond? He said they were his family.

Chapter 4

1. How did George (Gordon) feel about his uncle? Disliked him
2. What story did Godfrey tell Gordon? About one of his ancestors
3. Do you think the story made Gordon more excited about his lot in life? Answers will vary

Chapter 5

1. What plan did Sir Roger have for Gordon? To win back the lands of Ravenhurst
2. What one thing did Sir Roger say stood in his way? His Catholic Faith
3. What was Gordon’s response? There is nothing worth the buying if the price be the fire of hell forevermore

4. What was the relationship between Lady Margaret and Sir Roger? Cool and not trusting

Chapter 6

1. Why did Gordon's mother test him regarding the faith? She wanted to make sure he wouldn't falter
2. Why was Gordon taken to America? To be hidden and protect the faith
3. Who took him? His Uncle Stephen, a Catholic priest
4. Whom did Lady Margaret say he should not trust? Godfrey and Roger
5. What interesting fact did she share with him about the room? The Precious Blood was spilled there and it had a secret passage

Chapter 7

1. What happened when Gordon awoke? He was in a completely different room. He asked for his nurse Benson but Betsy, a young girl, showed up instead.
2. Where was his mother? She left that morning for a wedding
3. How did Gordon occupy his time? He studied and saved every paper for his mother
4. How long was his mother to be gone? At least 6 weeks. How did Sir Roger explain her absence? She was to be the maid of honor for the queen
5. What did Gordon think at the end of the chapter? That his mother had been a dream

Chapter 8

1. At the beginning of this chapter, Gordon seemed ready to abandon his faith. Why? He was angry with the story that Godfrey told him about his mother. He wanted to be around boys of his own age.
2. What treasure did Gordon find on his ride? A Catholic Church and his Uncle Stephen
3. What did Stephen tell him about his mother? She had been taken away or hidden because she had told Gordon about his father
4. Why did the dragoons come for his father? Because he was hiding Gordon's Uncle Stephen (an outlawed Catholic priest)
5. How did Gordon respond to all of this information? He wanted to receive Communion and Penance

Chapter 9

1. Why was Sir Roger so upset about Gordon's room? He had promised his dying mother that he would preserve the fireplace and drops of precious blood
2. What did Gordon refuse to tell his Uncle? Where the blessed sacrament was kept
3. What was his punishment? A beating and then no food or water until he told. Finally, confinement to his room.

Chapter 10

1. What did Betsy reveal to Gordon? Godfrey ordered the changing of the room. His mother was somewhere in the castle. Godfrey was taking 2 portions of food. Betsy's mother is very poor and she couldn't risk losing her place.
2. How did Gordon view the beating? An atonement for being so mean to his mother
3. How did Edwin help Gordon? He drew deer horns on the ceiling. That signaled a secret hiding place.
4. What did Gordon find inside? A book and note from his mother

Chapter 11

1. What is the story about that Gordon is reading? Earl Lang-Sword
2. What happens? Lang-Sword returns from battle against Henry VIII King of England and goes out again. He battles many Scottish Lords who had betrayed their faith and country to join the King of England. He dies. King James of Scotland dies.
3. Who takes over for King James? Mary Queen of Scots

Chapter 12

1. Who is this story about? Agnus Gordon, son of Lang-Sword
2. Who is the King of Scotland now? King James VI, Mary's son
3. Who does Agnus find lying near the road? Father Walter
4. What happens while he is saying Mass? Bertrand, Agnus's trusted servant betrays them and soldiers come. Father Walter is killed. Agnus is wounded. Many of the soldiers die.
5. Who were the four children in the room?
 - a. Stephen – Father Stephen
 - b. Margaret – Lady Margaret
 - c. James – Gordon's Father
 - d. Roger – Uncle Roger
6. What happens to the Precious Blood? It spills on the floor and this becomes the silver spots on the floor in Gordon's room

Chapter 13

1. What were Stephen and James arguing about? Whether they should clean up the Blessed Sacrament. What do you think this foreshadowed about Stephen? Becoming a priest
2. What kind of person is Bertrand? A traitor, cruel
3. What actions of Roger's foretell his character later in adulthood? Inability to stand up for himself or God. Ordering Benson about.

Chapter 14

1. What happens when Lady Isabelle returns home? She is sick and dies
2. What is Sir Agnus's fate? He was found guilty of treason and sentenced to be beheaded

3. What happens as Sir Agnus is about to be beheaded? The executioner refuses to do it. The crowd turns against Sir Russel
4. Who kills Agnus? Bertrand

Chapter 15

1. What does Gordon say to Roger when he sees him? You are a traitor. Give up your treacherous ways and be a man.
2. Who is Godfrey? Bertrand's son
3. How was Gordon able to withstand another beating? He knew his mother was praying for him; he remembered the trails of Agnus; he kissed the Precious Blood

Chapter 16

1. What helped Gordon escape? A secret passage
2. What did Gordon hear Godfrey and Roger plotting? Poisoning Gordon, making it appear as though he was sick

Chapter 17

1. What happened to Gordon in the passage? Climbed for a long time. Tumbled into rushing water, almost drowned, leg cramped
2. What happened at the end of the passage? A human being grabbed his foot

Chapter 18

1. Who is holding Gordon's leg? His father
2. What instructions does James give him for getting out of the passage? Specific counting of stones, climbing, etc.
3. What happens when he gets out of the passage? Wolves chase him and send him up a tree
4. Who saves him? Muckle John. Who is that? The guy whom Gordon is supposed to find to help him

Chapter 19

1. What did Muckle John vow to do after Gordon told him what happened? Free Margaret and James, take revenge on Roger for beating Gordon
2. How did John escape from Roger? Lady Margaret was hiding in the passageway and helped him

Chapter 20

1. What happened when they came out of the secret passage? Roger was waiting
2. How did they get away? Father Stephen told the soldiers it was James and Margaret. They turned against Roger
3. What did they plan to do? The whole clan would sail to the New World

4. What did Father Stephen say when Muckle John said he was going to take revenge upon Roger?
He would be sinning and wounding Christ

Chapter 21

1. How is Gordon when they return to the cottage? Dying
2. What helps him? Prayers and Extreme Unction
3. What does Father Stephen do as everyone else leaves? Stays behind to help the few remaining Catholics in Scotland

Chapter 22

1. What were some of the perils they faced at sea? One of the ships went down, food shortage, people became sick, storms
2. Where did they land? Near the Abell's house in Maryland

Chapter 23

1. What was the family doing when Gordon showed up? Praying a rosary
2. What did they do for the clan? Went down to the shore and brought them food and supplies

Epilogue

1. What happened to Roger? Beheaded after he was betrayed by Godfrey
2. What happened to Godfrey? Killed because he was caught double dealing