

Remarkably Bright Creatures Lesson Plans

Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt

(c)2023 BookRags, Inc. All rights reserved.

Introduction

Teaching Remarkably Bright Creatures

The *Remarkably Bright Creatures* lesson plan contains a variety of teaching materials that cater to all learning styles. Inside you'll find 30 Daily Lessons, 20 Fun Activities, 180 Multiple Choice Questions, 60 Short Essay Questions, 20 Essay Questions, Quizzes/Homework Assignments, Tests, and more. The lessons and activities will help students gain an intimate understanding of the text, while the tests and quizzes will help you evaluate how well the students have grasped the material.

Target Grade: 7th-12th (Middle School and High School)

Length of Lesson Plan: Approximately 150 pages. Page count is estimated at 300 words per page. Length will vary depending on format viewed.

Browse The Remarkably Bright Creatures Lesson Plan:

- Introduction
- Lesson Calendar
- Chapter Abstracts
- Characters
- Symbols/Objects
- Daily Lessons
- Fun Activities
- Essay Topics
- Short Essay Questions
- Multiple Choice Questions
- Short Answer Questions
- Worksheets and Evaluation Forms
- Quizzes
- Tests

Full Lesson Plan Overview

Completely Customizable!

The *Remarkably Bright Creatures* lesson plan is downloadable in PDF and Word. The Word file is viewable with any PC or Mac and can be further adjusted if you want to mix questions around and/or add your own headers for things like "Name," "Period," and "Date." The Word file offers unlimited customizing options so that you can teach in the most efficient manner possible. Once you download the file, it is yours to keep and print for your classroom.

Lesson Plan Calendars

The Lesson Plan Calendars provide daily suggestions about what to teach. They include detailed descriptions of when to assign reading, homework, in-class work, fun activities, quizzes, tests and more. Use the entire *Remarkably Bright Creatures* calendar, or supplement it with your own curriculum ideas. Calendars cover one, two, four, and eight week units. Determine how long your *Remarkably Bright Creatures* unit will be, then use one of the calendars provided to plan out your entire lesson.

Chapter Abstracts

Chapter abstracts are short descriptions of events that occur in each chapter of *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. They highlight major plot events and detail the important relationships and characteristics of important characters. The Chapter Abstracts can be used to review what the students have read, or to prepare the students for what they will read. Hand the abstracts out in class as a study guide, or use them as a "key" for a class discussion. They are relatively brief, but can serve to be an excellent refresher of *Remarkably Bright Creatures* for either a student or teacher.

Character and Object Descriptions

Character and Object Descriptions provide descriptions of the significant characters as well as objects and places in *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. These can be printed out and used as an individual study guide for students, a "key" for leading a class discussion, a summary review prior to exams, or a refresher for an educator. The character and object descriptions are also used in some of the quizzes and tests in this lesson plan. The longest descriptions run about 200 words. They become shorter as the importance of the character or object declines.

Daily Lessons

This section of the lesson plan contains 30 Daily Lessons. Daily Lessons each have a specific objective and offer at least three (often more) ways to teach that objective. Lessons include classroom discussions, group and partner activities, in-class handouts, individual writing assignments, at least one homework assignment, class participation exercises and other ways to teach students about *Remarkably Bright Creatures* in a classroom setting. You can combine daily lessons or use the ideas within them to create your own unique curriculum. They vary greatly from day to day and offer an array of creative ideas that provide many options for an educator.

Fun Classroom Activities

Fun Classroom Activities differ from Daily Lessons because they make "fun" a priority. The 20 enjoyable, interactive classroom activities that are included will help students understand *Remarkably Bright Creatures* in fun and entertaining ways. Fun Classroom Activities include group projects, games, critical thinking activities, brainstorming sessions, writing poems, drawing or sketching, and countless other creative exercises. Many of the activities encourage students to interact with each other, be creative and think "outside of the box," and ultimately grasp key concepts from the text by "doing" rather than simply studying. Fun activities are a great way to keep students interested and engaged while still providing a deeper understanding of *Remarkably Bright Creatures* and its themes.

Essay Questions/Writing Assignments

These 20 Essay Questions/Writing Assignments can be used as essay questions on a test, or as stand-alone essay topics for a take-home or in-class writing assignment on *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. Students should have a full understanding of the unit material in order to answer these questions. They often include multiple parts of the work and ask for a thorough analysis of the overall text. They nearly always require a substantial response. Essay responses are typically expected to be one (or more) page(s) and consist of multiple paragraphs, although it is possible to write answers more briefly. These essays are designed to challenge a student's understanding of the broad points in a work, interactions among the characters, and main points and themes of the text. But, they also cover many of the other issues specific to the work and to the world today.

Short Essay Questions

The 60 Short Essay Questions listed in this section require a one to two sentence answer. They ask students to demonstrate a deeper understanding of *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by describing what they've read, rather than just recalling it. The short essay questions evaluate not only whether students have read the material, but also how well they understand and can apply it. They require more thought than multiple choice questions, but are shorter than the essay questions.

Multiple Choice Questions

The 180 Multiple Choice Questions in this lesson plan will test a student's recall and understanding of *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. Use these questions for quizzes, homework assignments or tests. The questions are broken out into sections, so they focus on specific chapters within *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. This allows you to test and review the book as you proceed through the unit. Typically, there are 5-15 questions per chapter, act or section.

Evaluation Forms

Use the Oral Reading Evaluation Form when students are reading aloud in class. Pass the forms out before you assign reading, so students will know what to expect. You can use the forms to provide general feedback on audibility, pronunciation, articulation, expression and rate of speech. You can use this form to grade students, or simply comment on their progress.

Use the Writing Evaluation Form when you're grading student essays. This will help you establish uniform criteria for grading essays even though students may be writing about different aspects of the material. By following this form you will be able to evaluate the thesis, organization, supporting arguments, paragraph transitions, grammar, spelling, punctuation, etc. of each student's essay.

Quizzes/Homework Assignments

The Quizzes/Homework Assignments are worksheets that can be used in a variety of ways. They pull questions from the multiple choice and short essay sections, the character and object descriptions, and the chapter abstracts to create worksheets that can be used for pop quizzes, in-class assignments and homework. Periodic homework assignments and quizzes are a great way to encourage students to stay on top of their assigned reading. They can also help you determine which concepts and ideas your class grasps and which they need more guidance on. By pulling from the different sections of the lesson plan, quizzes and homework assignments offer a comprehensive review of *Remarkably Bright Creatures* in manageable increments that are less substantial than a full blown test.

Tests

Use the Test Summary page to determine which pre-made test is most relevant to your students' learning styles. This lesson plan provides both full unit tests and mid-unit tests. You can choose from several tests that include differing combinations of multiple choice questions, short answer questions, short essay questions, full essay questions, character and object matching, etc. Some of the tests are designed to be more difficult than others. Some have essay questions, while others are limited to short-response questions, like multiple choice, matching and short answer questions.

Lesson Calendar

Definitions

- **Review Chapter Abstracts:** Chapter abstracts are synopses of each chapter that you can use to review the reading assignments with your students.
- **Daily Lessons:** There are 20 daily lessons detailed in this lesson plan. Select a new daily lesson for each day.
- **Fun Activities:** There are 20 fun activities in this lesson plan. They serve as a way for students to interact with the material in an enjoyable, educational way.
- **Read Aloud in Class:** Ask students to take turns reading aloud from where they left off in their most recent reading assignment. Use the Oral Reading Evaluation Form in this lesson plan to evaluate their reading skills.
- **In-Class Handout:** An in-class handout can be one of the quizzes/homework assignments, vocabulary games, worksheets, or an essay/writing assignment. It's something the students can complete and turn in during class, or begin in-class and take home to finish as a homework assignment.

One Week Lesson Calendar

Before the unit begins:

- Homework Assignment: Read through Day 1,309 of My Captivity - The Green Leotard (73-141)

Day 1 - Introduce Unit	Day 2 - Review Unit	Day 3 - Quiz	Day 4 - Review Unit	Day 5 - Test
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Day 1,309 of My Captivity - The Green Leotard (73-141) 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 1-5 1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 1-10	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Not Glamorous Work - A Three-Martini Truth (142-208) 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 6-10 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment:	Review Chapter Abstracts up to The Pier's Shadow - What If (209-280) Quiz 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 11-15 1 In-Class Handout	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Amazing Bones - After All (281-355) 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 16-20 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment:	Test

Students Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Read through Not Glamorous Work - A Three-Martini Truth (142-208)	Read through The Pier's Shadow - What If (209-280) and choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons	1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 11-20 Homework Assignment: Read through Amazing Bones - After All (281-355) and assign an essay, due the week following the test	Study for the test	
--	---	--	--------------------	--

Two Week Lesson Calendar

Before the unit begins:

- Homework Assignment: Read through Day 1,299 of My Captivity - Happy Endings (1-72)

Day 1 - Introduce Unit	Day 2 - Review Unit	Day 3 - Review Unit	Day 4 - Review Unit	Day 5 - Quiz
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Day 1,299 of My Captivity - Happy Endings (1-72) 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 1-3 Students Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Read through Day 1,309 of My Captivity - The	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Day 1,309 of My Captivity - The Green Leotard (73-141) 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 4-5 1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 1-5	1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 6-8 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Read through Not Glamorous Work - A Three-Martini Truth (142-208)	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Not Glamorous Work - A Three-Martini Truth (142-208) 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 9-10 1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 6-10 Review for the quiz Homework Assignment:	Quiz Homework Assignment: Read through The Pier's Shadow - What If (209-280) and assign an essay, due the week following the final test

Green Leotard (73-141)			Study for the quiz	
Day 6 - Review Unit	Day 7 - Review Unit	Day 8 - Review Unit	Day 9 - Review Unit	Day 10 - Final Test
Review Chapter Abstracts up to The Pier's Shadow - What If (209-280) 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 11-13 1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 11-15 Homework Assignment: Choose from one of the Daily Lessons	1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 14-15 1 In-Class Handout Students Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Read through Amazing Bones - After All (281-355) and choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Amazing Bones - After All (281-355) 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 16-18 1 In-Class Handout 1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 16-20	1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 19-20 1 In-Class Handout Review for the test Homework Assignment: Study for the test	Test

Four Week Lesson Calendar

Before the unit begins:

- Homework Assignment: Read through Day 1,299 of My Captivity - Happy Endings (1-72)

Day 1 - Introduce Unit	Day 2 - Review Unit	Day 3 - Review Unit	Day 4 - Review Unit	Day 5 - Quiz
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Day 1,299 of My Captivity - Happy Endings (1-72)	1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 1-2 1 In-Class Handout	Review Homework Daily Lesson 3 1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 1-3	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Day 1,309 of My Captivity - The Green Leotard (73-141)	Quiz Daily Lesson 5 Students Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment:

Students Read Aloud in Class	Homework Assignment: Choose from one of the Daily Lessons	Homework Assignment: Read through Day 1,309 of My Captivity - The Green Leotard (73-141) and choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons	Review Homework Daily Lesson 4 1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 4-5 1 In-Class Handout	Choose from one of the Daily Lessons
Day 6 - Review Unit	Day 7 - Review Unit	Day 8 - Review Unit	Day 9 - Review Unit	Day 10 - Mid Unit Test
Review Homework Daily Lesson 6 1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 6-7 Homework Assignment: Choose from one of the Daily Lessons	Review Homework 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 7-8 1 In-Class Handout Students Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Read through Not Glamorous Work - A Three-Martini Truth (142-208) and choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Not Glamorous Work - A Three-Martini Truth (142-208) Review Homework Daily Lesson 9 1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 8-9 Homework Assignment: Choose from one of the Daily Lessons	Review Homework Daily Lesson 10 1 In-Class Handout Review for the test Homework Assignment: Study for the test	Test Homework Assignment: Read through The Pier's Shadow - What If (209-280) and assign an essay, due the week following the final test
Day 11 - Review Unit	Day 12 - Review Unit	Day 13 - Review Unit	Day 14 - Review Unit	Day 15 - Quiz

Review Chapter Abstracts up to The Pier's Shadow - What If (209-280) Review the test Daily Lesson 11 Students Read Aloud in Class	Daily Lesson 12 1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 10-12 Homework Assignment: Choose from one of the Daily Lessons	Review Homework Daily Lesson 13 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Choose from one of the Daily Lessons	Review Homework 1 Lesson from Daily Lessons 14-15 1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 13-14 Homework Assignment: Read through Amazing Bones - After All (281-355) and choose a homework assignment from one of the Daily Lessons	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Amazing Bones - After All (281-355) Quiz Daily Lesson 16 Students Read Aloud in Class 1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 15-16 Homework Assignment: Choose from one of the Daily Lessons
Day 16 - Review Unit	Day 17 - Review Unit	Day 18 - Review Unit	Day 19 - Review Unit	Day 20 - Final Test
Review Homework Daily Lesson 17 1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 17-18 Homework Assignment: Choose from one of the Daily Lessons	Review Homework Daily Lesson 18 1 In-Class Handout Students Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Choose from one of the Daily Lessons	Review Homework Daily Lesson 19 1 In-Class Handout 1 Fun Activity from Fun Activities 19-20	Daily Lesson 20 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Study for the test	Test

Eight Week Lesson Calendar

Before the unit begins:

- Homework Assignment: Read through Day 1,299 of My Captivity - Happy Endings (1-72)

Day 1 - Introduce Unit	Day 2 - Review Unit	Day 3 - Review Unit	Day 4 - Review Unit	Day 5 - Quiz
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Day 1,299 of My Captivity - Happy Endings (1-72) Students Read Aloud in Class	Daily Lesson 1 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework Daily Lesson 2 Fun Activity 1 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework 1 In-Class Handout	Quiz Fun Activity 2 Students Read Aloud in Class
Day 6 - Review Unit	Day 7 - Review Unit	Day 8 - Quiz	Day 9 - Review Unit	Day 10 - Review Unit
Daily Lesson 3 Fun Activity 3 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework Daily Lesson 4 1 In-Class Handout Students Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Read through Day 1,309 of My Captivity - The Green Leotard (73-141) and complete the Daily Lesson	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Day 1,309 of My Captivity - The Green Leotard (73-141) Quiz Review Homework Students Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework Daily Lesson 5 Fun Activity 4 1 In-Class Handout	Fun Activity 5 1 In-Class Handout

Day 11 - Review Unit	Day 12 - Quiz	Day 13 - Review Unit	Day 14 - Review Unit	Day 15 - Quiz
Daily Lesson 6 Students Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Study for the quiz	Quiz Fun Activity 6 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework Daily Lesson 7 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework Daily Lesson 8 Fun Activity 7 Homework Assignment: Read through Not Glamorous Work - A Three-Martini Truth (142-208) and complete the Daily Lesson	Review Chapter Abstracts up to Not Glamorous Work - A Three-Martini Truth (142-208) Quiz Students Read Aloud in Class Fun Activity 8 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson
Day 16 - Review Unit	Day 17 - Review Unit	Day 18 - Review Unit	Day 19 - Review Unit	Day 20 - Mid Unit Test
Fun Activity 9 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework Daily Lesson 9 1 In-Class Handout Students Read Aloud in Class	Review Homework Daily Lesson 10 1 In-Class Handout Fun Activity 10 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework 1 In-Class Handout Review for the test Homework Assignment: Study for the test	Test Homework Assignment: Assign an essay, due on day 38
Day 21 - Review Unit	Day 22 - Review Unit	Day 23 - Review Unit	Day 24 - Review Unit	Day 25 - Quiz

Review the test	Daily Lesson 11 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework Daily Lesson 12 Fun Activity 11 Homework Assignment: Read through The Pier's Shadow - What If (209-280) and complete the Daily Lesson	Review Chapter Abstracts up to The Pier's Shadow - What If (209-280) Review Homework Fun Activity 12	Quiz Fun Activity 13 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson
Day 26 - Review Unit	Day 27 - Review Unit	Day 28 - Review Unit	Day 29 - Review Unit	Day 30 - Mid Unit Test
Review Homework Daily Lesson 13 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework Daily Lesson 14 1 In-Class Handout Students Read Aloud in Class Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework Fun Activity 14 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework Daily Lesson 15 1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Study for the quiz	Quiz Fun Activity 15 Homework Assignment: Read through Amazing Bones - After All (281-355)
Day 31 - Review Unit	Day 32 - Review Unit	Day 33 - Review Unit	Day 34 - Review Unit	Day 35 - Quiz
Review Chapter Abstracts up to Amazing Bones - After All (281-355)	Fun Activity 16 Homework Assignment:	Review Homework Daily Lesson 17	Review Homework Daily Lesson 18 Fun Activity 17	Quiz Students Read Aloud in Class Fun Activity 18

Daily Lesson 16 Students Read Aloud in Class	Complete the Daily Lesson	1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson		Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson
Day 36 - Review Unit	Day 37 - Review Unit	Day 38 - Review Unit	Day 39 - Review Unit	Day 40 - Final Test
Review Homework Daily Lesson 19 Fun Activity 19 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	1 In-Class Handout Homework Assignment: Finish the essay	Collect essay assignments Daily Lesson 20 Fun Activity 20 Homework Assignment: Complete the Daily Lesson	Review Homework 1 In-Class Handout Review for the test	Test

Chapter Abstracts

Day 1,299 of My Captivity - Happy Endings (1-72)

- The following version of this book was used to create this Lesson Plan: Van Pelt, Shelby. *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. Harper Collins, 2022. Hardcover.
- The story alternates between the perspective of Marcellus, an octopus, and three humans.
- Chapters from Marcellus' point of view are presented in the first-person and titled as days in captivity, counting to his rapidly approaching death.
- Chapters from the human perspective alternate between Tova Sullivan, Cameron Cassmore, and Ethan Mack, and those chapters are titled with a quote from the chapter and presented from the third-person point of view.
- In "Day 1,299 of My Captivity" Marcellus introduces himself.
- He is a giant Pacific octopus who lived in the middle-bottom of the sea until he was captured and imprisoned in the Sowell Bay Aquarium.
- The daughter of Terry, who runs the aquarium, named him Marcellus McSquiddles.
- Marcellus says that the average life span of a giant Pacific octopus is four years or 1,460 days.
- He was brought to the aquarium as a juvenile, and he will die in his tank.
- At the most, he has 160 days "until [his] sentence is complete" (2).
- In "The Silver-Dollar Scar," Tova Sullivan cleans the aquarium at night.
- She often thinks of her son, who disappeared when he was 18.
- She is 70, and does not need to work, but she likes having something to do.
- On her way to get something to pry some gum off the floor, she walks past a life-sized bronze statue of a Pacific sea lion.
- She has a picture at home of Erik, her son, when he was 11 or 12 straddling the statue's back.
- She tries not to think about how Erik might look now.
- Tova says hello to the occupants of various tanks as she passes.



- The octopus is her favorite, and it takes her a moment to see a sliver of orange that indicates where he is hiding.
- After cleaning up the gum, Tova goes to the break room and finds a bunch of empty takeout containers on the floor.
- She throws them in the trash and notices something underneath a small lunch table.
- It is the octopus.
- She wonders how he got out of his tank.
- He is caught in a thin power cord.
- Tova bends to help him, and he lashes out.
- She creeps closer and tells him she will not hurt him.
- She yanks the plug of the cord, and the octopus flinches.
- Then he slides toward her and places one of his arms around her forearm.
- She tries to yank her arm away, but he tightens his grip.
- Then he releases her.
- She watches him leave the break room
- She wonders if she is hallucinating.
- She watched her mother as her mind slipped away and she began to forget things.
- Tova does not struggle to remember things.
- She looks at her arm and sees it is covered with sucker marks.
- She tells the creatures good night.
- The octopus has hidden behind his rock again.
- Tova goes to her yellow hatchback and deposits her cleaning supplies in the trunk.
- She walks to the old ticket booth.
- Then she goes onto the pier to her usual bench.
- She looks at her arms and sees the round marks are still there “about the size of a silver dollar” (10).



- She wonders if they will bruise.
- Tova sees that the fog has lifted.
- Moonlight shimmies across the water, she imagines that Erik is in the water holding candles for her—Erik, her only child.
- In “Day 1,300 of My Captivity,” Marcellus complains about the mackerel, halibut, and herring that he is fed.
- The diet of a giant Pacific octopus should be crabs, clams, shrimp, scallops, cockles, abalone, fish, and fish eggs.
- To eat better, he has to fetch the food he wants after hours.
- Tonight he found wonderful food in the rubbish bin.
- It could have been his downfall, but the cleaning lady saved him.
- In “Falsehood Cookies,” Tova meets with the Knit-Wits, a group of her friends that includes Mary Ann Minetti, Janice Kim, and Barb Vanderhoof, for their weekly lunch.
- The group used to consist of seven women, but every few years brings another empty place at the table.
- The ladies are curious about the sucker marks on Tova’s forearm and pressure her to quit her job.
- She considers telling them what happened, but she says instead it was “a mishap with some of the cleaning equipment” (15).
- They gossip about their children and grandchildren.
- The Knit-Wits began as a knitting club.
- Twenty-five years ago, a few Sowell Bay women met to swap yarn.
- Eventually, it became a way for them to escape empty homes when their children moved away.
- Tova goes to use Mary Ann’s powder room, and she remembers Erik.
- A few days before he disappeared, she had made a cake for his 18th birthday.
- At first his disappearance was considered a runaway case.



- The last person who saw him was a deckhand working the 11 o'clock southbound ferry, the last boat of the night.
- Erik was working that summer at the ticket booth.
- The sheriff found the ticket booth unlocked with the register cash fully accounted for.
- Erik's backpack was under a chair, along with his portable cassette player and headphones, and his wallet.
- A week later they found a boat that washed ashore with its anchor rope cut off clean.
- Erik's prints were on the rudder.
- The sheriff thought that Erik must have taken his life.
- Tova never believed that.
- Tova returns to Mary Ann's table and listens to the conversations about neighbors and dogs.
- By three p.m., the ladies gather their things.
- Mary Ann tells Tova to let them know if she needs help or that she will quit her job if it gets to be too much.
- Tova drives away.
- Her answering machine is blinking when she returns home.
- Most of the messages are spam or solicitations.
- Then she receives a message that her brother, Lars, has passed away.
- In "Day 1,301 of My Captivity," Marcellus explains how he gets out of his tank.
- "There is a gap between the pump housing and the glass, wide enough for [him] to fit the tip of a tentacle through and unscrew the housing" (23).
- Though the gap is only the width of two or three human fingers, he can shape his body to pass through.
- He has to be sure to return within 18 minutes or he will suffer "the Consequences" (23).
- One time he was late.
- His "limbs moved slowly and [his] vision blurred . . . [his] flesh paled to a flat shade of brownish gray" (24).



- He felt like he might die, but when he got back into the water, he revived.
- In “The Welina Mobile Park is for Lovers,” when Cameron Cassmore borrows his friend Brad’s truck to get a clematis for his aunt Jeanne.
- He is hungover, and it is only nine a.m.
- When he arrives at the Welina Mobile Park, he hears his aunt in a dispute with the landlord, Jimmy Delmonico.
- One of the other residents, Sissy Baker, swears that she saw a snake in Jeanne’s clematis.
- Cameron tells the landlord there are no snakes in the clematis and that Mrs. Baker must be lying if she said that she saw yellow eyes blinking.
- Snakes cannot blink.
- Cameron spends most of an hour trimming the clematis.
- He is finding being 30 to be “a bitch so far” (31).
- Aunt Jeanne’s yard is gorgeous, but inside her mobile home, it is a mess.
- Cameron is not sure when she started her “collecting” (31).
- When she raised him in Modesto in a two-bedroom house, the place was always clean.
- She sold it a few years ago to pay off medical bills.
- Cameron had quit a decent job with a restoration company that could have led to an apprenticeship to care for her.
- When Aunt Jeanne sold the house, she was 52, the age requirement for Welina residents.
- He is not sure why she bought a trailer rather than getting an apartment.
- Aunt Jeanne learns that Cameron is unemployed again, and she is angry because she pulled strings to get him his job.
- She asks about his girlfriend, Katie, and he says she is fine.
- Cameron was nine when his aunt Jeanne picked him up from his mother’s apartment after she told him to pack his bag to stay with his aunt for the weekend.
- This was common, but this time his mother did not come back to get him.
- “The weekend turned into a week, then a month. Then a year” (34).



- Aunt Jeanne applied for custody and was granted it.
- Aunt Jeanne was a decade older than Cameron's mother, Daphne, and never married or had her own children.
- Cameron had a good childhood with her.
- No one knows who his father was, but his aunt told him that "knowing the crowd [his] mom ran with, he was probably someone you're better off without" (35).
- Aunt Jeanne and Cameron discuss Elizabeth Burnett, who is expecting at the end of the summer.
- Cameron, Elizabeth, and Brad, Elizabeth's husband, were best friends growing up.
- Before Cameron leaves, his aunt gives him a box of things that belonged to his mother.
- In "Day 1,302 of My Captivity," Marcellus describes an exam where the vet, Dr. Santiago anesthetizes him and weighs him.
- Marcellus has gained three pounds in the last month.
- Dr. Santiago and Terry wonder how Marcellus has gained so much weight so quickly.
- In "June Gloom," Tova shops for groceries at Shop-Way, managed by a chatty fellow, Ethan Mack, who is from Scotland.
- He tells her he is "sorry to hear about [her] brother's passing" and tells her if she needs anything to "just say the word" (39).
- Tova has known Ethan for years.
- She has never met a 60-something man who so enjoys gossip.
- She tells Ethan that she and Lars were not close.
- She wonders to herself if they ever were.
- She decides they were as children and young adults.
- Lars stood up at her wedding to Will.
- They spent holidays together for years.
- Then after Erik died, they started missing get togethers.
- "The years stretched into decades, turning siblings to strangers" (40).



- Tova returns home and turns on the news.
- She unloads her groceries and tries to find room for them among all the food the Knit-Wits and other well-wishers have sent “intending to comfort her over Lars’s death” (42).
- She hears a noise and finds a cat on the porch.
- She gives it a dish of Mary Ann’s cold ham, cheese, and potato.
- In “Chasing a Lass,” Ethan takes a smoke break.
- It is foggy and reminds Ethan of his home in Kilberry, Scotland.
- Forty years ago, he followed an American girl, Cindy, who was in Scotland on holiday to America.
- They stayed in New York for a time.
- Then they purchased a VW van and drove across the country.
- They married somewhere near Oregon.
- Weeks later in Aberdeen, Washington, the van’s transmission failed.
- Ethan tried to fix it, but it was gone.
- “In the morning, so was Cindy” (45).
- Ethan stayed in Aberdeen and worked as a longshoreman until he retired at the age of 55.
- With time on his hands, he took a job at the Shop-Way.
- Then he gathered his savings and bought the store.
- Now ten years later, he still does not need the money.
- He has a good pension that covers rent, food, and gas for his truck.
- The Shop-Way gives him money for extras.
- Ethan sees a couple driving fast down the road.
- He worries about Tova on that road.
- He wishes he could drive by her house and ensure that she is okay.
- “But no. He broke himself once, chasing a lass” (46).

- In “Day 1,306 of My Captivity,” Marcellus comments that he is good at keeping secrets.
- He wonders if he would be less lonely if he could share his secrets with someone.
- He has one secret in particular from the bottom of the sea that he still carries with him.
- In “Baby Vipers Are Especially Deadly,” Cameron’s girlfriend, Katie, learns that he has lost his job again and breaks up with him.
- She starts throwing his belongings outside.
- Cameron’s friends, Brad and Elizabeth take him in.
- Brad and Elizabeth have a large home on the outskirts of town.
- Elizabeth’s parents gave them money for the down payment.
- Brad tells Cameron he needs to get his act together and that he can stay for two nights.
- Then he tells Cameron that with the baby coming, he is going to have to quit their band, Our Moth Sausage.
- Since he is the lead singer, Cameron knows that is the end of their band.
- In “day 1,307 of My Captivity,” Marcellus describes the fingerprints on the outside of his tank.
- He sees them as “miniature works of art” (59).
- He has spent time staring at them and studying them.
- They are all unique and have specific shapes like keys.
- Marcellus remembers “all keys, too” (59).
- In “Muckle Teeth,” Bruce LaRue, Lars’ attorney, finds Tova at the aquarium.
- He comments on how difficult it was to track her down.
- She learns that Ethan told LaRue how to find her.
- LaRue tells Tova that she needs to pick up Lars’ belongings from Charter Village Long-Term Care in Bellingham—at least an hour’s drive on the freeway.
- Then he says they need to get together and go over Lars’ monetary assets.
- At the aquarium, there are no big messes.



- She tells the octopus that her brother always left messes and now he has “left one last thing for [her] to clean up, even after he’s died” (63).
- Tova notices that it is mating season for the seahorses, and she remembers the time Terry threw a baby shower for the staff when the seahorses spawned.
- Tova goes to the Shop-Way and asks Ethan about the man who came looking for her.
- He tells her he would not have said anything if the man had not said it was her brother’s estate.
- She asks him if he will drive her to Bellingham.
- In “Day 1,308 of My Captivity,” Marcellus comments that the seahorses are spawning again.
- He does not understand why humans find it so fascinating.
- Seahorse larvae look like sea worms and nothing like their parents.
- Human children, however, resemble their parents, even though they are helpless and have to be cared for.
- Marcellus wonders how a giant Pacific octopus spawns and what his offspring might look like.
- Marcellus likes to tease humans.
- He will put his tentacles to the glass when a human comes near.
- When the human goes to find its companions to come and see, he jets back behind his rock.
- He finds humans very predictable, except the elderly female who mops the floors.
- She does not play games, she talks to him and they converse.
- In “Happy Endings,” Ethan drives Tova to Bellingham and hides his affection for her.
- While he waits for Tova to sort through Lars’ belongings, he takes a tour of Charter Village and finds himself thinking it might be a nice place to live, although he cannot afford it.
- Tova returns with a box that he loads behind the passenger seat.
- He sees a packet and slick brochure for Charter Village.
- With the packet is an application for the facility.



Day 1,309 of My Captivity - The Green Leotard (73-141)

- In "Day 1,309 of My Captivity," Marcellus describes cookies, how they are sold in a packaged food machine near the front entrance, and how humans eat them and leave messes for Tova.
- He is confused when after solving a puzzle to get a crab to eat that Dr. Santiago calls him a "smart cookie" (73).
- Marcellus knows that he is intelligent.
- He can remember every human face he has ever seen, patterns come easily to him, he knows how the sun shifts throughout the day, and he can recognize humans by the fingerprints they leave on the glass of his cage.
- He can use tools, and he can solve puzzles—skills none of the other prisoners have.
- He has half a billion neurons distributed among his eight arms.
- Sometimes he has wondered if he has more intelligence in a single tentacle than a human has in their entire skull.
- He is smart, but he is "not a snack object dispensed from a packaged food machine" (74).
- In "Maybe Not Marrakesh," Cameron's phone battery is dying, and he goes to the kitchen to see if Brad and Elizabeth have a spare charger.
- Elizabeth is there, and they talk about the baby, and she tells him to look in the junk drawer for a charger.
- Cameron says he is going to see if he can rent the apartment over Dell's Saloon.
- They talk about his band, and Elizabeth wonders why the band had never traveled.
- A few hours later, Cameron is scanning social media to see what Katie is doing.
- So far, she has a new dog.
- He decides to open his mother's box that Aunt Jeanne gave him.
- Inside he finds half-used lipsticks, school papers, a concert ticket stub, scrunchies, old cassette tapes, and a small black drawstring bag filled with costume jewelry.
- Some of it looks like gold, and he thinks he might be able to pawn it.
- He smooths out the bag to make sure it is empty, and he finds an old photo folded around a class ring from Sowell Bay High School, Class of 1989.



- The photo is of his mother with arms around a man he has never seen before.
- In “Bugatti and Blondie,” Tova goes to do her crossword puzzle at Hamilton Park where she and Will used to have picnics.
- A man riding a bicycle stops to get a drink, but the drinking fountain is out of order.
- Tova offers him a bottle of water.
- He notices that she is doing a crossword puzzle, and he solves a couple of clues for her.
- Then he realizes that she is Erik Sullivan’s mother.
- He introduces himself as Adam Wright, and he says that he went to school with Erik before he died.
- When he leaves, Tova wonders if Adam attended the candlelight vigil for Erik.
- It is Wednesday, so when Tova returns home, she does the laundry.
- She kept her brother’s bathrobe, and she is not sure why.
- She had almost cut it up for rags, but she changed her mind.
- Her brother’s personal effects also included a few photographs.
- Some were from their childhood, and Tova put those with the other family photos in the attic.
- Others were of a Lars she never knew; she threw those in the trash.
- One photo was of Lars and Erik on a sailboat.
- Lars had taught Erik how to sail.
- The photo brought back sad memories, and Tova nearly threw it away.
- Then she buried it among pot holders and towels.
- In “Day 1,311 of My Captivity,” Marcellus comments that humans never tired of talking about the weather.
- There is a change in the season.
- Soon Marcellus will see the longest day of the year—summer solstice as the humans say.
- It will be his “final summer solstice” (87).
- “Nothing Stays Sunk Forever,” Tova has her hair done at Colette’s Beauty Shop.



- Colette has been doing hair for nearly 50 years, and Tova does not trust anyone else.
- That evening at the aquarium, Terry's light is on and she stops by to "say hello" (90).
- She notices two photos: one of his toddler daughter on the playground and one with his mother when he graduated from college.
- Although Terry was raised on a fishing boat in Jamaica, he was able to go to college at the University of Washington and get his bachelor of science degree in marine biology.
- Terry tells Tova he was sorry to hear about her brother.
- Then he asks her if she can wipe down the front windows.
- He says if she cannot get to the floors because of the extra work, they can do them next week.
- Tova learns Marcellus's name, and she learns that Terry plans to put a clamp on his tank because Marcellus has been wandering the aquarium.
- Tova stops by Marcellus's tank and talks to him.
- He seems to want to shake hands, and she drags a chair over.
- She steadies herself as she climbs up and removes the cover on the back of the tank.
- She lifts the lid.
- He reaches out a tentacle and wraps it around her arm and then another around her shoulder.
- He releases her and disappears for a moment.
- He returns with her house key; "the one she lost last year" (94).
- In "Day 1,319 of My Captivity," Marcellus comments that he found the key near the place where Tova stores her things when she cleans.
- He had stashed it in his den along with other things he has collected.
- There is a pocket in the deepest cranny of the hollowed rock that even the most thorough tank cleaners cannot reach, and this is where he buries his treasures.
- His "Collection" (95) consists of glass marbles, plastic superheroes, an emerald solitaire ring, credit cards, a driver's license, a jeweled barrette, a human tooth, earrings, bracelets, pacifiers, coins, and keys.
- He has found many keys over the years, but Tova's was fascinating because he had seen a copy of it before when he was young and before he was captured.



- It was attached to a circular ring at the bottom of the sea, “nestled within a trove of what could only be described as leftover human” (96).
- The bones and flesh were gone, but there was a rubber sneaker sole, a vinyl shoelace, and some plastic buttons under a clump of rocks.
- Marcellus thinks they belong to the one for whom Tova mourns.
- He is sorry for her loss, and “returning this key is the least [he] can do” (96).
- In “Not a Movie Star, But Maybe a Pirate,” Cameron goes to Dell’s Saloon and asks if he can rent the apartment upstairs.
- Cameron shows him the jewelry to prove he can pay.
- Old Al is not interested in renting because he does not want to become a landlord.
- Al thinks Cameron should try one of the dumpy apartment buildings in town, but that is not a possibility because Cameron will not pass a credit check.
- They look through the jewelry, and Al comments when he sees the class ring that he remembers when Jeanne went to Washington to get Daphne, Cameron’s mother.
- Old Al always knew Daphne as “Jeanne’s hell-raising little sister” (99).
- She ran away from home when she was in high school and went to Washington.
- She got in trouble, and Jeanne had to take off work to drag her home.
- Al thinks the ring might have belonged to a boyfriend.
- He gave his to a girl, but he never got it back.
- Cameron searches on the internet for the class of 1989 at Sowell Bay High School.
- He thinks his mother would have gotten pregnant the summer those kids graduated.
- He looks at the ring and notices a faint engraving “EELS,” (101) and he wonders if that was the school mascot.
- He looks through the photos, and he sees his mother with a man named Simon Brinks, the same man in the photo from his mother’s box.
- Cameron looks up Brinks and learns he is a wealthy Seattle real estate developer and nightclub owner.
- Cameron was born on February 2, so the timing would fit.



- Elizabeth wonders if he is sure that is his father.
- She tells him he cannot “just shake down some random person because he was in a picture with [his] mom” (103).
- He decides to go to Sowell Bay and find Simon.
- Elizabeth says if she was not pregnant, she and Brad would go with him.
- Cameron books a flight to Seattle and crosses his fingers as he hopes his credit card will clear for the transactions.
- He packs a green duffel and throws in the bag of jewelry.
- He thinks that if Simon Brinks is his father, Simon “is going to pay for every precious second of fatherhood he’s missed over the last thirty years” (104).
- In “The Technically True Story,” Tova cleans up the key and sits down to do her crossword.
- She hears the cat, and it shimmies inside through a loose flap on the screen door.
- They both have breakfast.
- That evening at the aquarium she greets the occupants of the tanks as she gets ready to mop the hallway.
- She finds Marcellus tucked behind his rock.
- She pulls out an old step stool and carefully climbs up.
- She removes the cover from the back rim of the tank.
- She converses with Marcellus, and he reaches up and touches her arm.
- She tells him about her friends, the Knit-Wits, and she wonders what they would think of her talking to Marcellus.
- She tells Marcellus about Erik and how he died at 18.
- They searched for the anchor for weeks, but finally found it.
- They said that Erik must have committed suicide.
- She finds that strange.
- She knows he was upset that she made him take the job working the ticket booth, but she did not want him loafing around all summer.



- She reaches to scrub the black rubberized rim of the tank.
- It is just out of reach, and she shifts her weight and stretches her arm.
- The stool wobbles and she falls on the hard tile.
- Her left ankle feels tender, but it holds her weight when she stands.
- She tries to put the stool back together, but she cannot find a screw.
- Marcellus slips out of the tank, finds the screw, and gives it to her.
- The next morning when Tova wakes, her ankle will not support her.
- She ices it and finally calls Dr. Remy's office just before the office closes at five.
- His receptionist sets an appointment for her the next morning and tells her the doctor wants her to keep the ankle elevated and stay off of it, which means no mopping at the aquarium.
- For the first time in her life, Tova has to call out of work.
- She calls Terry and says that she cannot come to work.
- In "Got Baggage," Cameron's duffel is missing when he gets off the plane.
- A man named Elliot, who has the same problem, shows Cameron where to go to report the missing item.
- Cameron left the jewelry in the duffel, so he only has a few dollars.
- He calls Aunt Jeanne, and she sends him \$2,000, which was intended for a cruise she planned to take to Alaska.
- Elliot has a buddy with a camper to sell.
- Cameron agrees to look at it.
- In "Busted but Loyal," as Tova hobbles around her kitchen with her left foot in a molded-plastic boot, she remembers when Erik found a rock crab that was missing its hind legs on one side.
- Erik had named it Eight-Legged Eddie, and he and Will filled a glass tank with gravel from the driveway for the crab.
- They fed it potato peelings, zucchini scraps, and brine shrimp from the pet store.
- The crab survived quite a while.



- When it died, Erik insisted that they bury it.
- Tova is frustrated that she will have to wear the boot for six weeks.
- She will not be able to work in her garden or clean the aquarium.
- Janice comes by with a casserole from Barb.
- She gives Tova a cell phone because the Knit-Wits want her to have a way to communicate.
- Janice says that Mary Ann is moving to Spokane to live with her daughter, Laura.
- She is putting her house on the market and hopes to move by September.
- They plan to have a farewell luncheon for her.
- Since there will only be three Knit-Wits left, they will have to decide what their “long-term plan is” (125).
- Tova heats up the casserole, looking forward to having something other than rice and chicken.
- The phone rings, scares her, and she drops the casserole.
- She slides in the mess as she tries to stand.
- Finally she gets up and gets the mess cleaned up.
- She has chicken and rice for supper.
- Tova contemplates filling out the application for Charter Village.
- She decides it might be “time to fill out the application” (128).
- In “House Special,” Cameron buys the camper for \$1,200, and he is pretty certain it is “a piece of shit” (129).
- The engine rattles and there is a loose belt that whines.
- He makes it to Sowell Bay and stops at the aquarium at 11 a.m., but the aquarium does not open until noon.
- He finds a deli attached to a small grocery store.
- An oldish guy with a reddish beard asks him if he can help him find something.
- When Cameron asks for a cup of coffee, the man calls Tanner to fix a cup and make a sandwich for Cameron since Tanner needs experience in the kitchen.



- Cameron chats with the man and tells him he is looking for Simon Brinks, who is his father.
- When Cameron leaves, the camper has a flat tire.
- The man comes and introduces himself as Ethan and offers to help.
- In “Day 1,322 of My Captivity,” Marcellus complains about the fingerprints on his tank.
- Tova has not been in to clean for three days.
- He talks about his three hearts and how much he misses Tova.
- He hopes she heals, “and not only because of the mess on the glass” (136).
- In “The Green Leotard,” Tova remembers that Erik died on a Wednesday night.
- In 1989, Tova went regularly to the Sowell Bay Community Center on Wednesdays for her Jazzercise class.
- She wore an emerald-green leotard that flattered her trim 39-year-old waist.
- When she had gotten home that evening and started changing, Will had interrupted her and they had made love.
- She remembers the leotard was on a chair in the living room when the detectives came to talk about Erik’s disappearance.
- Tova had never intended to “spend her adulthood in the house she grew up in” (138).
- Her father built the house when she was eight.
- There was a cellar for storing apples, turnips, and lutefisk.
- The middle floor was for living, and there was an attic for her mother’s things from Sweden.
- At first there was a ladder to the attic.
- Then her father added a stairway and made a playhouse for Tova and Lars up there.
- However, Lars was a teen by that time and Tova was two years younger.
- Will and Tova moved back into the house to care for her mother.
- Tova makes her way to bed when it is late, and the cat is sleeping on the bedspread.
- She never thought she would share her bed with an animal, but she is glad he is there.



- She has a dream that she is embracing Marcellus, and “a powerful feeling washes over her and . . . Tova recognizes the feeling as relief” (141).
- She falls asleep.

Not Glamorous Work - A Three-Martini Truth (142-208)

- In “Not Glamorous Work,” when Ethan learns that Cameron is looking for work, he recommends a maintenance-type job at the aquarium.
- They get to drinking and make up a fanciful application for Cameron to present to Terry.
- Terry is not impressed by the application when Cameron comes for an interview.
- Cameron has to persuade him to give him a chance.
- Terry says that he will give Cameron a chance because Ethan recommended him.
- He says he will pay \$20 an hour for 20 hours a week.
- When Cameron says he will take more hours if they are available, Terry offers to allow him to do Tova’s cleaning until she comes back.
- After the interview, Cameron goes down the pier.
- He fingers the key card for the aquarium.
- No boss has ever trusted him with a key before.
- He snaps a picture of it and sends it to Aunt Jeanne.
- Then he receives a call from John Hall from Brinks Development.
- Cameron asks to make an appointment with Simon Brinks, but he is told Mr. Brinks works out of his office in Seattle most of the time.
- Cameron tells him he is family.
- Mr. Hall says Mr. Brink can often be found at his summer home this time of year.
- When Cameron asks for the address, Hall tells him maybe someone in his family can get it for him.
- After the call, Cameron sees a text from Aunt Jeanne telling him she is proud of him.



- In “Day 1,324 of My Captivity,” Marcellus comments that Terry has “swapped out the older lady for a younger model” (150).
- He notices something about the young man’s walk that seems familiar.
- Marcellus hopes that the young man will start cleaning that evening.
- The floors are getting disgusting.
- He supposes that the previous cleaning woman is not coming back.
- He says he will miss her.
- In “A Sucker for Injured Creatures,” Cameron is stiff and sore after chopping up buckets full of mackerel bait and hauling them all over the aquarium.
- The mattress in the camper does not help.
- The tire and wheel well are fixed.
- It took \$700.
- He has \$100 left until he gets paid on Friday in three more days.
- He goes to the real estate office and introduces himself to Jessica Snell.
- He tells her he is Brinks’ son and wonders if she has an address for him.
- She finds some information in a directory for him.
- While he is in Jessica’s office, a girl named Avery comes by complaining about the lack of hot water for the shower at her store.
- “She’s hot, easily the most attractive [Cameron] has seen in Sowell Bay” (155).
- He follows her to the paddle shop next door.
- He learns the store belongs to her.
- His neck cracks and he comments that he slept weirdly.
- She shows him a cream that she says is totally natural and helps her when a session on her board leaves her sore.
- The price tag is \$19.95, and he tells her he will pass.
- She tells him there is no charge and forces him to take it.



- She tells him she is “a sucker for injured creatures” (159).
- When Cameron leaves, he has Avery’s phone number in his phone.
- When Cameron returns to Ethan’s, Ethan tells him someone from an airline called.
- Cameron calls JoyJet baggage services, and he learns that his duffel is in Naples, Italy.
- In “Epitaph and Pens,” Tova runs errands.
- She goes to the real estate office to tell Jessica Snell she wants to put her house on the market.
- She stops by the bank to get a cashier’s check for her application to Charter Village.
- She stops by Janice Kim’s house to use her son’s computer scanner to take a copy of her driver’s license.
- Then she goes to a drugstore and gets photos taken.
- Her last errand brings her to Fairview Memorial Park where Will is buried and Erik has a headstone.
- She kneels at Will’s grave and traces the writing, “William Patrick Sullivan: 1938-2017. Husband, Father, Friend (163).”
- Next to Will’s stone is Erik’s, which she had not wanted.
- Erik’s name is wrong.
- It shows “Erik Ernest Sullivan,” (164), and it should say, Erik Ernest Lindgren Sullivan.
- She tells Will that she is selling the house.
- That evening after Jessica Snell tours her house and Tova has supper, she goes to the Shop-Way to get a black pen.
- The application for Charter Village has to be completed in black ink.
- Ethan wants to give her a pen.
- When he learns she is filling out an application for Charter Village, he tells her it is not the place for her.
- Tova tears up, and she tells him she is not a young woman.
- She asks him who else will take care of her.



- Ethan asks her if they can have tea or coffee sometime.
- She agrees to do something before she goes.
- After 10 p.m., Tova stops by the aquarium to see Marcellus.
- She looks around and thinks that the fellow Terry brought in is doing a decent job of cleaning.
- As Tova approaches the back of the octopus enclosure, she sees a light on and hears a “terrible clatter” (170).
- In “Conscience Does Make Cowards of Us All,” Cameron rubs his temple, which is throbbing where he must have hit it on the table when he fell.
- Marcellus is burrowed in the clutter on a shelf above the tanks.
- Cameron had discovered it trying to slip out the back door he had propped open.
- He thinks someone should have warned him that the creatures might try to escape.
- He begs Marcellus to get back into the tank.
- Cameron thinks he will be fired for this.
- Then he hears a woman’s voice.
- He turns and sees a tiny, elderly woman wearing a walking cast.
- She gasps when she notices Marcellus on the shelf.
- She climbs up on the table and speaks to the octopus.
- She tells him she will help him down.
- The octopus grabs her arm, and she leads it across the shelf.
- She asks Cameron to move the lid cover, and he opens it wide.
- She tells the octopus to go into the tank, and he does.
- The woman notices the cut on Cameron’s forehead and offers him a bandage.
- She insists and sticks a pink neon strip to the side of his head.
- The woman tells Cameron the octopus is named Marcellus and she wonders what in the world Cameron was doing.



- He tells her that the octopus tried to escape out the back door when he propped it open to take out the trash.
- He tells her he will keep it closed in the future.
- He asks her why she is there.
- She introduces herself as Tova Sullivan, the cleaner.
- Cameron is amazed that such a little person is doing the “same job he can barely get through without feeling like he just ran a marathon” (175).
- Tova comments that Cameron seems to be doing an adequate job, and if she has to be longer from her position than expected, he is a good solution.
- Tova says that it is important for Marcellus to get out of the tank.
- She says that she is the only one who knows that Marcellus gets out, although Terry suspects.
- She is afraid if anyone else knows, the tank lid will be nailed down.
- Tova wonders if they can keep Marcellus’s wandering a secret.
- Cameron agrees, and he says, “Conscience does make cowards of us all” (177).
- The quote surprises her.
- He tells her it is just a quote from Shakespeare.
- She says it is from Hamlet, and “it was one of [her] son’s favorites” (177).
- In “Expect the Unexpected,” Tova remembers when she was seven and Lars was nine, her family left Sweden.
- Her father flew to secure their paperwork and housing.
- Tova, Lars, and their mother sailed on the SS Vadstena and left in May 1956.
- They lived in Portland, Maine, in an apartment for two years.
- Then they moved to Sowell Bay.
- Tova asks Cameron if he needs anything or if Terry has provided the right supplies.
- Tova looks at what Cameron has been doing, and she tells him to use cotton rags on the glass.
- Then she makes a suggestion on how to put the bags in the garbage bins.



- They talk about keeping Marcellus safe, and Tova thinks he wanders because he is bored.
- Tova says if Marcellus gets out again, Cameron should leave him alone.
- Tova decides that she will show Cameron how to make friends with Marcellus.
- In “Day 1,329 of My Captivity,” Marcellus describes how he has noticed certain traits in humans who are related to one another.
- He says that the “former cleaning woman and her replacement . . . walk alike” (185).
- They also have heart-shaped dimples on their left cheeks and their eyes have greenish-golden flecks.
- Even though Marcellus and readers know that Tova has no surviving heir and her son died 30 years ago, Marcellus says that “the young male who has recently taken over sanitation duties is a direct descendant of the cleaning woman with the injured foot” (186).
- In “Hard Left, Cut Right,” Cameron learns that Simon Brinks spends summer weekends at his estate in the San Juan Islands.
- Ethan offers to drive Cameron.
- As they drive, they talk about Tova, and Cameron realizes that Ethan likes her.
- Ethan says that until recently, Tova was married.
- Her husband died of pancreatic cancer.
- Ethan also tells Cameron about Erik and how he was working the ferry dock when he disappeared at the age of 18.
- They reach the spot where Brinks’ estate is supposed to be, and it is just an empty bluff.
- Ethan’s truck gets stuck, and Cameron expertly uses physics to get the truck back on the road.
- In “Day, 1,341 of My Captivity,” Marcellus thinks about lying and jokes.
- He repeats a joke he heard that morning.
- Marcellus says that a new month starts the next day.
- He thinks it will be the last time he sees Terry flip the calendar on his wall.
- Marcellus knows his end is drawing near.
- In “A Three-Martini Truth,” Tova attends a farewell luncheon for her friend Mary Ann.



- Mary Ann's daughter, Laura, invites the Knit-Wits and a number of other friends and family members.
- Tova ends up sitting next to Adam Wright and his girlfriend Sandy Hewitt.
- Adam and Sandy have been looking at houses, and Sandy asks Tova if she has had any offers on hers.
- Tova's friends are surprised that Tova is selling.
- Adam has too much to drink, and he tells Tova that he last saw Erik at the snack bar the afternoon he disappeared.
- He was seeing a girl, which is news to Tova.
- Tova leaves, and she thinks to herself that "Will had been right. There was a girl" (208).

The Pier's Shadow - What If (209-280)

- In "The Pier's Shadow," Cameron meets Avery at her house to go paddle boarding.
- He discovers that she has a 15-year-old son named Marco.
- Cameron learns that Avery is 32.
- While Avery teaches Cameron how to paddle board, they share their life stories.
- Avery moved to Sowell Bay five years ago from Seattle.
- Josh, Marco's dad is a deckhand on a fishing trawler, but they get along.
- Avery shares that she stopped someone from jumping once.
- A woman was on the pier and she talked her down.
- Then she led the woman to her car.
- Cameron shares how his mother left him and he was raised by his aunt Jeanne.
- Avery thinks it must have been difficult for Cameron's mother to leave him with "someone who could do better" (216).
- Cameron shifts wrong on the paddle board and falls in.
- Then he pulls Avery in too.
- She kisses him and then they race to the shore.



- In “There Was a Girl,” Tova keeps thinking about the fact that Erik had a girl.
- Erik was selective in his dating, and she remembers the girls he took to dances.
- She wonders if Adam has remembered the girl’s name.
- Tova is tired from thinking, so she takes a nap—something she had not done for years.
- The phone wakes her.
- Her realtor calls to tell her she has an offer on the house.
- Tova signs Jessica’s paperwork and still is thinking about the fact that Erik was seeing a girl when he disappeared.
- She thinks she is losing her mind “because of an offhand remark from a fellow with too many martinis in him” (224).
- At the aquarium, Cameron seems like he is in another world.
- They work silently together.
- She asks him how his search for his father is going and encourages him not to give up when he says he has not heard anything.
- As she watches Marcellus, she thinks of something “to bring the boy out of his daze” (225).
- In “An Unexpected Treasure,” Tova properly introduces Cameron and Marcellus.
- She shows Cameron how Marcellus winds his arm around her wrist.
- Then she tells Marcellus to greet Cameron.
- Cameron climbs up and dips his hand in.
- He jerks back when Marcellus brushes his hand.
- Tova tells him not to be alarmed.
- Cameron dips his hand back in and allows Marcellus to explore his hand.
- Then the octopus wraps the end of his arm around Cameron’s wrist.
- Cameron laughs.
- Then Marcellus taps him on the opposite shoulder.
- When Cameron climbs down, he examines the sucker marks on his arm.



- Tova says they will fade quickly because he is younger than she.
- They see something shiny in the tank and discover that Marcellus has a woman's earring.
- Tova thinks that Marcellus is a treasure hunter.
- She tells Cameron about her lost house key that Marcellus dug up from his tank and returned to her.
- Cameron is not sure he believes her.
- Cameron collects the trash, and Tova tells him to be sure to put the can liner on the can so it does not slip when it is full.
- He says when that happens "someone can fix it" (230).
- She wonders if his mother did not teach him to do things right the first time.
- Cameron tells her he never had a mother.
- Tova pales and apologizes.
- Cameron says he had an aunt Jeanne who raised him after his mother took off.
- He says she is "one of the most amazing people on the planet, but [Tova] might not like her" (231).
- Tova wonders why she would not like his aunt.
- He grins, and he tells her that his aunt has "never had a clue about the proper way to put in trash can liners" (231).
- In "Day 1,349 of My Captivity," Marcellus does not understand how Tova and Cameron do not see that they are related.
- Marcellus wonders if Tova knows Cameron's date of birth and his last name if that would help.
- Marcellus is not sure why he cares so deeply.
- He thinks maybe as his end nears, he does not want Tova to be left with a hole in her heart.
- Marcellus decides he will do whatever he can to help Tova fill that hole.
- In "Some Trees," Tova sorts through her possessions, which bring back memories of Erik.
- Barb, Janice, Janice's son Timothy, and some of his friends are coming tomorrow to help.



- She finds the five remaining Dala Horses and remembers the sixth one that Erik broke that is still missing.
- She finds her mother's apron and thinks that if Erik had not died, the girl he was seeing might have become her daughter-in-law.
- Tova could have worn the apron to teach Erik's wife to make his favorite butter cookies, and then passed the apron on to her when the time came.
- Tova tells herself she needs to quit thinking like this.
- Cat joins her in the attic and takes a nap.
- At suppertime, Tova is tired of egg salad sandwiches (eggs were on sale), and she decides to go to the Shop-Way.
- At the produce aisle, she runs into Sandy, Adam Wright's lady friend, who is sampling the Bing cherries.
- Ethan catches her and yells at her, and then laughs.
- He tells her having a few samples will not be a problem.
- Sandy tells Tova that the town has a lot of characters and is very unique.
- Then Sandy says that Adam remembered that the girl Erik was seeing was named Daphne, but he does not remember her last name.
- As Tova prepares to check out, Ethan asks what name Sandy told her and if it was Daphne.
- Tova confirms it was and says she is ready to check out.
- When Tova gets home, she looks through the Sowell Bay High School yearbook for the Class of 1989.
- She finds the name, "Cassmore, Daphne A." (242).
- In "An Impossible Jam," Cameron decides to tie down the lid of Marcellus's tank so he cannot get out.
- Elizabeth calls him and tells him that she is on bed rest and is bored.
- She happened to see a show Simon Brinks was on, and it made her think of Cameron.
- They talk about how Cameron is doing, and he tells her he met a girl.



- Later Terry arrives and reminds Cameron that he needs his paperwork completed—it has been two months.
- Terry also wants a copy of Cameron’s driver’s license.
- Cameron dislikes paperwork.
- He once lost a scholarship to Merced Valley Technical College because he failed to fill out the application.
- He finishes the aquarium personnel form and tries to use the photocopier to scan his license.
- When it does not work, he leaves his license on Terry’s desk.
- He decides he can get it back tomorrow.
- In “Day 1,352 of My Captivity,” Marcellus comments that he likes keeping the boy on his toes.
- He wants him and Tova to have a happy ending.
- Marcellus says that after Cameron left, he easily got through the rope that Cameron installed.
- He went to Terry’s office and took Cameron’s driver’s license and slipped it under the sea lion’s tail.
- Marcellus knows that when Tova comes, she will run her rag there.
- Then she will see what Marcellus has left for her and “she will know” (250).
- In “The Bad Check,” Ethan is at home having a drink, and he thinks about the name “Cassmore.”
- He thinks he has heard it before.
- Then he remembers when he bought the Shop-Way.
- The old owner had kept bad checks posted and one of them had been from Daphne Cassmore for six dollars and change.
- Ethan does a search on an ancestry site and finds Daphne Cassmore, who later married and became Daphne Scott.
- Then he finds her half-sister, Jeanne Baker, age 60, of Modesto, California.
- Ethan decides that he needs to tell Tova that Cameron is Daphne Cassmore’s son.
- He picks up the phone and decides he will ask her over for dinner.



- In “The Downside of Free Food,” Ethan has saved Cameron money by giving him expired-grocery offerings and allowing him to park in his driveway free.
- He checks his bank to see if his latest paycheck has cleared.
- When he sees that it has, he pays his aunt Jeanne back in full, plus a little extra for interest.
- Later Aunt Jeanne calls him and tells him that he sent her too much money.
- He tells her the extra was interest.
- She suggests that he “keep the money and actually make some of [his] life” (257).
- Aunt Jeanne says that she is sure that if Cameron’s father was a big-shot business guy or a productive member of society or even alive, his mother would have had him in Cameron’s life.
- Cameron says she was not in his life.
- Aunt Jeanne tells him that letting go can be the most difficult thing.
- That reminds Cameron of what Avery said.
- He tells her he has to go.
- She says that she and Wally will come to see him before they come through Seattle for their cruise next month.
- In “Not a Date,” Tova arrives at Ethan’s house and tells herself it is not a date.
- She has a bottle of wine Barbara gave so she did not arrive empty-handed.
- When Tova goes inside Ethan’s house, she notices that his living room wall is dedicated to a record collection, and the walls are decorated with beautifully framed concert posters.
- They talk as he finishes dinner, and he tells her he had 11 brothers and sisters.
- As they are finishing the last bites of their chicken breasts in a mushroom sauce, Cameron comes and asks to talk to Ethan.
- Ethan takes him aside.
- Tova decides to clean the kitchen while she waits.
- As she looks for something to use on the dishes, she spots an old T-shirt that appears to be a rag.
- She uses it and wipes up spilled wine.



- When Cameron leaves, Ethan starts to tell her something, and then he notices what she used to clean with.
- She used his Grateful Dead concert T-shirt from May 26, 1995.
- It is “a rare specimen” (264).
- Tova apologizes.
- Trembling she tells him she is leaving and thanks him for the meal.
- He asks her to wait because he has something important to tell her, but she is already gone.
- In “A Rare Specimen,” Tova enlists Janice’s help to find a replacement T-shirt for the Grateful Dead one she ruined.
- They find one for \$2,000.
- Tova buys it, and she decides to drive and pick it up even though she will have to drive through Seattle on the freeway.
- While Tova is driving, she gets a call from Patrick at Charter Village wondering if they can process her final deposit.
- Tova has doubts, but she tells him to go ahead and process it.
- In “Not Even a Birthday Card,” Cameron has mopped half the building when Tova arrives.
- She apologizes for being late, but he tells her he can handle it on his own.
- Cameron is still frustrated about the conversation he had with Ethan about a bad check and his mother.
- Tova tells him about her expedition to get the Grateful Dead T-Shirt.
- She says she nearly was not able to pick up the shirt because she could not remember Janice’s email.
- Cameron offers to help her set up email on her phone, but she is not interested.
- Cameron wonders how her date with Ethan went.
- She tells him it was not a date.
- She and Will were married for 47 years and she cannot date.
- Tova reminds Cameron to get under the statue's tail, and she shows him what she means.

- She finds the driver's license and asks if it is his.
- He says it is and reaches for it.
- She looks at the license and asks him what his mother's name is.
- When he confirms it was Daphne Cassmore, she tells him that his mother was seeing her son before he died.
- Tova tells Cameron the story of how Erik was working at the ferry dock one July night after his senior year of high school and how he disappeared.
- Cameron wonders how she knows that his mother was Erik's girlfriend.
- Tova tells him an old classmate remembered.
- She wonders if she can contact his mother.
- Cameron says he has not heard from his mother since he was nine—not even a birthday card.
- Tova tells him she is sorry, and he says he is sorry about Erik too, and that his mother might be involved.
- When Cameron gets home from work, Ethan's lights are out.
- Cameron strongly suspects that his mother was "involved in this town's biggest tragedy" (277).
- He is about to eat when Avery texts.
- He types out an explanation about his mother, Tova, and Erik.
- Then he has second thoughts and erases it.
- Avery asks if they can paddle on Wednesday afternoon at four.
- He agrees.
- She tells him "Bring a change of clothes this time. Or . . . don't" and she adds "a winking-face emoji" (278).
- Cameron feels content as he goes to bed.
- In "What If," Tova considers that Cameron might be her grandson.
- She tries to tell herself that her thoughts are nonsense, and she knows it would be very lucky if Cameron is her grandson.



Amazing Bones - After All (281-355)

- In "Amazing Bones," Janice invites Tova to lunch and asks Tova why she is leaving Sowell Bay where she has lived her entire life.
- She asks Tova if she wants to end her life with a bunch of strangers.
- Plus, there is Ethan Mack.
- Janice asks Tova to rethink her decision.
- Tova tells her that she does not have children or grandchildren to help her if she needs something, and she will not burden her friends and neighbors.
- When Janice realizes Tova's mind is made up, she says that she and Barb will have to come and visit.
- Later Tova goes to the Shop-Way to pick up a few groceries.
- When she checks out, she places the replacement T-shirt in between her groceries.
- Ethan is shocked that she would spend so much.
- She tells him she is simply replacing what she ruined.
- He tells her it was only a T-shirt.
- She tells him it was important to her.
- When she apologizes, he asks her if she really bought the shirt on the internet.
- She says she did and that she drove down to Tukwila to pick it up.
- Ethan tells her she is "quite a woman" (286).
- On Wednesday, Tova signs the papers to finalize the sale of her home.
- That afternoon, she sadly finalizes her moving preparations and packs up her remaining belongings.
- She imagines the new family enjoying her home.
- She thinks of Daphne Cassmore and wonders if she should try to find her.
- She thinks how strange it will be at Charter Village to wake up and not see the water.
- In "A Big, Bold Lie," Cameron learns that Ethan is hiring a day manager.



- He is upset that Ethan did not consider him for the position.
- Cameron takes a nap and is awakened by Simon Brinks' assistant.
- She tells him that Brinks just returned from being out of town.
- She arranges for Cameron to meet Brinks in Seattle at six p.m.
- Cameron goes to the shop to tell Avery, he cannot make their date.
- Marco is there, and Cameron asks him to tell Avery that he has to attend an important meeting.
- In "The SOB," Cameron meets with Simon at a bar called Mudminnow's Bespoke Libations.
- Brinks tells him that he and Daphne were best friends and lived in the same apartment building when they were in high school.
- They talked about opening a bar together, and she even had the name, Mudminnow, picked out.
- Brinks says that he is not Cameron's father.
- Brinks has not seen Daphne since a few years ago when she came to his home and asked for cash, which he gave her.
- She was in bad shape.
- Cameron shows him the ring, but Brinks does not know who it could have been.
- Brinks tells Cameron that Daphne would have been proud of him.
- In "A New Route," Cameron is angry when he returns to his camper.
- He checks his phone to see if Avery sent a message, but she has not.
- He sits in the camper thinking.
- A message comes in from Brad with a photo of a tiny baby and Elizabeth beaming.
- Cameron sends his congratulations.
- He texts Avery, too.
- As he drives through the heavy traffic, his mind races.
- He thinks that at least he has a job he does not dislike.



- Tova keeps telling him that Cameron will offer him the permanent position.
- Cameron wonders why Terry has not.
- Cameron thinks he is not as good as he thinks he is.
- About 20 miles from Sowell bay, he stops to get gas and a snack.
- He scrolls his phone while he fills the tank.
- He sees a picture of Katie with a new boyfriend.
- Cameron thinks “screw every last one of these people with their normal, happy lives” (310).
- He does not think he will ever have a life like that no matter how hard he tries.
- He looks at his map app to see how far it is from Sowell Bay to Modesto—15 hours.
- In “An Early Arrival,” when Tova goes to the aquarium, Terry is there waiting for a delivery.
- Since Marcellus is getting old, Terry has been looking for another octopus.
- They found one ahead of schedule that was rescued in Alaska after she was trapped in a crab pot.
- Terry tells Tova that Marcellus was a rescue too.
- He was missing half an arm and his body was all chewed up.
- He says he does not think any security measures would have helped keep him in his tank.
- Tova is surprised that Terry knows about Marcellus’s wandering ways.
- The new octopus arrives in a barrel, and Terry will keep her there until Dr. Santiago can examine her.
- Terry says that Cameron will be late.
- Terry says that Tova will be missed and if she ever changes her mind, there will “always [be] a place for [her] here at Sowell Bay Aquarium.”
- In “High and Dry,” Cameron arrives just as Tova finishes cleaning.
- She wonders where he has been.
- He says that everyone in his life is abandoning him and the man he thought was his father is not.



- Then he throws the class ring into the wolf eels' tank.
- Cameron tells Tova that he is leaving and going back to California.
- He says he is going without telling Terry, but Tova tells him he is "better than that" (321) and has him write a note to Terry.
- In "Day 1,361 of My Captiv—Oh, Let Us Cut the Shit, Shall We? We Have a Ring to Retrieve," Marcellus comments on wolf eels and how ugly they are.
- Before he was imprisoned and captured, he was looking "for a place to crash" (323).
- He looked through a gap in a rock and a wolf eel was there.
- It took one of his arms.
- Even though the arm had started to grow back, he was captured and imprisoned.
- When Tova leaves, he slips into the wolf eels' tank and speaks softly to them.
- As the eels watch, he searches for the ring.
- When he finds it, he secures it in the muscular part of his arm.
- He tells the eels that he hopes they do not mind that he takes the ring.
- The short journey back to his tank drains his strength, but he manages to get back into his tank.
- He rests to be ready for his next trip—"the last one" (323).
- In "A Goddamn Genius," the serpentine belt breaks on Cameron's camper.
- He tries to fix it on the side of the road as he berates himself for not getting it fixed earlier.
- He takes the new belt out of the glove box and tells himself he can do this.
- In "The Eel Ring," Janice and Barb stop by Tova's place with a cake to celebrate her "retirement" (326).
- When Tova arrives at the aquarium, she misses Cameron and does not see Marcellus in his tank.
- She nearly chokes thinking that he might have died.
- After cleaning, she leaves her key card on Terry's desk.



- As she crosses the lobby, she sees a crumpled brown object on the floor right in front of the door.
- She squints and sees a tentacle move.
- She realizes it is Marcellus.
- He is too heavy for her to lift, so she gets her mop bucket on wheels and fills it with water from his tank.
- She pulls the bucket next to Marcellus and gives him a boost so he can heave himself over the rim of the bucket and plop into the water.
- She asks him why he is out of his tank.
- Then she sees the class ring.
- She picks it up.
- She looks at the letters engraved on the underside.
- “EELS.
- “Erik Ernest Lindgren Sullivan” (330).
- In “The Very Low Tide,” Tova comments to Marcellus that he knew Cameron was Erik’s child.
- Tova crumples to the floor and sobs.
- When she finishes, she muses aloud wondering what she should do with Marcellus.
- She tells him, “Let’s take you home” (332).
- Tova pulls Marcellus in her mop bucket to the jetty.
- She thanks Marcellus and tells him that she would never have found her grandson without him.
- Tova realizes that she is not going to Charter Village.
- She tells Marcellus goodbye and that she is “glad Terry save [Marcellus], because [he] saved [her] (333).
- She tips the bucket.
- Marcellus falls three feet into the water.
- In “Every Last Thing,” Tova is sitting on her usual bench on the pier.



- It has been two hours since she released Marcellus and she is wondering what she is going to do because she is not moving to Charter Village.
- Avery finds Tova sitting on the pier.
- She is worried about Cameron because she has been calling him all afternoon, and he is not answering his phone.
- Tova tells her that he went back to California upset that Avery had not returned his call and his lead on his “so-called father” (338) was a dead end.
- Avery says that Cameron stood her up.
- Tova says that Cameron told her he stopped at her shop.
- Avery realizes that her son did not give her the message Cameron left.
- Avery tells Tova about a woman she talked out of jumping off the pier a few years ago.
- The woman kept “talking about a horrible night. An accident. A boom” (338).
- Tova closes her eyes and imagines what happened.
- Something knocked the bow of Erik’s bow off course.
- A gust of wind caught the sail the wrong way.
- The boom swung wildly, smacked his head, and knocked him overboard.
- Avery says that sometimes she wonders what happened to the woman and if “saving her mattered” (339).
- Tova says she is glad she saved the woman and “it mattered” (339).
- In “Expensive Roadkill,” Cameron turns the truck back around toward Sowell Bay.
- At mile marker 780, he realizes why he cannot find his phone.
- He left it on the front bumper when he was changing the belt and drove off without it.
- He sleeps for six hours at a truck stop.
- He crosses the border into Washington headed north.
- “Going back to do things the right way” (340).
- In “The Dala Horse,” Tova prepares to leave her now empty house.



- She is still not sure where she is going.
- She notified the movers that her destination is changing, but she does not know what that destination will be.
- She thinks she will take turns staying with Janice and Barbara in their spare bedrooms.
- Cameron shows up at the door.
- He apologizes for being “such a jerk the other night” and that she was right.
- He “shouldn’t have left” (342).
- He wonders what time Terry comes in so he can talk to him and he wonders if Terry is mad.
- Tova shows him his note that she took because she did not think he was “the type of person who would shirk a job” (343).
- Cameron is relieved to know that Terry does not realize he left.
- Tova goes to the bedroom and brings back the class ring.
- She tells him “his full name . . . was Erik Ernest Lindgren Sullivan” (344).
- They hug.
- She wonders what happened to California.
- He tells her he changed his mind.
- He comments on how unique the house is, and she tells him his great-grandfather built it.
- Tova tells him that she is not going to the retirement home, but she is not sure what she is going to do except maybe stay with Barbara or Janice.
- She gives him a tour of the house.
- Cameron notices that one of the floorboards in Erik’s room is white ash instead of red oak.
- They pry up the board and discover an old package of snack cakes and Tova’s Dala horse that Erik had fixed.
- Cameron wonders how she got the class ring back.
- She tells him, “Marcellus” (348).
- In “Day 1 of my Freedom,” the cold water revives Marcellus.



- His “death is imminent.
- “But [he] is not dead yet” (349).
- He has a day or two to enjoy the sea and the darkness, which suits him.
- He returns to “lie with the long-disintegrated bones of a beloved son” (349).
- He never expected this was how his time would end.
- He is comfortable, lucky, and grateful to be home.
- He thinks about his replacement.
- He looked at her as he left and saw that she is young, badly injured, and terrified.
- However, he knows that Tova will be a friend to her and make sure she is happy.
- He says that he has found humans to be “for the most part . . . dull and blundering.
- “But occasionally, you can be remarkably bright creatures” (350).
- In “After All,” Tova does not notice when a month later a moving truck with Texas plates moves through Sowell Bay.
- She is in a Scrabble battle with Cameron in her new condominium.
- Terry would have kept Cameron on at the aquarium, but the hours and pay were not enough.
- Cameron works now for a contractor at a custom home in Adam Wright and Sandy Hewitt’s neighborhood.
- He is considering taking classes at the community college in Elland in January for engineering prerequisites.
- He wants to pay his own way, but Tova is working on that.
- She tells Cameron she is glad he is with her instead of his aunt Jeanne.
- He says that his aunt will visit and so will Elizabeth and Brad with the baby.
- Tova is excited about a baby in the family.
- Cameron has told her she is Elizabeth and Brad’s grandmother, too.
- She looks out the “hurricane-grade glass from floor to vaulted ceiling run the entire length of the living room, interrupted only by French doors, which lead to a balcony set on sturdy pilings” (352).



- She likes to sit there when the tide is high and hear the water slap the deck boards.
- At Thanksgiving, Tova and Cameron have Ethan over for dinner.
- Avery would have come, but she decided to open the paddle shop, and she did not want to make one of her employees work on Thanksgiving day.
- She is coming over later, and Marco might come too.
- Ethan spends nearly all his free time at Tova's condo, but she does not mind.
- When Ethan arrives, he is wearing a "Moth Sausage" (353) T-Shirt.
- Cameron realizes that his luggage must have been returned.
- After dinner, Tova, Cameron, and Ethan leave the dishes and go for a walk.
- They admire the new octopus statue in front of the aquarium.
- Tova donated the money to have it erected.
- Tova is volunteering three times a week at the aquarium passing out pamphlets and standing in front of the giant Pacific octopus tank telling visitors about the creature.
- The octopus has been named Pippa the Grippa.
- Pippa does not seem inclined to roam the halls.
- They walk past the jetty.
- If they kept going, they would pass under Tova's old house.
- Sometimes she walks there at dusk.
- She returned only once.
- A woman with a Texas accent got her number from Ethan and told her there was a gray cat that would not leave the yard.
- Now Cat enjoys hunting rock crabs on the beach under Tova's deck.
- He prefers being outdoors.
- However as the weather gets colder, he is resigning himself to spending more time inside the condo.
- When they come back to the pier, Tova slips to the railing alone.

- She whispers, “I miss you. Both of you” (355) and she taps her heart.
- She turns back to join the others.
- They need to return to the condo.
- “Avery is coming for pie” (355) and there is a Scrabble game to win.

Characters

Marcellus

This character is a giant Pacific octopus at the Sowell Bay Aquarium.

Tova Sullivan

This character is a 70-year-old widow whose husband died of cancer and whose son disappeared when he was 18. She cleans the Sowell Bay Aquarium.

Cameron Cassmore

This character is a 30-year-old man who was abandoned by his mother when he was nine and who struggles to hold down a job.

Ethan Mack

This character is a man from Scotland who is the owner of the Shop-Way

Erik Sullivan

This character is young man who disappeared 30 years ago when he was 18 and was presumed to have drowned.

Avery

This character is a 32-year-old woman who owns a paddle board shop in Sowell Bay. She has a 15-year-old son.

Aunt Jeanne

This character raises her nephew when his mother, her half-sister, abandons him.

Terry Bailey

This character is a marine biologist who runs the Sowell Bay Aquarium.

Brad and Elizabeth Burnett

These characters were close friends with a young man who was raised by his aunt in Modesto. They have been married for three years and are having a baby.

Knit-Wits

These are a group of elderly women who have been life-long friends. They meet every other week.

Symbols/Objects

Sucker Marks

These are bruises Tova has on her arm after Marcellus touches her with his tentacles. They symbolize the emotional connection between Tova and Marcellus.

Dala Horses

These are wooden carvings that belonged to Tova's grandmother, and that Erik broke one of. They symbolize Tova's relationship with her family.

Class Ring

This is a piece of jewelry that helps Cameron find his father. It symbolizes Cameron's longing for a father.

Charter Village Long-Term Care Center

This is where Tova's brother lives until he dies and where she thinks she wants to live. It symbolizes the human need for comfort and security.

Cat

This is a stray that keeps appearing on Tova's doorstep. It symbolizes Tova's relationship with herself.

Weather

This is a description of whether it is hot, cold, wet, dry, stormy, clear, or cloudy outside. It symbolizes the emotional state of the main characters in *Remarkably Bright Creatures*.

Mudminnow

This is where Cameron meets Simon Brinks and learns they are not related. It symbolizes Cameron's journey to find his father.

Small Gap

This is how Marcellus escapes from his tank every night. It symbolizes his need for freedom.

Lost Luggage

This is the duffel that gets lost when Cameron flies to Seattle. It symbolizes the emotional and psychological baggage Cameron has carried since he was a child.

Ankle Sprain

This is an injury Tova sustains when climbing on a stool by Marcellus's tank. It symbolizes the need people have to be cared for and loved.

Daily Lessons

Lesson 1 (from Day 1,299 of My Captivity - Happy Endings (1-72))

Objective

The objective of this lesson is to discuss how Tova copes with the loss of her son and husband, and what Van Pelt conveys about grief through her actions. Tova still grieves for her son's loss even though it has been decades. She attempts to cope with her grief by keeping busy.

Lesson

Class Discussion: What happened to Tova's son? How long has it been since his disappearance? How does not knowing what happened to Erik make Tova's grief more difficult to bear? How long has Tova been struggling with her grief for her son? How did Tova's husband die? How does she grieve for her husband? How does Tova have to cope with loneliness? Does Tova need to work? How does working fill her hours and help her deal with her grief? What does Van Pelt convey about grief through Tova's struggle with grief and her actions?

Activity: Divide the students into small groups. Have each group discuss why Tova is grieving. Who is gone from Tova's life? How long have her husband and son been gone? Is there anyone remaining in her family? Why is Tova grieving?

Assignment: Research the word "grief" and write a definition. Write the answers to these questions: What does grief have to do with loss? What are some common stages of grief? What are some things that can trigger feelings of grief? How long might the mourning process last? What are some factors that can influence the grief that someone feels? What are some things that can make grief worse? What are some things that can help in the grieving process? How is the grieving process different for different people?

Homework: Based on what is written and what is inferred, write a concluding statement regarding why Tova grieves for her son and husband, but not her brother, Lars. How long have Tova and Lars been estranged? Have they been in touch? How long has it been since they have seen one another? Why does Tova grieve for her son and husband, but not her brother, Lars?

Aligned to the following Common Core Standards:

- ELA-Writing W.9-10.3(e), 9-10.7, 11-12.3(e), 11-12.7



Lesson 2 (from Day 1,299 of My Captivity - Happy Endings (1-72))

Objective

The objective of this lesson is to discuss the point of view on pages 1-72 of *Remarkably Bright Creatures*, and how it influences the story. Different characters are used to tell the story. Van Pelt uses the first-person point of view for sections told from Marcellus's point of view and the third-person from Tova, Cameron, and Ethan's viewpoints.

Lesson

Class Discussion: Who is telling the story in the chapters counting the days of Marcellus's life? What pronouns are used in these chapters? Is everything that happens told from the narrator's point of view? Does anyone else tell the story? Does Marcellus reveal his thoughts as he tells his stories? What is the point of view of these chapters? Does the point of view help readers identify with Marcellus? What is the point of view of the other chapters on pages 1-72? What three focus characters are followed in these chapters? How does switching the point of view and the focal characters influence the story?

Activity: Divide the students into small groups. Have each group rewrite a section of Tova, Cameron, or Ethan's story in the first person. Have the students discuss how this changes the narrative.

Assignment: Research these terms and write definitions for each: point of view, first-person point of view, second-person point of view, and third-person point of view. Using what you learn through your research, write answers to these questions: How does point of view limit what a reader sees or hears of what is going on in a story? What pronouns would be used in a story told from the first-person point of view? What pronouns would be used in a story told from a second-person point of view? What pronouns would be used in a story told from a third-person point of view? What are the differences between objective, omniscient, and limited points of view? What are focal characters? How is a focal character created to draw the interests and attention of readers? What does it mean to tell a story from multiple viewpoints?

Homework: Analyze the impact of Van Pelt's choices regarding how to develop and relate the story. How does using a first-person point of view for Marcellus' sections help readers identify with him? Does the first-person point of view help eliminate the distance between readers and Marcellus? How does the point of view change when the narration switches to Tova, Cameron, or Ethan? How does using this point of view impact readers? Is there a distance between characters and readers with a third-person point of view? How do Van Pelt's choices to switch the point of view and use various focal characters impact the story?

Aligned to the following Common Core Standards:



- ELA-Reading: Literature RL.9-10.10, 11-12.3, 11-12.10
- ELA-Writing W.9-10.7, 11-12.7

Lesson 3 (from Day 1,299 of My Captivity - Happy Endings (1-72))

Objective

The objective of this lesson is to discuss the writing technique of in media res, and how it use on pages 1-72 of *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. In media res is the technique of beginning a story with a pivotal point or situation that is the culmination of a series of events. As Marcellus, Tova, Cameron, and Ethan are introduced, Van Pelt starts with pivotal situations and then takes readers back through the journey characters traveled to reach that point.

Lesson

Class Discussion: How does the author plunge into the lives of Marcellus, Tova, Cameron, and Ethan on pages 1-72? How does Van Pelt develop characters' stories by going back to the beginning and then circling back to the past? What glimpses of what has happened to bring characters to these points in their lives are provided? How does Van Pelt provide details about characters' pasts? How does the author take readers back in time and show them what characters have been through that makes them who they are at this point in time? How does Van Pelt use in media res on pages 1-72?

Activity: Divide the students into small groups. Have each group discuss whether beginning each character's story with a pivotal situation creates suspense and causes readers to keep reading. How are Marcellus, Tova, Cameron, and Ethan introduced? What information are readers missing about who they are and what is happening? Does the missing information cause suspense and keep readers interested in the story?

Assignment: Research the term "in media res" and write a definition. Write the answers to these questions: Where might a story begin when an author uses the technique in media res? How is a story started in the middle with that type of writing? How might an author fill in the details of how he got to that point in the story? How might exposition, flashbacks, or other literary devices be used to tell the story that led the author to the point he describes? What are some examples of stories that are told using in media res?

Homework: Analyze the impact of Van Pelt's choice to begin the narrative in the middle of the action and how it affects readers. How does the author begin his story in the midst of the action? What is going on in "Day 1,299 of My Captivity"? How does that chapter and the chapters that introduce Tova, Cameron, and Ethan begin? How does the author make readers feel like they are entering scenes without knowing what happened before? How does the author use the story she tells in those chapters to make readers curious? How else are readers

impacted? How does Van Pelt's choice to begin the story in the middle of the action affect readers?

Aligned to the following Common Core Standards:

- ELA-Reading: Literature RL.9-10.10, 11-12.3, 11-12.10
- ELA-Writing W.9-10.7, 11-12.7

Lesson 4 (from Day 1,299 of My Captivity - Happy Endings (1-72))

Objective

The objective of this lesson is to discuss anthropomorphism, and how it is used on pages 1-72 of *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. The narrator of the chapters that count down the days of Marcellus's life are told by Marcellus, who is an octopus. In the chapters that focus on Marcellus, Marcellus relates incidents as they affect him and the humans in his life

Lesson

Class Discussion: Who is the main character in the chapters that count down the days of Marcellus's life? How does Van Pelt tell the story from the point of view of a sea creature instead of a human? Why does Marcellus seem human with human thought patterns? Why does Van Pelt seem to tell those chapters from the point of view of a sea creature instead of a human? What is an analogy? How does using Marcellus as a main character convey ideas by analogy? Why is it important to tell a portion of the story from Marcellus's point of view? How does the author use anthropomorphism on pages 1-72?

Activity: Divide the students into small groups. Have each group analyze the impact of Van Pelt's choices to have Marcellus narrate parts of the narrative. How does the author use Marcellus to relate incidents? How does the author use Marcellus to introduce and describe the Tova in the story? How does the author use Marcellus's emotions and thoughts related to the story? How do the author's choices to have Marcellus narrate a portion of the story impact what readers know about events and characters?

Assignment: Research the word "anthropomorphism" and write a definition. What is the origin of the word and when was it first used? How does anthropomorphism attribute human traits to animals or other non-human life forms? What types of qualities are given to animals or inanimate objects when anthropomorphism is used? How is anthropomorphism used as a literary device? How is anthropomorphism used to make an animal or object behave? Why might an author use anthropomorphism? What is the difference between anthropomorphism and personification?



Homework: Use a Venn diagram graphic organizer [graphic organizers help students organize their thoughts in writing] to the other sea creatures in the aquarium to Marcellus. On the back of the organizer, use precise words and phrases, telling details, and sensory language to describe their differences and any similarities.

Aligned to the following Common Core Standards:

- ELA-Reading: Literature RL.9-10.10, 11-12.3, 11-12.10
- ELA-Writing W.9-10.3(d), 9-10.7, 11-12.3(d), 11-12.7

Lesson 5 (from Day 1,309 of My Captivity - The Green Leotard (73-141))

Objective

The objective of this lesson is to discuss octopuses, and what is fact and what is fiction about Marcellus's character in pages 1-141 of *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. Marcellus is a main narrator in *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. Although it is not possible for an octopus to narrate a story, Van Pelt has included factual information about octopuses on pages 1-141.

Lesson

Class Discussion: How does Marcellus introduce himself? What facts does he present about himself in his opening chapter? What other facts does he slip into the story he is telling? How does Marcellus use the information on the plaque outside of his tank to provide information about himself? How does Marcellus interject information about himself when he is interacting with Tova or he is narrating information? How much of the general information about octopuses is factual on pages 1-141 of *Remarkably Bright Creatures*? What is fictitious in Marcellus's chapters?

Activity: Divide the students into small groups. Have each group analyze the impact of Van Pelt's choices to mix fact and fiction when writing about Marcellus's character. How does Van Pelt scatter facts about Marcellus in the chapters that feature his character? How are those facts interspersed with the fictional aspects of his character? How do the choices Van Pelt makes to mix fact and fiction when writing about Marcellus's character cause readers to question what is true and what is false about the portrayal of his character?

Assignment: Research octopuses, especially the giant Pacific octopus. Write the answers to these questions: What areas do octopuses inhabit? What size can octopuses be, especially the giant Pacific octopus? What is the anatomy of octopuses? What type of circulatory system do they have, and how many hearts do they have? How do they respire? What do octopuses eat? How does the brain-to-body mass of the octopus compare to vertebrates? How complex are the nervous system and the senses of octopuses? How well can octopuses see? How can

octopuses sense the orientation of their bodies? How can octopuses taste what they touch? Which octopuses have ink sacs and why? How do octopuses reproduce and how frequently? How are octopus young raised? What is the lifespan of octopuses, particularly the giant Pacific octopus? What do octopuses eat? How do octopuses catch food, and what are their eating habits? How do octopuses move? What is known about the intelligence of octopuses, and how has their intelligence been studied and documented? What defense mechanisms do octopuses have?

Homework: Use a chart to make a list of information presented about Marcellus that is fact and that is fiction. On the back of the organizer, use precise words and phrases, telling details, and sensory language to describe how much of the information presented about Marcellus is factual.

Aligned to the following Common Core Standards:

- ELA-Reading: Literature RL.9-10.10, 11-12.3, 11-12.10
- ELA-Writing W.9-10.3(d), 9-10.7, 11-12.3(d), 11-12.7

Lesson 6 (from Day 1,309 of My Captivity - The Green Leotard (73-141))

Objective

The objective of this lesson is to discuss how Van Pelt reveals information about the past on pages 1-141 of *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. Authors have different ways to reveal information about what has happened to characters in the past. Some of these methods include: backstories, exposition, and flashbacks.

Lesson

Class Discussion: On pages 1-141, how does Van Pelt provide information about Marcellus, Tova, Cameron, and Ethan? How are backstories used to provide information about these characters? What are some specific examples of times when backstories are used to provide information about these main characters? Which of these examples are exposition and which are flashbacks? Does Van Pelt seem to use more instances of exposition or flashbacks when providing background information about characters?

Activity: Divide the students into small groups. Have each group discuss how Van Pelt uses a flashback on page 21 in "Falsehood Cookies." What are Tova's thoughts as she drives home from Mary Anne's? How does her mind slip back to the past? What scene does Tova see in her mind from her childhood? How does Van Pelt take readers back in time through Tova's thoughts? Why is this section a flashback? How is the flashback used to provide background information?

Assignment: Research the terms "backstory," "exposition," and "flashback" and write definitions. Write the answers to these questions: What does backstory have to do with history or things that happened before the story begins? How are backstories used to present information about events or characters that happened before the story that an author is telling? How can backstories interrupt the chronological timeline of a narrative? How might an author use flashbacks, characters' thoughts, or recollections to present background information? What is the purpose of backstories? How is exposition used to reveal background information? How is exposition used to draw readers into the world of a novel? How is exposition gradually used to reveal information about the place where a novel takes place or about characters? How is a flashback used to relate things that happened before events in a novel take place? How might a flashback reveal information in a story? How do flashbacks interrupt the chronological sequence of a story? What would be some reasons why an author would use a flashback in a story? What insights might readers gain from flashbacks? How might a flashback provide a look at a character's motives?

Homework: Use precise words and phrases, telling details, and sensory language to describe how Van Pelt uses exposition in "Day 1,299 of My Captivity." What do readers learn about Marcellus? How is the narrative written to provide background information? How does the author use exposition in "Day 1,299 of My Captivity?"

Aligned to the following Common Core Standards:

- ELA-Writing W.9-10.3(d), 9-10.7, 11-12.3(d), 11-12.7

Lesson 7 (from Day 1,309 of My Captivity - The Green Leotard (73-141))

Objective

The objective of this lesson is to discuss metaphors and similes and how they are used in on pages 1-141 of *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. Metaphors and similes are figures of speech that are used to make comparisons between things. Metaphors seem to imply an equal comparison, while similes seem to imply a similarity between two things.

Lesson

Class Discussion: What does Tova call the hairdryer she is sitting under on page 90 in "Nothing Stays Sunk Forever"? In what way does it look like a space-age helmet? Is a linking word used with the comparison? Why is the comparison a metaphor? What is Terry using to eat his Chinese takeout? What are the chopsticks compared to as they sit straight up in the container of fried rice? In what way do they look like antennae? Is a linking word used with the comparison? Why is the comparison a simile? How do these metaphors and similes and others on pages 1-141 create interesting descriptions? How are they powerful? How do they take an

idea and compare it to a well-understood concept to aid comprehension? How do metaphors and similes help readers see something in a new way?

Activity: Divide the class into small groups. Have each group find 2-5 metaphors or similes in pages 1-141 of *Remarkably Bright Creatures* and make a chart listing the figures of speech along with the page numbers where the metaphors and similes are found. Save the chart for the Homework Assignment.

Assignment: Research the terms metaphor and simile and write a definition for each term. Write the answers to these questions: What is the difference between metaphors and similes? How do metaphors and similes compare things? Are both metaphors and similes used to compare one thing to another? How? Which denotes more of an equal comparison? What linking words are usually used with similes? How might metaphors and similes enrich writing? How can metaphors and similes make a story more interesting or fascinating? How can metaphors and similes help readers visualize the world an author creates by using comparisons?

Homework: On the back of the chart from the Activity reflect on what can be observed on pages 1-141 and indicate which comparisons are metaphors and which are similes. Then write a conclusion explaining whether Van Pelt uses more metaphors or more similes.

Aligned to the following Common Core Standards:

- ELA-Writing W.9-10.3(e), 9-10.7, 11-12.3(e), 11-12.7

Lesson 8 (from Day 1,309 of My Captivity - The Green Leotard (73-141))

Objective

The objective of this lesson is to discuss idioms and how they are used on pages 1-141 of *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. Idioms are a type of figurative language. Idioms are a group of words whose meaning cannot always be deciphered or guessed from the context of a passage because their meaning is not literal.

Lesson

Class Discussion: Why does Marcellus go into a detailed explanation of cookies and what they are? Why does it surprise him when Dr. Santiago uses an idiom and calls him a "smart cookie" (73)? Why does Marcellus struggle to understand why Dr. Santiago would call him a smart cookie? Why can Marcellus only understand why Dr. Santiago would call him smart? Since Marcellus is an octopus, why might he not be familiar with that idiom? What does the use of



that idiom and Marcellus's struggle to understand it reveal about the difficulty of understanding idioms and why context clues are not always helpful when trying to decipher idioms?

Activity: Divide the class into small groups. Have each group find 2-5 idioms on pages 1-141 of *Remarkably Bright Creatures* and make a chart listing the figures of speech along with the page numbers where the idioms are found. Save the chart for the Homework Assignment.

Assignment: Research the word "idiom," and write a definition for the word. Write the answers to these questions: What is figurative language? How are idioms a type of figurative language used to communicate ideas that are not literal? In what way are idioms figurative language? Why is it difficult to know what an idiom means? Why are idioms unique to a language or culture and often difficult to translate? How do idioms enable using a few words to say something complex? How do they make characters more realistic? How do they enrich language? How are they a way to introduce imagery into a narrative? Why can it be difficult to decipher the meaning of an idiom from context clues?

Homework: Next to the list of idioms from the Activity, use precise words and phrases, telling details, and sensory language to define each idiom and explain what each one means. Use research, if needed.

Aligned to the following Common Core Standards:

- ELA-Writing W.9-10.3(d), 9-10.7, 11-12.3(d), 11-12.7

Lesson 9 (from Not Glamorous Work - A Three-Martini Truth (142-208))

Objective

The objective of this lesson is to examine Tova's injury, and why the incident is an inciting event. An inciting incident is an event in literature that causes actions and presents a problem or question the protagonist(s) and readers need to solve.

Lesson

Class Discussion: As Tova deals with her injury, what does she face about her life and independence? What has Lars' death revealed to her about how she may have to live in the future? What does Tova notice about her friends' lives and how they are having to give up independence? What decision does Tova make? Why is her ankle injury an inciting event that leads to her decision to apply to Charter Village?

Activity: Divide the students into small groups. Have each group analyze the impact of Van Pelt's choices to relate Tova's injury and how it spurs her to action. How does Van Pelt reveal the things Tova cannot do because of her injury? How does Van Pelt show Tova's concern about

the injury and her options? How does Van Pelt reveal Tova's limited options? How do the choices Van Pelt makes in relating Tova's injury and how it spurs her to action, impact what readers understand about the problem and the need to act?

Assignment: Research the term "inciting event" and write a definition. Write the answers to these questions: What type of event is an inciting event? Where might an inciting event usually occur in a book, play, or movie? From what Latin word is the term derived? What are some examples of inciting incidents in literature? What is the purpose of the inciting incident? How might it inspire the protagonist to take action? How might the inciting event change the actions, routine, and/or life of a protagonist and set her on a mission?

Homework: Use precise words and phrases, telling details, and sensory language to describe how Tova injures herself and her limitations afterward. What is Tova doing when she falls and hurts her ankle? How does the ankle affect her by the next morning? How are her activities limited by the injury? What restrictions does the doctor put on Tova? How is it difficult for her to deal with her limitations because she lives alone?

Aligned to the following Common Core Standards:

- ELA-Reading: Literature RL.9-10.10, 11-12.3, 11-12.10
- ELA-Writing W.9-10.3(e), 9-10.7, 11-12.3(e), 11-12.7

Lesson 10 (from Not Glamorous Work - A Three-Martini Truth (142-208))

Objective

The objective of this lesson is to examine foreshadowing, and how Vaughn uses foreshadowing on pages 1-208. Foreshadowing is a literary device authors use to hint at future events or convey information. Foreshadowing can use subtle or blatant clues to what might happen in the future or what might be revealed about characters and events.

Lesson

Class Discussion: In "Day 1,306 of My Captivity," how is foreshadowing used to indicate that Marcellus has a secret? What do Marcellus's comments in "Day 1,307 of My Captivity" seem to foreshadow? How does Van Pelt use foreshadowing when Cameron finds the Sowell Bay High School class ring? How is foreshadowing used, especially by Marcellus, to indicate that there is a connection between Cameron and Tova? On page 186, how is use of foreshadowing more direct when Marcellus makes his declaration about Cameron and Tova? How does Van Pelt use foreshadowing to indicate that there is a connection between Cameron and Tova?

Activity: Divide the students into small groups. Have each group skim through pages 1-208 and list the times Van Pelt has used foreshadowing. Save the list for the Homework Assignment.

Assignment: Research the term foreshadowing and define it as used in literature. Write the answers to these questions: What clues might an author use to hint or suggest what will be happening in the story? Are these clues always subtle? How might these clues prepare a reader for what will happen in the story? How might foreshadowing increase or decrease suspense in a story? What is the difference between direct and indirect foreshadowing? What are some reasons why an author might use foreshadowing? How might authors use these types of foreshadowing: concrete, prophecy, flashback, symbolic, or fallacy?

Homework: Use the list from the Activity. Consider the different types of foreshadowing. Write a concluding statement regarding what type of foreshadowing is used for one or two instances from the list using precise words and phrases, telling details, and sensory language.

Aligned to the following Common Core Standards:

- ELA-Writing W.9-10.3(d), 9-10.7, 11-12.3(d), 11-12.7

Lesson 11 (from Not Glamorous Work - A Three-Martini Truth (142-208))

Objective

The objective of this lesson is to discuss the narrative device "breaking the fourth wall" and how Van Pelt uses this device on pages 1-208 of *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. Breaking the fourth wall is a storytelling device that can provide insight into characters. Breaking the fourth wall is a technique that is used when the narrator addresses readers directly.

Lesson

Class Discussion: When the book begins in "Day 1,299 of My Captivity," how does Marcellus break the fourth wall? How does it seem that Marcellus is having a conversation with readers? Does the way that Marcellus speaks to readers make it seem as though they are speaking to one another? In "Day 1,322 of My Captivity," how does Marcellus speak to readers? What conversation is he having with them? Why is that an example of breaking the fourth wall? How does Marcellus break the fourth wall in "Day 1,329 of My Captivity"? How does Van Pelt use the technique of breaking the fourth wall on pages 1-208 of *Remarkably Bright Creatures*? Is Marcellus the only character who breaks the fourth wall?

Activity: Divide the students into small groups. Have each group make a list of 2-5 instances where Van Pelt has Marcellus break the fourth wall. Have students discuss why these instances make them feel as though Marcellus is having a conversation with them.



Assignment: Research the term "breaking the fourth wall." Write the answers to these questions: What is the fourth wall? What is the history of the term breaking the fourth wall? How does this technique help eliminate the barrier between the reader and the narrator? How does the narrator speak directly to readers when this narrative device is used? How does it provide information to readers that characters may not be privy to? What is the purpose of breaking the fourth wall?

Homework: Analyze the impact of Van Pelt's choices to break the fourth wall in Marcellus's chapters. How does Van Pelt have Marcellus address readers at the beginning of the novel and in other chapters on pages 1-208? How does addressing readers pull readers into the story? How often does Reynolds have Marcellus address readers? How does Reynolds' choice to have Marcellus break the fourth wall when telling the story impact how readers feel like they are part of the action?

Aligned to the following Common Core Standards:

- ELA-Reading: Literature RL.9-10.10, 11-12.3, 11-12.10
- ELA-Writing W.9-10.7, 11-12.7

Lesson 12 (from Not Glamorous Work - A Three-Martini Truth (142-208))

Objective

The objective of this lesson is to discuss analogies and how they are used on pages 1-208 of *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. Cameron uses an analogy to describe how Jessica Snell buys his story about his father and his mother. An analogy is the comparison of an unfamiliar object or idea to a familiar one in an attempt to explain the unfamiliar or to help readers understand characters, events, or concepts. Father Batty uses an analogy to describe how he feels about the hours he has had to spend teaching Astrid about Catholicism.

Lesson

Class Discussion: How does Cameron feel when he is interviewing for the job at the aquarium on page 146? In what way does he feel like he is in the principal's office at school being berated for something he did? How does that analogy describe what Cameron is feeling? What story does Cameron tell Jessica Snell about his family on page 153? What analogy does he use to describe how Jessica believes his story? In what way is Jessica like a fish taking bait when she listens to Cameron's story? How does that analogy help readers understand that she believes Cameron's story? How do these analogies help readers understand or visualize what is being described?

Activity: Divide the students into small groups. Have each group skim through pages 1-208 of *Remarkably Bright Creatures* for analogies and create a list of 3-5 analogies and the page numbers where the analogies are found. Save the list for the Homework Activity.

Assignment: Research the term analogy and write a definition. Write the answers to these questions: In what way is an analogy a comparison? How is the similarity of two items compared when using an analogy? Is an analogy sometimes used to teach or instruct? Why? How can analogy help explain a connection between objects? How might an analogy help make an abstract idea more concrete? How might an analogy help a reader understand or visualize what the writer is describing? Why is it important to understand any differences between the things or concepts that are being compared as well as their similarities?

Homework: Use the list from the Activity. Use an analogy graphic organizer [graphic organizers help students organize their thoughts in writing] to dissect one of the analogies and show the differences and similarities and the categories that are used in the comparison. On the back of the graphic organizer, reflect on how analogies are used on pages 1-208 of *Remarkably Bright Creatures* and write a concluding statement as to how they aid readers in understanding unfamiliar concepts or emotions that characters feel.

Aligned to the following Common Core Standards:

- ELA-Writing W.9-10.3(e), 9-10.7, 11-12.3(e), 11-12.7

Lesson 13 (from The Pier's Shadow - What If (209-280))

Objective

The objective of this lesson is to examine the sucker marks that appear when Marcellus touches Tova and Cameron, and what they symbolize. When Marcellus touches Tova with his suckers, they leave marks. They are a sign of the growing relationship between them.

Lesson

Class Discussion: When does Tova first bear the marks of Marcellus's suckers? What do those marks reveal about the growing relationship between Tova and Marcellus? How does Marcellus express gratitude for Tova saving him when he was tangled in the power cords? How do they seem to enjoy one another's company? How are Tova and Marcellus both lonely? How does touch and friendship overcome loneliness? How are the sucker marks a physical sign of the friendship between Tova and Marcellus? What do the sucker marks symbolize?

Activity: Divide the students into small groups. Have each group discuss the conversation Tova and Cameron have about the sucker marks fading quickly on page 228. Why does Tova think the marks will fade quickly on Cameron when they took a while to fade on her? What does the statement imply about emotional healing as well? Because of his age, will it be easier for



Cameron to heal than it has been for Tova to get over the death of her son? What does the conversation imply about emotional healing?

Assignment: Research the word "symbolism." Write the answers to these questions: What is symbolism? How might an object become a symbol? What might a symbol represent? How is a symbol used to create a link between an experience or concept? How do symbols shift meaning based on how they are used? How does symbolism allow the use of two meanings when writing? What are some purposes that symbols serve in literature?

Homework: Based on what is written and what is inferred, write a concluding statement on whether Van Pelt intends for the sucker marks to represent the same meaning on Cameron as they do on Tova. How do the marks further show the connection between Tova and Cameron? How do the marks symbolize the healing both Cameron and Tova have to do physically and emotionally? How does Van Pelt use the marks to show the healing Cameron and Tova have to do physically and emotionally? Does Van Pelt seem to intend for the sucker marks to represent the same meaning on Cameron as they do on Tova?

Aligned to the following Common Core Standards:

- ELA-Writing W.9-10.3(e), 9-10.7, 11-12.3(e), 11-12.7

Lesson 14 (from The Pier's Shadow - What If (209-280))

Objective

The objective of this lesson is to examine "The Consequences" Marcellus often refers to, and why that word becomes a metonym. When Marcellus jeopardizes his health by getting out of the tank, he refers to the physical symptoms he experiences as "The Consequences" (25). This is a metonym Van Pelt uses to refer to Marcellus's impending death and demonstrate his love for Tova.

Lesson

Class Discussion: On page 25, how does Marcellus describe The Consequences of getting out of his tank? on pages 1-280, how many times has Marcellus gotten out of his tank? How does his age make it especially dangerous for him to leave his tank? How do the symptoms worsen as the days go by? In "Day 1,352 of My Captivity," how is Marcellus experiencing consequences again? How many times has he gotten out of his tank because of something he wants to do for Tova? Why is he so determined to help Tova and risk his life in the process? How is the term The Consequences used as a metonym? What does the term represent?

Activity: Divide the students into small groups. Have each group discuss why Marcellus is willing to suffer The Consequences of getting out of his tank. At first, why does Marcellus get out of his

tank? How many times does Marcellus get out of his tank because there is something he wants to do for Tova? Why is Marcellus willing to suffer The Consequences of getting out of his tank?

Assignment: Research the term "metonym." Write the answers to these questions: What is a metonym? In what way is a metonym a figure of speech? How are metonyms different from metaphors? What does a metonym have to do with a word, name, or expression that is not called by its own name, but by something associated with that word, name or expression? In a courtroom, why might the word "bench" used to refer to a judge be considered a metonym? Make a list of common metonyms.

Homework: Use precise words and phrases, telling details, and sensory language to describe "The Consequences" Marcellus experiences when he gets out of his tank. Describe the physical sensations he experiences and how his health is affected.

Aligned to the following Common Core Standards:

- ELA-Writing W.9-10.3(d), 9-10.7, 11-12.3(d), 11-12.7

Lesson 15 (from The Pier's Shadow - What If (209-280))

Objective

The objective of this lesson is to examine cliffhangers and how they are used on pages 1-280 of *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. Several chapters on pages 1-280 leave readers wondering what will happen next. When an author leaves readers with unanswered questions or an unresolved problem at the end of a chapter, it is a cliffhanger.

Lesson

Class Discussion: What does Tova keep thinking about in "There Was a Girl"? How does it distract her as she drives to the aquarium? What conversation do she and Cameron have? How is he distracted as well? Why is Tova concerned about Cameron? What does she decide to do about Cameron? How does the chapter end without revealing Tova's plans? What are readers left to wonder and consider? Why does the chapter end in a cliffhanger?

Activity: Divide the students into small groups. Have each group skim through pages 1-280. Then have each group make a list of 3-5 chapters that end with a cliffhanger. Ask students to discuss why those chapters end with a cliffhanger.

Assignment: Research the term cliffhanger and write a definition. How are cliffhangers intended to advance plot? What is the purpose of a cliffhanger? How do cliffhangers add tension to a story? How might a cliffhanger create suspense? How might cliffhangers draw readers through the story and create momentum? Are cliffhangers unresolved endings? What are cliffhangers designed to do?

Homework: Analyze the impact of Van Pelt's choice to end "Day 1,306 of My Captivity" with a cliffhanger. How does Van Pelt create tension in this chapter? How does that tension build as Marcellus talks about secrets? How does Van Pelt leave readers with unanswered questions at the end of the chapter? How does ending that chapter with a cliffhanger impact readers?

Aligned to the following Common Core Standards:

- ELA-Reading: Literature RL.9-10.10, 11-12.3, 11-12.10
- ELA-Writing W.9-10.7, 11-12.7

Lesson 16 (from *The Pier's Shadow - What If* (209-280))

Objective

The objective of this lesson is to examine how Van Pelt uses artistic license to make the narrative on pages 1-280 of *Remarkably Bright Creatures* realistic. Artistic license is the way that an author creates art, music, or writing based on her interpretation. Artistic license allows an author to broadly relate details about culture, society, people, government, or other elements in order to make a story seem as though it is true or could have been true.

Lesson

Class Discussion: How is Sowell Bay portrayed? Is it a realistic portrayal? Are the lives of Tova, Cameron, and Ethan for people who live in a small community like and for people of their social status? How does Van Pelt use geographical details? Does she combine real places with places she creates? How accurately does Van Pelt seem to portray a small bay village in Washington? What details does she change? How does the way that the narrative on pages 1-280 is written make it seem as though Van Pelt is writing about something that might have happened? How does Van Pelt use artistic license to create a realistic story?

Activity: Divide the students into small groups. Have each group create a T-chart graphic organizer [graphic organizers help students organize their thoughts in writing] that shows things that are real or accurate about life in a small Washington community on a bay and things that are fiction or not accurate. Next to each item on the list, have students indicate why something is or is not accurate.

Assignment: Research artistic license and write a definition for the term. Write the answers to these questions: How are the terms poetic license, literary license dramatic license, historical license, or narrative license other ways to describe artistic license? How might an artist or author use artistic license? How is reality tampered with or altered when artistic license is used? How might an author combine fact and fiction when using artistic license? How might artistic license make the narrative of a book seem like it is realistic and might have happened?

Homework: Analyze the impact of Van Pelt's choices in how to present background information on pages 1-280 of *Remarkably Bright Creatures* to make it seem like the story could have happened. How does the author mix information about the times with her own interpretation? How does she blend fact and fiction? What references does Vaughn make to places or current events? How is that information presented as fact? According to reference materials, how close is Van Pelt's portrayal of a small community on a bay in Washington to reality? How does the author take liberties with the information? How do the choices that the author makes in how to present background information make it seem like the information presented could be true and actually happen?

Aligned to the following Common Core Standards:

- ELA-Reading: Literature RL.9-10.10, 11-12.3, 11-12.10
- ELA-Writing W.9-10.7, 11-12.7

Lesson 17 (from *Amazing Bones - After All* (281-355))

Objective

The objective of this lesson is to examine Cameron's growth in *Remarkably Bright Creatures* and discuss the term "character arc." Van Pelt uses changes and incidents in the novel to help Cameron's character to grow. A character arc is the inner journey of a character in a book. A character arc shows how a character begins as one type of character and transforms into a different type of person due to interaction with characters and developments in the book.

Lesson

Class Discussion: What is Cameron's situation at the beginning of *Remarkably Bright Creatures*? Is it typical for him to be unemployed and homeless? Why does Cameron go to Sowell Bay? Who does Cameron meet there? What do Ethan and Tova do that help Cameron to realize things about himself? What does Cameron begin to understand about himself and who he is? How does his chat with Simon Brinks cause Cameron to return to his old ways and leave? What does he realize on the way to Modesto that causes him to drive back to Washington? What does he want to make right? How does that realization indicate that his character is developing? How is Cameron able to make a new start after he learns the true identity of his father? What does Cameron realize about himself and who he can be? How is Cameron's maturation a character arc?

Activity: Divide the students into small groups. Have each group discuss when Cameron turns around and returns to Washington. What happens that makes Cameron want to leave Washington? How has Cameron been someone to quit when things get tough? What does he realize about his life and what he is leaving behind in Washington? What do these reflections

reveal about his character growth? When he goes back to Washington, what hope is there that he will finally finish something and make a life for himself?

Assignment: Research the term "character arc" and write a definition. Write the answers to these questions: What does a character arc have to do with the transformation of a character? How does a character arc show a character's inner journey and growth? How might an author use change in a character's life to develop a character and lead to a character arc? How might opposing forces lead to a character experiencing a character arc? What types of characters in a book are most likely to experience character arcs? How might character arcs unfold?

Homework: Use a Venn diagram graphic organizer [graphic organizers help students organize their thoughts in writing] to compare and contrast Cameron at the beginning and the end of *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. On the back of the organizer use precise words and phrases, telling details, and sensory language to describe how he changed.

Aligned to the following Common Core Standards:

- ELA-Writing W.9-10.3(d), 9-10.7, 11-12.3(d), 11-12.7

Lesson 18 (from *Amazing Bones - After All* (281-355))

Objective

The objective of this lesson is to examine the significance of the pier in *Remarkably Bright Creatures*, and how it serves as a motif. A motif is a concrete or abstract narrative element that repeats in a novel and helps develop major themes. A motif often consists of images and symbols.

Lesson

Class Discussion: Why does Tova often sit on the pier? What are some times when she is at the pier? What has she lost at the pier? What does the pier represent to her? Does the pier come to represent something else to her when she sets Marcellus free, when she learns about Daphne nearly committing suicide, and when she discovers Cameron is her grandson? Why is it an important element in her life? What experience has Avery had at the pier? What does she tell Cameron and Tova about that experience? What do those scenes reveal about the secrets the pier has been hiding? How does the walk on the pier at the end of *Remarkably Bright Creatures* bring closure? What does Tova regain at the end of the novel and how does she gain closure as she stands on the pier on Thanksgiving? How does the pier serve as a motif to tie themes together and unite Cameron and Tova's stories?

Activity: Divide the students into small groups. Have each group list various times the pier is mentioned. Then have each group discuss why the pier is significant in those instances.

Assignment: Research the term "motif" as it is used in literature. Write the answers to these questions: What is a motif? How do motifs recur in a work of literature? How might a motif be a collection of symbols? How might a motif help develop a theme or themes in a novel? How can you identify motifs in literature? How are motifs different from themes or symbols? What are some examples of motifs from classical literature?

Homework: Analyze the impact of Van Pelt's choices to use the pier as a motif. How does Van Pelt reveal the importance of the pier to the storyline and to characters? How often does Van Pelt tie the pier to past or present events? How does Van Pelt use the pier to develop themes in *Remarkably Bright Creatures*? How do Van Pelt's choices to use the pier as a motif impact what readers understand about the significance of the pier to the storyline?

Aligned to the following Common Core Standards:

- ELA-Reading: Literature RL.9-10.10, 11-12.3, 11-12.10
- ELA-Writing W.9-10.7, 11-12.7

Lesson 19 (from *Amazing Bones - After All* (281-355))

Objective

The objective of this lesson is to discuss the plot structure of *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. Plot is the sequence of events in a story and how the story is structured. A novel can be divided into five different sections: the introduction, the rising action, the climax, the falling action, and the resolution.

Lesson

Class Discussion: Where does the introduction to *Remarkably Bright Creatures* begin and end? How are characters and themes introduced in this section? What conflict or problem is introduced? How long is this section of the book? Where does the rising action begin? Why does it begin with Tova noticing that Marcellus is getting out of his tank? How does conflict begin to affect the characters and complicate their lives? Are most of the conflicts in the novel in this section of the book? What is the climax or most dramatic event in *Remarkably Bright Creatures*? Why is the climax Tova finding Marcellus and Erik's class ring? How does that point in the book bring to a culmination all the conflicts and all the main characters?

Activity: Have each group discuss these questions: Which section of *Remarkably Bright Creatures* covers the falling action? How does the story slow down and reveal how the climax has affected characters? Why would everything that happens Tova finds the class ring be considered part of the falling action? How long is this section of the novel? What happens in the resolution? How does Van Pelt finish and conclude the story? How does this section wrap up any loose ends or themes? Does this resolve the storyline? Are there any storylines that are not resolved?

Assignment: Research these terms and write definitions for each one as they relate to the plot structure of a novel--introduction, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution. What does the introduction do for a novel? What is the purpose of the rising action? What usually happens during the climax? What is usually covered in the falling action? How does the resolution tie everything together in a novel?

Homework: Use a graphic organizer [graphic organizers help students organize their thoughts in writing] to show the plot structure of the novel. Indicate which chapters or pages cover the introduction, the rising action, the climax, falling action, and the resolution. List a couple of events that take place in each section of the novel. Then make an outline beginning with Marcellus introducing himself to Tova standing on the pier before she returns to her Thanksgiving festivities. On the back of the organizer, use precise words and phrases, telling details, and sensory language to discuss which section(s) of *Remarkably Bright Creatures* have the most conflicts.

Aligned to the following Common Core Standards:

- ELA-Writing W.9-10.3(d), 9-10.7, 11-12.3(d), 11-12.7

Lesson 20 (from *Amazing Bones - After All* (281-355))

Objective

The objective of this lesson is to examine the settings in *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. The setting or settings in a novel can serve as a backdrop for the characters or almost take on the role of a character. The setting can also evoke feelings, set the mood in a book, or point to a theme. Setting also includes when a story takes place.

Lesson

Class Discussion: Where does the story take place? How does Van Pelt present the setting in Sowell Bay? Does the author use photographic details or present details through suggestion? What does the setting indicate about the various characters? What feelings or attitudes does the setting evoke for the characters? Is the setting a neutral background, not important to the novel, or does the setting take on the role of a character? Explain.

Activity: Divide the students into small groups. Have each group discuss how Van Pelt describes Sowell Bay. What imagery does Van Pelt use? Does she mostly use visual language or does she also use auditory, tactile, or olfactory clues? Are there enough sensory details for readers to picture Sowell Bay, the grocery store, Tova's home, and the aquarium?

Assignment: Research the term "setting" as it relates to literature and write a definition. Write the answers to these questions: What does setting identify in a novel? Does setting include place and time? How does setting refer to the world where the story takes place? What is the

importance of setting in a novel? How can setting affect mood or tone in a book? How can the setting affect the characters? How might setting serve as a character? How can setting provide context and meaning?

Homework: Use precise words and phrases, telling details, and sensory language to describe how characters feel about the setting. How do characters describe Sowell Bay? What tone do they use when describing where they live? How do characters seem to feel about the setting?

Aligned to the following Common Core Standards:

- ELA-Writing W.9-10.3(d), 9-10.7, 11-12.3(d), 11-12.7

Fun Activities

Octopuses

Research octopuses and create a chart showing different types of octopuses and their differences.

Crossword

Tova loved to do crosswords. Create a crossword she might like to solve using clues from *Remarkably Bright Creatures*.

Swedish Trunks

List the items that might have been in the trunks Tova's mother brought with her from Sweden.

Quote

Discuss with a group the quote, "Conscience does make cowards of us all" (177), and whether that statement is true in life.

Dala Horses

Research the Dala Horse and how and why they became popular.

Five Things

Discuss with a group five things you learned from reading *Remarkably Bright Creatures*.

Map It

Create a map showing places where characters live and travel.

Diorama

Create a diorama of the aquarium.

Portrait

Draw a portrait of your favorite characters.

Remarkably Bright Creatures - The Movie

Imagine that you are the director of a movie based on the novel. List the actors and actresses you would choose to play main characters.

Avery's Story

Write a scene from *Remarkably Bright Creatures* from Avery's point of view.

Book Review

Write a review of *Remarkably Bright Creatures* as you would for a blog, magazine, or newspaper.

Timeline

Create a timeline showing main events in *Remarkably Bright Creatures* in chronological order.

Favorite and Least Favorite Characters

Discuss with a group which character is your favorite and which is your least favorite and why.

Character Comparison

Compare and contrast two characters from *Remarkably Bright Creatures*.

Tova, Cameron, and Ethan

Discuss with a group what each of these characters was looking for and if they found it in *Remarkably Bright Creatures*.

Octopus Sculpture

Draw a picture of the octopus sculpture at the aquarium or create a sculpture from clay or found materials.



Setting

Compare and contrast Sowell Bay to where you live.

Character Interview

Write ten questions that you would ask one of the characters if you could interview him or her.

Five Years Later

Write a short story telling what characters from *Remarkably Bright Creatures* are doing five years after the book ends.

Essay Topics

Essay Topic 1

Tova grieves for the loss of her son and husband. How does Tova attempt to cope with her grief? How does she finally learn to deal with her grief?

Essay Topic 2

What a reader knows about events and characters is determined by the point of view in a book. What points of view are used in *Remarkably Bright Creatures*? How do these points of view influence what readers know about events and characters? How does changing the point of view help readers connect with and understand characters?

Essay Topic 3

In media res is the technique of beginning a story with a pivotal point or a situation that is the end to a series of events. Where does Van Pelt begin the story? How does she plunge into the story without an explanation? How does beginning the story in the middle of the action affect the plot and affect readers?

Essay Topic 4

Van Pelt uses anthropomorphism in the novel. What is anthropomorphism? Does the use of anthropomorphism make it difficult for readers to remember that Marcellus is not human?

Essay Topic 5

A main character in *Remarkably Bright Creatures* is an octopus. How does Van Pelt blend fact and fiction in the creation of Marcellus's character?

Essay Topic 6

Van Pelt uses backstories, exposition, and flashbacks to reveal information about events that happened before the story begins. How does the author use backstories, exposition, and flashbacks to reveal information about the past?



Essay Topic 7

Metaphors and similes are figures of speech that are used to make comparisons between things. Metaphors seem to imply an equal comparison, while similes seem to imply a similarity between two things. Does the author use more metaphors or similes in the novel? How does the use of metaphors or similes help readers comprehend concepts? How does the use of metaphors or similes help readers make the writing more interesting?

Essay Topic 8

Idioms are words that have a figurative, rather than a literal meaning. How does the author use idioms in the book? Why are the idioms sometimes difficult to understand? Why do idioms often require research to understand their meaning? Why are idioms especially difficult for Marcellus to understand?

Essay Topic 9

Tova falls off a stool and injures her ankle. Why is the incident an inciting event?

Essay Topic 10

Foreshadowing is a method authors use to hint at events to come in a novel. How does Van Pelt use foreshadowing in *Remarkably Bright Creatures*? Does the use of foreshadowing create suspense?

Essay Topic 11

Marcellus often speaks directly to readers. This is called “breaking the fourth wall.” How does it seem that Marcellus is having conversations with readers throughout *Remarkably Bright Creatures*? How do these conversations provide information to readers that others characters may not be privy to? What is the purpose of breaking the fourth wall?

Essay Topic 12

An analogy is the comparison of an unfamiliar object or idea to a familiar one in an attempt to explain the unfamiliar or to help readers understand characters, events, or concepts. What are some analogies Van Pelt uses in *Remarkably Bright Creatures*? How do these analogies help readers comprehend characters, events, or concepts?



Essay Topic 13

When Marcellus touches Tova, he leaves marks on her arm. What do the sucker marks symbolize?

Essay Topic 14

Marcellus often refers to “The Consequences.” What does Marcellus mean when he refers to The Consequences? Why is the term a metonym?

Essay Topic 15

Cliffhangers are a literary device that leaves readers wondering what will happen next. How does Van Pelt use cliffhangers in *Remarkably Bright Creatures*? Do the cliffhangers create suspense?

Essay Topic 16

Artistic license is the way that an author creates, art, music, or writing based upon her interpretation of life. How does Van Pelt use artistic license to create the realistic background of *Remarkably Bright Creatures*?

Essay Topic 17

A character arc is the inner journey of a character in a book. What is Cameron’s character arc, and what situations influence his growth and transformation?

Essay Topic 18

The setting of the pier serves as a motif in *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. How does the pier serve as a motif to tie themes together and bring together Cameron and Tova’s stories?

Essay Topic 19

The climax in a novel is the highest point of tension and a turning point. What is the climax of the book and why is that incident the climax?

Essay Topic 20

Setting is the place and time where a narrative takes place. What is the main setting in *Remarkably Bright Creatures*? How does the setting evoke feelings or set the mood in the book?

Short Essay Questions

1. Who is Marcellus?

2. Who is Tova Sullivan?

3. Who are the Knit-Wits?

4. What happened to Tova's son, Erik?

5. How does Marcellus get out of his enclosure, and why does he want to get out from time to time?

6. When Cameron visits his aunt Jeanne in "The Welina Mobile Park Is for Lovers," why are she and Jimmy Delmonico arguing?

7. What does Tova tell Ethan Mack when he tells her he is sorry to hear about her brother, and what does she remember about her brother?

8. Where is Ethan Mack from, and how did he come to run the Shop-Way?

9. Why does Katie, Cameron's girlfriend, kick him out of her apartment?

10. What band do Cameron and Brad have, what news does Brad have about the band, and how does Cameron take the news?

11. Who stops Tova at work, and how does he find her?

12. What does Ethan notice about Charer Village Long-Term Care Center?

13. Why does Dr. Santiago call Marcellus a "smart cookie" (73)?

- 14.** What does Cameron find in his mother's box that Aunt Jeanne gives him?

- 15.** Where does Tova remember that she and Will would go for a picnic before he got sick?

- 16.** Where does Tova get her hair done and why?

- 17.** What does Tova know about Terry's background?

- 18.** What does Marcellus give Tova, and where has he seen another key like it?

- 19.** What does Old Al tell Cameron about his mother going to Washington?

- 20.** How does Tova hurt herself in "The Technically True Story"?

21. Why is it a problem when Cameron's duffel does not make it to Seattle with him?

22. How does Cameron get money to continue his trip to Sowell Bay?

23. What does Tova learn about her ankle injury when she goes to see Dr. Remy?

24. How does Cameron meet Ethan?

25. How does Cameron get his camper towed?

26. Where does Cameron get a job and doing what?

27. How does Cameron feel after working at the aquarium?

- 28.** What does Cameron learn about his lost duffel when the airline calls?
- 29.** What does Tova do at the beginning of "Epitaph and Pens"?
- 30.** Where are Will and Erik's headstones, and what information is on them?
- 31.** What does Tova find when she comes to the aquarium in "Conscience Does Make Cowards of Us All"?
- 32.** In "Conscience Does Make Cowards of Us All," how does Tova get Marcellus back in his tank?
- 33.** What does Marcellus notice that Cameron and Tova have in common?
- 34.** In "Hard Left, Cut Right," how is Cameron liking his job?

35. What happens when Ethan and Cameron go looking for Simon Brinks' summer home?

36. When and where is Mary Ann's farewell luncheon held?

37. What does Cameron learn about Avery when they get together at her house in "The Pier's Shadow" to paddle board?

38. After paddle boarding, what does Avery tell Cameron about saving a woman on the pier?

39. In "There Was a Girl," why does Jessica Snell call Tova?

40. What does Cameron tell Tova about his aunt Jeanne?

41. What are Tova's thoughts when she finds her mother's old apron as she is sorting what to take and what to get rid of from her house?

42. What does Sandy sample at the Shop-Way, and how does Ethan react?

43. How does Tova learn the name of the girl Erik was seeing?

44. What does Marcellus do with Cameron's driver's license and why?

45. How does Ethan know Cameron's last name from somewhere and what does he do with the information?

46. Why does Aunt Jeanne tell Cameron that Simon Brinks is not his father?

47. How does Tova ruin a special concert shirt that belongs to Ethan?

48. How does Tova get Ethan a new Grateful Dead T-shirt?

49. Why does Janice think that Tova needs to stay in Sowell Bay?

50. How does Tova give Ethan the T-shirt she buys to replace his, and how does he respond?

51. Why does Ethan have to hire a new day manager?

52. Why does Cameron have to break his date with Avery in "A Big, Bold Lie"?

53. What does Cameron learn when he meets with Simon Brinks?

54. What message does Brad text Cameron in "New Route"?

55. In "An Early Arrival," what delivery does Terry get, and what does Tova learn about the new delivery and Marcellus?

56. Why is Cameron angry when he sees Tova in "High and Dry" and what does he do?
57. Why is it a big deal for Marcellus to retrieve the class ring from the wolf eels' tank?
58. Where does Tova find Marcellus and how does she quickly get him into some water in "The Eel Ring"?
59. In "The Very Low Tide," what decisions does Tova make?
60. How does Tova think Erik died?

Short Essay Questions Key

1. Who is Marcellus?

Marcellus is a giant Pacific octopus. He lives in an aquarium, and he was captured from the middle bottom of the sea before he was imprisoned. The daughter of the guy who runs the aquarium, Terry, named the octopus Marcellus McSquiddles. He has a life span of four years (1,460 days). He was brought to the aquarium as a juvenile. At the most, he has 160 days to live. Then he will die and his captivity will end.

2. Who is Tova Sullivan?

Tova Sullivan is a 70-year-old widow, who cleans the aquarium. Her husband died of cancer, and her only child, a son named Erik, disappeared when he was 18. She does not need the money she earns from cleaning the aquarium, but it gives her something to do.

3. Who are the Knit-Wits?

The Knit-Wits are four women who meet for weekly luncheons. There used to be seven women who met together. The Knit-Wits began 25 years for a handful of Sowell Bay women to swap yarn. Eventually, it became a refuge for empty nesters.

4. What happened to Tova's son, Erik?

Erik, Tova's son, turned 18 a few days before he disappeared. At first, his disappearance was considered a runaway case. The last person who saw him was a deckhand working the 11 o'clock southbound ferry, the last boat of the night. Erik had been working at the ticket booth and was to lock it up after the boat left. The sheriff found the ticket booth unlocked. The register cash was fully accounted for. Erik's backpack was stashed under the chair, along with his portable cassette player and headphones, and wallet. A week later, they found a boat that washed ashore with its anchor rope cut clean. Erik's prints were on the rudder. The sheriff thought it pointed to Erik taking his own life. Tova has never believed that.

5. How does Marcellus get out of his enclosure, and why does he want to get out from time to time?

Marcellus gets out of his enclosure to find better things to eat than what they feed him. He can stay out of the tank for 18 minutes. At the top of his enclosure is a hole in the glass where the pump comes in. There is a gap between the pump housing and the glass. He can fit a tip of a tentacle through and unscrew the housing. The pump floats into his tank, exposing a gap. The gap is about the width of two or three human fingers. He can shape his body to pass through the hole.

6. When Cameron visits his aunt Jeanne in "The Welina Mobile Park Is for Lovers," why are she and Jimmy Delmonico arguing?

When Cameron comes to visit his aunt Jeanne at the Welina Mobile Park, he can hear her and Jimmy Delmonico, the landlord, arguing. Jimmy tells her that Sissy Baker saw the eyes of a snake in Jeanne's clematis, so Jimmy tells her that she has to remove it. Jeanne tells him that there are no snakes in the clematis, and Cameron backs her up.

7. What does Tova tell Ethan Mack when he tells her he is sorry to hear about her brother, and what does she remember about her brother?

Ethan Mack tells Tova when she comes to his grocery store that he is sorry to hear about her brother. Tova tells him that they were not close. Then she asks herself if they were ever closed. She believes they were as children and young adults. Lars stood up at Tova and Will's wedding and at their reception gave a lovely speech. For many years, Tova and Will spent every New Year's Eve at Lars's house in Ballard. Then after Erik died, things changed. One New Year's Eve, Lars called Tova and told her that he and his wife Denise had other plans. After that, there was a skipped Easter luncheon, a canceled birthday party, and a missed Christmas gathering. The years stretched into decades, and Tova and Lars became strangers.

8. Where is Ethan Mack from, and how did he come to run the Shop-Way?

Ethan Mack is from Kilberry in Western Scotland. Forty years ago, he followed a girl named Cindy, who had been spending her holidays in Scotland. They lived in New York City at first. Then They bought a VW van and drove across the country. Somewhere near the Oregon border, they married. Weeks later in Aberdeen, Washington, the van's transmission failed. Ethan tried to fix it, but it was unfixable. In the morning, Cindy was gone. Ethan liked Aberdeen,

and he worked there as a longshoreman until he retired at 55. He needed something to do, so he started working at the Shop-Way. Then, he gathered up his savings and bought the place.

9. Why does Katie, Cameron's girlfriend, kick him out of her apartment?

Katie comes early for a dentist's appointment and finds Cameron there in the middle of the day. He tries to tell her he is off because it is a holiday. She realizes that she is out of work again. She is furious that he is lying to her and because he cannot keep a job. She starts throwing his belongings outside and tells him to leave.

10. What band do Cameron and Brad have, what news does Brad have about the band, and how does Cameron take the news?

Cameron and Brad have a band called Our Moth Sausage. Brad and Elizabeth, his wife, are expecting a baby. Brad tells Cameron that because of the baby, he will quit Moth Sausage. Cameron is upset because Brad is the lead singer. Without him, they do not have a band.

11. Who stops Tova at work, and how does he find her?

When Tova goes to clean the aquarium, a man jogs across the parking lot waving a manila envelope and calling her name. He tells her his name is Bruce LaRue, an attorney for the estate of Lars Lindgren. He found her by asking the manager at the grocery store. There are some things she needs to pick up at the Charter Village Long-Term Care Center that belonged to her brother, and they will need to get together to sort out the monetary assets.

12. What does Ethan notice about Charter Village Long-Term Care Center?

Tova has Ethan drive her to the Charter Village Long-Term Care Center. As they drive to the place, Ethan notices that the place has it all. It looks like a fancy prep school or university, not a senior center. There is a billiard room, a cafeteria with a buffet, a pool, and Jacuzzi. Residents can get room service.



13. Why does Dr. Santiago call Marcellus a "smart cookie" (73)?

Marcellus is given a so-called puzzle--a hinged box made of clear plastic with a latch on the lid. There is a crab inside. Terry lowers it into the tank, and he and Dr. Santiago watch to see how long it takes Marcellus to open the box and eat the crab. It takes Marcellus only seconds to open the box and consume the crab. Dr. Santiago comments that Marcellus is a "smart cookie."

14. What does Cameron find in his mother's box that Aunt Jeanne gives him?

Cameron decides to go through the box that belonged to his mother. He finds some half-used lipsticks, handwritten school papers, a concert ticket stub, scrunchies, old cassette tapes, and a small black drawstring bag. Inside the bag is jewelry: four bracelets, seven necklaces, two empty locket, and one broken silver chain. Plus there is a class ring from Sowell Bay High School, class of 1989.

15. Where does Tova remember that she and Will would go for a picnic before he got sick?

Before Will got sick, Tova used to pack them a picnic with cheese, fruit, and sometimes a bottle of red wine with two plastic tumblers. They would go to Hamilton Park to eat. If the tide was low, they would sit on the beach under the seawall.

16. Where does Tova get her hair done and why?

Tova has been getting her hair done at Colette's Beauty Shop for nearly 50 years. Colette is in her 70s same as Tova and the Knit-Wits. Thankfully, Colette refuses to retire, because Tova does not trust anyone else to do her hair in just the right way.

17. What does Tova know about Terry's background?

Tova knows that Terry was raised on a fishing boat in Jamaica. He attended the University of Washington for college, and he earned a bachelor of science degree, summa cum laude, in marine biology.

**18. What does Marcellus give Tova, and where has he seen another key like it?**

Marcellus gives Tova the house key that she lost on the floor near the place where she stores her things when she cleans. He found it on the floor and took it and stashed it in his den with his collection of other things. He had seen a copy of the key when he was very young and before he was captured. It was attached to a circular ring at the bottom of the sea near a dead human.

19. What does Old AI tell Cameron about his mother going to Washington?

Old AI tells Cameron that he always knew Daphne, Cameron's mother, as "Jeanne's hell-raising little sister" (99). He remembers that Daphne ran away from home when she was in high school and went up to Washington. No one knows why. She got into some type of trouble up there. Jeanne had to take off work and drag her sister home.

20. How does Tova hurt herself in "The Technically True Story"?

That evening when Tova comes into work, she pulls out an old step stool next to Marcellus's tank and carefully climbs up the stool. She slides the cover off the back rim of Marcellus's tank. She trails her fingers in the water. He rises to the surface and winds his tentacles around her wrists and forearm. She talks to him. She starts to clean the rim of the tank. Part of it is just out of reach. She shifts her weight and stretches her arm. The stool wobbles. She falls and hurts her left ankle.

21. Why is it a problem when Cameron's duffel does not make it to Seattle with him?

When Cameron gets off the plane in Seattle, his duffel is not in the baggage claim area. He left the jewelry he intended to pawn in the bag. Now he has very little money.

22. How does Cameron get money to continue his trip to Sowell Bay?

Cameron calls his Aunt Jeanne and tells her that he is in Seattle and he has lost his luggage and his mother's jewelry he was intending to pawn. His aunt sends him \$2,000 that she was intending to use for an Alaskan cruise.



23. What does Tova learn about her ankle injury when she goes to see Dr. Remy?

Tova goes to see Dr. Remy about his ankle injury. He puts her ankle in a molded-plastic boot that he wants her to wear for six weeks--six weeks that she will not be able to work in her garden or work at the aquarium. Dr. Remy also took a bone density test and told her that returning to work might not be advisable.

24. How does Cameron meet Ethan?

Cameron buys an old camper and makes it to Sowell Bay. He parks in a parking lot near The Shop-Way. He goes inside to get coffee and something to eat from the deli attached to the grocery store. He gets to chatting with Ethan, and Ethan has Tanner make him a sandwich and coffee free gratis because Tanner needs the training. When Cameron returns to the camper, it has a flat, and Ethan offers to help him.

25. How does Cameron get his camper towed?

Ethan calls a friend of his who drives for a towing company. The guy hauls Cameron's camper to Ethan's house and deposits it in the driveway. The guy tows the camper for no charge.

26. Where does Cameron get a job and doing what?

Ethan sends Cameron to the aquarium to apply for a maintenance job. At first, Terry is reluctant to hire Cameron, but then he agrees to hire him to chop bait, clean buckets, and the like for \$20 an hour and 20 hours a week. When Cameron wonders if he can get more hours, Terry offers to let him fill in for Tova until she gets better.

27. How does Cameron feel after working at the aquarium?

Cameron hurts all over after working at the aquarium. He discovers that chopping up buckets of mackerel bait and hauling them all over the aquarium is no joke. His spine and lower back throb. There is a nasty knot under his left shoulder blade, and something pops in his neck every times he turns his head to the right.

28. What does Cameron learn about his lost duffel when the airline calls?

The airline calls Cameron and lets him know that they have found his duffel. It is in Naples, Italy. He is transferred to the European partner's office and assigned a new claim number while he waits for the duffel to be returned to the U.S.

29. What does Tova do at the beginning of "Epitaph and Pens"?

Tova drives downtown and goes to the realtor office. She talks to Jessica Snell about putting her house on the market. Next, she goes to the bank to get a cashier's check to put with her Charter Village application. Then she has photos taken to include with the application.

30. Where are Will and Erik's headstones, and what information is on them?

Will is buried at Fairview Memorial Park, and Erik has a headstone there. On Will's headstone, it says, "William Patrick Sullivan: 1938-2017. Husband, Father, Friend (163)." Erik's headstone is next to his father's. It has his name on it "Erik Ernest Sullivan" (164). Tova's maiden name, Lindgren is supposed to be Erik's second name, but it was not recorded correctly. There is a third stone, which is blank, for Tova.

31. What does Tova find when she comes to the aquarium in "Conscience Does Make Cowards of Us All"?

Tova comes to the aquarium to see how things are going and to see Marcellus. When she arrives, Marcellus has gotten out of his tank and is burrowed in a clutter of things on the shelf above the tanks. Cameron is trying to corral him and get him back into his tank.

32. In "Conscience Does Make Cowards of Us All," how does Tova get Marcellus back in his tank?

When Tova sees that Marcellus is on the shelf above the tank, she scrambles to the top of the table. When she is face-to-face with Marcellus, she speaks to him and tells him that she is going to help him down. Marcellus latches onto Tova's arm and he makes his way along the shelf as Tova limps along the length of the table. When she gets him over the tank, she asks Cameron to move the cover. Cameron moves it as wide as it will go. Marcellus drops back into the tank.

**33. What does Marcellus notice that Cameron and Tova have in common?**

Marcellus comments that he has honed his observations of humans over the 1,329 days of his captivity. He has noticed traits that humans have alike who are related to one another. Most humans who are related walk alike, and Cameron and Tova have the same gait. They also have heart-shaped dimples on each of their left cheeks. Both of them have greenish-golden flecks in each of their eyes, and they both have a toneless manner of humming when they mop. Marcellus says that Cameron is a direct descendant of the Tova.

34. In "Hard Left, Cut Right," how is Cameron liking his job?

Cameron has held his job for several weeks now, and he does not hate it. Chopping up fish guts and cleaning are not glamorous, but he enjoys the solitude. Most of the time he is by himself, except when Tova comes by. She is trying to help him make friends with Marcellus, which is not going well, but he finds her company enjoyable.

35. What happens when Ethan and Cameron go looking for Simon Brinks' summer home?

Ethan offers to drive Cameron to look for Simon Brinks' summer home. They drive to the San Juan Islands. When they arrive, where there is supposed to be a vacation home, there is only an empty bluff that overlooks the sea.

36. When and where is Mary Ann's farewell luncheon held?

Mary Ann's farewell luncheon is held on a hot day in August at noon at the Elland Chophouse. In addition to the Knit-Wits, Mary Ann's daughter invites other friends and family members to attend.

37. What does Cameron learn about Avery when they get together at her house in "The Pier's Shadow" to paddle board?

Cameron goes to Avery's place to paddle board. He learns that she is 32, and she has a 15-year-old son named Marcus. She and the boy's father, Josh, got together once during their junior year. Josh is a deckhand on a ship and has a crazy schedule.



38. After paddle boarding, what does Avery tell Cameron about saving a woman on the pier?

As Avery and Cameron sit by the pier after paddle boarding, Avery tells him that she saved someone once from jumping off the pier and committing. She beached her board and went to talk to the woman. Avery listened and then helped her to her car.

39. In "There Was a Girl," why does Jessica Snell call Tova?

Jessica Snell calls Tova. She tells her that they have an offer on Tova's house. It is for \$10,000 above asking. Jessica suggests that they cancel the open house and counter the offer. Then take it off the market.

40. What does Cameron tell Tova about his aunt Jeanne?

Cameron tells Tova that his aunt Jeanne raised him after his mom took off when he was nine. He tells Tova that she is one of the most amazing people on the planet, but then he jokes that Tova might not like her because she does not know how to put in trash can liners.

41. What are Tova's thoughts when she finds her mother's old apron as she is sorting what to take and what to get rid of from her house?

As Tova sorts out what to take and what to get rid of from her house, she finds her mother's old apron. She realizes that if Erik had not died, the girl he was seeing might have been a daughter-in-law. Tova might have worn the apron while she taught her son's wife how to make his favorite butter cookies, and then passed the apron along to her when the time came.

42. What does Sandy sample at the Shop-Way, and how does Ethan react?

Sandy is eating a Bing cherry when Ethan spots her. He yells at her and waves a finger telling her no free samples. Then he smiles and nudges her on the shoulder. He tells her he is only joking and no one cares if she samples a few cherries.



43. How does Tova learn the name of the girl Erik was seeing?

Tova runs into Sandy at the grocery store, and Sandy tells her that Adam remembers that the girl Erik was seeing was named Daphne. Tova looks in an old yearbook and learns the girl's name was Daphne Cassmore.

44. What does Marcellus do with Cameron's driver's license and why?

Marcellus gets out of his tank and grabs Cameron's driver's license. He puts it under the sea lion's tail. He knows that when Tova comes, she will run her rag underneath it. Then she will see that she and Cameron are related.

45. How does Ethan know Cameron's last name from somewhere and what does he do with the information?

Ethan has heard Cameron's last name--Cassmore--from somewhere before. Then he remembers that when he bought the Shop-Way, the old owner posted bad checks from customers tacked on the counter under the cash register. One of the checks was from Daphne Cassmore. He looks her up on an ancestry website he belongs to and learns that she later married and became Daphne Scott. Then he finds information about her half-sister, Jeanne Baker. He realizes that Daphne is Cameron's mother.

46. Why does Aunt Jeanne tell Cameron that Simon Brinks is not his father?

Aunt Jeanne tells Cameron that Simon Brinks is not his father. His mother might have had flaws, but she was not stupid. If Cameron's father had been a big-shot businessman or a productive member of society, or even alive, she would not have let him miss out on being in Cameron's life.

47. How does Tova ruin a special concert shirt that belongs to Ethan?

Tova is having dinner with Ethan when Cameron comes, and Ethan takes him aside to talk to him. While Tova is waiting, she cleans the kitchen. She does not see any sponges or dishcloths, so she grabs an old T-shirt and uses it to mop up red wine and wash the dishes. When Ethan finishes talking to Cameron, he is horrified that she has destroyed his Grateful Dead concert T-

shirt from May 26, 1995.

48. How does Tova get Ethan a new Grateful Dead T-shirt?

Tova asks Janice to help her get Ethan a new Grateful Dead T-shirt. Janice helps Tova use the internet to find a shirt for sale online. They find one for \$2,000. The man selling it would ship it in two to three weeks, but Tova goes down and picks it up even though she has to drive on the freeway.

49. Why does Janice think that Tova needs to stay in Sowell Bay?

Janice tells Tova that she should stay in Sowell Bay. She has lived there all her life. She does not think Tova should spend her last years with a bunch of strangers. Plus there is Ethan Mack.

50. How does Tova give Ethan the T-shirt she buys to replace his, and how does he respond?

Tova goes to the Shop-Way to pick up a few groceries, and she takes the replacement T-shirt with her. When she checks out, she places it on the belt nestled among her groceries. As Ethan is checking her out, he picks it up and looks for a UPC code before he realizes that it is a replacement of the shirt she ruined. He tells her she should not have spent so much. She tells him it was important to him. Ethan is impressed that she would buy the shirt on the internet and drive all the way there to get it. He tells her she is "quite a woman" (286).

51. Why does Ethan have to hire a new day manager?

Ethan has to hire a new day manager. Melody Patterson, who has been his manager, has to take an extended leave of absence. Her little boy has a terrible disease and he is at the children's hospital in Seattle, and Melody has to care for him.

52. Why does Cameron have to break his date with Avery in "A Big, Bold Lie"?

Cameron gets a call from Simon Brinks' assistant telling him that Brinks has been out of town, and she apologizes that it has taken so long to get him an appointment. She arranges for

Cameron to meet with Brinks in Seattle at 6 p.m. Cameron is scheduled to see Avery that afternoon, so he stops by the store and asks Marco to tell her that he has a meeting he has to attend and has to break their date.

53. What does Cameron learn when he meets with Simon Brinks?

Cameron meets with Brinks at a bar that Brinks owns. Brinks knows who Cameron is even before they meet. Brinks tells him that he and Daphne were good friends who lived in the same apartment building when they were in high school. They had planned to open a bar together, and Daphne had even come up with the name of the bar, Mudminnow's Bespoke Libations. Brinks has not seen Daphne since she showed up at his house a few years ago needing cash, which he gave her. He has not seen her since.

54. What message does Brad text Cameron in "New Route"?

Brad texts Cameron and sends him a photo of a tiny baby wrapped in a blue blanket. Cameron can see a bit of Elizabeth's smiling face in the photo.

55. In "An Early Arrival," what delivery does Terry get, and what does Tova learn about the new delivery and Marcellus?

Terry gets a delivery when Tova is at the aquarium on Wednesday. He tells her they have arranged to get another octopus since Marcellus is at the end of his life span. The new octopus is a female that got trapped in a crab pot and has been rescued. Terry tells Tova that Marcellus was rescued too. He was missing half an arm and his body was all chewed up.

56. Why is Cameron angry when he sees Tova in "High and Dry" and what does he do?

When Cameron comes to the aquarium, he is very angry. He tells Tova that he is angry at Ethan, his friends in Modesto had a baby and his band is done, and that he learned that the man he thought was his father is not. He takes the class ring that he found with his mother's things and throws it in the wolf eels' tank. Then he tells Tova that he is going back to California.



57. Why is it a big deal for Marcellus to retrieve the class ring from the wolf eels' tank?

Marcellus decides he has to retrieve the class ring from the wolf eels' tank. It is a big deal because before he was captured and imprisoned, he was attacked by a wolf eel and lost one of his arms. That was when he was captured and imprisoned. He knows how dangerous wolf eels can be, but it is so important to get the ring that he takes the chance.

58. Where does Tova find Marcellus and how does she quickly get him into some water in "The Eel Ring"?

After Tova finishes cleaning, she goes into Terry's office and leaves her key card there. As she crosses the lobby, she sees a crumpled brown object on the ground, right in front of the door. Then a tentacle flickers. She realizes it is Marcellus. He is too heavy for her to lift, so she grabs her mop bucket and fills it with some water from his tank. Then she gives him a boost as he heaves himself over the rim of the bucket and plops into the cold water.

59. In "The Very Low Tide," what decisions does Tova make?

After finding Erik's class ring, Tova decides that she needs to take Marcellus home. She pulls the bucket down the boardwalk to the jetty. She thanks him for leading her to her grandson, and then she tips the bucket so he can slip into the water. As she releases him, she realizes that she is not going to Charter Village. She is going to stay in Sowell Bay.

60. How does Tova think Erik died?

After Tova helps Marcellus into the bay and takes the mop bucket back to the aquarium, she sits on the pier. Avery comes looking for Cameron. She tells Tova that a few years ago she stopped a woman from jumping from there. The woman looked rough and as though she was on something. The woman kept talking about a terrible accident and a boom. Tova realizes what probably happened to Erik. Something knocked the boat off course. A gust of wind caught the sail the wrong way. The boom swung wildly and smacked Erik's head and knocked him overboard. Tova thinks that is probably the way that Erik died.



Multiple Choice Questions

Day 1,299 of My Captivity - Happy Endings (1-72)

1. What type of octopus is Marcellus?

- (a) Pacific octopus.
- (b) Sandbird Octopus.
- (c) Algae Octopus.
- (d) Mosaic Octopus.

2. What is Marcellus's life span?

- (a) 1,200 days.
- (b) 1,700 days.
- (c) 1,500 days.
- (d) 1,460 days.

3. How many days does Marcellus believe he has to live?

- (a) 205.
- (b) 160.
- (c) 310.
- (d) 90.

4. How old is Tova Sullivan?

- (a) 63.
- (b) 74.
- (c) 68.
- (d) 70.

5. In "The Silver-Dollar Scar," where does Tova find Marcellus?

- (a) Restroom.
- (b) Break room.
- (c) Lobby.
- (d) Hallway.

6. What color is Marcellus?

- (a) Orange.
- (b) Gray.
- (c) Pink.
- (d) Blue.



7. In "The Silver-Dollar Scar," how many steps is Tova's parking space from the old ticket booth?

- (a)** 38.
- (b)** 18.
- (c)** 22.
- (d)** 41.

8. What is the main food the Marcellus is given to eat that he dislikes?

- (a)** Fish eggs.
- (b)** Crabs.
- (c)** Herring.
- (d)** Shrimp.

9. How many ladies used to be in Tova's lunch group called the Knit-Wits?

- (a)** 5.
- (b)** 10.
- (c)** 4.
- (d)** 7.

10. In "Falsehood Cookies," what month is it?

- (a)** May.
- (b)** June.
- (c)** July.
- (d)** April.

11. How long ago did the Knit-Wits begin as a knitting club?

- (a)** 18 months.
- (b)** 25 years.
- (c)** 20 years.
- (d)** 36 months.

12. What is the name of Janice's Yorkie?

- (a)** Sparky.
- (b)** Rolo.
- (c)** Hunter.
- (d)** Sully.

13. What is the name of Tova's brother?

- (a)** Lars.
- (b)** Mathias.
- (c)** Canute.
- (d)** Anders.



14. How long can Marcellus be out of his tank before he has to resubmerge?

- (a) 22 minutes.
- (b) 15 minutes.
- (c) 18 minutes.
- (d) 11 minutes.

15. How many hearts does Marcellus have?

- (a) 1.
- (b) 4.
- (c) 2.
- (d) 3.

16. What plant does Cameron have to pick up for his aunt Jeanne?

- (a) Lily.
- (b) Clematis.
- (c) Wisteria.
- (d) Honeysuckle.

17. What does Sissy Baker say that she saw in Aunt Jeanne's Clematis?

- (a) Cockroaches.
- (b) Snake.
- (c) Japanese beetles.
- (d) Rat.

18. What color are the flowers on Aunt Jeanne's Clematis?

- (a) Pink.
- (b) White.
- (c) Red.
- (d) Purple.

19. How old is Cameron?

- (a) 31.
- (b) 28.
- (c) 30.
- (d) 29.

20. Where did Cameron grow up?

- (a) Portland.
- (b) Sacramento.
- (c) Stockton.
- (d) Modesto.



21. What is the youngest that someone can be to live at Welina Mobile Park?

- (a) 60.
- (b) 52.
- (c) 55.
- (d) 65.

22. How much does Marcellus weigh on Day 1,302 of his captivity??

- (a) 60 pounds.
- (b) 65 pounds.
- (c) 86 pounds.
- (d) 72 pounds.

23. What holiday did Will and Tova always spend at Lars' house in Ballard until Erik died?

- (a) New Year's Eve.
- (b) Thanksgiving.
- (c) Labor Day.
- (d) Christmas.

24. What is the name of the new bag boy at Shop-Way in "June Gloom"?

- (a) David.
- (b) Connor.
- (c) Tanner.
- (d) Mark.

25. How long has Ethan lived in the U.S.?

- (a) 40 years.
- (b) 10 years.
- (c) 35 years.
- (d) 20 years.

26. Where does Katie work?

- (a) Holiday Inn.
- (b) Best Western.
- (c) Radisson.
- (d) Marriott.

27. In "Baby Vipers Are Especially Deadly," why is Katie home early from work?

- (a) Physical therapy appointment.
- (b) Doctor's appointment.
- (c) Dentist appointment.
- (d) Massage appointment.



28. What vehicle did Cameron have before it got repossessed?

- (a) Honda.
- (b) Subaru.
- (c) Jeep.
- (d) Toyota.

29. Where did Cameron and Katie use to go camping before he lost his vehicle?

- (a) High-desert.
- (b) Olympic National Park.
- (c) Mount Rainier National Park.
- (d) Mountains.

30. How long does it take Brad to pick up Cameron after Katie kicks him out of the apartment?

- (a) 45 minutes.
- (b) 1 1/2 hours.
- (c) 30 minutes.
- (d) An hour.

31. Where did Brad and Elizabeth get the down payment for their house?

- (a) Her grandparents.
- (b) Her parents.
- (c) His grandparents.
- (d) His parents.

32. In "Baby Vipers Are Especially Deadly," how long does Brad say that Cameron can stay with him and Elizabeth?

- (a) 3 nights.
- (b) A week.
- (c) 2 weeks.
- (d) 2 nights.

33. Where did Lars live before he died?

- (a) Murano.
- (b) Bellewood.
- (c) Charter Village.
- (d) Horizon House.



34. How long does Tova know it will take her to drive to Bellingham to get Lars' things?

- (a) 2 hours.
- (b) An hour.
- (c) 50 minutes.
- (d) 90 minutes.

35. During Marcellus' captivity, how many times has he seen the seahorses spawn?

- (a) 5.
- (b) 6.
- (c) 4.
- (d) 3.

36. How old was Ethan when he worked for a time at the kiddie zoo in Glasgow?

- (a) 22.
- (b) 20.
- (c) 19.
- (d) 21.

Day 1,309 of My Captivity - The Green Leotard (73-141)

37. What is in a puzzle box to eat that makes Dr. Santiago say that Marcellus is a "smart cookie" (73)?

- (a) Clam.
- (b) Oyster.
- (c) Shrimp.
- (d) Red rock crab.

38. How many neurons does Marcelles have distributed along his eight arms?

- (a) 520,000.
- (b) 100,000.
- (c) Quarter of a billion.
- (d) Half a billion.

39. How long have Brad and Elizabeth been married in "Maybe Not Marrakesh"?

- (a) 4 years.
- (b) 3 years.
- (c) 5 years.
- (d) 2 years.



40. In "Maybe Not Marrakesh," what triggers the security light at Brad and Elizabeth's place?

- (a)** Deer.
- (b)** Raccoon.
- (c)** Dog.
- (d)** Cat.

41. What is the date of a concert ticket Cameron finds in the box of his mother's things in "Maybe Not Marrakesh"?

- (a)** August 14, 1988.
- (b)** August 30, 1988.
- (c)** August 18, 1988.
- (d)** August 2, 1988.

42. In "Maybe Not Marrakesh," what is the date of the class ring Cameron finds in the box of his mother's things?

- (a)** 1990.
- (b)** 1989.
- (c)** 1988.
- (d)** 1991.

43. Where does Tova remember that she and Will liked to go for a picnic?

- (a)** Hamilton Park.
- (b)** Green Lake Park.
- (c)** Williams Park.
- (d)** Gas Works Park.

44. How old was Erik the year Tova bought him a cassette by the rock band Blondie?

- (a)** 12.
- (b)** About 10.
- (c)** Not quite 13.
- (d)** 11.

45. In "Bugatti and Blondie," who helps Tova with a crossword puzzle she is working on?

- (a)** Bicyclist.
- (b)** Jogger.
- (c)** Woman walking.
- (d)** Homeless man.



46. Who taught Erik to sail?

- (a) Tova.
- (b) Will.
- (c) Adam.
- (d) Lars.

47. What is the name of the woman who does Tova's hair?

- (a) Madge.
- (b) Colette.
- (c) Diana.
- (d) Barbara.

48. From where did Terry get his bachelor of science degree in marine biology?

- (a) Hawaii Pacific University.
- (b) California State University, Monterey Bay.
- (c) University of Florida.
- (d) University of Washington.

49. Where was Terry raised?

- (a) Puerto Rico.
- (b) Antigua.
- (c) Haiti.
- (d) Jamaica.

50. In "Nothing Stays Sunk Forever," what does Marcellus give Tova?

- (a) Car key.
- (b) Bracelet.
- (c) House key.
- (d) Earring.

51. What time does Cameron go to Dell's Saloon in "Not a Movie Star, but Maybe a Pirate"?

- (a) 9 a.m.
- (b) 8:30 a.m.
- (c) 8 p.m.
- (d) 10 p.m.

52. Where is the class ring from that was in the box of Cameron's mother's things his aunt gave him?

- (a) Bellingham Bay.
- (b) Seacrest Cove.
- (c) Sowell Bay.
- (d) Gallagher Cove.



53. What does Cameron discover is the name of a man in a photo with his mom that was in the box his mother's things?

- (a) Simon Brinks.
- (b) Andrew Gallagher.
- (c) Steve Parsons.
- (d) Alex Wilson.

54. What is Cameron's birthdate?

- (a) March 11.
- (b) March 30.
- (c) February 2.
- (d) February 19.

55. What day of the week does Tova meet with the Knit-Wits every other week?

- (a) Wednesday.
- (b) Friday.
- (c) Tuesday.
- (d) Monday.

56. Where does Tova have a birthmark?

- (a) Wrist.
- (b) Forearm.
- (c) Right thumb.
- (d) Hand.

57. Where was Tova's mother from?

- (a) Norway.
- (b) Denmark.
- (c) Sweden.
- (d) Finland.

58. Where does Tova hurt herself when she falls off a stool in "The Technically True Story"?

- (a) Right ankle.
- (b) Left ankle.
- (c) Right wrist.
- (d) Left wrist.

59. In "The Technically True Story," how many times has Tova called out of work before?

- (a) 1.
- (b) 2.
- (c) 3.
- (d) None.



60. What color duffel does Cameron lose on his flight to Seattle?

- (a) Navy.
- (b) Camo.
- (c) Green.
- (d) Black.

61. What type of sandwich is the man named Elliott eating when he and Cameron stand in line at the JoyJet baggage office?

- (a) Yamwich.
- (b) Ham.
- (c) Falafel Pita.
- (d) Pastrami.

62. In "Got Baggage," about how much money does Cameron have with him when his duffel does not show up?

- (a) \$4.
- (b) \$6.
- (c) \$3.
- (d) \$5.

63. How much money does Cameron's aunt send him in "Got Baggage"?

- (a) \$3,000.
- (b) \$2,500.
- (c) \$2,000.
- (d) \$1,500.

64. What did Erik name a rock crab he found that had lost two of its hind legs?

- (a) Willy.
- (b) Crabby.
- (c) Eddie.
- (d) Sandy.

65. In "Busted But Loyal," how long will Tova have to be in a plastic boot?

- (a) 8 weeks.
- (b) 10 weeks.
- (c) 6 weeks.
- (d) 4 weeks.



66. Where is does Janice say that Mary Ann is moving?

- (a) Seattle.
- (b) Everett.
- (c) Tacome.
- (d) Spokane.

67. In "House Special," how much has Cameron spent for a camper?

- (a) \$950.
- (b) \$1,200.
- (c) \$800.
- (d) \$1,000.

68. What is Ethan shelving when Cameron arrives in "House Special"?

- (a) Cereal.
- (b) Bread.
- (c) Canned vegetables.
- (d) Ramen.

69. In "House Special," what type of sandwich does Ethan have Tanner make Cameron?

- (a) Cold cut.
- (b) Pastrami.
- (c) Ham.
- (d) Roast beef.

70. How old was Tova in 1989?

- (a) 41.
- (b) 39.
- (c) 38.
- (d) 40.

71. How old was Tova when her father built the house where she lives?

- (a) 6.
- (b) 7.
- (c) 5.
- (d) 8.

72. What type of bushes hide the driveway to Tova's house?

- (a) Baneberry.
- (b) Raspberry.
- (c) Madrone.
- (d) Blackberry.



Not Glamorous Work - A Three-Martini Truth (142-208)

73. How much does Cameron have to pay to have his camper hauled to Ethan's place?

- (a)** Nothing.
- (b)** \$250.
- (c)** \$50.
- (d)** \$100.

74. What time does Cameron show up for his job interview at the aquarium?

- (a)** 11:15 a.m.
- (b)** 11:30 a.m.
- (c)** 11 a.m.
- (d)** 10:45 a.m.

75. What were Ethan and Cameron drinking when they filled out Cameron's application for the maintenance position at the aquarium?

- (a)** Beer.
- (b)** Scotch.
- (c)** Whiskey.
- (d)** Rum.

76. How much will Terry pay Cameron an hour for the maintenance job?

- (a)** \$18.
- (b)** \$15.
- (c)** \$20.
- (d)** \$14.

77. How many hours is the maintenance job?

- (a)** 25.
- (b)** 15.
- (c)** 20.
- (d)** 10.

78. In "Not Glamorous Work," how many times before working at the aquarium has Cameron been entrusted with a key to his work place?

- (a)** Never.
- (b)** 6.
- (c)** 3.
- (d)** 5.



79. How much money does it take to fix the tire and wheel well on the camper?

- (a) \$800.
- (b) \$700.
- (c) \$600.
- (d) \$750.

80. In "A Sucker for Injured Creatures," when will Cameron get his first paycheck from the aquarium?

- (a) A week from Wednesday.
- (b) This Friday.
- (c) A week from Monday.
- (d) Next Friday.

81. What is the name of a realtor who finds an address for Simon Brinks for Cameron?

- (a) Tammy Philipps.
- (b) Jessica Snell.
- (c) Sandra Lexington.
- (d) Meredith Vandover.

82. How much is the cream Avery gives Cameron for his neck in "A Sucker for Injured Creatures" (159)?

- (a) \$7.95.
- (b) \$5.95.
- (c) \$19.95.
- (d) \$10.95.

83. In "A Sucker for Injured Creatures," where is Cameron's duffel found?

- (a) Berne, Switzerland.
- (b) Munich, Germany.
- (c) Naples, Italy.
- (d) Madrid, Spain.

84. What type of vehicle does Tova drive?

- (a) SUV.
- (b) Hatchback.
- (c) Compact car.
- (d) Small pickup.



85. Where is Tova able to make a copy of her driver's license in "Epitaph and Pens"?

- (a) Barb's house.
- (b) Library.
- (c) Janice's house.
- (d) Mary Ann's house.

86. In "Epitaph and Pens," how much does Tova have to pay for two passport photos?

- (a) \$18.50.
- (b) \$20.50.
- (c) \$25.
- (d) \$30.

87. When did Will, Tova's husband die?

- (a) 2001.
- (b) 2017.
- (c) 1998.
- (d) 2018.

88. Why does Tova go to Shop-Way in "Epitaph and Pens"?

- (a) Buy a pen.
- (b) Pick up some milk and eggs.
- (c) Get a sandwich.
- (d) Get vegetables for a salad.

89. In "Conscience Does Make Cowards of Us All," where does Cameron hurt himself on a table when he falls?

- (a) Temple.
- (b) Stomach.
- (c) Hip.
- (d) Shoulder.

90. What color bandage does Tova give Cameron in "Conscience Does Make Cowards of Us All"?

- (a) Red.
- (b) Blue.
- (c) Purple.
- (d) Pink.



91. In "Conscience Does Make Cowards of Us All," how long has Cameron been working at the aquarium?

- (a)** 3 weeks.
- (b)** 2 weeks.
- (c)** 5 days.
- (d)** 8 days.

92. What was one of Erik's favorite Shakespearean plays?

- (a)** King Lear.
- (b)** Merchant of Venice.
- (c)** The Tempest.
- (d)** Hamlet.

93. How old was Tova when her family left Sweden?

- (a)** 9.
- (b)** 7.
- (c)** 10.
- (d)** 8.

94. What year did Tova, Lars, and her mother take the SS Vadstena to America?

- (a)** 1956.
- (b)** 1957.
- (c)** 1954.
- (d)** 1955.

95. Where does Marcellus say that Cameron and Tova have a heart-shaped dimple?

- (a)** Left cheeks.
- (b)** Right cheeks.
- (c)** Right corner of their mouths.
- (d)** Left corner of their mouths.

96. In "Hard Left, Cut Right," when does Cameron land a promising clue to Simon Brinks' whereabouts?

- (a)** June.
- (b)** July 8.
- (c)** July.
- (d)** June 30.



97. Where does Cameron learn that Simon Brinks spends summer weekends?

- (a) Bainbridge Island.
- (b) San Juan Islands.
- (c) Anderson Island.
- (d) Orcas Island.

98. Who drives Cameron to the place where he thinks he might find Simon Brinks in "Hard Left, Cut Right"?

- (a) Jessica.
- (b) Ethan.
- (c) Tova.
- (d) Avery.

99. What type of cancer did Will Sullivan die from?

- (a) Liver.
- (b) Pancreatic.
- (c) Lung.
- (d) Colon.

100. What animal features in a joke about a lawn mower that Marcellus tells?

- (a) Lion.
- (b) Donkey.
- (c) Horse.
- (d) Tiger.

101. On what day of Marcellus's existence does he think when Terry turns the calendar tomorrow, it will be the last time he sees a new month?

- (a) 1,338.
- (b) 1,339.
- (c) 1,341.
- (d) 1,340.

102. When is Mary Ann's farwell luncheon held?

- (a) August.
- (b) July 17.
- (c) July.
- (d) August 7.



103. What is the name of Mary Ann's great-granddaughter?

- (a) Tara.
- (b) Zoe.
- (c) Monica.
- (d) Isabelle.

104. What does Laura, Mary Ann's daughter teach at the state university?

- (a) American literature.
- (b) Chemistry.
- (c) Biology.
- (d) Psychology.

105. What is the name of the waiter at Mary Ann's going-away lunch?

- (a) Ricardo.
- (b) Omar.
- (c) Alan.
- (d) Louis.

106. What does Tova order to eat at Mary Ann's going-away lunch?

- (a) Corn chowder.
- (b) Curried squash bisque.
- (c) Clam chowder.
- (d) Lobster bisque.

107. What is the name of Adam Wright's girlfriend?

- (a) Cathi.
- (b) Lacy.
- (c) Molly.
- (d) Sandy.

108. When was the last time that Adam saw Erik?

- (a) Aquarium.
- (b) Baseball diamond.
- (c) Snack bar.
- (d) Shop-Way.



The Pier's Shadow - What If (209-280)

109. What color siding does Avery's house have?

- (a) Cream.
- (b) Brown.
- (c) Blue.
- (d) Yellow.

110. How old is Avery?

- (a) 29.
- (b) 30.
- (c) 32.
- (d) 31.

111. How old is Avery's son?

- (a) 12.
- (b) 13.
- (c) 14.
- (d) 15.

112. How long has Avery been living in Sowell Bay?

- (a) 7 years.
- (b) 5 years.
- (c) 8 years.
- (d) 4 years.

113. What is the name of Marco's father?

- (a) Tom.
- (b) Dave.
- (c) Mike.
- (d) Josh.

114. What does Marco's father do for a living?

- (a) Fisherman.
- (b) Grocery store manager.
- (c) Deckhand on a fishing trawler.
- (d) Runs a skate rink.



115. What was the name of the girl Erik took to the Sowell Bay High School homecoming dance?

- (a) Margaret Anders.
- (b) Stephanie Lee.
- (c) Ashley Barrington.
- (d) Jenny-Lynn Mason.

116. In "There Was a Girl," how much is the offer Jessica Snell calls about above asking price?

- (a) \$5,000.
- (b) \$12,000.
- (c) \$15,000.
- (d) \$10,000.

117. What creatures are in the tank next to Marcellus?

- (a) Jelly fish.
- (b) Stingray.
- (c) Seahorses.
- (d) Wolf eels.

118. What does Cameron use to climb up to the top of Marcellus's tank in "An Unexpected Treasure?"

- (a) Chair.
- (b) Ladder.
- (c) Table.
- (d) New stool.

119. In "An Unexpected Treasure," what shiny thing do Cameron and Tova spot in Marcellus's tank?

- (a) Ring.
- (b) Bracelet.
- (c) Earring.
- (d) Key.

120. When does Marcellus think that Cameron was conceived?

- (a) Close to Erik's accident.
- (b) A week before Erik's accident.
- (c) A few days before Erik's accident.
- (d) Maybe a month before Erik's accident.



121. In "Some Trees," what is Tova stacking at the beginning of the chapter?

- (a) Slacks.
- (b) Bath towels.
- (c) Tea towels.
- (d) Socks.

122. Who is coming over the next day in "Some Trees" to help Tova?

- (a) Ethan and Cameron.
- (b) Barb, Janice, Janice's son Timothy, and some of Timothy's friends.
- (c) Mary Ann, Laura, and Janice.
- (d) Mary Ann, Janice and Barb.

123. How many wooden Dala Horses does Tova have?

- (a) 3.
- (b) 6.
- (c) 4.
- (d) 5.

124. In "Some Trees," what do Tova and Ethan see Sandy sampling at the grocery store?

- (a) Raspberries.
- (b) Blueberries.
- (c) Grapes.
- (d) Bing cherries.

125. Who tells Tova the name of the girl that Erik was seeing?

- (a) Adam.
- (b) Rachel.
- (c) Sandy.
- (d) Will.

126. What does Cameron do to keep Marcellus in his tank in "An Impossible Jam"?

- (a) Ties twine around the slit in the lid.
- (b) Ties rope around the lid.
- (c) Puts a board on top.
- (d) Place a piece of metal on top.

127. In "An Impossible Jam," who calls Cameron?

- (a) Ethan.
- (b) Aunt Jaenne.
- (c) Elizabeth.
- (d) Brad.



128. How long has Cameron been working at the aquarium in "An Impossible Jam"?

- (a) 2 weeks.
- (b) 2 months.
- (c) 3 months.
- (d) 4 weeks.

129. In "An Impossible Jam," where does Marcellus put Cameron's driver's license?

- (a) In his tank.
- (b) In front of his tank.
- (c) Under the sea lion's tail.
- (d) In her locker.

130. How much does Ethan remember that Daphne Cassmore wrote a bad check for?

- (a) \$5.25.
- (b) \$10 and change.
- (c) \$6 and change.
- (d) \$8.03.

131. What does Ethan learn Daphne's married name was?

- (a) Philipps.
- (b) Carter.
- (c) Andrews.
- (d) Scott.

132. In "The Downside of Free Food," what does Cameron buy after he sends Aunt Jeanne the last of the money he owes her?

- (a) Steak.
- (b) New phone.
- (c) Ear buds.
- (d) Digital albums.

133. What time does Aunt Jeanne call Cameron in "The Downside of Free Food"?

- (a) 1 a.m.
- (b) 2 a.m.
- (c) Midnight.
- (d) 4 a.m.



134. At the end of "The Downside of Free Food," when does Aunt Jeanne plan to come and see Cameron?

- (a) 2 months.
- (b) 3 weeks.
- (c) Next month.
- (d) 5 weeks.

135. In "Not a Date," what time does Tova go to Ethan's house for dinner?

- (a) 6:30 p.m.
- (b) 6 p.m.
- (c) 5:30 p.m.
- (d) 5 p.m.

136. Who gives Tova the wine she bring to dinner at Ethan's house in "Not a Date"?

- (a) Barbara.
- (b) Cameron.
- (c) Mary Ann.
- (d) Janice.

137. How many brothers and sisters did Ethan have?

- (a) 11.
- (b) 10.
- (c) 9.
- (d) 13.

138. What was the date of the Grateful Dead shirt that Tova ruins?

- (a) April 11, 1995.
- (b) March 9, 1995.
- (c) June 24, 1995.
- (d) May 26, 1995.

139. How much does Tova pay for a replacement of the shirt she ruins?

- (a) \$1,500.
- (b) \$3,000.
- (c) \$2,000.
- (d) \$2,500.

140. How long were Tova and Will married?

- (a) 47 years.
- (b) 46 years.
- (c) 53 years.
- (d) 51 years.



141. In "Not Even a Birthday Card," what does Cameron have to eat when he gets off work?

- (a) Crackers, cheese, and deli meat.
- (b) Microwaved mac and cheese.
- (c) Ham sandwich.
- (d) Cheese sandwich.

142. When does Aver make plans to meet Cameron in "Not Even a Birthday Card"?

- (a) Sunday at 4 p.m.
- (b) Wednesday at 6 p.m.
- (c) Wednesday at 4 p.m.
- (d) Sunday at 2 p.m.

143. What was the name of Mary Ann's granddaughter who got pregnant at 18?

- (a) Megan.
- (b) Tatum.
- (c) Marie.
- (d) Louisa.

144. How long ago did Mary Ann's granddaughter get pregnant?

- (a) 3 years.
- (b) 4 years.
- (c) 2 years.
- (d) 5 years.

Amazing Bones - After All (281-355)

145. In "Amazing Bones," what day of the week does Janice ask Tova to go out for lunch?

- (a) Thursday.
- (b) Saturday.
- (c) Wednesday.
- (d) Monday.

146. Where does Tova plan to stay between when she moves into Charter Village and when she signs the papers on the house?

- (a) Hotel in Kirkland.
- (b) Hotel in Seattle.
- (c) Hotel in Everett.
- (d) Hotel in Bellevue.



147. What fruits does Tova buy on Tuesday in "Amazing Bones"?

- (a) Grapes and an orange.
- (b) Apple and pear.
- (c) Grapefruit and apple.
- (d) Apple and banana.

148. In "Amazing Bones," what time of day does Tova meet Jessica Snell on Wednesday to sign the closing papers?

- (a) 10:30 a.m.
- (b) 10 a.m.
- (c) 11 a.m.
- (d) 11:30 a.m.

149. How many children do the people have who are buying Tova's house?

- (a) 2.
- (b) 4.
- (c) 3.
- (d) 1.

150. Where is the family from who is buying Tova's house?

- (a) Texas.
- (b) Indiana.
- (c) Maine.
- (d) Colorado.

151. What brand guitar does Cameron have?

- (a) Squier.
- (b) Les Paul.
- (c) Gibson.
- (d) Fender.

152. In "A Big, Bold Lie," what day of the week does Cameron decide to do laundry?

- (a) Monday.
- (b) Wednesday.
- (c) Tuesday.
- (d) Friday.

153. What time does Cameron wake up after a nap in "A Big, Bold, Lie"?

- (a) 3:30 p.m.
- (b) 3 p.m.
- (c) 2:30 p.m.
- (d) 2 p.m.



154. In "A Big, Bold Lie," what time does Cameron have an appointment to meet with Simon Brinks?

- (a) 5 p.m.
- (b) 6 p.m.
- (c) 7 p.m.
- (d) 6:30 p.m.

155. How long will it take Cameron to drive from Sowell Bay to Seattle for his appointment with Simon Brinks?

- (a) 2 1/2 hours.
- (b) 1 hour.
- (c) 2 hours.
- (d) 1 1/2 hours.

156. In "The Sob," on what floor of the building does Cameron meet Simon Brinks?

- (a) Top floor.
- (b) 3rd floor.
- (c) Basement.
- (d) 2nd floor.

157. What is the name of Simon Brinks' daughter?

- (a) Natalie.
- (b) Lindsey.
- (c) Rachel.
- (d) Megan.

158. What is Simon Brinks' middle name?

- (a) Trenton.
- (b) Ellsworth.
- (c) Orville.
- (d) Floyd.

159. What is the name of Simon Brinks' bar?

- (a) Kicking Donkey.
- (b) Mudminnow.
- (c) Meskellunge.
- (d) White Rabbit.



160. What color hair does Simon Brinks' daughter have?

- (a) Purple.
- (b) Green.
- (c) Pink.
- (d) Blue.

161. In "A New Route," who texts Cameron after he leaves Simon Brinks?

- (a) Elizabeth.
- (b) Avery.
- (c) Katie.
- (d) Brad.

162. How far from Sowell Bay, does Cameron have to get gas in "A New Route"?

- (a) 15 miles.
- (b) 30 miles.
- (c) 25 miles.
- (d) 20 miles.

163. How far of a drive is it from Sowell Bay to Modesto?

- (a) 19 hours.
- (b) 15 hours.
- (c) 10 hours.
- (d) 17 hours.

164. Where has the aquarium's new octopus been rescued from?

- (a) Canada.
- (b) Alsaka.
- (c) Oregon.
- (d) California.

165. In "High and Dry," what does Cameron do with his father's class ring?

- (a) Throws it in the wolf eels' tank.
- (b) Throws it in the bay.
- (c) Throws it in Marcellus's tank.
- (d) Throws it in an aquarium trash can.

166. What creature injured Marcellus before he was captured and imprisoned?

- (a) Sea otter.
- (b) Wolf eel.
- (c) Shark.
- (d) Moray eels.



167. How many wolf eels are in the tank at the aquarium?

- (a) 4.
- (b) 2.
- (c) 1.
- (d) 3.

168. How far is Cameron from the Oregon-California border when his serpentine belt breaks?

- (a) About 30 miles.
- (b) About 50 miles.
- (c) About 75 miles.
- (d) About 100 miles.

169. What day of the week do Janice and Barb bring Tova a cake?

- (a) Friday.
- (b) Saturday.
- (c) Thursday.
- (d) Wednesday.

170. Where does Tova find Marcellus in "The Eel Ring"?

- (a) On the floor by his tank.
- (b) Terry's office.
- (c) Break room.
- (d) In front of the lobby door.

171. In "The Very Low Tide," what does Tova probably weight?

- (a) 95 pounds.
- (b) 105 pounds.
- (c) 90 pounds.
- (d) 100 pounds.

172. About how far is the drop to the water when Tova tips the bucket and release Marcellus?

- (a) About 3 1/2 feet.
- (b) About 2 feet.
- (c) About 3 feet.
- (d) About 2 1/2 feet.



173. In "Every Last Thing," what time does Avery come to the pier and ask Tova if she has seen Cameron?

- (a) 11:30 p.m.
- (b) Half past midnight.
- (c) 11:15 p.m.
- (d) Quarter to midnight.

174. In "Expensive Roadkill," at what mile marker does he realize he left his phone on the front bumper when he was changing the belt?

- (a) 238.
- (b) 780.
- (c) 747.
- (d) 682.

175. What color stove does Tova have that she knows the new owners will replace?

- (a) Avocado green.
- (b) Black.
- (c) Red.
- (d) White.

176. In "Expensive Roadkill," when Cameron comes to see Tova, how many more hours does she have before she leaves her house?

- (a) 4.
- (b) 3 1/2.
- (c) 2 1/2.
- (d) 3.

177. What is the floorboard made of that does not match the rest of the floor in Erik's old room?

- (a) Maple.
- (b) Red oak.
- (c) Elm.
- (d) White ash.

178. What do Tova and Cameron find in a hiding place in the floor in Erik's old room?

- (a) Package of potato chips and a journal.
- (b) Package of donuts and a woman's class ring.
- (c) Package of snack cakes and a Dala horse.
- (d) Package of cookies and a photograph.



179. In "After All," how much time has passed?

- (a)** 3 weeks.
- (b)** 2 months.
- (c)** 5 weeks.
- (d)** A month.

180. What game are Cameron and Tova playing in "After All"?

- (a)** Monopoly.
- (b)** Scrabble.
- (c)** Rummikub.
- (d)** Checkers.

Multiple Choice Questions Key

1. A	11. B	21. B	31. B	41. A	51. A
2. D	12. B	22. A	32. D	42. B	52. C
3. B	13. A	23. A	33. C	43. A	53. A
4. D	14. C	24. C	34. B	44. B	54. C
5. B	15. D	25. A	35. C	45. A	55. C
6. A	16. B	26. A	36. C	46. D	56. B
7. A	17. B	27. C	37. D	47. B	57. C
8. C	18. D	28. C	38. D	48. D	58. B
9. D	19. C	29. A	39. B	49. D	59. D
10. B	20. D	30. D	40. B	50. C	60. C
61. A	71. D	81. B	91. B	101. C	111. D
62. A	72. D	82. C	92. D	102. A	112. B
63. C	73. A	83. C	93. B	103. D	113. D
64. C	74. D	84. B	94. A	104. D	114. C
65. C	75. B	85. C	95. A	105. B	115. C
66. D	76. C	86. A	96. C	106. B	116. D
67. B	77. C	87. B	97. B	107. D	117. D
68. D	78. A	88. A	98. B	108. C	118. D
69. B	79. B	89. A	99. B	109. D	119. C
70. B	80. B	90. D	100. D	110. C	120. A
121. C	131. D	141. A	151. D	161. D	171. C
122. B	132. D	142. C	152. B	162. D	172. C
123. D	133. A	143. B	153. B	163. B	173. D
124. D	134. C	144. A	154. B	164. B	174. B
125. C	135. D	145. D	155. C	165. A	175. A
126. A	136. A	146. C	156. C	166. B	176. B
127. C	137. A	147. C	157. A	167. B	177. D
128. B	138. D	148. C	158. C	168. D	178. C
129. C	139. C	149. C	159. B	169. C	179. D
130. C	140. A	150. A	160. B	170. D	180. B



Short Answer Questions

1. What type of octopus is Marcellus?
2. What is Marcellus's life span?
3. How many days does Marcellus believe he has to live?
4. How old is Tova Sullivan?
5. In "The Silver-Dollar Scar," where does Tova find Marcellus?
6. What color is Marcellus?
7. In "The Silver-Dollar Scar," how many steps is Tova's parking space from the old ticket booth?

8. What is the main food the Marcellus is given to eat that he dislikes?

9. How many ladies used to be in Tova's lunch group called the Knit-Wits?

10. In "Falsehood Cookies," what month is it?

11. How long ago did the Knit-Wits begin as a knitting club?

12. What is the name of Janice's Yorkie?

13. What is the name of Tova's brother?

14. How long can Marcellus be out of his tank before he has to resubmerge?



15. How many hearts does Marcellus have?
16. What plant does Cameron have to pick up for his aunt Jeanne?
17. What does Sissy Baker say that she saw in Aunt Jeanne's Clematis?
18. What color are the flowers on Aunt Jeanne's Clematis?
19. How old is Cameron?
20. Where did Cameron grow up?
21. What is the youngest that someone can be to live at Welina Mobile Park?

- 22.** How much does Marcellus weigh on Day 1,302 of his captivity??
- 23.** What holiday did Will and Tova always spend at Lars' house in Ballard until Erik died?
- 24.** What is the name of the new bag boy at Shop-Way in "June Gloom"?
- 25.** How long has Ethan lived in the U.S.?
- 26.** Where does Katie work?
- 27.** In "Baby Vipers Are Especially Deadly," why is Katie home early from work?
- 28.** What vehicle did Cameron have before it got repossessed?

- 29.** Where did Cameron and Katie use to go camping before he lost his vehicle?
- 30.** How long does it take Brad to pick up Cameron after Katie kicks him out of the apartment?
- 31.** Where did Brad and Elizabeth get the down payment for their house?
- 32.** In "Baby Vipers Are Especially Deadly," how long does Brad say that Cameron can stay with him and Elizabeth?
- 33.** Where did Lars live before he died?
- 34.** How long does Tova know it will take her to drive to Bellingham to get Lars' things?
- 35.** During Marcellus' captivity, how many times has he seen the seahorses spawn?

36. How old was Ethan when he worked for a time at the kiddie zoo in Glasgow?

37. What is in a puzzle box to eat that makes Dr. Santiago say that Marcellus is a "smart cookie" (73)?

38. How many neurons does Marcelles have distributed along his eight arms?

39. How long have Brad and Elizabeth been married in "Maybe Not Marrakesh"?

40. In "Maybe Not Marrakesh," what triggers the security light at Brad and Elizabeth's place?

41. What is the date of a concert ticket Cameron finds in the box of his mother's things in "Maybe Not Marrakesh"?

42. In "Maybe Not Marrakesh," what is the date of the class ring Cameron finds in the box of his mother's things?

- 43.** Where does Tova remember that she and Will liked to go for a picnic?
- 44.** How old was Erik the year Tova bought him a cassette by the rock band Blondie?
- 45.** In "Bugatti and Blondie," who helps Tova with a crossword puzzle she is working on?
- 46.** Who taught Erik to sail?
- 47.** What is the name of the woman who does Tova's hair?
- 48.** From where did Terry get his bachelor of science degree in marine biology?
- 49.** Where was Terry raised?

50. In "Nothing Stays Sunk Forever," what does Marcellus give Tova?

51. What time does Cameron go to Dell's Saloon in "Not a Movie Star, but Maybe a Pirate"?

52. Where is the class ring from that was in the box of Cameron's mother's things his aunt gave him?

53. What does Cameron discover is the name of a man in a photo with his mom that was in the box his mother's things?

54. What is Cameron's birthdate?

55. What day of the week does Tova meet with the Knit-Wits every other week?

56. Where does Tova have a birthmark?



57. Where was Tova's mother from?

58. Where does Tova hurt herself when she falls off a stool in "The Technically True Story"?

59. In "The Technically True Story," how many times has Tova called out of work before?

60. What color duffel does Cameron lose on his flight to Seattle?

61. What type of sandwich is the man named Elliott eating when he and Cameron stand in line at the JoyJet baggage office?

62. In "Got Baggage," about how much money does Cameron have with him when his duffel does not show up?

63. How much money does Cameron's aunt send him in "Got Baggage"?



64. What did Erik name a rock crab he found that had lost two of its hind legs?
65. In "Busted But Loyal," how long will Tova have to be in a plastic boot?
66. Where is does Janice say that Mary Ann is moving?
67. In "House Special," how much has Cameron spent for a camper?
68. What is Ethan shelving when Cameron arrives in "House Special"?
69. In "House Special," what type of sandwich does Ethan have Tanner make Cameron?
70. How old was Tova in 1989?

- 71.** How old was Tova when her father built the house where she lives?
- 72.** What type of bushes hide the driveway to Tova's house?
- 73.** How much does Cameron have to pay to have his camper hauled to Ethan's place?
- 74.** What time does Cameron show up for his job interview at the aquarium?
- 75.** What were Ethan and Cameron drinking when they filled out Cameron's application for the maintenance position at the aquarium?
- 76.** How much will Terry pay Cameron an hour for the maintenance job?
- 77.** How many hours is the maintenance job?



78. In "Not Glamorous Work," how many times before working at the aquarium has Cameron been entrusted with a key to his work place?

79. How much money does it take to fix the tire and wheel well on the camper?

80. In "A Sucker for Injured Creatures," when will Cameron get his first paycheck from the aquarium?

81. What is the name of a realtor who finds an address for Simon Brinks for Cameron?

82. How much is the cream Avery gives Cameron for his neck in "A Sucker for Injured Creatures" (159)?

83. In "A Sucker for Injured Creatures," where is Cameron's duffel found?

84. What type of vehicle does Tova drive?

- 85.** Where is Tova able to make a copy of her driver's license in "Epitaph and Pens"?
- 86.** In "Epitaph and Pens," how much does Tova have to pay for two passport photos?
- 87.** When did Will, Tova's husband die?
- 88.** Why does Tova go to Shop-Way in "Epitaph and Pens"?
- 89.** In "Conscience Does Make Cowards of Us All," where does Cameron hurt himself on a table when he falls?
- 90.** What color bandage does Tova give Cameron in "Conscience Does Make Cowards of Us All"?
- 91.** In "Conscience Does Make Cowards of Us All," how long has Cameron been working at the aquarium?

92. What was one of Erik's favorite Shakespearean plays?

93. How old was Tova when her family left Sweden?

94. What year did Tova, Lars, and her mother take the SS Vadstena to America?

95. Where does Marcellus say that Cameron and Tova have a heart-shaped dimple?

96. In "Hard Left, Cut Right," when does Cameron land a promising clue to Simon Brinks' whereabouts?

97. Where does Cameron learn that Simon Brinks spends summer weekends?

98. Who drives Cameron to the place where he thinks he might find Simon Brinks in "Hard Left, Cut Right"?

99. What type of cancer did Will Sullivan die from?

100. What animal features in a joke about a lawn mower that Marcellus tells?

101. On what day of Marcellus's existence does he think when Terry turns the calendar tomorrow, it will be the last time he sees a new month?

102. When is Mary Ann's farwell luncheon held?

103. What is the name of Mary Ann's great-granddaughter?

104. What does Laura, Mary Ann's daughter teach at the state university?

105. What is the name of the waiter at Mary Ann's going-away lunch?

106. What does Tova order to eat at Mary Ann's going-away lunch?

107. What is the name of Adam Wright's girlfriend?

108. When was the last time that Adam saw Erik?

109. What color siding does Avery's house have?

110. How old is Avery?

111. How old is Avery's son?

112. How long has Avery been living in Sowell Bay?

113. What is the name of Marco's father?

114. What does Marco's father do for a living?

115. What was the name of the girl Erik took to the Sowell Bay High School homecoming dance?

116. In "There Was a Girl," how much is the offer Jessica Snell calls about above asking price?

117. What creatures are in the tank next to Marcellus?

118. What does Cameron use to climb up to the top of Marcellus's tank in "An Unexpected Treasure?"

119. In "An Unexpected Treasure," what shiny thing do Cameron and Tova spot in Marcellus's tank?

120. When does Marcellus think that Cameron was conceived?

121. In "Some Trees," what is Tova stacking at the beginning of the chapter?

122. Who is coming over the next day in "Some Trees" to help Tova?

123. How many wooden Dala Horses does Tova have?

124. In "Some Trees," what do Tova and Ethan see Sandy sampling at the grocery store?

125. Who tells Tova the name of the girl that Erik was seeing?

126. What does Cameron do to keep Marcellus in his tank in "An Impossible Jam"?

127. In "An Impossible Jam," who calls Cameron?

128. How long has Cameron been working at the aquarium in "An Impossible Jam"?

129. In "An Impossible Jam," where does Marcellus put Cameron's driver's license?

130. How much does Ethan remember that Daphne Cassmore wrote a bad check for?

131. What does Ethan learn Daphne's married name was?

132. In "The Downside of Free Food," what does Cameron buy after he sends Aunt Jeanne the last of the money he owes her?

133. What time does Aunt Jeanne call Cameron in "The Downside of Free Food"?

134. At the end of "The Downside of Free Food," when does Aunt Jeanne plan to come and see Cameron?

135. In "Not a Date," what time does Tova go to Ethan's house for dinner?

136. Who gives Tova the wine she bring to dinner at Ethan's house in "Not a Date"?

137. How many brothers and sisters did Ethan have?

138. What was the date of the Grateful Dead shirt that Tova ruins?

139. How much does Tova pay for a replacement of the shirt she ruins?

140. How long were Tova and Will married?

141. In "Not Even a Birthday Card," what does Cameron have to eat when he gets off work?

142. When does Aver make plans to meet Cameron in "Not Even a Birthday Card"?

143. What was the name of Mary Ann's granddaughter who got pregnant at 18?

144. How long ago did Mary Ann's granddaughter get pregnant?

145. In "Amazing Bones," what day of the week does Janice ask Tova to go out for lunch?

146. Where does Tova plan to stay between when she moves into Charter Village and when she signs the papers on the house?

147. What fruits does Tova buy on Tuesday in "Amazing Bones"?



148. In "Amazing Bones," what time of day does Tova meet Jessica Snell on Wednesday to sign the closing papers?

149. How many children do the people have who are buying Tova's house?

150. Where is the family from who is buying Tova's house?

151. What brand guitar does Cameron have?

152. In "A Big, Bold Lie," what day of the week does Cameron decide to do laundry?

153. What time does Cameron wake up after a nap in "A Big, Bold, Lie"?

154. In "A Big, Bold Lie," what time does Cameron have an appointment to meet with Simon Brinks?

155. How long will it take Cameron to drive from Sowell Bay to Seattle for his appointment with Simon Brinks?

156. In "The Sob," on what floor of the building does Cameron meet Simon Brinks?

157. What is the name of Simon Brinks' daughter?

158. What is Simon Brinks' middle name?

159. What is the name of Simon Brinks' bar?

160. What color hair does Simon Brinks' daughter have?

161. In "A New Route," who texts Cameron after he leaves Simon Brinks?



162. How far from Sowell Bay, does Cameron have to get gas in "A New Route"?

163. How far of a drive is it from Sowell Bay to Modesto?

164. Where has the aquarium's new octopus been rescued from?

165. In "High and Dry," what does Cameron do with his father's class ring?

166. What creature injured Marcellus before he was captured and imprisoned?

167. How many wolf eels are in the tank at the aquarium?

168. How far is Cameron from the Oregon-California border when his serpentine belt breaks?

169. What day of the week do Janice and Barb bring Tova a cake?

170. Where does Tova find Marcellus in "The Eel Ring"?

171. In "The Very Low Tide," what does Tova probably weight?

172. About how far is the drop to the water when Tova tips the bucket and release Marcellus?

173. In "Every Last Thing," what time does Avery come to the pier and ask Tova if she has seen Cameron?

174. In "Expensive Roadkill," at what mile marker does he realize he left his phone on the front bumper when he was changing the belt?

175. What color stove does Tova have that she knows the new owners will replace?

176. In "Expensive Roadkill," when Cameron comes to see Tova, how many more hours does she have before she leaves her house?

177. What is the floorboard made of that does not match the rest of the floor in Erik's old room?

178. What do Tova and Cameron find in a hiding place in the floor in Erik's old room?

179. In "After All," how much time has passed?

180. What game are Cameron and Tova playing in "After All"?



Short Answer Questions Key

1. What type of octopus is Marcellus?

Pacific octopus.

2. What is Marcellus's life span?

1,460 days.

3. How many days does Marcellus believe he has to live?

160.

4. How old is Tova Sullivan?

70.

5. In "The Silver-Dollar Scar," where does Tova find Marcellus?

Break room.

6. What color is Marcellus?

Orange.

7. In "The Silver-Dollar Scar," how many steps is Tova's parking space from the old ticket booth?

38.



8. What is the main food the Marcellus is given to eat that he dislikes?

Herring.

9. How many ladies used to be in Tova's lunch group called the Knit-Wits?

7.

10. In "Falsehood Cookies," what month is it?

June.

11. How long ago did the Knit-Wits begin as a knitting club?

25 years.

12. What is the name of Janice's Yorkie?

Rolo.

13. What is the name of Tova's brother?

Lars.

14. How long can Marcellus be out of his tank before he has to resubmerge?

18 minutes.

15. How many hearts does Marcellus have?

3.

16. What plant does Cameron have to pick up for his aunt Jeanne?

Clematis.

17. What does Sissy Baker say that she saw in Aunt Jeanne's Clematis?

Snake.

18. What color are the flowers on Aunt Jeanne's Clematis?

Purple.

19. How old is Cameron?

30.

20. Where did Cameron grow up?

Modesto.

21. What is the youngest that someone can be to live at Welina Mobile Park?

52.



22. How much does Marcellus weigh on Day 1,302 of his captivity??

60 pounds.

23. What holiday did Will and Tova always spend at Lars' house in Ballard until Erik died?

New Year's Eve.

24. What is the name of the new bag boy at Shop-Way in "June Gloom"?

Tanner.

25. How long has Ethan lived in the U.S.?

40 years.

26. Where does Katie work?

Holiday Inn.

27. In "Baby Vipers Are Especially Deadly," why is Katie home early from work?

Dentist appointment.

28. What vehicle did Cameron have before it got repossessed?

Jeep.



29. Where did Cameron and Katie use to go camping before he lost his vehicle?

High-desert.

30. How long does it take Brad to pick up Cameron after Katie kicks him out of the apartment?

An hour.

31. Where did Brad and Elizabeth get the down payment for their house?

Her parents.

32. In "Baby Vipers Are Especially Deadly," how long does Brad say that Cameron can stay with him and Elizabeth?

2 nights.

33. Where did Lars live before he died?

Charter Village.

34. How long does Tova know it will take her to drive to Bellingham to get Lars' things?

An hour.

35. During Marcellus' captivity, how many times has he seen the seahorses spawn?

4.



36. How old was Ethan when he worked for a time at the kiddie zoo in Glasgow?

19.

37. What is in a puzzle box to eat that makes Dr. Santiago say that Marcellus is a "smart cookie" (73)?

Red rock crab.

38. How many neurons does Marcelles have distributed along his eight arms?

Half a billion.

39. How long have Brad and Elizabeth been married in "Maybe Not Marrakesh"?

3 years.

40. In "Maybe Not Marrakesh," what triggers the security light at Brad and Elizabeth's place?

Raccoon.

41. What is the date of a concert ticket Cameron finds in the box of his mother's things in "Maybe Not Marrakesh"?

August 14, 1988.

42. In "Maybe Not Marrakesh," what is the date of the class ring Cameron finds in the box of his mother's things?

1989.



43. Where does Tova remember that she and Will liked to go for a picnic?

Hamilton Park.

44. How old was Erik the year Tova bought him a cassette by the rock band Blondie?

About 10.

45. In "Bugatti and Blondie," who helps Tova with a crossword puzzle she is working on?

Bicyclist.

46. Who taught Erik to sail?

Lars.

47. What is the name of the woman who does Tova's hair?

Colette.

48. From where did Terry get his bachelor of science degree in marine biology?

University of Washington.

49. Where was Terry raised?

Jamaica.



50. In "Nothing Stays Sunk Forever," what does Marcellus give Tova?

House key.

51. What time does Cameron go to Dell's Saloon in "Not a Movie Star, but Maybe a Pirate"?

9 a.m.

52. Where is the class ring from that was in the box of Cameron's mother's things his aunt gave him?

Sowell Bay.

53. What does Cameron discover is the name of a man in a photo with his mom that was in the box his mother's things?

Simon Brinks.

54. What is Cameron's birthdate?

February 2.

55. What day of the week does Tova meet with the Knit-Wits every other week?

Tuesday.

56. Where does Tova have a birthmark?

Forearm.



57. Where was Tova's mother from?

Sweden.

58. Where does Tova hurt herself when she falls off a stool in "The Technically True Story"?

Left ankle.

59. In "The Technically True Story," how many times has Tova called out of work before?

None.

60. What color duffel does Cameron lose on his flight to Seattle?

Green.

61. What type of sandwich is the man named Elliott eating when he and Cameron stand in line at the JoyJet baggage office?

Yamwich.

62. In "Got Baggage," about how much money does Cameron have with him when his duffel does not show up?

\$4.

63. How much money does Cameron's aunt send him in "Got Baggage"?

\$2,000.



64. What did Erik name a rock crab he found that had lost two of its hind legs?

Eddie.

65. In "Busted But Loyal," how long will Tova have to be in a plastic boot?

6 weeks.

66. Where is does Janice say that Mary Ann is moving?

Spokane.

67. In "House Special," how much has Cameron spent for a camper?

\$1,200.

68. What is Ethan shelving when Cameron arrives in "House Special"?

Ramen.

69. In "House Special," what type of sandwich does Ethan have Tanner make Cameron?

Pastrami.

70. How old was Tova in 1989?

39.



71. How old was Tova when her father built the house where she lives?

8.

72. What type of bushes hide the driveway to Tova's house?

Blackberry.

73. How much does Cameron have to pay to have his camper hauled to Ethan's place?

Nothing.

74. What time does Cameron show up for his job interview at the aquarium?

10:45 a.m.

75. What were Ethan and Cameron drinking when they filled out Cameron's application for the maintenance position at the aquarium?

Scotch.

76. How much will Terry pay Cameron an hour for the maintenance job?

\$20.

77. How many hours is the maintenance job?

20.



78. In "Not Glamorous Work," how many times before working at the aquarium has Cameron been entrusted with a key to his work place?

Never.

79. How much money does it take to fix the tire and wheel well on the camper?

\$700.

80. In "A Sucker for Injured Creatures," when will Cameron get his first paycheck from the aquarium?

This Friday.

81. What is the name of a realtor who finds an address for Simon Brinks for Cameron?

Jessica Snell.

82. How much is the cream Avery gives Cameron for his neck in "A Sucker for Injured Creatures" (159)?

\$19.95.

83. In "A Sucker for Injured Creatures," where is Cameron's duffel found?

Naples, Italy.

84. What type of vehicle does Tova drive?

Hatchback.



85. Where is Tova able to make a copy of her driver's license in "Epitaph and Pens"?

Janice's house.

86. In "Epitaph and Pens," how much does Tova have to pay for two passport photos?

\$18.50.

87. When did Will, Tova's husband die?

2017.

88. Why does Tova go to Shop-Way in "Epitaph and Pens"?

Buy a pen.

89. In "Conscience Does Make Cowards of Us All," where does Cameron hurt himself on a table when he falls?

Temple.

90. What color bandage does Tova give Cameron in "Conscience Does Make Cowards of Us All"?

Pink.

91. In "Conscience Does Make Cowards of Us All," how long has Cameron been working at the aquarium?

2 weeks.



92. What was one of Erik's favorite Shakespearean plays?

Hamlet.

93. How old was Tova when her family left Sweden?

7.

94. What year did Tova, Lars, and her mother take the SS Vadstena to America?

1956.

95. Where does Marcellus say that Cameron and Tova have a heart-shaped dimple?

Left cheeks.

96. In "Hard Left, Cut Right," when does Cameron land a promising clue to Simon Brinks' whereabouts?

July.

97. Where does Cameron learn that Simon Brinks spends summer weekends?

San Juan Islands.

98. Who drives Cameron to the place where he thinks he might find Simon Brinks in "Hard Left, Cut Right"?

Ethan.



99. What type of cancer did Will Sullivan die from?

Pancreatic.

100. What animal features in a joke about a lawn mower that Marcellus tells?

Tiger.

101. On what day of Marcellus's existence does he think when Terry turns the calendar tomorrow, it will be the last time he sees a new month?

1,341.

102. When is Mary Ann's farwell luncheon held?

August.

103. What is the name of Mary Ann's great-granddaughter?

Isabelle.

104. What does Laura, Mary Ann's daughter teach at the state university?

Psychology.

105. What is the name of the waiter at Mary Ann's going-away lunch?

Omar.



106. What does Tova order to eat at Mary Ann's going-away lunch?

Curried squash bisque.

107. What is the name of Adam Wright's girlfriend?

Sandy.

108. When was the last time that Adam saw Erik?

Snack bar.

109. What color siding does Avery's house have?

Yellow.

110. How old is Avery?

32.

111. How old is Avery's son?

15.

112. How long has Avery been living in Sowell Bay?

5 years.



113. What is the name of Marco's father?

Josh.

114. What does Marco's father do for a living?

Deckhand on a fishing trawler.

115. What was the name of the girl Erik took t the Sowell Bay High School homecoming dance?

Ashley Barrington.

116. In "There Was a Girl," how much is the offer Jessica Snell calls about above asking price?

\$10,000.

117. What creatures are in the tank next to Marcellus?

Wolf eels.

118. What does Cameron use to climb up to the top of Marcellus's tank in "An Unexpected Treasure?"

New stool.

119. In "An Unexpected Treasure," what shiny thing do Cameron and Tova spot in Marcellus's tank?

Earring.



120. When does Marcellus think that Cameron was conceived?

Close to Erik's accident.

121. In "Some Trees," what is Tova stacking at the beginning of the chapter?

Tea towels.

122. Who is coming over the next day in "Some Trees" to help Tova?

Barb, Janice, Janice's son Timothy, and some of Timothy's friends.

123. How many wooden Dala Horses does Tova have?

5.

124. In "Some Trees," what do Tova and Ethan see Sandy sampling at the grocery store?

Bing cherries.

125. Who tells Tova the name of the girl that Erik was seeing?

Sandy.

126. What does Cameron do to keep Marcellus in his tank in "An Impossible Jam"?

Ties twine around the slit in the lid.



127. In "An Impossible Jam," who calls Cameron?

Elizabeth.

128. How long has Cameron been working at the aquarium in "An Impossible Jam"?

2 months.

129. In "An Impossible Jam," where does Marcellus put Cameron's driver's license?

Under the sea lion's tail.

130. How much does Ethan remember that Daphne Cassmore wrote a bad check for?

\$6 and change.

131. What does Ethan learn Daphne's married name was?

Scott.

132. In "The Downside of Free Food," what does Cameron buy after he sends Aunt Jeanne the last of the money he owes her?

Digital albums.

133. What time does Aunt Jeanne call Cameron in "The Downside of Free Food"?

1 a.m.



134. At the end of "The Downside of Free Food," when does Aunt Jeanne plan to come and see Cameron?

Next month.

135. In "Not a Date," what time does Tova go to Ethan's house for dinner?

5 p.m.

136. Who gives Tova the wine she bring to dinner at Ethan's house in "Not a Date"?

Barbara.

137. How many brothers and sisters did Ethan have?

11.

138. What was the date of the Grateful Dead shirt that Tova ruins?

May 26, 1995.

139. How much does Tova pay for a replacement of the shirt she ruins?

\$2,000.

140. How long were Tova and Will married?

47 years.



141. In "Not Even a Birthday Card," what does Cameron have to eat when he gets off work?

Crackers, cheese, and deli meat.

142. When does Aver make plans to meet Cameron in "Not Even a Birthday Card"?

Wednesday at 4 p.m.

143. What was the name of Mary Ann's granddaughter who got pregnant at 18?

Tatum.

144. How long ago did Mary Ann's granddaughter get pregnant?

3 years.

145. In "Amazing Bones," what day of the week does Janice ask Tova to go out for lunch?

Monday.

146. Where does Tova plan to stay between when she moves into Charter Village and when she signs the papers on the house?

Hotel in Everett.

147. What fruits does Tova buy on Tuesday in "Amazing Bones"?

Grapefruit and apple.



148. In "Amazing Bones," what time of day does Tova meet Jessica Snell on Wednesday to sign the closing papers?

11 a.m.

149. How many children do the people have who are buying Tova's house?

3.

150. Where is the family from who is buying Tova's house?

Texas.

151. What brand guitar does Cameron have?

Fender.

152. In "A Big, Bold Lie," what day of the week does Cameron decide to do laundry?

Wednesday.

153. What time does Cameron wake up after a nap in "A Big, Bold, Lie"?

3 p.m.

154. In "A Big, Bold Lie," what time does Cameron have an appointment to meet with Simon Brinks?

6 p.m.



155. How long will it take Cameron to drive from Sowell Bay to Seattle for his appointment with Simon Brinks?

2 hours.

156. In "The Sob," on what floor of the building does Cameron meet Simon Brinks?

Basement.

157. What is the name of Simon Brinks' daughter?

Natalie.

158. What is Simon Brinks' middle name?

Orville.

159. What is the name of Simon Brinks' bar?

Mudminnow.

160. What color hair does Simon Brinks' daughter have?

Green.

161. In "A New Route," who texts Cameron after he leaves Simon Brinks?

Brad.



162. How far from Sowell Bay, does Cameron have to get gas in "A New Route"?

20 miles.

163. How far of a drive is it from Sowell Bay to Modesto?

15 hours.

164. Where has the aquarium's new octopus been rescued from?

Alsaka.

165. In "High and Dry," what does Cameron do with his father's class ring?

Throws it in the wolf eels' tank.

166. What creature injured Marcellus before he was captured and imprisoned?

Wolf eel.

167. How many wolf eels are in the tank at the aquarium?

2.

168. How far is Cameron from the Oregon-California border when his serpentine belt breaks?

About 100 miles.



169. What day of the week do Janice and Barb bring Tova a cake?

Thursday.

170. Where does Tova find Marcellus in "The Eel Ring"?

In front of the lobby door.

171. In "The Very Low Tide," what does Tova probably weight?

90 pounds.

172. About how far is the drop to the water when Tova tips the bucket and release Marcellus?

About 3 feet.

173. In "Every Last Thing," what time does Avery come to the pier and ask Tova if she has seen Cameron?

Quarter to midnight.

174. In "Expensive Roadkill," at what mile marker does he realize he left his phone on the front bumper when he was changing the belt?

780.

175. What color stove does Tova have that she knows the new owners will replace?

Avocado green.



176. In "Expensive Roadkill," when Cameron comes to see Tova, how many more hours does she have before she leaves her house?

3 1/2.

177. What is the floorboard made of that does not match the rest of the floor in Erik's old room?

White ash.

178. What do Tova and Cameron find in a hiding place in the floor in Erik's old room?

Package of snack cakes and a Dala horse.

179. In "After All," how much time has passed?

A month.

180. What game are Cameron and Tova playing in "After All"?

Scrabble.

Oral Reading Evaluation Sheet

Name: _____

Period: _____

5 = Above Average 3 = Average 1 = Below Average

Audibility - Projecting your voice so your audience can hear and understand you.

5 4 3 2 1

Pronunciation - Ability to recognize words before you say them and pronounce all the sounds correctly.

5 4 3 2 1

Articulation - Using your tongue, mouth and lips to pronounce all the sounds correctly.

5 4 3 2 1

Vocal Variety/Expression - Using appropriate pitch, volume and flow.

5 4 3 2 1

Rate - Reading a speed, or pace that is easy to follow.

5 4 3 2 1

Comments:

Reading Assignment Sheet

Name: _____

Period: _____

Reading Assignment	Date Assigned	Date Due	Date Completed
To Page: _____	_____	_____	_____
To Page: _____	_____	_____	_____
To Page: _____	_____	_____	_____
To Page: _____	_____	_____	_____
To Page: _____	_____	_____	_____
To Page: _____	_____	_____	_____
To Page: _____	_____	_____	_____
To Page: _____	_____	_____	_____
To Page: _____	_____	_____	_____

Writing Evaluation Form

Name: _____

Period: _____

5 = Above Average

3 = Average

1 = Below Average

Clear thesis or position

5 4 3 2 1

Relevant supporting arguments

5 4 3 2 1

Transitions between paragraphs

5 4 3 2 1

Clarity of expression

5 4 3 2 1

Strong conclusion

5 4 3 2 1

Grammar

5 4 3 2 1

Spelling

5 4 3 2 1

Punctuation

5 4 3 2 1

Comments:



One Week Quiz A

Name: _____

Period: _____

This quiz consists of 5 multiple choice and 5 short answer questions through The Pier's Shadow - What If (209-280).

Multiple Choice Questions

1. How old is Avery?

- (a) 29.
- (b) 32.
- (c) 30.
- (d) 31.

2. What time does Aunt Jeanne call Cameron in "The Downside of Free Food"?

- (a) 2 a.m.
- (b) Midnight.
- (c) 1 a.m.
- (d) 4 a.m.

3. In "Not Glamorous Work," how many times before working at the aquarium has Cameron been entrusted with a key to his work place?

- (a) 6.
- (b) Never.
- (c) 5.
- (d) 3.

4. What is Cameron's birthdate?

- (a) March 11.
- (b) February 19.
- (c) February 2.
- (d) March 30.

5. Who taught Erik to sail?

- (a) Adam.
- (b) Tova.
- (c) Lars.
- (d) Will.

Short Answer Questions

1. What time does Cameron show up for his job interview at the aquarium?
2. How many brothers and sisters did Ethan have?
3. What type of sandwich is the man named Elliott eating when he and Cameron stand in line at the JoyJet baggage office?
4. In "Not a Date," what time does Tova go to Ethan's house for dinner?
5. In "The Technically True Story," how many times has Tova called out of work before?



Multiple Choice Questions Key

1. B
2. C
3. B
4. C
5. C

Short Answer Questions Key

1. What time does Cameron show up for his job interview at the aquarium?

10:45 a.m.

2. How many brothers and sisters did Ethan have?

11.

3. What type of sandwich is the man named Elliott eating when he and Cameron stand in line at the JoyJet baggage office?

Yamwich.

4. In "Not a Date," what time does Tova go to Ethan's house for dinner?

5 p.m.

5. In "The Technically True Story," how many times has Tova called out of work before?

None.



Two Week Quiz A

Name: _____

Period: _____

This quiz consists of 5 multiple choice and 5 short answer questions through Not Glamorous Work - A Three-Martini Truth (142-208).

Multiple Choice Questions

1. In "Baby Vipers Are Especially Deadly," why is Katie home early from work?

- (a) Massage appointment.
- (b) Doctor's appointment.
- (c) Dentist appointment.
- (d) Physical therapy appointment.

2. What is the name of the new bag boy at Shop-Way in "June Gloom"?

- (a) David.
- (b) Mark.
- (c) Tanner.
- (d) Connor.

3. What is the name of Janice's Yorkie?

- (a) Rolo.
- (b) Sparky.
- (c) Sully.
- (d) Hunter.

4. What color duffel does Cameron lose on his flight to Seattle?

- (a) Navy.
- (b) Camo.
- (c) Green.
- (d) Black.

5. In "Hard Left, Cut Right," when does Cameron land a promising clue to Simon Brinks' whereabouts?

- (a) June.
- (b) July.
- (c) July 8.
- (d) June 30.

Short Answer Questions

1. What color bandage does Tova give Cameron in "Conscience Does Make Cowards of Us All"?
2. How many hours is the maintenance job?
3. How old was Ethan when he worked for a time at the kiddie zoo in Glasgow?
4. Where is the class ring from that was in the box of Cameron's mother's things his aunt gave him?
5. In "Got Baggage," about how much money does Cameron have with him when his duffel does not show up?



Multiple Choice Questions Key

1. C
2. C
3. A
4. C
5. B

Short Answer Questions Key

1. What color bandage does Tova give Cameron in "Conscience Does Make Cowards of Us All"?

Pink.

2. How many hours is the maintenance job?

20.

3. How old was Ethan when he worked for a time at the kiddie zoo in Glasgow?

19.

4. Where is the class ring from that was in the box of Cameron's mother's things his aunt gave him?

Sowell Bay.

5. In "Got Baggage," about how much money does Cameron have with him when his duffel does not show up?

\$4.



Four Week Quiz A

Name: _____

Period: _____

This quiz consists of 5 multiple choice and 5 short answer questions through Day 1,309 of My Captivity - The Green Leotard (73-141).

Multiple Choice Questions

1. In "House Special," how much has Cameron spent for a camper?

- (a) \$1,200.
- (b) \$950.
- (c) \$800.
- (d) \$1,000.

2. How much does Marcellus weigh on Day 1,302 of his captivity??

- (a) 86 pounds.
- (b) 72 pounds.
- (c) 65 pounds.
- (d) 60 pounds.

3. How many days does Marcellus believe he has to live?

- (a) 310.
- (b) 90.
- (c) 160.
- (d) 205.

4. What vehicle did Cameron have before it got repossessed?

- (a) Subaru.
- (b) Toyota.
- (c) Honda.
- (d) Jeep.

5. What type of bushes hide the driveway to Tova's house?

- (a) Raspberry.
- (b) Blackberry.
- (c) Baneberry.
- (d) Madrone.

Short Answer Questions

1. How much money does Cameron's aunt send him in "Got Baggage"?

2. Where is does Janice say that Mary Ann is moving?

3. How long ago did the Knit-Wits begin as a knitting club?

4. How old was Ethan when he worked for a time at the kiddie zoo in Glasgow?

5. In "Baby Vipers Are Especially Deadly," why is Katie home early from work?



Multiple Choice Questions Key

1. A
2. D
3. C
4. D
5. B

Short Answer Questions Key

1. How much money does Cameron's aunt send him in "Got Baggage"?

\$2,000.

2. Where is does Janice say that Mary Ann is moving?

Spokane.

3. How long ago did the Knit-Wits begin as a knitting club?

25 years.

4. How old was Ethan when he worked for a time at the kiddie zoo in Glasgow?

19.

5. In "Baby Vipers Are Especially Deadly," why is Katie home early from work?

Dentist appointment.



Four Week Quiz B

Name: _____

Period: _____

This quiz consists of 5 multiple choice and 5 short answer questions through *Amazing Bones - After All* (281-355).

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What creature injured Marcellus before he was captured and imprisoned?

- (a) Moray eels.
- (b) Wolf eel.
- (c) Shark.
- (d) Sea otter.

2. How old was Ethan when he worked for a time at the kiddie zoo in Glasgow?

- (a) 22.
- (b) 20.
- (c) 19.
- (d) 21.

3. In "Not Even a Birthday Card," what does Cameron have to eat when he gets off work?

- (a) Microwaved mac and cheese.
- (b) Crackers, cheese, and deli meat.
- (c) Cheese sandwich.
- (d) Ham sandwich.

4. Who is coming over the next day in "Some Trees" to help Tova?

- (a) Mary Ann, Laura, and Janice.
- (b) Mary Ann, Janice and Barb.
- (c) Ethan and Cameron.
- (d) Barb, Janice, Janice's son Timothy, and some of Timothy's friends.

5. Where does Tova plan to stay between when she moves into Charter Village and when she signs the papers on the house?

- (a) Hotel in Seattle.
- (b) Hotel in Everett.
- (c) Hotel in Bellevue.
- (d) Hotel in Kirkland.

Short Answer Questions

1. What is the youngest that someone can be to live at Welina Mobile Park?
2. What is the date of a concert ticket Cameron finds in the box of his mother's things in "Maybe Not Marrakesh"?
3. What was the date of the Grateful Dead shirt that Tova ruins?
4. How many ladies used to be in Tova's lunch group called the Knit-Wits?
5. What color are the flowers on Aunt Jeanne's Clematis?



Multiple Choice Questions Key

1. B
2. C
3. B
4. D
5. B

Short Answer Questions Key

1. What is the youngest that someone can be to live at Welina Mobile Park?

52.

2. What is the date of a concert ticket Cameron finds in the box of his mother's things in "Maybe Not Marrakesh"?

August 14, 1988.

3. What was the date of the Grateful Dead shirt that Tova ruins?

May 26, 1995.

4. How many ladies used to be in Tova's lunch group called the Knit-Wits?

7.

5. What color are the flowers on Aunt Jeanne's Clematis?

Purple.



Eight Week Quiz A

Name: _____

Period: _____

This quiz consists of 5 multiple choice and 5 short answer questions through Day 1,299 of My Captivity - Happy Endings (1-72).

Multiple Choice Questions

1. Where did Cameron and Katie use to go camping before he lost his vehicle?

- (a) Mount Rainier National Park.
- (b) High-desert.
- (c) Olympic National Park.
- (d) Mountains.

2. How many hearts does Marcellus have?

- (a) 1.
- (b) 3.
- (c) 2.
- (d) 4.

3. During Marcellus' captivity, how many times has he seen the seahorses spawn?

- (a) 5.
- (b) 3.
- (c) 4.
- (d) 6.

4. How long does it take Brad to pick up Cameron after Katie kicks him out of the apartment?

- (a) 30 minutes.
- (b) 1 1/2 hours.
- (c) An hour.
- (d) 45 minutes.

5. What is the name of Tova's brother?

- (a) Lars.
- (b) Canute.
- (c) Anders.
- (d) Mathias.



Short Answer Questions

1. How much does Marcellus weigh on Day 1,302 of his captivity??
2. In "Baby Vipers Are Especially Deadly," why is Katie home early from work?
3. Where did Brad and Elizabeth get the down payment for their house?
4. What is Marcellus's life span?
5. Where did Cameron grow up?



Multiple Choice Questions Key

1. B
2. B
3. C
4. C
5. A

Short Answer Questions Key

1. How much does Marcellus weigh on Day 1,302 of his captivity??

60 pounds.

2. In "Baby Vipers Are Especially Deadly," why is Katie home early from work?

Dentist appointment.

3. Where did Brad and Elizabeth get the down payment for their house?

Her parents.

4. What is Marcellus's life span?

1,460 days.

5. Where did Cameron grow up?

Modesto.



Eight Week Quiz B

Name: _____

Period: _____

This quiz consists of 5 multiple choice and 5 short answer questions through Day 1,309 of *My Captivity - The Green Leotard* (73-141).

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What type of octopus is Marcellus?

- (a) Sandbird Octopus.
- (b) Mosaic Octopus.
- (c) Pacific octopus.
- (d) Algae Octopus.

2. What is the date of a concert ticket Cameron finds in the box of his mother's things in "Maybe Not Marrakesh"?

- (a) August 2, 1988.
- (b) August 30, 1988.
- (c) August 14, 1988.
- (d) August 18, 1988.

3. In "The Silver-Dollar Scar," how many steps is Tova's parking space from the old ticket booth?

- (a) 22.
- (b) 18.
- (c) 38.
- (d) 41.

4. How many hearts does Marcellus have?

- (a) 4.
- (b) 1.
- (c) 3.
- (d) 2.

5. In "The Silver-Dollar Scar," where does Tova find Marcellus?

- (a) Restroom.
- (b) Hallway.
- (c) Break room.
- (d) Lobby.

Short Answer Questions

1. How much does Marcellus weigh on Day 1,302 of his captivity??

2. What did Erik name a rock crab he found that had lost two of its hind legs?

3. What is in a puzzle box to eat that makes Dr. Santiago say that Marcellus is a "smart cookie" (73)?

4. How long does Tova know it will take her to drive to Bellingham to get Lars' things?

5. Where does Katie work?



Multiple Choice Questions Key

1. C
2. C
3. C
4. C
5. C

Short Answer Questions Key

1. How much does Marcellus weigh on Day 1,302 of his captivity??

60 pounds.

2. What did Erik name a rock crab he found that had lost two of its hind legs?

Eddie.

3. What is in a puzzle box to eat that makes Dr. Santiago say that Marcellus is a "smart cookie" (73)?

Red rock crab.

4. How long does Tova know it will take her to drive to Bellingham to get Lars' things?

An hour.

5. Where does Katie work?

Holiday Inn.



Eight Week Quiz C

Name: _____

Period: _____

This quiz consists of 5 multiple choice and 5 short answer questions through Day 1,309 of My Captivity - The Green Leotard (73-141).

Multiple Choice Questions

1. Where does Tova have a birthmark?

- (a) Forearm.
- (b) Hand.
- (c) Wrist.
- (d) Right thumb.

2. Where is the class ring from that was in the box of Cameron's mother's things his aunt gave him?

- (a) Gallagher Cove.
- (b) Seacrest Cove.
- (c) Sowell Bay.
- (d) Bellingham Bay.

3. In "The Silver-Dollar Scar," how many steps is Tova's parking space from the old ticket booth?

- (a) 38.
- (b) 22.
- (c) 18.
- (d) 41.

4. Where did Cameron grow up?

- (a) Stockton.
- (b) Modesto.
- (c) Portland.
- (d) Sacramento.

5. What is Cameron's birthdate?

- (a) February 19.
- (b) March 11.
- (c) March 30.
- (d) February 2.

Short Answer Questions

1. How long ago did the Knit-Wits begin as a knitting club?
2. What color is Marcellus?
3. In "Got Baggage," about how much money does Cameron have with him when his duffel does not show up?
4. How long does Tova know it will take her to drive to Bellingham to get Lars' things?
5. How old is Tova Sullivan?



Multiple Choice Questions Key

1. A
2. C
3. A
4. B
5. D

Short Answer Questions Key

1. How long ago did the Knit-Wits begin as a knitting club?

25 years.

2. What color is Marcellus?

Orange.

3. In "Got Baggage," about how much money does Cameron have with him when his duffel does not show up?

\$4.

4. How long does Tova know it will take her to drive to Bellingham to get Lars' things?

An hour.

5. How old is Tova Sullivan?

70.



Eight Week Quiz D

Name: _____

Period: _____

This quiz consists of 5 multiple choice and 5 short answer questions through Not Glamorous Work - A Three-Martini Truth (142-208).

Multiple Choice Questions

1. In "Maybe Not Marrakesh," what is the date of the class ring Cameron finds in the box of his mother's things?

- (a) 1990.
- (b) 1988.
- (c) 1989.
- (d) 1991.

2. In "Maybe Not Marrakesh," what triggers the security light at Brad and Elizabeth's place?

- (a) Raccoon.
- (b) Deer.
- (c) Dog.
- (d) Cat.

3. How many neurons does Marcelles have distributed along his eight arms?

- (a) 100,000.
- (b) Quarter of a billion.
- (c) Half a billion.
- (d) 520,000.

4. In "Conscience Does Make Cowards of Us All," where does Cameron hurt himself on a table when he falls?

- (a) Temple.
- (b) Shoulder.
- (c) Stomach.
- (d) Hip.

5. Where was Tova's mother from?

- (a) Norway.
- (b) Finland.
- (c) Denmark.
- (d) Sweden.

Short Answer Questions

1. Where does Tova have a birthmark?
2. What is the name of Janice's Yorkie?
3. In "Not Glamorous Work," how many times before working at the aquarium has Cameron been entrusted with a key to his work place?
4. What holiday did Will and Tova always spend at Lars' house in Ballard until Erik died?
5. How old is Tova Sullivan?



Multiple Choice Questions Key

1. C
2. A
3. C
4. A
5. D

Short Answer Questions Key

1. Where does Tova have a birthmark?

Forearm.

2. What is the name of Janice's Yorkie?

Rolo.

3. In "Not Glamorous Work," how many times before working at the aquarium has Cameron been entrusted with a key to his work place?

Never.

4. What holiday did Will and Tova always spend at Lars' house in Ballard until Erik died?

New Year's Eve.

5. How old is Tova Sullivan?

70.



Eight Week Quiz E

Name: _____

Period: _____

This quiz consists of 5 multiple choice and 5 short answer questions through *The Pier's Shadow - What If* (209-280).

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What is the name of Adam Wright's girlfriend?

- (a) Sandy.
- (b) Cathi.
- (c) Molly.
- (d) Lacy.

2. How long does it take Brad to pick up Cameron after Katie kicks him out of the apartment?

- (a) 30 minutes.
- (b) 1 1/2 hours.
- (c) An hour.
- (d) 45 minutes.

3. What were Ethan and Cameron drinking when they filled out Cameron's application for the maintenance position at the aquarium?

- (a) Scotch.
- (b) Rum.
- (c) Beer.
- (d) Whiskey.

4. What plant does Cameron have to pick up for his aunt Jeanne?

- (a) Lily.
- (b) Honeysuckle.
- (c) Wisteria.
- (d) Clematis.

5. What does Marco's father do for a living?

- (a) Fisherman.
- (b) Runs a skate rink.
- (c) Deckhand on a fishing trawler.
- (d) Grocery store manager.

Short Answer Questions

1. What holiday did Will and Tova always spend at Lars' house in Ballard until Erik died?
2. In "A Sucker for Injured Creatures," where is Cameron's duffel found?
3. What vehicle did Cameron have before it got repossessed?
4. In "A Sucker for Injured Creatures," when will Cameron get his first paycheck from the aquarium?
5. What color is Marcellus?



Multiple Choice Questions Key

1. A
2. C
3. A
4. D
5. C

Short Answer Questions Key

1. What holiday did Will and Tova always spend at Lars' house in Ballard until Erik died?

New Year's Eve.

2. In "A Sucker for Injured Creatures," where is Cameron's duffel found?

Naples, Italy.

3. What vehicle did Cameron have before it got repossessed?

Jeep.

4. In "A Sucker for Injured Creatures," when will Cameron get his first paycheck from the aquarium?

This Friday.

5. What color is Marcellus?

Orange.



Eight Week Quiz F

Name: _____

Period: _____

This quiz consists of 5 multiple choice and 5 short answer questions through The Pier's Shadow - What If (209-280).

Multiple Choice Questions

1. When does Marcellus think that Cameron was conceived?

- (a) A week before Erik's accident.
- (b) A few days before Erik's accident.
- (c) Maybe a month before Erik's accident.
- (d) Close to Erik's accident.

2. In "Epitaph and Pens," how much does Tova have to pay for two passport photos?

- (a) \$25.
- (b) \$18.50.
- (c) \$20.50.
- (d) \$30.

3. In "A Sucker for Injured Creatures," where is Cameron's duffel found?

- (a) Berne, Switzerland.
- (b) Madrid, Spain.
- (c) Naples, Italy.
- (d) Munich, Germany.

4. What was the date of the Grateful Dead shirt that Tova ruins?

- (a) March 9, 1995.
- (b) April 11, 1995.
- (c) June 24, 1995.
- (d) May 26, 1995.

5. In "Some Trees," what do Tova and Ethan see Sandy sampling at the grocery store?

- (a) Raspberries.
- (b) Grapes.
- (c) Bing cherries.
- (d) Blueberries.

Short Answer Questions

1. In "An Impossible Jam," who calls Cameron?
2. How old is Avery's son?
3. What is the name of Janice's Yorkie?
4. In "The Technically True Story," how many times has Tova called out of work before?
5. In "Maybe Not Marrakesh," what triggers the security light at Brad and Elizabeth's place?



Multiple Choice Questions Key

1. D
2. B
3. C
4. D
5. C

Short Answer Questions Key

1. In "An Impossible Jam," who calls Cameron?

Elizabeth.

2. How old is Avery's son?

15.

3. What is the name of Janice's Yorkie?

Rolo.

4. In "The Technically True Story," how many times has Tova called out of work before?

None.

5. In "Maybe Not Marrakesh," what triggers the security light at Brad and Elizabeth's place?

Raccoon.



Eight Week Quiz G

Name: _____

Period: _____

This quiz consists of 5 multiple choice and 5 short answer questions through *Amazing Bones - After All* (281-355).

Multiple Choice Questions

1. Where does Cameron learn that Simon Brinks spends summer weekends?

- (a) San Juan Islands.
- (b) Bainbridge Island.
- (c) Orcas Island.
- (d) Anderson Island.

2. Where is does Janice say that Mary Ann is moving?

- (a) Everett.
- (b) Spokane.
- (c) Seattle.
- (d) Tacoma.

3. Where does Marcellus say that Cameron and Tova have a heart-shaped dimple?

- (a) Right corner of their mouths.
- (b) Right cheeks.
- (c) Left cheeks.
- (d) Left corner of their mouths.

4. What color siding does Avery's house have?

- (a) Brown.
- (b) Blue.
- (c) Cream.
- (d) Yellow.

5. In "Busted But Loyal," how long will Tova have to be in a plastic boot?

- (a) 6 weeks.
- (b) 4 weeks.
- (c) 8 weeks.
- (d) 10 weeks.

Short Answer Questions

1. What time does Cameron show up for his job interview at the aquarium?
2. In "House Special," how much has Cameron spent for a camper?
3. In "Every Last Thing," what time does Avery come to the pier and ask Tova if she has seen Cameron?
4. What is the name of Mary Ann's great-granddaughter?
5. What type of octopus is Marcellus?



Multiple Choice Questions Key

1. A
2. B
3. C
4. D
5. A

Short Answer Questions Key

1. What time does Cameron show up for his job interview at the aquarium?

10:45 a.m.

2. In "House Special," how much has Cameron spent for a camper?

\$1,200.

3. In "Every Last Thing," what time does Avery come to the pier and ask Tova if she has seen Cameron?

Quarter to midnight.

4. What is the name of Mary Ann's great-granddaughter?

Isabelle.

5. What type of octopus is Marcellus?

Pacific octopus.



Mid-Book Test - Easy

Name: _____

Period: _____

This test consists of 15 multiple choice questions and 5 short answer questions.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What color duffel does Cameron lose on his flight to Seattle?

- (a) Black.
- (b) Green.
- (c) Camo.
- (d) Navy.

2. What is in a puzzle box to eat that makes Dr. Santiago say that Marcellus is a "smart cookie" (73)?

- (a) Clam.
- (b) Shrimp.
- (c) Red rock crab.
- (d) Oyster.

3. How many hearts does Marcellus have?

- (a) 2.
- (b) 1.
- (c) 4.
- (d) 3.

4. How long can Marcellus be out of his tank before he has to resubmerge?

- (a) 11 minutes.
- (b) 22 minutes.
- (c) 15 minutes.
- (d) 18 minutes.

5. In "Got Baggage," about how much money does Cameron have with him when his duffel does not show up?

- (a) \$5.
- (b) \$3.
- (c) \$4.
- (d) \$6.



6. Where does Katie work?

- (a) Radisson.
- (b) Marriott.
- (c) Holiday Inn.
- (d) Best Western.

7. How many days does Marcellus believe he has to live?

- (a) 310.
- (b) 90.
- (c) 205.
- (d) 160.

8. What does Cameron discover is the name of a man in a photo with his mom that was in the box his mother's things?

- (a) Andrew Gallagher.
- (b) Alex Wilson.
- (c) Simon Brinks.
- (d) Steve Parsons.

9. How old was Ethan when he worked for a time at the kiddie zoo in Glasgow?

- (a) 21.
- (b) 20.
- (c) 22.
- (d) 19.

10. Where does Tova hurt herself when she falls off a stool in "The Technically True Story"?

- (a) Left ankle.
- (b) Left wrist.
- (c) Right wrist.
- (d) Right ankle.

11. How long have Brad and Elizabeth been married in "Maybe Not Marrakesh"?

- (a) 4 years.
- (b) 3 years.
- (c) 2 years.
- (d) 5 years.

12. How old is Tova Sullivan?

- (a) 68.
- (b) 70.
- (c) 74.
- (d) 63.



13. What is Cameron's birthdate?

- (a) March 30.
- (b) February 2.
- (c) February 19.
- (d) March 11.

14. What vehicle did Cameron have before it got repossessed?

- (a) Jeep.
- (b) Toyota.
- (c) Honda.
- (d) Subaru.

15. How long does Tova know it will take her to drive to Bellingham to get Lars' things?

- (a) 50 minutes.
- (b) 2 hours.
- (c) An hour.
- (d) 90 minutes.

Short Answer Questions

1. What is the youngest that someone can be to live at Welina Mobile Park?
2. In "Baby Vipers Are Especially Deadly," how long does Brad say that Cameron can stay with him and Elizabeth?
3. What type of bushes hide the driveway to Tova's house?
4. What is the name of the new bag boy at Shop-Way in "June Gloom"?
5. Where did Brad and Elizabeth get the down payment for their house?

Multiple Choice Answer Key

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| 1. B | 11. B |
| 2. C | 12. B |
| 3. D | 13. B |
| 4. D | 14. A |
| 5. C | 15. C |
| 6. C | |
| 7. D | |
| 8. C | |
| 9. D | |
| 10. A | |

Short Answer Key

1. What is the youngest that someone can be to live at Welina Mobile Park?

52.

2. In "Baby Vipers Are Especially Deadly," how long does Brad say that Cameron can stay with him and Elizabeth?

2 nights.

3. What type of bushes hide the driveway to Tova's house?

Blackberry.

4. What is the name of the new bag boy at Shop-Way in "June Gloom"?

Tanner.

5. Where did Brad and Elizabeth get the down payment for their house?

Her parents.



Final Test - Easy

Name: _____

Period: _____

This test consists of 15 multiple choice questions and 5 short answer questions.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What does Tova order to eat at Mary Ann's going-away lunch?

- (a) Corn chowder.
- (b) Lobster bisque.
- (c) Curried squash bisque.
- (d) Clam chowder.

2. In "A Sucker for Injured Creatures," where is Cameron's duffel found?

- (a) Munich, Germany.
- (b) Berne, Switzerland.
- (c) Madrid, Spain.
- (d) Naples, Italy.

3. How much will Terry pay Cameron an hour for the maintenance job?

- (a) \$18.
- (b) \$20.
- (c) \$14.
- (d) \$15.

4. In "Not Even a Birthday Card," what does Cameron have to eat when he gets off work?

- (a) Ham sandwich.
- (b) Microwaved mac and cheese.
- (c) Crackers, cheese, and deli meat.
- (d) Cheese sandwich.

5. What year did Tova, Lars, and her mother take the SS Vadstena to America?

- (a) 1954.
- (b) 1955.
- (c) 1956.
- (d) 1957.



6. In "Conscience Does Make Cowards of Us All," how long has Cameron been working at the aquarium?

- (a)** 5 days.
- (b)** 3 weeks.
- (c)** 2 weeks.
- (d)** 8 days.

7. How long ago did Mary Ann's granddaughter get pregnant?

- (a)** 3 years.
- (b)** 5 years.
- (c)** 2 years.
- (d)** 4 years.

8. How much money does it take to fix the tire and wheel well on the camper?

- (a)** \$700.
- (b)** \$600.
- (c)** \$800.
- (d)** \$750.

9. When does Aver make plans to meet Cameron in "Not Even a Birthday Card"?

- (a)** Sunday at 2 p.m.
- (b)** Wednesday at 4 p.m.
- (c)** Wednesday at 6 p.m.
- (d)** Sunday at 4 p.m.

10. What does Laura, Mary Ann's daughter teach at the state university?

- (a)** American literature.
- (b)** Biology.
- (c)** Chemistry.
- (d)** Psychology.

11. In "Some Trees," what is Tova stacking at the beginning of the chapter?

- (a)** Tea towels.
- (b)** Socks.
- (c)** Bath towels.
- (d)** Slacks.

12. What time does Aunt Jeanne call Cameron in "The Downside of Free Food"?

- (a)** Midnight.
- (b)** 4 a.m.
- (c)** 2 a.m.
- (d)** 1 a.m.



13. How old is Avery?

- (a) 32.
- (b) 29.
- (c) 31.
- (d) 30.

14. How many brothers and sisters did Ethan have?

- (a) 9.
- (b) 11.
- (c) 10.
- (d) 13.

15. What type of vehicle does Tova drive?

- (a) Small pickup.
- (b) SUV.
- (c) Hatchback.
- (d) Compact car.

Short Answer Questions

1. What is the name of Marco's father?
2. How many wooden Dala Horses does Tova have?
3. How old is Avery's son?
4. What is the name of Mary Ann's great-granddaughter?
5. How old was Tova when her family left Sweden?

Multiple Choice Answer Key

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| 1. C | 11. A |
| 2. D | 12. D |
| 3. B | 13. A |
| 4. C | 14. B |
| 5. C | 15. C |
| 6. C | |
| 7. A | |
| 8. A | |
| 9. B | |
| 10. D | |

Short Answer Key

- 1. What is the name of Marco's father?**

Josh.

- 2. How many wooden Dala Horses does Tova have?**

5.

- 3. How old is Avery's son?**

15.

- 4. What is the name of Mary Ann's great-granddaughter?**

Isabelle.

5. How old was Tova when her family left Sweden?

7.



Mid-Book Test - Medium

Name: _____

Period: _____

This test consists of 5 multiple choice questions, 5 short answer questions, and 10 short essay questions.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. How long can Marcellus be out of his tank before he has to resubmerge?

- (a) 18 minutes.
- (b) 22 minutes.
- (c) 11 minutes.
- (d) 15 minutes.

2. How long ago did the Knit-Wits begin as a knitting club?

- (a) 18 months.
- (b) 25 years.
- (c) 36 months.
- (d) 20 years.

3. What is the main food the Marcellus is given to eat that he dislikes?

- (a) Fish eggs.
- (b) Herring.
- (c) Shrimp.
- (d) Crabs.

4. During Marcellus' captivity, how many times has he seen the seahorses spawn?

- (a) 3.
- (b) 5.
- (c) 4.
- (d) 6.

5. What type of sandwich is the man named Elliott eating when he and Cameron stand in line at the JoyJet baggage office?

- (a) Falafel Pita.
- (b) Ham.
- (c) Yamwich.
- (d) Pastrami.

Short Answer Questions

1. Where did Lars live before he died?

2. What color duffel does Cameron lose on his flight to Seattle?

3. In "Maybe Not Marrakesh," what triggers the security light at Brad and Elizabeth's place?

4. Where is does Janice say that Mary Ann is moving?

5. What does Cameron discover is the name of a man in a photo with his mom that was in the box his mother's things?

Short Essay Questions

1. Why does Dr. Santiago call Marcellus a "smart cookie" (73)?
2. What happened to Tova's son, Erik?
3. What does Old Al tell Cameron about his mother going to Washington?
4. What does Tova know about Terry's background?
5. Who are the Knit-Wits?
6. What does Tova learn about her ankle injury when she goes to see Dr. Remy?
7. What does Cameron find in his mother's box that Aunt Jeanne gives him?

8. When Cameron visits his aunt Jeanne in "The Welina Mobile Park Is for Lovers," why are she and Jimmy Delmonico arguing?

9. How does Cameron get money to continue his trip to Sowell Bay?

10. How does Marcellus get out of his enclosure, and why does he want to get out from time to time?



Multiple Choice Answer Key

1. A
2. B
3. B
4. C
5. C

Short Answer Key

- 1. Where did Lars live before he died?**

Charter Village.

- 2. What color duffel does Cameron lose on his flight to Seattle?**

Green.

- 3. In "Maybe Not Marrakesh," what triggers the security light at Brad and Elizabeth's place?**

Raccoon.

- 4. Where is does Janice say that Mary Ann is moving?**

Spokane.

- 5. What does Cameron discover is the name of a man in a photo with his mom that was in the box his mother's things?**

Simon Brinks.

Short Essay Answer Key

1. Why does Dr. Santiago call Marcellus a "smart cookie" (73)?

Marcellus is given a so-called puzzle--a hinged box made of clear plastic with a latch on the lid. There is a crab inside. Terry lowers it into the tank, and he and Dr. Santiago watch to see how long it takes Marcellus to open the box and eat the crab. It takes Marcellus only seconds to open the box and consume the crab. Dr. Santiago comments that Marcellus is a "smart cookie."

2. What happened to Tova's son, Erik?

Erik, Tova's son, turned 18 a few days before he disappeared. At first, his disappearance was considered a runaway case. The last person who saw him was a deckhand working the 11 o'clock southbound ferry, the last boat of the night. Erik had been working at the ticket booth and was to lock it up after the boat left. The sheriff found the ticket booth unlocked. The register cash was fully accounted for. Erik's backpack was stashed under the chair, along with his portable cassette player and headphones, and wallet. A week later, they found a boat that washed ashore with its anchor rope cut clean. Erik's prints were on the rudder. The sheriff thought it pointed to Erik taking his own life. Tova has never believed that.

3. What does Old Al tell Cameron about his mother going to Washington?

Old Al tells Cameron that he always knew Daphne, Cameron's mother, as "Jeanne's hell-raising little sister" (99). He remembers that Daphne ran away from home when she was in high school and went up to Washington. No one knows why. She got into some type of trouble up there. Jeanne had to take off work and drag her sister home.

4. What does Tova know about Terry's background?

Tova knows that Terry was raised on a fishing boat in Jamaica. He attended the University of Washington for college, and he earned a bachelor of science degree, summa cum laude, in marine biology.

5. Who are the Knit-Wits?

The Knit-Wits are four women who meet for weekly luncheons. There used to be seven women who met together. The Knit-Wits began 25 years for a handful of Sowell Bay women to swap yarn. Eventually, it became a refuge for empty nesters.

6. What does Tova learn about her ankle injury when she goes to see Dr. Remy?

Tova goes to see Dr. Remy about his ankle injury. He puts her ankle in a molded-plastic boot that he wants her to wear for six weeks--six weeks that she will not be able to work in her garden or work at the aquarium. Dr. Remy also took a bone density test and told her that returning to work might not be advisable.

7. What does Cameron find in his mother's box that Aunt Jeanne gives him?

Cameron decides to go through the box that belonged to his mother. He finds some half-used lipsticks, handwritten school papers, a concert ticket stub, scrunchies, old cassette tapes, and a small black drawstring bag. Inside the bag is jewelry: four bracelets, seven necklaces, two empty locket, and one broken silver chain. Plus there is a class ring from Sowell Bay High School, class of 1989.

8. When Cameron visits his aunt Jeanne in "The Welina Mobile Park Is for Lovers," why are she and Jimmy Delmonico arguing?

When Cameron comes to visit his aunt Jeanne at the Welina Mobile Park, he can hear her and Jimmy Delmonico, the landlord, arguing. Jimmy tells her that Sissy Baker saw the eyes of a snake in Jeanne's clematis, so Jimmy tells her that she has to remove it. Jeanne tells him that there are no snakes in the clematis, and Cameron backs her up.

9. How does Cameron get money to continue his trip to Sowell Bay?

Cameron calls his Aunt Jeanne and tells her that he is in Seattle and he has lost his luggage and his mother's jewelry he was intending to pawn. His aunt sends him \$2,000 that she was intending to use for an Alaskan cruise.

10. How does Marcellus get out of his enclosure, and why does he want to get out from time to time?

Marcellus gets out of his enclosure to find better things to eat than what they feed him. He can stay out of the tank for 18 minutes. At the top of his enclosure is a hole in the glass where the pump comes in. There is a gap between the pump housing and the glass. He can fit a tip of a tentacle through and unscrew the housing. The pump floats into his tank, exposing a gap. The gap is about the width of two or three human fingers. He can shape his body to pass through the hole.



Final Test - Medium

Name: _____

Period: _____

This test consists of 5 multiple choice questions, 5 short answer questions, and 10 short essay questions.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What were Ethan and Cameron drinking when they filled out Cameron's application for the maintenance position at the aquarium?

- (a) Whiskey.
- (b) Scotch.
- (c) Rum.
- (d) Beer.

2. How long ago did Mary Ann's granddaughter get pregnant?

- (a) 3 years.
- (b) 5 years.
- (c) 4 years.
- (d) 2 years.

3. In "The Downside of Free Food," what does Cameron buy after he sends Aunt Jeanne the last of the money he owes her?

- (a) Steak.
- (b) New phone.
- (c) Ear buds.
- (d) Digital albums.

4. In "Some Trees," what is Tova stacking at the beginning of the chapter?

- (a) Bath towels.
- (b) Slacks.
- (c) Tea towels.
- (d) Socks.

5. How much does Tova pay for a replacement of the shirt she ruins?

- (a) \$3,000.
- (b) \$1,500.
- (c) \$2,000.
- (d) \$2,500.

Short Answer Questions

1. What was the name of the girl Erik took to the Sowell Bay High School homecoming dance?
2. Where is Tova able to make a copy of her driver's license in "Epitaph and Pens"?
3. How many brothers and sisters did Ethan have?
4. How old is Avery?
5. Who drives Cameron to the place where he thinks he might find Simon Brinks in "Hard Left, Cut Right"?

Short Essay Questions

1. How does Cameron feel after working at the aquarium?
2. What does Marcellus do with Cameron's driver's license and why?
3. In "Hard Left, Cut Right," how is Cameron liking his job?
4. How does Ethan know Cameron's last name from somewhere and what does he do with the information?
5. How does Tova ruin a special concert shirt that belongs to Ethan?
6. How does Cameron get his camper towed?
7. Where are Will and Erik's headstones, and what information is on them?

8. What does Cameron learn about Avery when they get together at her house in "The Pier's Shadow" to paddle board?

9. What are Tova's thoughts when she finds her mother's old apron as she is sorting what to take and what to get rid of from her house?

10. What does Tova do at the beginning of "Epitaph and Pens"?



Multiple Choice Answer Key

1. B
2. A
3. D
4. C
5. C

Short Answer Key

1. What was the name of the girl Erik took to the Sowell Bay High School homecoming dance?

Ashley Barrington.

2. Where is Tova able to make a copy of her driver's license in "Epitaph and Pens"?

Janice's house.

3. How many brothers and sisters did Ethan have?

11.

4. How old is Avery?

32.

5. Who drives Cameron to the place where he thinks he might find Simon Brinks in "Hard Left, Cut Right"?

Ethan.

Short Essay Answer Key

1. How does Cameron feel after working at the aquarium?

Cameron hurts all over after working at the aquarium. He discovers that chopping up buckets of mackerel bait and hauling them all over the aquarium is no joke. His spine and lower back throb. There is a nasty knot under his left shoulder blade, and something pops in his neck every time he turns his head to the right.

2. What does Marcellus do with Cameron's driver's license and why?

Marcellus gets out of his tank and grabs Cameron's driver's license. He puts it under the sea lion's tail. He knows that when Tova comes, she will run her rag underneath it. Then she will see that she and Cameron are related.

3. In "Hard Left, Cut Right," how is Cameron liking his job?

Cameron has held his job for several weeks now, and he does not hate it. Chopping up fish guts and cleaning are not glamorous, but he enjoys the solitude. Most of the time he is by himself, except when Tova comes by. She is trying to help him make friends with Marcellus, which is not going well, but he finds her company enjoyable.

4. How does Ethan know Cameron's last name from somewhere and what does he do with the information?

Ethan has heard Cameron's last name--Cassmore--from somewhere before. Then he remembers that when he bought the Shop-Way, the old owner posted bad checks from customers tacked on the counter under the cash register. One of the checks was from Daphne Cassmore. He looks her up on an ancestry website he belongs to and learns that she later married and became Daphne Scott. Then he finds information about her half-sister, Jeanne Baker. He realizes that Daphne is Cameron's mother.

5. How does Tova ruin a special concert shirt that belongs to Ethan?

Tova is having dinner with Ethan when Cameron comes, and Ethan takes him aside to talk to him. While Tova is waiting, she cleans the kitchen. She does not see any sponges or dishcloths, so she grabs an old T-shirt and uses it to mop up red wine and wash the dishes. When Ethan finishes talking to Cameron, he is horrified that she has destroyed his Grateful Dead concert T-shirt from May 26, 1995.

6. How does Cameron get his camper towed?

Ethan calls a friend of his who drives for a towing company. The guy hauls Cameron's camper to Ethan's house and deposits it in the driveway. The guy tows the camper for no charge.

7. Where are Will and Erik's headstones, and what information is on them?

Will is buried at Fairview Memorial Park, and Erik has a headstone there. On Will's headstone, it says, "William Patrick Sullivan: 1938-2017. Husband, Father, Friend (163)." Erik's headstone is next to his father's. It has his name on it "Erik Ernest Sullivan" (164). Tova's maiden name, Lindgren is supposed to be Erik's second name, but it was not recorded correctly. There is a third stone, which is blank, for Tova.

8. What does Cameron learn about Avery when they get together at her house in "The Pier's Shadow" to paddle board?

Cameron goes to Avery's place to paddle board. He learns that she is 32, and she has a 15-year-old son named Marcus. She and the boy's father, Josh, got together once during their junior year. Josh is a deckhand on a ship and has a crazy schedule.

9. What are Tova's thoughts when she finds her mother's old apron as she is sorting what to take and what to get rid of from her house?

As Tova sorts out what to take and what to get rid of from her house, she finds her mother's old apron. She realizes that if Erik had not died, the girl he was seeing might have been a daughter-in-law. Tova might have worn the apron while she taught her son's wife how to make his favorite butter cookies, and then passed the apron along to her when the time came.

10. What does Tova do at the beginning of "Epitaph and Pens"?

Tova drives downtown and goes to the realtor office. She talks to Jessica Snell about putting her house on the market. Next, she goes to the bank to get a cashier's check to put with her Charter Village application. Then she has photos taken to include with the application.



Mid-Book Test - Hard

Name: _____

Period: _____

This test consists of 5 short answer questions, 10 short essay questions, and 1 (of 3) essay topics.

Short Answer Questions

1. In "House Special," what type of sandwich does Ethan have Tanner make Cameron?
2. What is Cameron's birthdate?
3. In "Got Baggage," about how much money does Cameron have with him when his duffel does not show up?
4. What time does Cameron go to Dell's Saloon in "Not a Movie Star, but Maybe a Pirate"?
5. What is the main food the Marcellus is given to eat that he dislikes?

Short Essay Questions

1. Where does Tova get her hair done and why?
2. Who stops Tova at work, and how does he find her?
3. What band do Cameron and Brad have, what news does Brad have about the band, and how does Cameron take the news?
4. What does Tova learn about her ankle injury when she goes to see Dr. Remy?
5. How does Cameron meet Ethan?
6. What does Marcellus give Tova, and where has he seen another key like it?

7. When Cameron visits his aunt Jeanne in "The Welina Mobile Park Is for Lovers," why are she and Jimmy Delmonico arguing?

8. Who is Tova Sullivan?

9. Why does Dr. Santiago call Marcellus a "smart cookie" (73)?

10. Who is Marcellus?

Essay Topics

Write an essay for ONE of the following topics:

Essay Topic 1

What a reader knows about events and characters is determined by the point of view in a book. What points of view are used in *Remarkably Bright Creatures*? How do these points of view influence what readers know about events and characters? How does changing the point of view help readers connect with and understand characters?

Essay Topic 2

Van Pelt uses anthropomorphism in the novel. What is anthropomorphism? Does the use of anthropomorphism make it difficult for readers to remember that Marcellus is not human?

Essay Topic 3

Van Pelt uses backstories, exposition, and flashbacks to reveal information about events that happened before the story begins. How does the author use backstories, exposition, and flashbacks to reveal information about the past?



Short Answer Key

1. In "House Special," what type of sandwich does Ethan have Tanner make Cameron?

Pastrami.

2. What is Cameron's birthdate?

February 2.

3. In "Got Baggage," about how much money does Cameron have with him when his duffel does not show up?

\$4.

4. What time does Cameron go to Dell's Saloon in "Not a Movie Star, but Maybe a Pirate"?

9 a.m.

5. What is the main food the Marcellus is given to eat that he dislikes?

Herring.

Short Essay Answer Key

1. Where does Tova get her hair done and why?

Tova has been getting her hair done at Colette's Beauty Shop for nearly 50 years. Colette is in her 70s same as Tova and the Knit-Wits. Thankfully, Colette refuses to retire, because Tova does not trust anyone else to do her hair in just the right way.



2. Who stops Tova at work, and how does he find her?

When Tova goes to clean the aquarium, a man jogs across the parking lot waving a manila envelope and calling her name. He tells her his name is Bruce LaRue, an attorney for the estate of Lars Lindgren. He found her by asking the manager at the grocery store. There are some things she needs to pick up at the Charter Village Long-Term Care Center that belonged to her brother, and they will need to get together to sort out the monetary assets.

3. What band do Cameron and Brad have, what news does Brad have about the band, and how does Cameron take the news?

Cameron and Brad have a band called Our Moth Sausage. Brad and Elizabeth, his wife, are expecting a baby. Brad tells Cameron that because of the baby, he will quit Moth Sausage. Cameron is upset because Brad is the lead singer. Without him, they do not have a band.

4. What does Tova learn about her ankle injury when she goes to see Dr. Remy?

Tova goes to see Dr. Remy about his ankle injury. He puts her ankle in a molded-plastic boot that he wants her to wear for six weeks--six weeks that she will not be able to work in her garden or work at the aquarium. Dr. Remy also took a bone density test and told her that returning to work might not be advisable.

5. How does Cameron meet Ethan?

Cameron buys an old camper and makes it to Sowell Bay. He parks in a parking lot near The Shop-Way. He goes inside to get coffee and something to eat from the deli attached to the grocery store. He gets to chatting with Ethan, and Ethan has Tanner make him a sandwich and coffee free gratis because Tanner needs the training. When Cameron returns to the camper, it has a flat, and Ethan offers to help him.

6. What does Marcellus give Tova, and where has he seen another key like it?

Marcellus gives Tova the house key that she lost on the floor near the place where she stores her things when she cleans. He found it on the floor and took it and stashed it in his den with his collection of other things. He had seen a copy of the key when he was very young and

before he was captured. It was attached to a circular ring at the bottom of the sea near a dead human.

7. When Cameron visits his aunt Jeanne in "The Welina Mobile Park Is for Lovers," why are she and Jimmy Delmonico arguing?

When Cameron comes to visit his aunt Jeanne at the Welina Mobile Park, he can hear her and Jimmy Delmonico, the landlord, arguing. Jimmy tells her that Sissy Baker saw the eyes of a snake in Jeanne's clematis, so Jimmy tells her that she has to remove it. Jeanne tells him that there are no snakes in the clematis, and Cameron backs her up.

8. Who is Tova Sullivan?

Tova Sullivan is a 70-year-old widow, who cleans the aquarium. Her husband died of cancer, and her only child, a son named Erik, disappeared when he was 18. She does not need the money she earns from cleaning the aquarium, but it gives her something to do.

9. Why does Dr. Santiago call Marcellus a "smart cookie" (73)?

Marcellus is given a so-called puzzle--a hinged box made of clear plastic with a latch on the lid. There is a crab inside. Terry lowers it into the tank, and he and Dr. Santiago watch to see how long it takes Marcellus to open the box and eat the crab. It takes Marcellus only seconds to open the box and consume the crab. Dr. Santiago comments that Marcellus is a "smart cookie."

10. Who is Marcellus?

Marcellus is a giant Pacific octopus. He lives in an aquarium, and he was captured from the middle bottom of the sea before he was imprisoned. The daughter of the guy who runs the aquarium, Terry, named the octopus Marcellus McSquiddles. He has a life span of four years (1,460 days). He was brought to the aquarium as a juvenile. At the most, he has 160 days to live. Then he will die and his captivity will end.

Final Test - Hard

Name: _____

Period: _____

This test consists of 5 short answer questions, 10 short essay questions, and 1 (of 3) essay topics.

Short Answer Questions

1. What is the name of the waiter at Mary Ann's going-away lunch?
2. How much is the cream Avery gives Cameron for his neck in "A Sucker for Injured Creatures" (159)?
3. What time does Cameron show up for his job interview at the aquarium?
4. What was the name of Mary Ann's granddaughter who got pregnant at 18?
5. How much money does it take to fix the tire and wheel well on the camper?

Short Essay Questions

1. How does Cameron get his camper towed?
2. How does Tova ruin a special concert shirt that belongs to Ethan?
3. In "There Was a Girl," why does Jessica Snell call Tova?
4. What does Marcellus do with Cameron's driver's license and why?
5. What does Marcellus notice that Cameron and Tova have in common?
6. What are Tova's thoughts when she finds her mother's old apron as she is sorting what to take and what to get rid of from her house?
7. After paddle boarding, what does Avery tell Cameron about saving a woman on the pier?

8. In "Hard Left, Cut Right," how is Cameron liking his job?

9. How does Cameron feel after working at the aquarium?

10. How does Tova get Ethan a new Grateful Dead T-shirt?



Essay Topics

Write an essay for ONE of the following topics:

Essay Topic 1

What a reader knows about events and characters is determined by the point of view in a book. What points of view are used in *Remarkably Bright Creatures*? How do these points of view influence what readers know about events and characters? How does changing the point of view help readers connect with and understand characters?

Essay Topic 2

The setting of the pier serves as a motif in *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. How does the pier serve as a motif to tie themes together and bring together Cameron and Tova's stories?

Essay Topic 3

Tova grieves for the loss of her son and husband. How does Tova attempt to cope with her grief? How does she finally learn to deal with her grief?



Short Answer Key

1. What is the name of the waiter at Mary Ann's going-away lunch?

Omar.

2. How much is the cream Avery gives Cameron for his neck in "A Sucker for Injured Creatures" (159)?

\$19.95.

3. What time does Cameron show up for his job interview at the aquarium?

10:45 a.m.

4. What was the name of Mary Ann's granddaughter who got pregnant at 18?

Tatum.

5. How much money does it take to fix the tire and wheel well on the camper?

\$700.

Short Essay Answer Key

1. How does Cameron get his camper towed?

Ethan calls a friend of his who drives for a towing company. The guy hauls Cameron's camper to Ethan's house and deposits it in the driveway. The guy tows the camper for no charge.



2. How does Tova ruin a special concert shirt that belongs to Ethan?

Tova is having dinner with Ethan when Cameron comes, and Ethan takes him aside to talk to him. While Tova is waiting, she cleans the kitchen. She does not see any sponges or dishcloths, so she grabs an old T-shirt and uses it to mop up red wine and wash the dishes. When Ethan finishes talking to Cameron, he is horrified that she has destroyed his Grateful Dead concert T-shirt from May 26, 1995.

3. In "There Was a Girl," why does Jessica Snell call Tova?

Jessica Snell calls Tova. She tells her that they have an offer on Tova's house. It is for \$10,000 above asking. Jessica suggests that they cancel the open house and counter the offer. Then take it off the market.

4. What does Marcellus do with Cameron's driver's license and why?

Marcellus gets out of his tank and grabs Cameron's driver's license. He puts it under the sea lion's tail. He knows that when Tova comes, she will run her rag underneath it. Then she will see that she and Cameron are related.

5. What does Marcellus notice that Cameron and Tova have in common?

Marcellus comments that he has honed his observations of humans over the 1,329 days of his captivity. He has noticed traits that humans have alike who are related to one another. Most humans who are related walk alike, and Cameron and Tova have the same gait. They also have heart-shaped dimples on each of their left cheeks. Both of them have greenish-golden flecks in each of their eyes, and they both have a toneless manner of humming when they mop. Marcellus says that Cameron is a direct descendant of the Tova.

6. What are Tova's thoughts when she finds her mother's old apron as she is sorting what to take and what to get rid of from her house?

As Tova sorts out what to take and what to get rid of from her house, she finds her mother's old apron. She realizes that if Erik had not died, the girl he was seeing might have been a daughter-in-law. Tova might have worn the apron while she taught her son's wife how to make his

favorite butter cookies, and then passed the apron along to her when the time came.

7. After paddle boarding, what does Avery tell Cameron about saving a woman on the pier?

As Avery and Cameron sit by the pier after paddle boarding, Avery tells him that she saved someone once from jumping off the pier and committing. She beached her board and went to talk to the woman. Avery listened and then helped her to her car.

8. In "Hard Left, Cut Right," how is Cameron liking his job?

Cameron has held his job for several weeks now, and he does not hate it. Chopping up fish guts and cleaning are not glamorous, but he enjoys the solitude. Most of the time he is by himself, except when Tova comes by. She is trying to help him make friends with Marcellus, which is not going well, but he finds her company enjoyable.

9. How does Cameron feel after working at the aquarium?

Cameron hurts all over after working at the aquarium. He discovers that chopping up buckets of mackerel bait and hauling them all over the aquarium is no joke. His spine and lower back throb. There is a nasty knot under his left shoulder blade, and something pops in his neck every time he turns his head to the right.

10. How does Tova get Ethan a new Grateful Dead T-shirt?

Tova asks Janice to help her get Ethan a new Grateful Dead T-shirt. Janice helps Tova use the internet to find a shirt for sale online. They find one for \$2,000. The man selling it would ship it in two to three weeks, but Tova goes down and picks it up even though she has to drive on the freeway.