

HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE

CHAPTERS TWELVE TO FOURTEEN



VOCABULARY

Chivalry – the medieval principles governing knightly conduct

'Their daring, nerve and chivalry set Gryffindors apart.'

~

Swagger – A walk with a lofty proud gait

'Malfoy swaggered forward when his name was called and got his wish at once.'

~

Vigorous – characterised by forceful and energetic action or activity

'Prefect got up and shook his hand vigorously.'

~

Gaunt – very thin especially from disease or hunger

'Harry looked over at the Slytherin table and saw a horrible ghost sitting there, with blank staring eyes, a gaunt face, and robes stained with silver blood.'

~

CHAPTER TWELVE: THE MIRROR OF ERISED

SUMMARY

Harry and Ron remain at Hogwarts over the Christmas holidays, and Hermione instructs them to continue searching for information on Nicolas Flamel. On Christmas day, Harry is amazed to find a small pile of packages at the end of his bed, one of which is an Invisibility Cloak with a note instructing him to 'use it well.' The note has no name on it.

That night, Harry takes the cloak to the restricted section of the library to find a book on Flamel, but instead runs into Filch. While escaping, Harry runs into a room that contains the Mirror of Erised. In the mirror, Harry sees his family. The next night, Harry brings Ron to look at his family but all Ron sees is himself as prefect, winning the house cup.

The next night Harry returns alone and is visited by Dumbledore, who tells him that the mirror shows you 'the deepest, most desperate desire of our hearts.' He warns Harry about the dangers of the mirror and asks him not to return again.

What happens in this chapter?

1. What does Draco taunt Harry about?
2. What is the difference between Muggle and Wizard chess?
3. What presents does Harry get for Christmas?
4. What book does Harry find in the restricted section?



CHAPTER THIRTEEN: NICOLAS FLAMEL

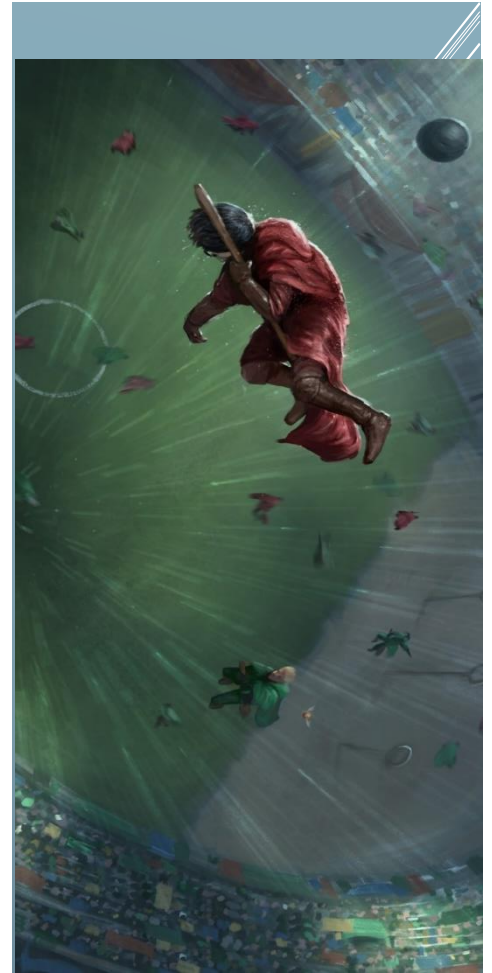
Summary

The next term begins, and Harry is bombarded with Quidditch practice which distracts him from seeking the Mirror. Hermione, Ron and Harry find out that Nicolas Flamel is 'the only known maker of the Sorcerer's Stone', a stone that can turn metal into gold and produce the Elixir of Life, making the drinker immortal. They conclude that this is what Fluffy is guarding and Snape is trying to steal.

During the Quidditch match, Harry catches the Snitch early in the game and Gryffindor win. Afterwards, Harry sees Snape head into the Forbidden Forest and decides to follow him, where he overhears Snape in confrontation with Quirrell, telling him to 'decide where his loyalties lie.' Harry returns to Ron and Hermione and tells them that Snape is trying to get Quirrell to help him steal the Stone.

What happens in this chapter?

1. What bad news does Oliver Wood give the Quidditch team?
2. What does Malfoy do to Neville and how is it fixed?
3. Who does Flamel turn out to be?
4. What happens during the Quidditch match?
5. What do Snape and Quirrell talk about in the forest?



CHAPTER FOURTEEN: NORBERT AND THE NORWEGIAN RIDGEBACK



Summary

Ron notices Hagrid in the library looking up books about keeping Dragons, which Ron notes is illegal. Harry, Ron and Hermione become concerned and pay Hagrid a visit. While they, they notice a large black drag egg which Hagrid reveals he won in a game of cards. A few days later the dragon hatches. When the three sneak down to see it, Malfoy follows and sees the dragon through the window. They convince Hagrid that he needs to set the dragon free, and Ron sends an Owl to his brother Charlie who agrees to come and collect the dragon to take to Norway.

Harry and Hermione take Norbert to the tallest tower and wait for the dragon to be collected. Malfoy, who had told McGonagall about the plan is given a detention for trying to get them in trouble. However, when Harry and Hermione return from the tower they are seen by Filch as they had left the Cloak at the top of the tower.

What happens in this chapter?

1. Why are the upcoming exams important? Who is most worried about them?
2. What does Hagrid's reaction to Norbert tell us about his character?
3. What is the plan to get rid of Norbert?
4. Why is Malfoy given a detention?
5. What happens to Ron in this chapter?



THEMES

Grief and Moving On

However, this mirror will give us neither knowledge or truth. Men have wasted away before it, entranced by what they have seen, or been driven mad, not knowing if what it shows is real or even possible. It does not do to dwell on dreams and forget to live, remember that.

- Dumbledore warns Harry of the dangers of the Mirror. Not having a family is a big source of grief and pain for Harry, and it would be very easy to be consumed by this pain and 'forget to live.' Harry once again is faced with a choice. He can either live his life in the past, mourning what has been lost, or he can use his pain to make himself and others happy.
- Why do you think this is an important lesson for Harry to learn? What might happen to him if he holds on to his pain?

Fairness

- Harry, Hermione and Ron break the rules an awful lot, but their intentions are almost always good. The three break curfew in order to help protect Hagrid from getting in trouble about his dragon, to help protect the Stone from being stolen, and to help protect one another.
- Do we think that it is sometimes okay to break the rules if it is for a good reason? What would happen if the three had never broken a single rule?
- What are some examples from the book so far where rules have been broken for good? Are rules ever broken for bad purposes?

HOMEWORK

TASK 1 – CREATIVE

DESCRIBE WHAT YOU WOULD SEE IN THE MIRROR OF ERISED. WHAT IS YOUR DEEPEST DESIRE? WOULD YOU BE ABLE TO PULL YOURSELF AWAY FROM THE MIRROR?

TASK 2 – ANALYSIS

Is it important to follow rules? Look at some examples from the previous chapters and explore whether rules should or should not be followed. Use quotes to back up your argument!