

Whistle and I'll Come to You

Answer the following questions carefully and be prepared to share your ideas with others in your class.

1. When Arthur wakes up, at the beginning of this chapter, how does he describe the wind? In what ways do his memories contrast the environment he is currently in?
2. What happens when Arthur goes out on to the landing? How do these events heighten the tension even further?
3. What effect do Arthur's questions have, as he ponders what has just happened?
4. How does Arthur feel when he drops and breaks the torch? How does the darkness add to the horror of his situation?
5. What feelings overcome Arthur when he goes into the nursery? How does Hill convey the distress that Arthur feels and also his bewilderment at having such feelings?
6. What noise does Spider hear, when she goes outside, that causes her to set off across the marshes? What comment does Arthur make about the noise itself?
7. How does Hill highlight the horror of the dog sinking in the mud? As readers, what else might you think of as you read about the dog's struggle?
8. Who does Arthur see looking at him from the window, after he's rescued Spider? How is the eeriness of the sighting conveyed to us?
9. Arthur's last line of the chapter is 'It was the sound of a pony and trap'. As readers what might we imagine at this point?
10. Overall, what are your impressions of this chapter of the novel? Do you feel as if Arthur is overcoming his fears, about to lose his life, getting further into danger or something else?