

The Weirdstone of Brisingamen - Part one - The Legend, Chapters One & Two

<b>The Legend of Alderley</b>	
1	What does 'light mists bedimmed his way' mean?
2	'...the day promised fine...'?
3	Why did the farmer allow the horse to 'set her own pace'?
4	Why was his 'mind on the town while he was yet in the hills'?
5	'The spur and the rein she understood, and her master's stern command, but the eyes that held her were stronger than all of these.' Explain. What does the author mean?
6	Why was the farmer so rude to the old man?
7	'None will buy...and I shall await you at sunset.' What did the old man mean by that?
8	Why did the farmer's horse plunge when the rock was split?
9	'...when England shall be in direst peril, and England's mothers weep.' What is the author implying here?
10	'...dumb with awe...'? What had happened to the farmer and why?
<b>Chapter One - Highmost Redmanhey</b>	
11	Why did the guard cry 'Wilmslow fifteen minutes'?
12	Why were the last miles the longest of all?
13	Why was it so easy for the children to notice Gowther Mossock?
14	How does the author tell us that Gowther is a 'nice' person?
15	Why did the dog 'eye the children warily'?
16	How did the dog finally show that it had accepted the children?
17	Why does the author misspell some of the words Gowther use?
18	How has the author implied the Edge is a bit creepy like Susan says?
19	Why did they not travel by the shortest route?
20	Why were the children going to stay with the Mossocks?
21	What was the effect of the heavy meal and all the travelling?
<b>Chapter Two - The Edge</b>	
22	Why did they have to get the hay in 'while the weather holds'?
23	What did Colin and Susan do that first morning? How do you know?
24	Why did Gowther warn them about the Edge?
25	Why do you think the inn was so named?
26	Why did Colin venture down the trench, despite Gowther's warnings?
27	What was odd about how the woman in the car looked?
28	What did the children do that was right?
29	What made Colin uncomfortable about the woman?
30	Why do you think that the woman was so angry at the dog barking? What do you think she had been trying to do?
31	What did Colin realise that he'd been doing?
32	Why was Scamp snarling noisily?
33	What was the Tear? Where had it come from?
34	Why had Bess given the Tear to Susan's mother?

## The Weirdstone of Brisingamen - Part Two - Chapters Three and Four

1	What did Gowther think was daft?
2	Why does Gowther think Selina's dogs are more like wolves?
3	Bess says, 'It all sounds a bit rum to me. I think she's up to summat.' What does she mean?
4	'If you run three times widdershins' round Devil's Grave 'Owd Nick's supposed to come up and fetch you.' What might happen to you? What must you do?
5	Why did Gowther threaten to get his shotgun out when he saw the crow?
6	Why did the children go out after tea?
7	Why did Susan want to go home?
8	What made the children think they were being watched?
9	Why did Colin laugh?
10	What made them wary of the crow?
11	Why were the figures outlandish?
12	What do you think scared the children the most about them?
13	As they ran what did Colin realise?
14	Why, when the children reached the rock, did the weird creatures slow down?
15	What was the miracle? What happened?
16	What two names did the old man call the creatures? Which is a rude way of calling them and which is their proper name? How did you make that decision?
<b>Chapter Four - The Fundindelve</b>	
17	What effect did the water have on Colin and Susan?
18	Why were the children not scared or worried at being in a strange cave alone with an old man who could work magic?
19	Why did the old man tell the children to use the name Cadellin for him?
20	Why are the svarts-alfar no danger to Cadellin?
21	Why did Cadellin have to find out why the children had attracted so much unwanted attention?
22	What was the 'echoing sigh, like waves rippling on a summer shore...' that '...rose and fell upon the air...'? How do you know?
23	Why did the king decide he and his knights needed to be saved for another day?
24	Why did it have to be the strongest magic used on the knights?
25	How did Nastrond get all witches, warlocks, svarts, etc to try to break the magic spell around the knights?
26	Why does Cadellin dread every day?
27	Why does Cadellin not think the treasure as beautiful as Susan does?
28	Why would it be dangerous for Nastrond to have Firefrost, the weirdstone?
29	Why were Colin and Susan unwilling to go back outside through the gates?
30	Why do the children have to keep away from the mines?

## The Weirdstone of Brisingamen - Part Three - Chapters Five & Six

<b>Chapter Five - Miching Mallecho</b>	
1	Why had Bess let the children sleep late that morning?
2	'gallivanting'. Can you work out what it means by its context?
3	Why did Susan say, 'I think we've seen enough of the Edge for a day or two...'
4	Why did the children believe what had happened the previous night?
5	Why did they not discuss their pursuit and rescue?
6	'They mun be thinking we're sneyed out with mice, or summat.' Can you translate? What, from the context and the events in the paragraph might 'sneyed' out mean?
7	Why after Gowther sent off the odd man did he say that 'Scamp had best have the run of the hen-pen for a neet or two, just in case'?
8	Why had the wizard told the children to keep their windows closed, whatever the weather?
9	Why did Scamp's barking wake Gowther up, it wouldn't usually?
10	What does 'frantic clamour' mean?
11	Why was Gowther so puzzled when Scamp didn't rush out of the hen pen?
12	What made the knot tighten in Gowther's stomach?
13	'...let's be having a scrat around.' Scrat? Work out what it means from its context.
14	Why did Gowther say, 'I dunner like it one bit'?
15	How do we know that Gowther was really spooked/scared by the events of the night?
<b>Chapter Six - A Ring of Stones</b>	
16	Why was Thursday always a busy day?
17	What did Colin realise about the Edge? Why did I say Colin and not Gowther, after all Gowther has the answer?
18	Why did Susan ask Gowther if there were any mines close by?
19	What made Susan link her bracelet to Firefrost?
20	Why did Colin stare at her 'open-mouthed'?
21	Why didn't Cadellin recognise Firefrost?
22	Why did their meeting with the svarts begin to make sense? Who might they have met?
23	Why were the children so impatient at Prince's 'leisurely pace'?
24	Would you, if you'd met the Svarts, use the path that Cadellin recommended and not go astray? Justify your answer.
25	Why did Susan run?
26	Why did they have 'to make as little noise as possible'?
27	Why had they been unable to find the path?
28	Why didn't it matter any more if they made noise if they started shouting?
29	Why would the sight of the figure on the stones 'have daunted a brave man'? What does 'daunted' mean, do you think?
30	Why were the children unable to struggle against the figure?

## The Weirdstone of Brisingamen - Part Four - Chapters Seven & Eight

<b>Chapter Seven - Fenodyree</b>	
1	Why were Colin and Susan not willing to trust the friendly voice?
2	Describe Fenodyree; what does he look like, what do we know about him from his description? From this initial description does the author intend us to trust him or not, how do you know?
3	Why did Fenodyree not open the rocks at once?
4	How could Cadellin have been expecting bad news, as he said?
5	'The wizard grew older before their eyes.' Why?
6	Who is Grimnir?
7	Why did Fenodyree not encourage Cadellin to go after Grimnir?
8	Why, according to Cadellin, did Grimnir leave the children unharmed?
9	Why was Grimnir like he was?
10	Why was Cadellin so angry when he heard about Selina Place?
11	What is Selina's other name?
12	Why was there 'no place for children in the struggle to come'?
13	Why did Cadellin tell them that even if he failed, that they would be safe?
14	How did Fenodyree say that Colin and Susan could help Cadellin? Why?
15	What surprising information did Fenodyree have to tell the children about events at the farm?
16	What skill did the children discover Fenodyree had?
17	Where had Grimnir gone? How do you know?
<b>Chapter Eight - Mist over Llyn-Dhu</b>	
18	Why did the children not like visiting the Edge at the weekend?
19	What two things were left to remind them that svarts and wizards did happen?
20	Why did the loss of the bracelet cause friction between the children and the Mossocks? What does friction mean?
21	Why did they not rush up the hill with their bikes?
22	What had the children wondered when they noticed the birds had gone?
23	Why had there been no big trouble with Grimnir having the Firefrost?
24	Why was there a chance for them to get the Firefrost back?
25	Why did the children leave Cadellin 'lighter at heart than they had been for many a day.'
26	Why does the author have the children go off to see Llyn-Dhu? What is he trying to tell the reader about the children?
27	Why did the policeman not recognise the name Llyn-Dhu?
28	What was the ring of pink scum?
29	What was wrong about the lake?
30	Why had the mist gone and where had it gone?

## The Weirdstone of Brisingamen - Chapters Nine and Ten

### Chapter Nine - St Mary's Clyffe

1	Why has the author emphasised the two colours - red and black - in describing the room in the house? What information, atmosphere is he trying to get across? What does he make you think about this place?
2	Why did Grimmir not like what Shape-shifter was doing?
3	Why did Grimmir watch Shape-shifter so carefully?
4	What did Selina Place leave the room to do?
5	Why was Selina in such a hurry to be 'master of the stone'?
6	Why did the 'last trace of enthusiasm' evaporate quickly for the children?
7	Why has the author used so many ellipses in Selina's speech (bottom of p 111)?
8	Why did Susan not want to leave straightaway?
9	How did Colin know that it was dangerous to go near the bracelet?
10	Why could Susan not believe it when she fastened the bracelet on her wrist?
11	What was the price of Grimmir and Selina's failure?
12	Who did the author want you to think was the 'thing' at the top of the stairs?
13	Why were the children quite so fearful of the hound?
14	Why did Susan not trust the latch of the door? What does 'flimsy' mean?
15	Why did Susan think that she had fainted? How did she know she hadn't?
16	How did Colin know that they were in a lift?
17	Why were 'their hearts in their mouths'?

### Chapter Ten - Plankshaft

18	What filled the children's minds as they ran?
19	Why was there no need to ask questions?
20	Why didn't they hesitate when they saw the state of the ladder?
21	What does the author mean - 'the children took to their heels'?
22	What was it that kept Susan going?
23	What told them that they were no longer in a tunnel, as they gulped in the cold air?
24	Why did this cave seem so dark compared to Fundindelve?
25	Why was 'losing their pursuer' such an easy task?
26	Why has the author written two long paragraphs about the tunnels? What is he trying to get across to the reader?
27	Why did Colin and Susan finally stop?
28	How did Susan come up with a way of finding a way out?
29	Why did the children not turn back when they came upon the shaft with the plank across?
30	What made Susan drop the lamp?

## The Weirdstone of Brisingamen - Chapters Eleven and Twelve

<b>Chapter Eleven - Prince of the Huldrafolk</b>	
1	How did Susan know that the lights she saw beneath the plank were eyes?
2	Why did the loss of the lamp slow them down?
3	Why did they keep switching off the light?
4	Why did Susan give a little cough and a gasp?
5	Why wasn't Colin taken so easily?
6	What does the author mean - 'All this happened in half the time it takes to tell'?
7	How did the svart react to the blade's bite?
8	Why did the dwarf complain that it was 'poor sport indeed'?
9	Why would Durathror not pause to explain things to Colin?
10	Why did Colin have 'the greatest difficulty in keeping up with the dwarf'?
11	What did Colin realise when they met up with Fenodyree?
12	What is Durathror implying by saying of his cousin, 'your tongue would still wag if it were cut out'?
13	'The way to the light is not long...' What is Fenodyree saying? Where are they?
14	What skills did the children realise the dwarves had?
15	Why did Fenodyree not want to fight when Durathror drew his sword when the gong was heard?
<b>Chapter Twelve - In the Cave of the Svartmoot</b>	
16	What sort of character did the svarts have according to Fenodyree?
17	Why did the memory of what they saw remain with the children forever?
18	Why could the svarts look on the firedrake without pain, it gave off light?
19	What two things about the svart holding the firedrake told the children he was old?
20	'We have a comfortless road ahead...' explain what the author means.
21	Why does Durathror say that they are going to be tracked down and attacked at the plankshaft and the gate?
22	Why did Fenodyree intend to take them out by a different route?
23	Why did Durathror stop Fenodyree from talking more about this way out?
24	'Do we run like shadows before this light, or do we snuff it out?' What options did Durathror offer?
25	Why did the children have 'to fight to stop themselves from running' as the svarts advanced?
26	Why has the author written what Durathror said to the svarts? After all he didn't, back in the cave, translate what the svart leaders said
27	Why, when Durathror 'whirled Dyrnwyn above his head with both hands' did two svarts die?
28	Which of the dwarves enjoyed fighting?
29	What makes the svarts turn to dust?
30	How did Fenodyree stop Susan panicking when the hammer nearly hit her?

## The Weirdstone of Brisingamen - Chapters Thirteen and Fourteen

<b>Chapter Thirteen - "Where no Svart will ever tread"</b>	
1	'The deed is nothing. It is the thought that breeds fear.' What does Fenodyree mean?
2	Why did Durathror say about the svarts, 'I fear they will not come in time'?
3	Colin, <u>you are well-lodged</u> , so your sister will go first,' what did Fenodyree mean?
4	Why was 'the dwarf's face, lined and grey with effort'?
5	Why did Susan and Fenodyree move quickly?
6	Where was Cadellin while all this was going on?
7	What benefit did the cloak of feathers give Durathror?
8	Why did Durathror not kill Selina Place and Grimnir?
9	What were the two things that made Durathror pause?
10	Why did the children not have the heart to talk?
11	What size was the cloak capable of being rolled up into?
<b>Chapter Fourteen - The Earldelving</b>	
12	How did they react to the shock of the cold water?
13	Why could Fenodyree not talk when he came back from exploring the tunnel?
14	Why would they have to swim on their backs?
15	Why did Susan wait a bit before going?
16	What did Durathor admit?
17	Why did Colin begin to panic in the water?
18	What made the new tunnel so special?
19	Why did Colin and Susan get back and neck ache and not the dwarves?
20	What did the children find out about small holes they had to try to squeeze through?
21	Fenodyree called a halt in a cave into which they fitted like the segments of an orange.' What is the author implying?
22	How did Fenodyree try to reassure Susan about the 'rabbit hole'?
23	How did Colin feel when he was stuck at the corner?
24	Why did Fenodyree move on with 'renewed vigour'?
25	'Better a quick road to forgetfulness than a lingering one.' What did Fenodyree mean?
26	Why did the children talk rapidly and loudly once they were able to crawl?
27	'...real, accessible daylight...' what is meant by this?

## The Weirdestone of Brisingamen - Chapters Fifteen & Sixteen

### Chapter Fifteen - A Stromkarl Sings

1	Why were the dwarves able to relax on the elf-road?
2	'Their aching limbs only sweetened the prospect of rest' what does the author mean?
3	Why was the scene in front of them, 'the waning light among the scented pines', almost unreal?
4	Why was the stromkarl sitting on Goldenstone?
5	What other useful information did he give the children and the dwarves that might help them in the future?
6	Why does Fenodyree say about the farm, 'whether it will be shelter for the night I cannot be certain'?
7	Why was scant cover useful for them on their journey? What does it mean anyway? Can you infer it from its context?
8	Why did the dwarves insist they hide from anybody?
9	Why did Gowther show such animosity (talk so rudely and aggressively) to Fenodyree?
10	What made Gowther be ready to trust the dwarves?
11	Why was Bess so against the children going off with the dwarves on their venture?
12	What argument did Fenodyree use to try and persuade Bess?
13	Why did Gowther decide to go with them?
14	Why do you think the dwarves insisted that they all stay in the same room?
15	How do you think Gowther felt when Fenodyree told him that Selena Place was bluffing?
16	What did she threaten the farmer and the children with and why?

### Chapter Sixteen- The Wood of Radnor

17	'Sam Hurlbutt was as imperturbable as only a Cheshire man can be.' What does imperturbable mean. Can you deduce it from its context and what has gone on previously in the text?
18	Why do you think the dwarves would not tell Gowther and the children about the mara?
19	'...such strangers too'. What is the author implying?
20	What does Fenodyree mean when he says to Gowther '...without us you will not regain your own, even though it lies at your feet.'
21	Why was Colin so surprised when Durathror said 'Those are witches and warlocks...'?
22	What/who was the main problem as they tried to stay hidden as much as possible? Was it the witches?
23	Why did Durathror question the use of scarecrows in Tom Henshaw's fields?
24	Why did Fenodyree slow down and stop walking/running quite so fast?
25	Was it fear that meant 'all colour fled from Durathror's cheeks'?
26	What persuaded Fenodyree that the lios-alfar were in the woods?
27	'...they were sharing the same cloak in an effort to stay alive'. What is the author implying?
28	Name three items of clothing that Mr Hodgkins wore.
29	Why did they all watch Mr Hodgkins 'in agony'?
30	Why was it a danger to clear a path for themselves with the dwarves swords?

## The Weirdstone of Brisingamen - Chapters Seventeen and Eighteen

### Chapter Seventeen - Mara

1	'...a little may be well spent in counsel'. What does Fenodyree mean?
2	Why did Durathror think Colin's idea of which way to go a good one?
3	What did Gowther and the children learn/deduce about fimbulwinter from his speech that includes 'the fimbulwinter is upon us'?
4	Why did the dwarves 'halt under the last cluster of trees'?
5	What amazed Gowther?
6	Why would it have been an 'easier task' 'in the elder days'? When were they?
7	What impression do the dwarves give you about the man on the hill - is he one of the morthbrood or for them? How do you know?
8	What was Fenodyree's responsibility at the Macclesfield Road?
9	Why does Gowther not like Macclesfield forest?
10	Why was it a good idea to follow the streams?
11	Why was one mile an hour 'good progress'?
12	What does the author imply when he makes Durathror say, 'It is good to drop that coward's gait and walk on two legs'?
13	Why were they more at ease in the plantation of firs?
14	Why did the lios-alfar leave?
15	Fenodyree did not like the idea of moving on but he decided to; what reason did he have for making this decision?
16	What was so strange about the tracks they found?
17	Why did Susan have such a clear vision of what she saw in such a brief moment?
18	What are mara?
19	What is their only weakness?
20	What told the dwarves the mara had found them?

### Chapter Eighteen - Angharad Goldenhand

21	Why were the dwarves laughing at the others' bewilderment?
22	Why did the mara not cross the water to them?
23	Who had helped them to safety?
24	Why, did Atlendor, the lios-alfar, not stop to reveal himself to the dwarves that day, when he had shot the birds?
25	How many cloaks did the stromkarls give Gowther?
26	Why did Angharad Goldenhand give Susan the bracelet?
27	How did Susan know that her dreams had been real?
28	How did Fenodyree know that Susan's new bracelet was more than just a bracelet?
29	Who is Angharad Goldenhand?

## The Weirdstone of Brisingamen - Chapters Nineteen, Twenty and Twenty-one

### Chapter Nineteen - Gaberlunzie

- 1 Where had the mara gone during the day?
- 2 What is the 'Common Tongue' that Selina was using?
- 3 What two threats did Selina use in her speech?
- 4 What did Selina expect them all to find during the day?
- 5 What words or phrases tell you that Selina was able to manage the weather?
- 6 What can you tell me about the lyblacs?
- 7 How was Nastrond knowing what was going on?
- 8 How did Gowther say they could avoid being seen by the birds as they crossed the open parkland?
- 9 Did anyone see them as they passed the hall?
- 10 What did Colin not like about the tower?
- 11 How did Gaberlunzie explain that he could find his way in the thick mist?
- 12 What did the foxes do?

### Chapter Twenty - Shuttlingslow

- 13 Why was the cold 'no longer a problem' for the little group?
- 14 '...prey to their emotions at the sudden appearance of the long-sought goal.' What sort of thoughts do you think were going on inside the children's heads?
- 15 Why were 'their spirits drained from them', lying on top of Shuttlingslow?
- 16 Why did the birds attack Susan and not the others?
- 17 'Gowther reversed his grip on his ash stick, which he had been wielding with terrible effect...' What does the author mean by this?
- 18 'By weight of numbers they will conquer. But since it has come to this we must draw what teeth we may before we go down to rest.' What does Durathror mean will happen and what should they do?
- 19 Why one they were off the hill could they not rush as much as they wanted?
- 20 What power did Susan discover Angharad's bracelet had?
- 21 Why were the svarts and lyblacs in confusion?
- 22 What was the one hope the little group kept at this final stand against the enemy?
- 23 Why did Durathror fight so hard and for so long?

### Chapter Twenty-One - The Headless Cross

- 24 Why was Susan so shocked when Grimnir spoke?
- 25 Why were the svarts and the morthbrood so fearful?
- 26 What stopped Grimnir from getting away?
- 27 Who was Grimnir?
- 28 What happened to Selina Place?