What are the names on the twins?
Ned and Tam (p. 1)

How did one of the twins die?
He drowned (p. 2)

Why didn’t anyone, other than the twin’s father, help to save the boys from drowning?
They were afraid of the river- afraid of the spirits that lived in the water. (p. 2)

What did the town say about the boy who was rescued?
That his father saved “the wrong one”. The townspeople said that the wrong boy lived (p. 3)

What is the name of the twin who survived?
Ned (p. 4)

What did people refer to the twins’ mother as?
Sister Witch (p. 5)

What did the townspeople believe about Sister Witch’s magic? Why were they slightly wrong?
That it could only be used in the service of others (6) they were slightly wrong because of one word” “should”. It should only be used in the service of others, but that did not mean she could not use it for herself. (p. 6)

Who is the youngest member of the Council of Elders?
Madame Thuane (p. 6)

What does magic smell like according to the author?
Sulfur, then ash, then a blistered sweetness (p. 7)

How did Sister Witch save Ned?
She worked her magic and stitched Tam’s soul to Ned’s body in order to save him (p. 11)

What did she say as she stitched the soul of Tam to the body of Ned?
“Mother loves you. Don’t forget it” (p. 11)

How many stones are there?
Nine (p. 12)

How did the twin’s father cope with the loss? What did he do to keep busy?
He spent most of the night at the mill, or in the forest chopping wood (p. 15)

How is Ned different after his near death experience?
He wouldn’t speak (p. 14)
What did the villagers say about Ned that he grew to believe? Suggestion: What did the villagers call Ned after his brother died? They said he was “the wrong boy” (p. 16)

Who is the girl who lives far away, on the other side of the world? Aine (p. 17)

What did Aine’s mother do? What was she known for? She was a fisherman. She was legendary for journeying farther than anyone else to uncharted portions of the sea (p. 17)

What happened to Aine’s mother that stopped her from fishing? She became very ill (p. 17)

What had to be sold off to buy medicine for Aine’s mother? Suggestion: List three things? Rather than having to know all of the things they sold. Bonus points for listing more maybe? The fishing boat, maps, tools, heirlooms, rings, winter boots, a wedding dress, her spyglass. (p. 18)

How old was Aine when her mother began to die after the medicine stopped working? 10 years old (p. 18)

What did Aine’s mother tell her on her death bed? “The wrong boy will save your life and you will save his. And the wolf-“ (p. 18)

How did Aine react to her mother’s death? How did her father react? Aine took care of everything in the household. She cooked, cleaned, went to the market, caught and preserved fish. Her father was overwhelmed with grief. He locked himself up in his room and drank wine and sobbed and sobbed. He did not return to his job at the shop. (p. 19)

What does Aine say her mother always told her when she is explaining to her father that they must leave their home because they have no more money or food? Suggestion: What did Aine’s mother say whenever they had no more money or food? “Mother always said that sharp wits are more valuable than a castle full of gold”. (p. 20)

What was Aine’s father’s reaction when she told them they had nothing left and had to move? His sadness shattered and he let out a great laugh. He was excited to leave the village behind. (p. 21)

What did Aine’s father do to make a living before she was born? He was a bandit (p. 20)

What items of Aine’s mothers were in the leather lined box that she refused to leave behind? Papers, a couple sensible dresses, bundles of journals, and some items that Aine did not know about (p. 21)
Where did Aine and her father end up that made her very afraid to enter? Why was it thought to be dangerous?
A deep, dark wood. The largest forest in the world people said. (p. 22) It was dangerous because it was made an enemy long ago by wicked Speaking Stones. (p. 22)

Where did Aine’s father grow up and live before he met her mother?
The deep, dark wood (p. 23)

What did Aine and her father find when they entered the deep, dark wood?
The house Aine’s father grew up in (p. 23)

What became of Aine’s home in the deep dark woods? I’m not sure about the phrasing of this and the phrasing of the answer. Clarify?
Her father’s childhood home (p. 23)

What did Aine’s father find in his old home that he was very excited about? Describe it.
A necklace - a bit of stone tied up with a thin strap of leather which he wore around his neck. The stone looked like an eye. (p. 23)

What did Aine’s father warn her about regarding the woods?
He warned her to shoot the wolves before they “ripped out her throat”. And, “Never trust a wolf”. (p. 24)

What materials was Ned’s home made out of? What did he like about it?
River stones, mortar, and a timber framed roof (p. 25) It was a pleasure to climb (p. 23)

Where did Ned go to start every morning? Why?
On the roof of his house (p. 25) He liked to watch the world start (p. 25)

What activity did Ned do to start every morning?
Carved wood (p. 26)

What did Ned do with the carvings he made each morning?
He took them each evening to the shore of the Great River and on a paper boat, launched them into the current. (p. 26)

What celebration does Ned and his parents attend in Ch. 6?
The Queen’s Jubilee, celebrating her 70 years of benevolent rule (p. 26)

Who was the only person in Ned’s village brave enough to enter the woods?
Ned’s father (p. 26)
What did Ned’s knife look like (the one he uses to carve wood)?
It was small and clever, made of a bone handle and a blade of polished steel. (p. 27)

What were Ned’s enemies?
Words (27)

What would happen when Ned would try to talk?
He would stutter and sweat and shake. He would feel like a boulder was strapped to his chest (p. 27)

What was written above Ned’s front door (by an unkind neighbor)?
The word “Witch” in bright red letter. (p. 29)

What could Ned no longer do that he was able to do, besides speak, after the accident?
He could no longer read (p. 29)

How did people greet Sister Witch in the village?
They touched their foreheads or pressed their dingers to their lips. Some slipped gifts into her basket.

What types of gifts would Sister Witch receive from villagers when she went into town?
Jam, smoked fish, bread, fresh herbs. (p. 29)

How did Ned’s mother attempt to help him regain his reading skills?
She would write words out and draw pictures next to them on shopping lists and he was to purchase the correct items (p. 30)

What items did Ned have to retrieve from the scrivener’s house on the day of the jubilee?
Writing paper, blotting paper, ink, charcoal pencils. (p. 32)

Who did Ned see at the scrivener’s house on the day of the jubilee?
Aine’s father (p. 32)

What did Ned observe Aine’s father doing in the village on the day of the jubilee? Why her father able to this?
Ned observed him pick pocketing and stealing from the townspeople. He was able to do this because they were too distracted by the queen’s arrival (p. 34-35).

Why wasn’t Ned able to warn anyone about Aine’s father, the thief?
Because he could not get the words out (p. 35).

When did the Queen first ascend the throne (at what age)?
She was 17 years old (p. 37)

What personality trait was the Queen famously known for?
Her good humor (p. 37)
What are the lyrics to the village’s anthem (played upon the queen’s entrance into the village on the day of the jubilee)?

Each stone did once our spirits bless
And led us through the wilderness
Not war, nor want, nor tyrant’s sin
Could taint that grace we entered in. (p. 37)

What state was the queen in when she entered the village?
She was slumped over in the back of her carriage non-responsive (p. 39)

Where was Ned’s mother’s magic stored?
In a clay pot inside their home. (p. 39)

What words does Sister Witch recite when she summons her magic?
“It is with a pure heart that I humbly ask your assistance” (p. 40)

Who saved the queen on the day of the jubilee and how?
Sister witch, with her magic (p. 40-44)

What was wrong with the queen the day she almost died at the jubilee?
Her heart had a blocked portion, a bit of it had begun to die. (p. 44)

Why did Ned’s mother need to leave as soon as she saved the queen’s life at the jubilee?
Because her magic is dangerous and volatile. No one can touch her until it is contained. (p. 44-45)

Why did the stones go to sleep?
Because the forest grew and people stopped coming to them.

In the past, what did people seek out the stones for?
They came to the stones for wisdom and counsel for which the stones freely gave. (p. 47)

Why were the stones stuck? What did they do?
Before the stones were stone, they used their magic to cheat death (p. 48)

How did the magic of the stones become a part of Sister Witch’s family many years ago?
When the stones used the magic to cheat death, prior to becoming stones, their magic shattered into chaotic bits that needed a firm hand and a strong mind to keep it focused and good. One of Siter Witch’s female ancestors saw the stone appear, she saw their bodies transform and saw their souls and their magic emerge from their mouths like a cloud and shatter in the air. She rushed to the stones aid and the stones told her how to catch the magic, how to bind it to her. Hoe to tame it. How to give it goodness and purpose. Hot to use it to help people. Her family kept this tradition of helping going for many, many years. (p. 49)
What did the youngest stone dream of in Ch. 8?
“The wrong boy” (p. 48)

What did Ned do to occupy himself while his mother healed from saving the Queen’s life?
He carved wooden figure and set them to sail to the sea from the Great River.

When Ned began to carve wooden figures while his mother was sick from healing the queen, what did they symbolize?
Each figure was a question or a plea to save his mother. It was his way of giving his worry to the great River and let it decide what to do with it. He felt it was all he could do. (p. 51)

What did Ned do to help heal his mother on her tenth day in bed after saving the queen’s life?
He gathered herbs to make a powerful healing soup that he learned to make by watching his mother. (p. 51-52)

When Ned was a child what did he dream about that terrified him and took him hours to recover from?
Ned would dream that he was lost in the dense forest and then toppled from the forest over the edge of the world and fell straight into the sky. (p. 53)

What message did soldiers bring to Sister Witch as she still laid in bed recuperating from saving the Queen? How did the family feel about the message?
A message on a scroll that was a formal invitation to come to the Queen’s palace and receive a Commendation for her quick thinking and swift application of Remarkable Magicks which had saved the queen’s life. (p. 56) They said it was an honor but they knew in their hearts it was a burden. (p. 56)

How many days did Sister Witch say it would take her to return home from her visit to the queen’s palace?
3 days to get there, a week stay at the palace, and 3 days ride back. So, 13 days. (p. 56).

When Sister Witch prepared to leave on her journey to the palace, what instructions did she give to Ned?
She instructed him to protect the magic. To mind it and keep it safe. (p. 57)

What happened when a man tried to steal the magic from the pot when Ned and his brother were 5 years old? Why did this happen?
The man laid one finger on it and coins flowed from his mouth and his eyes. A giant lump of gold was found pressed through his heart. This happened because the man wanted riches, and raiches is what he got…. Until it killed him. (p. 58)

Who did Ned dream of almost every night? What did Ned and this person do in his dreams? What was different about Ned in these dreams? How/what did he feel when he awoke?
He would dream of his brother’s soul uncurling from the moss mint growing over his grave until it turned into a full fleshed boy (p. 58). They would walk to the Great River, where their raft was waiting for them. Ned’s brother would know what had happened to him that day prior to the dream and offer him advice, support, or commiseration. (p. 59) Ned was able to speak without stuttering and he could read, too (p. 59). He would wake with a strange, fluttering in his chest, as if he had swallowed a butterfly (p. 59).

On the day his mother left for the palace, what did Ned dream that Tam said to him?
Ned dreamt that Tam said “You should know that the stones are awake. Any they’re waiting”. (p. 59)
He also said, “The time is coming, brother, when I will leave you. Not today, but it’s coming”. (p. 60)
He also said, “Watch the wood. It’s coming from the wood. It’s coming from beyond the wood. From the kingdom beyond the mountains. And it will be up to you to stop them.” (p. 60)

*so you could give one point per correct answer?

What lay on the other side of the mountains? Who grew up there?
The Kingdom of Duunin. Aine. (p. 61).

What did the people of Duunin say about the people who lived on the other side of the forest? Why?
That they were Kinsmen and traitors. They said this because they stole something precious from the royal family. No one ever spoke of what the thing was, though. (p. 61-62)

What did Aine’s father say about the people on the other side of the forest (where Ned lives).
He said they were nothing but a bunch of backwater yokels, ignorant of the wider world- only useful for the occasional heist. (p. 62)

What was Aine’s father’s greatest treasure?
The pendant he wore around his neck (p. 62)

Who did Aine’s father begin to bring back to their home in the forest?
Bandits, groups of them that formed a rag tag group (p. 63)

How did the bandits denote to others what their profession was? Give an example.
They tattooed their faces, necks, and arms lavishly. Examples: A wolf’s jaw on the neck indicating revenge, a length of chain around the leg or arm to show time in prison, an open eye etched on their forehead to show uncanny stealth. (p. 63)

What was Aine made to do anytime the badits came to her home?
Lock herself in the attic and not come down until her father gave her a signal. (p. 63)

What were Aine’s feeling towards her father?
She was always worried and feared for him, but she was also proud that he was a man unmatched. (p. 64)

What was Aine’s father’s vision that he told to the group of bandits at their home in the woods?
“I have seen a Queen. And I have seen a vision. And I’ll tell you right now, our lives are about to change.” (p. 64)

What is Aine’s father hiding from his group of bandits?
Masses of gold hidden in the hayloft (p. 65)

What is Aine’s father’s plan to change his life and the lives of the bandits? What is he plotting?
He plans on stealing Sister Witch’s magic (or power) and selling it to King Ott for a tremendous price (p. 65)

Who’s voice does Aine sometimes hear in her head when things aren’t going well with her father?
Her mother’s voice (p. 66)

How is Aine described in the book? What are her personality traits?
Practical, industrious, and unsentimental (p. 67)

On what day of Sister Witch’s journey did the bandits slip into her village?
The third day (p. 68)

How was the magic in the pot reacting to the invasion of the bandits?
It caused a fuss, rattled loudly, and let out a stench of rotten eggs (p. 68-69)

How does Madame Thuane’s manner change when Sister Witch is not around? How does this differ from her demeanor when Sister Witch is home?
She became insistent and demanding. A force of nature. (p. 69) / She spoke gently. She was more careful with her words because she saw Sister Witch as both useful and dangerous. (p. 69).

What does Ned feel is the worst, most embarrassing thing for him?
To have his words completed for him (p. 70)

When Ned tells the magic to hush and settle down, how does the magic respond?
The magic suddenly quiets and lets off a wonderful small-damp and frothy, exactly like the Great River in high summer. (p. 70)

What did Tam’s voice in Ned’s head tell him to say out loud as the bandits approached their house to steal the magic? What happened when he spoke these words?
“You are not welcome here” (p. 72) / he felt his brother within him and when Ned spoke the words aloud he did not stutter. Together, the brothers conjured the magic and the yard crackled with it. The magic kept the bandits out and sent them into a fit of laughter. (p. 73)

What does Aine think is changing her father?
The pendant and the banditry (p. 74)
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What was the name of Aine’s favorite goat?
Moss (p. 74)

What did Aine’s Mother never allow Aine and her father to talk about? What did she say about this thing?
Magic (p. 75) She said there was no magic (p. 75)

What is the name of the fishing village where Aine’s mother’s family lives?
Kaarna (p. 75)

Before Aine’s mother sickened for the last time she left Aine with her father while she visited her family. Who showed up in the middle of the night while she was gone? What did this person want?
Aine’s Grandfather (p. 76) He asked for money and also for his family’s “treasure”. (p. 77-78)

What does Aine plan to do to get her old father back? (TWO ANSWERS)
To take his pendant and destroy it. (p. 80) and/or make it look as though someone stole all the riches in the barn and convince him that his magic had failed him, maybe then he would leave the pendant and banditry behind. (p. 81)

What is The Bandit King (Aine’s father) “incentive” to get Ned to give him the magic?
Ned’s father as a hostage (p. 86)

Why can’t the bandit simply enter the house and take the magic in the pot?
Because It has to be given to him by a resident of the house (p. 88-89)

How did Ned’s mother approach the Magic before she used it?
She would ask for assistance and blow it a kiss (p. 89)

During the stand-off with the bandits, what did Ned finally understand about his father? (Two answers)
He understood his bravery and that his father loved him very much (p. 91)

Where was Sister Witch’s workshop located?
Below the home, beneath a trap door covered by a wool rug that led to the underground cellar (p. 91)

What did Sister Witch keep in her workshop?
Tools, books, and magic (p. 91)

What does Ned say would make the magic backfire?
Selfishness, greed, and personal gain (p. 91)

What does Ned say and do before reaching for the clay pot?
“it is with a pure heart that I humbly ask your assistance” and then blows the pot full of magic a kiss.
What does Ned tell the magic after he releases it from the pot? What does he propose? How does the magic respond?
He tells the magic that he knows he is not his mother, but there are men outside the house willing to kill to get the magic. He tells the magic, “You need to help me help you”. (p. 92) / He proposes that the magical bind itself to him for protection (p. 92) / The magic agreed, a lightning bolt erupted and pierced him in the heart. It spread over every inch of him and it burned. (p. 92)

What appeared on Ned’s body after the magic bound itself to him? How did it make him feel?
Words, all over (p. 94) / they hurt him physically (p. 94)

What happened when Ned touched things after the magic bound itself to him? What did he do to combat this?
They burned up to ash or he left burnt handprints of them (p. 95) He put on gloves and covered as much of his body as he could (p. 95)

What was the item Ned carved the in the morning before the bandit came to his home to steal the magic?
A wolf (p. 96)

What colors did the words on Ned’s body turn when the magic attached itself to him? How does this relate to Aine’s father?
Orange, then blue, then white. (p. 98) The pendant worn my Ain’es father matched the colors the words were turning on Ned’s body (p. 98)

What did the Bandits do to Ned and his father upon leaving Ned’s cottage?
Ned’ father was bound and gagged and left inside the house to starve (p. 98-99) Ned was cound and thrown in a burlap bag, kidneapped by the bandits (p. 99)

Upon leaving the cottage where he kid napped Ned, what did the Bandit King say about the weak and the strong?
He said “The weak deserve to be controlled, and the strong deserve… everything” (p. 100)

What types of riches did Aine hide away? How did she hide them? Why did she choose them?
The finest jewels (p. 103)/ tying them into neat little bundles and stashing then into the rafters (p.103)/ They were light, easily hidden, and abundantly rich (p.103)

What weapon did Aine not care for and why? Which weapon(s) does she ultimately choose to carry with her to defend herself?
She did not care for swords because they are cumbersome and unwieldy (P. 102) / She was adept with a knife and deadly with a bow – these are the weapons she chose(p. 103)

What were some of the skills Aine had for skillfully navigating the forest?
She knew how to read the trees (p. 104)
She know how to take a bearing off the angle of the sun (p. 104)
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She knew how to balance a special needle on a cork in a pan of water to make it face north (p. 104)

What happened to Aine’s orientation of the forest on the day she set out to hunt after her father had been gone for several days? How was the forest different?
Something was intentionally scrambling the paths. She felt words coming through her feet, as though the bedrock was speaking. Eventually a straight path formed and even if she wanted to, Aine could not move off the path set forth. (p. 104)

What did Aine see when she reached the clearing of the forest after being forced to follow the straight path?
A mother wolf (p. 105)

What did Aine do upon seeing the wolf? Why was this confusing and complicated for her? How did she feel about her actions?
She raised her arrow to shoot the wolf, but the forest yelled “NO” and despite having shot the arrow herself she also said aloud “No, no, no”. But, the arrow struck the wolf and killed it. (p. 106) Aine was upset and confused about killing the wolf because it was clear it wished her to harm and it was a mother, full of milk. She was regretful and sad. (p. 107)

What did Aine hear at the creek bed after shooting the mother wolf?
The cries of a wolf pup (p. 107)

When Ned and the bandits take a break in the woods, what does he discover is happening to his magic?
What was specifically peculiar about what was happening? How was he able to perceive what was happening?
The Magic was speaking/ Each jumble of words, each scripted sentence had its own voice/ he did not hear it with his ears, rather he felt it within him (P. 111)

What did Ned hear the magic say when he first realized it was speaking?
“Where is our witch? We need her. We are not use to playing with tiny children. Please fetch you grown up lady at instantly, and at once. Enough is enough.” (p. 111)

What does Ned come to realize the Bandit Kings pendant can do? Hint: how does this relate to what the magic inside Ned can do?
The pendant could also talk. It spoke to the magic in Ned and they were able to communicate.

What does the magic in the Bandit’s pendant want with the magic inside of Ned? Why?
To be unified, to be whole. / Because the only way to freedom is to restore what has been broken. (p. 113)

What does Ned learn about the magic’s ability to communicate?
The magic can hear his thoughts and speak to him from within (p. 114)

How long does the magic say they have been able to hear Ned?
Since the day he was born (p. 114)

What is the name of the bandit that Ned turns to stone?
Bert (p. 115)

What happens to the bandit Bert when he touches Ned’s bare skin?
He turns to stone (p. 115)

What did Ned have tucked in his boot? How was he able to retrieve it?
A knife/when the bandits were not looking after he had been placed back in the burlap sack he has able to retrieve it and keep it between his palms. (p. 117)

What did the Magic say about Sister Witch? How did this compare to how the magic felt being inside Ned?
The magic said Sister Witch has bossy/ being inside Ned was more fun (p. 118)

What type of power did the stones still hold, despite being caught between life and death?
They were able to bend stone, warp stone, destroy things (castles) made of stone. They could push aside things on top of bedrock as well- diverting road and trails, even rivers (p. 120)

Long before Ned’s mother wielded the magic, when Ned’s village was still a part of Duunin, who were the magic keepers? How did they use the magic?
Three women, sheep hearders. They used the magic to feed the hungry, cure disease, fixed homes, settled disputes, and blessed unions. (p. 122)

In the ancient time, when the three women held the magic, how did they save the magic from falling into the hands of the king?
The Magic agreed to split itself in three. It bounds itself to the bodies of the three women, writing the story of itself into the women's skin. The women covered themselves and ran in three different directions through the night. (p. 123)

Of the three women who held the magic in ancient times and bound the magic to themselves in order to protect it from the king, who was caught first? What happened when she was caught?
The oldest woman (the grandmother) was caught first (p. 124) She was killed by one of the king’s guards but the magic lifted itself from her skin into a golden cloud that shot itself skyward, disappearing forever. (p. 124) – people may also add that anyone who attempted to catch the magic were turned to stone (p. 124)

Of the three women who held the magic in ancient times and bound the magic to themselves in order to protect it from the king, who was the second to be caught? What was her fate?
The second to be caught was the old woman’s daughter. She would have escaped, but was tracked by hawks that lead the kings soldiers to her (p. 125) She begged the magic to turn her to stone to preserve the magic, and so the magic did as she commanded. The soldiers attempted to take the stone statue
back to the king, but the nine stones would not allow it. They used their magic to cause the soldiers to drop her, and she crumbled sending her magic out of the world and deep into space (p. 126).

What was the last remaining piece of the old woman’s daughter after her stone body was shattered and her magic lost to space?
Only one small, round piece of stone remained in tact, and it was not found for many years (p. 126)

Where did the last of the three women (the daughter/grand daughter) who bound the magic to themselves to protect it from the king run to? What happened there?
The nine stones (p. 128) In a last attempt to save the magic the stones called up on the girl and the magic she held to conjure a giant, winding, terrifying forest with angry trees that could shift and move. The forest destroyed the kingdom and the castle and all that was left was a dense, giant, dangerous forest. (p. 130)

How did the village that Ned’s family lived in come to be?
After the kingdom that once stood there was turned to a dense, dangerous, enchanted forest, the remaining villagers of the kingdom settled on the edge of the forest, on fertile land, and formed the village. (p. 130)

What happened to the last of the three women who protected the magic from the king? How does this relate to Sister Witch?
She was rescued by a man who was making his way through the destroyed kingdom, now covered by a dense, dangerous forest. She made a private life for herself in a quiet cottage, unraveled the magic from herself and placed it in a clay pot. This was the first line of magic keepers in the village, an ancestor of sister witch (p. 131)

Why did Ned resist the magic’s offer to help him escape the sac he was bound in by the bandits?
Because he said magic could not be used for personal gain (p. 133)

When the magic was trying to convince Ned to escape from the bandits what name did they call him by accident?
Tam (p. 135)

How does Ned free his hands while trapped in the sack by the bandits?
He used the knife he snuck into his shoe to cut the straps that bound his wrists (p. 136)

How did Ned use magic to free himself from the bandits? Why was it important to the magic that he did it at the exact right time?
He cut a hold in his gloves and touched the horse he was tied up with to “stun” it with magic. The magic wanted his to do this at the exact right moment because they were crossing a ravine on a bridge. (p. 137)

What didn’t Ned die from falling off the ravine after escaping the bandits?
The magic slowed his fall so he landed lightly, unharmed. (p. 138-139)
What did Ned’s mother mean when she frequently said, “A strong hand and an iron will”? These words meant that this is how one had to handle the magic, because it could do what it wanted with out Ned’s, or Sister Witch’s, say so. They had to use will and stern determination to control the magic. (p. 139)

After the fall into the ravine, what did the bandit ask of Ned? What did Ned do instead?
To kill him out of compassion because he was barely alive, gravely injured. (p. 140) Instead he willed the magic to heal the bandit and sleep for two days (p. 141-142)

How did healing the bandit effect Ned?
He felt every injury the bandit felt. Every broken bone, everthing. Then it knocked him unconscious. (p. 142)

What did Ned take first from the bandit after he healed him and while he slept? Why? What else did he take?
His gloves. His old gloves had a hole in them and that hole scared him because it meant the magic could escape again his will. (p.143) / Ned also swapped his heavy coat for the Bandit’s hood, took his food sack and tinder pouches, lastly, he took the bandits knife which was larger should he need it (p. 143)

What item did Ned leave the bandit before leaving him behind in the ravine?
A bow and arrows (p. 143)

How did the Bandit King know Ned was still alive?
His hawks spotted Ned in the ravine (p. 144)

What did Ned’s mother dream about the night she finally reached the Queen’s castle?
She dreamed of wild men and women with tattoos of their violent ptofessions. She dreamed of horses and voices approaching the sea (p. 145-146)

What did Sister Witch think about the theory that most people believed which was that the world ended at the mountains and the Queen kept them all safe?
She had a hunch that the world was much larger, much more dangerous, and much more complicated than most people understood. (p. 148)

What did Sister Witch find floating in the river, caught in the current by the boat landing while on her visit to the Queen? What knowledge did this give her?
A carved wooden figure that looked exactly like Ned. (p. 148) / She knew that the magic was moving quickly through the forest and it was bound to Ned. (p. 149)

How many winters had the Queen lived?
More than a hundred (p. 150)

Why does the Queen not have an official heir? When will the heir be named?
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Because she never married and had children/the heir will be named upon her death in her will (p. 150)

Why does Sister Witch ask to see the queen before she is scheduled to see her? Because she needed to tell her of the “disturbance” – the magic moving quickly through the forest, attached to Ned (p. 152)

How does the Queen’s court/family respond to the news shared by Sister Witch of a magical disturbance? How does the queen respond to them? They are shocked and appalled. They do not feel that a commoner should speak of such things. (p. 153) The queen tells them all to be quiet and kicks them out of the room so she way talk to Sister Witch in private. (p. 153)

Why does the queen say her relatives hang around her constantly? Because they all think she will be dead soon and want to be the heir to the crown. (p. 154)

What insulting phrase does the queen use to describe her family that holds court? An entourage of idiots (p. 154)

Upon hearing Sister Witch’s history with the magic and her warning that the magic is on the move and can be used as a weapon in the wrong hands, what does the queen offer? What does Sister Witch ask for? The Queen offers all of her resources to be at Sister Witch’s disposal. (p. 155) / Sister Witch asks for soldier to protect her family, and to sound the alarm to prepare for war. (p. 155)

What was in the Queen’s tea cup during her meeting with Sister Witch? What did it do to her? Poison (p. 156) It caused her lips to turn bright red, then purple, then blue. / Her eyes rolled back and she shuddered (p. 156)

What does Sister Witch give the Queen when the tea poisons her? An antidote that stops the poison from spreading (p. 157)

What is sister witch accused of in the queen’s court? Who accuses her? What relation does this person have to the queen? How does this person appear to feel about the queen being poisoned? Sister Witch is accused of trying to poison the queen (p. 157). Brin accuses her (p. 157). He is the queen’s cousin (p. 157). He seems pleased when she is poisoned (p. 158)

What does Brin tell Sister Witch will happen to her? That she will hang for poisoning the queen whether the queen lives or dies (p. 158)

What is running through Sister Witch’s mind when she is being bound and shackled by the queen’s guards after the queen is poisoned? She wonders when she swallowed the antidote she gave her and whether it was enough (p. 158)

What follows Ned as he walks through the forest after leaving the healed bandit in the ravine?
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A young wolf. (p. 161)

What was wrong with the young wolf when Ned came across him in the forest?
The young wolf was starving (p. 162)

What did the magic tell Ned about feeding the wolf to save it?
It told him not to. It told him he needed to save himself first (p. 162)

What food items were in the satchel that Ned took from the bandit?
A hunk of salted meat, a bit of cheese, a few dried apples, and a heal of hard tack (p.162)

Why does Ned scold the magic when he happens upon the wolf? What does he say.
He scolds the magic for being selfish. He says that his mother always said that selfishness is the root of tyranny. That selfishness is a sin. (p. 162)

What color were the young wolf’s eyes?
Yellow (p. 163)

What did Ned give the young, starving wolf to eat? What did the enable Ned to do?
The entire hunk of salted meat. (p. 163) / Ned was able to escape without the wolf following or attacking him (p. 163)

What item that Ned took from the bandit came in handy for building fires?
The tinder box containing flint and steel (p. 164)

What did Ned cut from the trunks of trees to eat on his first night alone in the forest? What was the name of mushrooms?
Mushrooms, Angel’s Ears (p. 164)

How is the wolf’s coat described?
Multicolor, shades of earthy brown, and dark red clay, and warm white like think cream. It was the most beautiful thing Ned had ever seen, (p. 165)

When the wolf found Ned at his campfire, what did he bring him?
A rabbit to eat (p. 166)

Who did Ned dream about the night the wolf came back to him? What did this person warn him about?
He dreamed that Tam was with him, curled up to the wolf by the fire. (p. 168-169). He told him to be careful of “the things that lie”. (p. 170)

How does Tam say Ned changed when he took his mother’s magic?
That when he took his mother’s magic he changed form a boy to a man (p. 169)

How did Ned wake up the morning by the fire after the wolf came back to him?
He woke up cuddled around the wolf, touching it’s fur with his bare hands. (p. 171)

What was unique about Ned’s magic as it relates to the wolf?
Ned could touch the world with his bare hands without harming it. His magic also calmed down as if it went to sleep (p. 171).

When did Ned inherently know about the wolf the morning after it brought him the rabbit?
That the wolf was his friend (p. 171).

What did Ned feel when he tried to leave the wolf behind?
With every step he took away from the wolf he felt a terrible loss opening up in his heart. Like a great dark chasm (p. 173)

As Ned and the wolf traversed the banks of the great river what jutted out from the water? What words did it make him think of?
Rocky islands, stony monoliths that stood tall and lonely in the insistent press of the water. (p. 173) / it made his think of Tam’s words from his dream “the stones are watching you”. (p. 173)

As the stones that stood tall out of the great lake increased on Ned and the wolf’s journey, what happened to Ned’s magic?
The words on Ned’s skin increased in number and speed. It was as though the magic was multiplying. (p. 173-174)

When the river reached the large cliff with a waterfall, what did Ned and the Wolf spot amongst the thick trees? Who did they find as they approached their destination?
A small mossy cottage with a garden. (p. 175) A girl shooting arrows at them (Aine) (p. 177)

Where did Aine hit Ned with her arrow?
She clipped him in the thigh (p. 177)

Describe what Aine looks like.
Black hair, black eyes, and skin the color of oiled wood (p. 177)

What did the magic want to turn Aine into when Ned first meets her in the forest?
A stone, a thicket of thorns, or butterflies (p. 178)

Aine offered Ned food and items to dress his wound, but what would she not allow? How did the magic respond?
Aine told them they were not allowed to enter the house (p. 181) / The magic wanted to go in and tried to tempt Ned into entering (p. 181)

Who was the “Benevolent” King of the Kingdom of Duunin?
King Ott (p. 183)
What unrectified thing drove King Ott mad, so much so that he thought about it day and night to the point of obsession? That the land on the other side of the great forest had independence and he felt it was his to rightfully rule over (p. 184).

Describe the “Meadows of the Sky”. Who sat there? A gap in the mountains that flattened into a huge green field, thick with flowers, bounded on two sides by high rocky walls. It was where kind Ott sat on a makeshift dais. (p. 185)

What do the servants do for the king while he is seated on the “Meadow of the Sky”? A young boy fans his face and a young girl gives him sips of wine to cool him off. There are a pair of siblings that sit at his feet for when they need scratching, servants holding platters of sweetmeats and peeled fruit, honeycombs and pastries and other sugary treats. (p. 185)

What words had a “marvelously soothing effect” on King Ott? EXECUTIONER! Remove this man’s head at once! (p. 186)

Who did King Ott wish to execute? Did he do it? Why or why not? The Red Bearded Bandit/ No/ He convinced the king that he knew how to get him the magic and capture the kingdom at the edge of the Great Forest. (p. 187)

When speaking with King Ott, how does the bandit explain that he is able to navigate the Great Forest? He says the forest is his friend. That it has always been his home and its paths have never complicated his way. He says the forest knows his footsteps and straightens his way (p. 188)

How does the bandit solidify resources from King Ott to retrieve the magic and find Ned? He uses his magic to hypnotize him, or puts him under some sort of spell (p. 189)

What were Aine’s first impressions of Ned? That he was an imbecile, unable to navigate the forest, and foolish for keeping friends with a wolf (p. 191)

What was Aine determined to do with respect to Ned? She would not let father see Ned, and she certainly would not let him see Ned’s magic. (p. 192)

What ingredients does Aine use in her stew that she gives Ned when they first meet? What else does she serve him? Water, roots from the cellar, dried mushrooms from the rafters, and salt. (p. 192) She also gives him warm cider, sliced cheese and toasted bread. (p. 192)

How does Aine describe the “lowlander” accent? I like this question a lot – I was going to write the same thing. It sounds like they speak as though they are sloshing syrup in their mouths (p. 194)
Who tells Ned of the kingdom of Duunin for the first time?
Aine (p. 194)

What does Ned tell Aine is “worse than monsters”?
The bandits. (p. 195)

What did Aine “know in her bones” about Ned?
That it was her father that was after Ned and sent him wandering through the forest. That it was the magic on his skin that set his father and his bandits in motion. (p. 196)

What does Aine realize about Ned’s magic when she finally asks him his name?
That Ned cannot control the magic and the magic did not want her to know his name. (p. 196)

What do the words on Ned’s skin do when Aine speaks his name?
They flash (p. 197)

What two things does Aine realize are connected upon meeting Ned?
That his magic and the pendant around her father’s neck had everything to do with each other. (p. 197)

What does Aine know will make her father even more dangerous?
The magic on Ned’s skin. (p. 197)

When the bandit who Ned healed finally wakes up, how does he feel?
He feel whole and finds that the pains that bothered him for years were suddenly gone. He was energized and felt brand new. (p. 198)

What remained with the bandit Ned healed when he awoke?
His larger knife and his quiver (p. 199)

What is the bandit’s name who Ned healed after falling into the ravine?
Eimon (p. 199) –or reverse this question and ask “Who is Eimon?”

What did Eimon’s mother always ask him to think of to make things seem not so bad?
Three things to be thankful for (p. 199)

How did Eimon’s mother die?
She was killed by bandits (p. 199)

When Eimon awakes from being healed by Ned was does he resolve to do?
To find Ned and prove his worth to the other bandits (p. 200)

What does Aine decide to do with Ned?
To go with him into the forest. (p. 201)

Who did Aine miss before even leaving home with Ned?
Her goats. (p. 202)

What does Aine say of her chickens? What does she say about her goats?
That they are poor, stupid things (p. 202) / That they were smart and capable, her good girls (p. 202)

What three animal furs did Aine give Ned to lie down on when she first met him?
A bear skin, a deer skin, and a wolf skin. (p. 202)

What did Aine’s father say about wolves?
That they were wicked creatures not to be trusted (p. 203)

What does Aine make Ned for breakfast the morning after they meet?
Root vegetables, salted meats, and berries all fried in bear grease (p. 204)

How long does Aine guess it will take to get Ned to the edge of the forest by foot?
3-4 days (p. 205)

What does Aine spot in the sky before she and Ned depart that she hoped she would not see so soon?
Her father’s falcons (p. 206)

Why does Aine insist that during their travels she and Ned stay covered by trees?
So they are not tracked by her father’s falcons (p. 206)

Which parent does Aine identify most with? What does she say about this?
Her mother. (p. 207) / she is her mother’s child (p. 207)

What are Aine’s two strategies Aine has for making sure her father cannot track her and Ned?
To stay under the cover of trees and to cross the rock fields where they will not leave footprints. (p.207)

How was Sister Witch treated in prison? What was she given?
She was treated well. She wanted for nothing. She was fed well and ate often. (p. 209) / She was given hand knitted blankets and feather cushions and skins of wine. (p. 208)

How did the soldier treat Sister Witch?
They spoke to her deferentially, as though she was a princess or dignitary. (p. 209)

How did the Queen’s kingdom regard Sister Witch after she saved the queen’s life at the jubilee?
They thought of her as a “national treasure” (p. 208)

What did Sister Witch do while she was in prison? What didn’t she do?
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She listened to the winds and read the stars and she waited (p. 209) / She did not request the thing she needed most, to be released and she did not give voice to her deepest worries. (p. 209)

What was the queen not allowed while she was in prison? 
Visitors, quill or paper or charcoal or wood. Thing that would bear or keep a mark or hold a message. (p. 209)

What were carpenters building outside of Sister Witch’s prison? 
Gallows (p. 209)

Even without her magic, what did Sister Witch know how to do? 
Press upon the flow of the world, nudge outcomes this way or that, giving suggestions that the world received (p. 209)

How did Sister Witch effect the building of the gallows? 
She was able to sway their progress by slowing it and besetting it with problems. (p. 209)

What was physically bothering Ned on the first day of his journey with Aine? What did Aine do to ease this? 
His leg was throbbing where Aine shot him with her arrow the day before. (p. 210) / She gave him her scarf and placed moss within it and told him to tie it to his wound. (p. 211-212).

What did the magic tell Ned about Aine? 
That she is dangerous and will kill him if she’s up against a wall, even if she doesn’t want to. Not to trust her (p. 213)

In What part of the forest did Aine and Ned spend their first night? 
The Great Bowl (p. 214)

When Aine tells Ned that she is foraging for food on their first night in the forest, what is she really doing? 
Checking for signs that her father and the bandits are near (p. 216)

When Aine is checking the forest for signs of her father and the bandits on her and Ned’s first night in the forest, how many paces does she decide she needs to take in order to ensure that they are safe? 
500 paces (p. 216)

During Aine and Ned’s first night in the forest together, how did Aine know that her father and the bandits were near? 
A high whistle that called from bandit to bandit, the pitch and length of each one was a secret code known only to the bandits... and Aine (p. 218)

How do the two bald bandits spot Ned in the woods on his first night journeying with Aine? 
Smoke (p. 219)
When the two bald bandits are upon Ned and Aine what does Aine do out of desperation, not knowing what to do?
She opened her throat and cried like a wolf (p. 220)

How did the fire start that led the bandits to Ned and Aine in the forest?
Ned took his gloves off and focused on being warm. Through thinking about being warm the magic shot sparks from his hands, igniting the kindling Aine gathered earlier in the evening. Smoke was coming off of Ned as well. (p. 222)

When Ned accidently starts the fire in the forest and the magic makes him feel as if he too if one fire, what words does Ned remember? What words is he then urged to think? Who’s words are they? Where did the voice come from?
“Beware of things that lie” (p. 222) / “Think Nothing. Think Nothing” (p. 222) / Tam’s (p. 222) / The voice came from the fluttery feeling in his imaginary scars in his chest (p. 222)

What word does that magic say it hates? Ned says this when he is trying to keep the magic under control in the forest.
The word “Nothing” (p. 223)

What does the young wolf do to help Aine and Ned when they are being pursued in the forest?
The wolf leads them in the opposite direction of the children (p. 224)

What did Ned and Tam both dream of? What did they both hope to do?
The Sea. They both wanted to reach the sea. (p. 226)

What does the wolf find in the river that saves Ned and Aine from being captured by the bandits? To whom did this thing belong?
A raft or a barge, either would be acceptable. (p. 227) / Aine and her father (p. 227)

What is the symbol emblazoned on the rock from which Aine unties the barge while escaping the bandits? What is the meaning behind it?
A pictogram forming the shape of a fish (p. 228) / it is the symbol for Aine’s mother’s family (p. 228)

What did Ned and Tam pack for lunch the day Tam drowned?
Meat pies, hard rolls, apples, ginger beer. (p. 229)

How many stones are there?
9 (p. 230, but also several other places)

What do the stones say disrupt the magic?
Ned’s pain (p. 230)
What do the stones call upon to help Ned? Which stone specifically? How are these things supposed to help?
Every rock, every flagstone, every pebble every cliff. The bedrock, gravel beds, and the caves. (p. 231) / The first stone (p. 231) / They are supposed to thwart the army coming for Ned by bending the landscape. (p. 231)

Who found Ned’s father bound and gagged on the floor of his house?
Madam Thuane (p. 233)

How does Madam Thuane first respond to Ned’s father upon finding him bound and gagged when he pleads for help? What does she suggest instead?
She says that she cannot help him with the magic and the bandits (p. 233) / She suggests a bath and burning his clothes instead (p. 234)

What is called together the night Ned’s father is found bound in his home? Who attends? Where does this event happen?
A village meeting (p. 235) / Everyone in the village attended (p. 325) / The meeting happens in the long house next to the central square (p. 235)

How does the town respond to the news that Ned was taken? What do they say about Ned?
They are ambivalent. They say Ned was marked to drown and should have. They are not glad he’s gone but not sad, either (p. 235)

Why don’t the villagers believe anyone is out to get them even as Ned’s father explains his encounter with the bandits?
They don’t believe anyone would come to hurt them or the queen because they do not believe anything exists beyond their village (p. 236)

What does Ned father do to regain the villagers’ attention at the town meeting when they say they don’t believe him and begin to leave?
He takes a wooden mallet from his tool belt and bangs on the council table very loudly (p. 236)

At the village meeting, after being found by Madam Thuane, what does Ned’s father say about him to the townspeople?
That he has proven himself brave by protecting the magic and that he is no more “witless” than any of the villagers (p. 236)

What does Ned’s father say the town must do in response to the threat of war?
Send two riders to the queen to inform her of what has happened so she can mobilize the armies. Also send riders to all of the villages to alert them of the pending threat. He also says they themselves need to prepare (p. 238)

When the river becomes unsafe for Ned and Aine, what does Aine decide they will follow?
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The ridges (p. 240)
When Aine and Ned become lost in the forest, what does the magic begin to do?
The magic begins to argue with itself, giving Ned mixed messages about what to do (p. 240)

What does Ned say to the magic that Aine thinks he intended to say to her? How does she respond?
“if you kill me, you will die, too”. / Aine is angry (p. 242)

What did ned say, without struttering, that made the magic cold, lifeless, and silent? What did Ned know at that moment?
“Stop talking, YOU WILL BE SILENT”. (p. 243) / that the magic wouldn’t say anything more without his permission (p. 244)

What does Aine come to understand about the magic after Ned has finally silenced it?
That the magic speaks to Ned (p. 244)

When Ned finally explains his family’s relationship with the magic what does he say about the nature of the magic? How Does Aine respond?
He explains that it is his family’s job to keep the magic good (p. 244) / Aine strongly disagrees and tells Ned that the magic created the forest and killed so many people. (p. 245)

After scaling the ridge what do Ned and Ain come upon after the clearing? How was it formed?
The scree (p. 246) / It’s tons of rocks of all sizes that were created by an avalanche that left a scar of the mountain. (p. 246)

What does Aine say are the strongest trees on the mountain?
The short, gnarled, jacks that let themselves bow and twist so they live. (p. 248)

What happens to Ned while crossing the scree? What Does Aine tell him to do in response?
He slips (p. 249) / To roll on his belly and spread his arms (p. 249)

Upon finally crossing the scree, what do Ned and Aine see? How does Aine deal with this? What happens to Aine?
They see a hunter falcon (p. 250) / Aine pulls out her sling shot and shoots the bird down (p. 250) /
She slips to the edge of the cliff after shooting the falcon (p. 252)

When Aine slips off the cliff after shooting her father’s falcon, what is she able to do to avoid falling?
She grabs onto some roots and dead trees. (p. 254)

What does Tam say to Ned as he contemplates how to rescue Aine from the edge of the cliff after she shot down the falcon?
“You are more powerful than you know” (p. 255)

What does Ned do to save Aine as she hangs from the edge of the cliff? What word does he repeat?
He awakens the magic (p. 255) / ROPE (p. 256)
How does Ned feel after he uses the magic to conjure the rope to save Aine?
Intoxicated, light headed, wobbly (p. 257)

As soon as Ned and the wolf save Aine from falling to her death off the cliff who are they faced with?
The two bald bandits (p. 259).

What doesn’t Sister Witch “truck” with? Why?
She does not engage in “hoping” because it is irrational, impractical, and imprecise. She is a solver, not a hoper. (p. 261)

How did Sister Witch view death? What formed this understanding for her?
She knew it was nothing to fear. She knew this because she had assisted so many people from this life to the next. (p. 261)

What did the moon look like on the night before Sister Witch was to be executed?
Lopsided, not full but close. Bright and fat and full of promise (p. 262)

What did Sister Witch know on the eve of her execution?
The magic was still moving and Ned was alive (p. 262)

What were the stone walls of Sister Witch’s prison doing on the night before her execution?
They were singing (p. 262)

What did each of the guards say to Sister Witch as they took her arms to lead her to the gallows? What did she tell them in return?
“I’m sorry, please forgive us”. (p. 264) / she told them to be slow, that someone was coming and they did not want to miss the show. (p. 264)

Who put the noose around Sister Witch’s head?
She did it herself (p. 264)

What instrument was playing in the moments before Sister Witch was to hang?
Drums (p. 265)

Who places their hand on Brin’s shoulder, interrupting the execution?
The Queen (p. 265)

What did Brin do to the men who came from Sister Witch’s village to warn the Queen that they were soon to be at war? What does the queen say about this choice?
He imprisoned them (p. 266) / that is was a strange strategy (p. 266)
As Aine and Ned ran down straight paths following the crossing of the scree, who lead the bandits away from them?
The wolf (p.270)

When the wolf leads the bandits away from Aine and Ned for the second time, when they are close to reaching the stones, what does Aine finally realize?
She finally realizes that Ned and the wolf were the boy and the wolf her mother told her about moments before she died. She also knew then Ned and the wolf loved her and she loved them back and she needed them alive (p. 271)

Aine’s father told her what to do if he neber retuned home. Where specifically did he tell her to go according to a map. From there what was she suppose to seek?
To go to The Granddaughter’s Falls, from their a village a simpleton’s was a two day walk and they would accept her. (p. 273)

When does the magic wake up again after Ned silences it? How does it make Ned feel? What can he hear right before it happens?
As they are approaching the nine stones (p. 275) / It makes Ned feel like static running through his body, crinkling his hair and running across his skin. The words moved bright and hot across his skin and smoke came off of him. It knocked him back.(p. 275) / singing (p. 275)

When the magic woke up upon approaching the stones, what flew from Ned’s hands?
Sparks, then bugs, then feathers, then frogs, then dust and pebbles and sand. (bonus points is they are in order?) (p. 275)

What were the Great Stones doing when Ned and Aine see them for the first time? What do they look like?
They were singing (p. 276) / The largest nearly as tall as the tops of the trees, the smallest as tall as a cottage. They were grey with shots of black and blue and red marbling the surface. (p. 276)

What does Ned feel increasing in his chest as he looks at the great stones? What did he remember? What does the voice tell him?
He feels fluttering at first like a butterfly, then a sparrow, then a falcon. (p. 277) / he remembers a sharp needle and a bit of thread and something screaming (p. 277) / No monster brother. Just stones. They have always been stones (p. 277)

What catches Ned’s eye at the Great Stones, who returns?
The wolf (p. 277)

What is the first thing the stones say to Ned?
“Welcome boy. We haven’t seen anyone from your bloodline in a long, long time” (p. 278)

What do the stones say about Tam when Ned informs them that Tam is dead?
They tell him “it depends on what you mean by dead” (p. 278)
What do the stones say about Aine?
She is her mother's daughter, they know her father is a thief, they know she is not a thief, her father loves her very much, that Aine is the girl in the woods who longs for the sea? (p. 279)

What do the stones tell Ned is not his fault?
The death of Tam (p. 279)

The stones say that death is a sorrow but not a tragedy. What do they say is the tragedy?
When those who die are not aloud to move on (p. 279)

Why do the stones say they lead Ned and Aine to them?
So they may wait no longer (p. 280)

How did Ned's father feel about war? Why does he feel that way? What does he say bandits prefer?
That it was a stupid game (p. 282) / Because it has too many variable and rules (p. 282) / Bandits preferred rules that wrote themselves and they preferred to win (p. 282)

Who first show the King Bandit the pendant? What is this person's prophecy?
His mother / that he will be a great leader and topple crowns and turn the world on it's head (p. 282-283)

Who begins to doubt the king bandit as they travel through the magical woods?
The king's soldiers (p. 285)

What can't the pendant do for the bandit? What can it do?
It can't build or destroy, it can't give him power over the substance of things, could not turn wood to gold, it could effect the weather. (p. 286) / It could deflect arrows and blades, it could bend things, it gave him influence and power over people. It could make him revered and loved. (p. 286)

When the stones taught Ned's family in the beginning how to contain the magic, how do they describe the magic to them?
The cloud of magic was a collection of intelligences- capable of acting as one, but more often a rumbling of warring ideas. (p. 289-290)

What did the magic ask the family to do that they did not do? Why did they not do as the magic asked?
They asked the family to bind the magic to the soul of a dying person, then the magic would pass on with the person's soul. The stones would pass on with the magic. They asked them to release the magic and to release them. (p. 290) / The family did not do as the stones were told because they realized the magic could be used for good, so they kept it around (p. 290)

If Ned orders the magic to be released in order to free the stones, what will happen to him? What will happen to the pendant?
Ned will die (p. 291) / The pendant would be rendered useless (p. 291)
What does Aine admit to Ned? How has that changed?
She admits that she was willing to kill Ned for her father (p. 292) / she would no longer kill him, or anyone (p. 292)

What was the fluttering in Ned’s chest insisting as Ned decides he must die to save his village, to free the world of the magic?
It should be me! Take me! (p. 293)

Who shows up just as the stones are about to tell Ned of another way to releas the magic without him dying?
Eimon, the bandit Ned saved in the ravine (p. 294)

What does King Ott do upon hearing that the boy has vanished and has been lost to him?
Orders the bandits to be shackled and orders his armies to attack the Queen’s kingdom (p. 279)

When he reaches the clearing with the nine stones what does Aine’s father hear her say? What is his initial response?
He over hears her telling the stones that the magic has twisted his soul. That it has made him not good and that as long as there is magic in the world no one is safe (p. 299) / He was overtaken by anger

When The Bandit King sees that Eimon’s arrow is going to kill Aine what does he do? What is the result?
He calls upon his pendant to bend the arrow, to take his life instead (p. 301) / The arrow bends and turns towards him. It pierces the pendant, smashing it and lodging itself in his throat. (p. 301)

What happens in the last moments of the bandit kings life, just as the pendant is smashed by Eimon’s arrow?
His soul unkinks, he is good again, he is himself again in the last moments of his life (p. 301)

What does Aine ask Ned to do for her father when he reaches them at the stones? What do the stones tell her about this request?
She asks Ned to use magic to save her father (p. 303) / The stones say the magic must not touch his. That he chose this and this is what he wants. That he is at peace and the magic burdened him for too long (p. 303)

What were Aine’s father;s last words to her?
“live” (p. 305)

After Aine’s father dies, what unexpected question do the stones ask ned that make him blanch?
“How long have you struttered, Ned?” (p. 306)

What truth do the stones finally share with Ned?
That Tam’s soul is trapped within him. They tell him the story of what his mother did to preserve Tam’s soul and save Ned’s life. (p. 307)
How do the stones explain Ned’s stutter and problems with reading words?
They say that words are linked to the soul, and he has two. It has caused him to have a war with words.
(p. 307)

In order for Tam’s soul to be released what must happen?
The brothers must speak as one. They must both desire that Tam’s soul be released. (p. 308)

What will happen when the brother use their will to release Tam’s soul? What will happen to the magic?
What will happen to the stones?
The magic will bind itself to Tam’s soul and be released with him. / The stones will turn back to their original form, but only until sunset and they will pass on to the next realm as well. (p. 308)

What do the Stones say about death?
That there is no true death, there is just the next thing. (p. 308)

What do the brother say together, unison, to enable Tam’s soul to be released with the magic bound to it?
“It is with a pure heart that I humbly ask your assistance. We can, and we do. We command you to unstuff the soul of Tam from the soul of Ned. We command you to set his spirit free. We command you to bind yourselves to tam- his soul, his thoughts, his lost life. This will be your final act. NOW.” (p. 309)

What does the magic do to Ned’s skin as it is pulled out of him?
It leaves cuts and blisters, sure to scar. It makes him bleed (p. 311)

What do the stones made fully alive again and Tam’s soul resolve to do as their last act?
Prevent the war between the two kingdoms. (p. 313-312)

After being released, how long do both the stones and Tam have until their souls depart the earth?
12 hours (p. 313)

What did King Ott do as his armies prepared for war?
He over indulged in “cups” and slept it off in his tent, ready to wake when the army had taken over the his new country, the Queen’s country. (p. 315)

What do the stones say that King Ott should not be denied?
A ride in a stone giants fist. (p. 316)

What do King Ott’s soldiers wear on the top of their helmets?
Feathers (p. 315)

What are do King Ott’s soldiers bring the villagers as a sign of good faith?
The bandits (p. 319)
What did Ned find he felt towards King Ott while riding upon the stone giants?
Compassion (p. 321)

When the queen’s arm arrived in Ned’s village, how outnumbered were they? What did Ned’s father equate this to?
100 to 1 (p. 325) An army of bears against an army of mice (p. 325)

When the Stone Giants set Aine and her father’s body down before entering Ned’s village, what does Aine do with her father’s body?
She removed the arrow and cleaned the blood from his face. She washed him by tearing a piece of fabric from her tunic and using the water from her skin (not actual skin, a water carrier) and smoothed the lines of his face and thought about him as he would have been as a young man, falling in love with her mother (p. 329)

How did Aine’s mom and dad meet?
He was robbing her mother’s family’s inn. She said she loved him the moment she saw his had in the money pot and he loved her the moment she held a sword to his throat. He gave up banditry for her, and she gave up a line line of suitors for him and they were happy for a long time. (p. 329)

Which stone break away from the others when they reach Ned’s village? Who is with this stone?
The oldest, largest stone. (p. 330) Ned and Tam (p. 233)

Who comes to comfort Aine as she sits with her father’s dead body? What does she do when this character comes to her?
The wolf (p. 331) / She first said she didn’t anyone, but then held the wolf and finally sobbed for everything she hadn’t let herself cry about. (p. 331)

After Aine cries with the wolf over her fathers death what does she say she is going to do?
Stop what her father started (p. 332)

Who did Aine decide had become her family?
Ned and the Wolf (p. 333)

Which Stone did Aine feel a kinship with?
The youngest of the stones. (p. 334)

What gave Aine courage as she spoke to the youngest stone between the two armies?
The wolf (p. 333)

What did Aine ask of the youngest stone? Why? How did the stone respond?
She asked if she could climb upon it’s shoulders and address her father’s bandits because she felt it was her responsibility now that he was gone. The stone obliged (p. 334)
As Sister Witch arrived back to her village with the queen and couldn’t see Ned amongst the crowd, what did she hold in her hand? What did it make her wonder? She held his carving of himself that washed upon the banks of the river when she was at the queen’s palace. (p. 336) / It made her wonder what else he could do that she had never noticed. (p. 336)

What does King Ott’s Kingdom have a national holiday dedicated to despising? The holiday is dedicated to despising the stones (p. 338)

How does Aine address the bandits when she is sitting upon the youngest stones shoulder? (what does he call them)? Her brothers and sisters (p. 340)

What does Aine tell the bandits as she sits upon the youngest stone’s shoulders that they did not yet know? That her father, the bandit king, was dead. (p. 340)

Who comes to Aine’s defense as King Ott’s army attempts to shoot her with their bows? The bandits (p. 342)

What is the one major defense the village has that was Madame Thuane’s idea? A catapult (p. 344)

What does the king think war will be like before he is actually a part of it? He thinks it will be fun. (p. 346)

Who was saved from the giant boulder that was launched by Madam Thuane’s catapult? Who saved this person and how? King Ott (p. 347) / One of the stone giants (p. 346-347) / by catching it in their hand (p. 347)

Where do the stone giants order both armies to put their weapons? How many of these objects were there? What types of weapons were placed in them? Carts (p. 348) / 10 (p. 348) / swords, arrows, knifes, bows, shields, cudgels, battleaxes, scythes (p. 348)

What did the giants do with the weapons they forced the armies to dispel? They began to sing in harmony causing the earth to budde, wobble and swell. Swirling faster and faster the weapons disappeared within the earth, vanished leaving grass smooth and unblemished. (p. 348)

What do the giants to transform the woods from a weapon into something that united the two kingdoms? The force the trees to part and place a smooth granite path that will never wander, falter or bend. (p. 349)

Even without the magic what was Sister Witch still capable of? How does Ned know this?
The Witch’s Boy by Kelly Barnhill

She still was capable of healing, through her herbs and knowledge. She could still see the earth through it gaps and braces and know its weak points. She would still know how to make the world bend. (p. 349) / because he had only seen her use her magic a handful of times. The rest of the time she used her knowledge, skills, ad abilities that did not involve magic. (p. 349)

What do the stones declare about King Ott’s position/title when the war is over?
That the stones were foolish to put his line of family in power and he is no longer to be king (p. 351)

Who poisoned the queen?
Her relatives (p. 352)

How did the stones advise a new government to form? Who did they charge this responsibility to?
They told the queen to make arrangements with Sister Witch as her advisor as to how to proceed. (p. 352)

Where did Aine decide she would make sure the riches her father and the bandits stole would go?
To Ned’s village (p. 355)

When Ned is reunited with his family, who does Aine depend on? What does she say about needing this character?
The wolf (p. 355) / she said she would need the wolf every day (p. 355)

Aine would return to the village after she accomplished which three things:
Burying her father, dismantling her old life, and distributing her father’s stolen fortune (p. 355)

Who accompanied Aine back to her house in the wood after the war? What did they bring?
6 soliders, A mare named Shadow, the wolf (p. 356) / 3 carts

How did Aine mark her father grave?
With only a circle of flowers (p. 356)

What did Aine take from her house in the woods before returning to the village after the war?
A sack with clothes, a compass, a map of Duunin, an extra knife, rope, a bundle of her father’s treasure, her warmest cloak (p. 357)

What was under Aine’s father’s bed? What did it contain?
A trunk (p. 357) / A collection of her mother’s things: dresses, oilcloths, boots, Sea charts, journals, a locket, and letters from her mother’s mother, her mother’s sister, and other family members. (p. 357)

Where did Aine’s living maternal relatives live? What did Aine intend to do with this knowledge?
Kaarna, a town by the sea (p. 357) / mark the town on a map and travel there to meet them (p. 357)

Before leaving the home in the woods with the soldiers, what does Aine tell them to do?
Burn the home of the Bandit King (p. 358)
How many more bundles did Aine bury in the forest around her old home in the forest?  
6 (p. 358)

What does Aine ask the wolf as they are leaving the house in the woods with the soldiers as it burns down?  
If the wolf has ever wanted to go to the sea (p. 358)

What was Ned’s father finally able to do when he was able to say goodbye to Tam’s soul?  
Look at him, see him, love him (p. 359)

What does Ned’s mother tell him is the most powerful force in the world?  
Forgiveness (p. 360)

With the new path in place between the two kingdoms, what was flourishing? What needed to be built as a result?  
Trade between the kingdoms (p. 361) / new buildings and shops (p. 361)

What trade did Ned learn in the days after the village rebuilt itself from the war?  
To be a woodsman like his father (p. 362)

What did the villagers feel they needed to atone for regarding Ned? What is one way they did this?  
For calling him the wrong boy and treating him so badly / they cooked or Ned and his father and made sure they were taken care of while Sister Witch was away acting as the queen’s advisor (p. 364)

What does Ned ask Aine when she finally returns to the village after disappearing following the war?  
How does she respond?  
“why did you leave?” (p. 365) / She told him she needed to leave to take care of the house in the woods and to redistribute the treasure so it would not fall into the hands of the bandits. She also brought his family some of the treasure (p. 366)

What does Aine call the distribution of her father’s treasure to Ned’s family and the Queen?  
Restitution ( p.365)

What event in the book does Ned say is the best kind of magic?  
His friends, Aine and the wolf, returning to him after a year (p. 367)

What does Aine show to Ned on the river when she returns to him after her travels to Duunin? How large is this object? What is its distinguishing feature?  
A boat the size, the size of two carriages, with a wolf’s head carved on the front (p. 368)

Who comes out of the boat on the river that Aine shows to Ned upon her return?  
Aine’s grandmother (p. 369)
What does Aine do with the treasure that she does not give to the queen or Ned’s family? She uses it to travel to Duunin to meet her family and buy the boat with he wolf carved onto it (p. 369)

What does Aine ask Ned to do with her when she returns to him after her worldly travels? Who does she reassure him knows about this? To come with her to the sea, to Duunin and beyond. / His mother. (p. 370)

What does the note that Ned leaves his father say when he decides to leave with Aine to travel? What does his father take this message to mean? It simply says “The Sea!” (p. 371) / The sea mean I love you, I will one day return, I must find the world and hold the world and live in the world and I must love the world And I love it as much as I love you. (p. 372)

What are the last two words of the book? The Sea! (p. 372)