

International Life (5/18/2016)

The Giving Tree

The Giving Tree is a children's <u>picture book</u> written and illustrated by <u>Shel Silverstein</u>. First published in 1964 by <u>Harper & Row</u>, it has become one of Silverstein's best known titles and has been translated into numerous languages.

- 1. Describe the relationship between the tree and the boy
- 2. How do we know the tree loved the boy?
- 3. The book says the boy loved the tree very much. Did he?
- 4. Why does it say- and the tree was happy?
- 5. Why did the tree say- climb...swing...eat... and be happy?
- 6. What happened when the boy was too old to do those things?
- 7. What did the tree tell him to do (3x)?
- 8. It says- and the tree was happy ... but not really. Why?
- 9. The tree says- I wish I could give you something... but I have nothing left. What is good and what is bad about that?
- 10. What can we learn from this story about love & relationships?
- 11. What is 'unconditional' love? What is 'codependency?'
- 12. What would you like to say to the boy (old man)? The tree?
- 13. What is love? Are there different types of love?
- 14. Like in this story, can love cause pain? Why?
- 15. Have you ever felt like the boy? Like the tree?
- 16. 'What the world needs now is love (song)' Do you agree?



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Where the Red Fern Grows

Chapter (Section) 1

- what is a 'hound?'
- what was the situation the 'hound' was in?
- what was the condition of the 'hound?'
- why do you think the 'hound' was alone?
- what were the 2 cups on the man's fireplace mantle? Describe them

Chapter (Section) 2

- what is a 'coon?' What is a 'river coon?' (slang for raccoon)
- what is a 'coon hound?'
- why couldn't the boy get a 'coon hound?'
- what did Papa bring his son from the store instead of candy?
- what were 'steel traps' used for?
- what happened to 'Samie?'
- the boy caught opossums, skunks, rabbits and squirrels. What did he want to catch?
- why was the boy not sleeping?

Chapter (Section) 3

- what did the boy find where the fisherman had camped?
- what was 'For Sale?' How much did they cost?
- what did the boy do to get the money? How long did it take him?
- how did Grandpa help? How was he surprised?
- did the boy or the Grandpa tell the family what they were doing?
- is Erv a good guy?



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