

Quest of the Split Map (1946)

By Chester S. Geier

DAY 1

Reading Assignment

Chapter I (beginning - page 6)

Task 1

DIRECTIONS: As you read, make note of the following characters as they are introduced in the story. For each of the character, answer the clarifying question or questions following their name in complete sentences. You will use this activity to help you for a later assignment.

Example: Gregg Stacey: Why is he waiting on the curb?

Answer: Stacey is waiting for Norma Reddick to get home. He needs to talk to her in connection with half of a mysterious map.

Complete the rest on your own paper.

Gregg Stacey: What is he like? What precautions has he taken while he waits and why? What is his mission in San Francisco? Why does he wake up at a hospital?

Norma Reddick: How did she once know Gregg Stacey? What does she have that Gregg Stacey wants?

Chinook Vervain: Who is he? What is his connection to Gregg Stacey and Norma Reddick?

Mark Devore (man in the Homburg hat): What is he like? What does he want? To what lengths is he prepared to go after what he wants?

Buck (companion to man in the Homburg hat): Who is he? What does he do to Gregg Stacey?

interne at hospital: Who is he? What does he think has happened to Gregg Stacey? What has really happened to Gregg Stacey?

Task 2

DIRECTIONS: For each days reading, summarize the action in no more than a paragraph. Remember: a summary only includes the most IMPORTANT events. Do NOT rewrite the story.

DAY 2

Reading Assignment

Chapter 2 (p. 6 - p. 13)

Task 1

DIRECTIONS: As you read, make note of the following characters as they are introduced in the story. For each of the character, answer the clarifying question or questions following their name in complete sentences. You will use this activity to help you for a later assignment.

Gregg Stacey: What are his suspicions about Norma Reddick? What other reasons does he have for feeling self-conscious about meeting Norma Reddick? What is his plan at the end of the chapter?

Norma Reddick: What is she like? Why is she initially suspicious of Gregg Stacey? What is she hiding from Gregg Stacey until he gives her back the map?

Mark Devore: What had he told Norma Reddick? What appears to be the real story?

Gregg Stacey's father: What has happened to him? How do the characters know?

Norma Reddick's father: What has happened to him? How has he set in motion the events of the story?

Golden Dream: What is it? Where is it located? What is its history? What do the characters all want to do concerning it?

Task 2

DIRECTIONS: For each days reading, summarize the action in no more than a paragraph. Remember: a summary only includes the most IMPORTANT events. Do NOT rewrite the story.

DAY 3

Reading Assignment

beginning of Chapter 3 (p. 13) – middle of p. 17 (paragraph ending "Sleep engulfed him like a tidal wave as soon as his head touched the pillow")

Task 1

DIRECTIONS: As you read, make note of the following characters as they are introduced in the story. For each of the character, answer the clarifying question or questions following their name in complete sentences. You will use this activity to help you for a later assignment.

Gregg Stacey: Why doesn't he involve the police? To where (by plane) do he and Norma Reddick go after Devore leaves Norma's apartment? How do the pair get to their final destination? How does his relationship seem to be changing with Norma Reddick?

Mark Devore: What does he think he has gotten from Norma Reddick? What has he really gotten? What does he offer Norma Reddick?

Norma Reddick: How has he helped to resolve the problem? What is her job? What are her plans for the future?

Grubstake: Where is it? Why is it relevant to the story?

Task 2

DIRECTIONS: For each days reading, summarize the action in no more than a paragraph. Remember: a summary only includes the most IMPORTANT events. Do NOT rewrite the story.

DAY 4

Reading Assignment

middle of p. 17 (paragraph beginning "The sound of someone knocking at his door awakened Stacey") - end of p. 22 (paragraph ending "Devore's back hid his manipulations of the dial")

Task 1

DIRECTIONS: As you read, make note of the following characters as they are introduced in the story. For each of the character, answer the clarifying question or questions following their name in complete sentences. You will use this activity to help you for a later assignment.

Gregg Stacey: What does he decide is the first order of business and why? How does he intend to accomplish this task? After learning the bad news about Chinook Vervain, what does he plan to do next?

Bill Haekstrom: Who is he? What is he like? What bad piece of news does he tell Gregg Stacey and Norma Reddick?

Chinook Vervain: What has happened to him? Why is this bad news for Gregg Stacey and Norma Reddick?

Mark Devore: Why is he happy? What lingering detail does he think he needs to finish? What is he planning on doing to accomplish this task?

Task 2

DIRECTIONS: For each days reading, summarize the action in no more than a paragraph. Remember: a summary only includes the most IMPORTANT events. Do NOT rewrite the story.

DAY 5

Reading Assignment

end of p. 22 (paragraph beginning "Stacey waited no longer.") - middle of p. 28 (paragraph ending "The room went black.")

Task 1

DIRECTIONS: As you read, make note of the following characters as they are introduced in the story. For each of the character, answer the clarifying question or questions following their name in complete sentences. You will use this activity to help you for a later assignment.

Trump Card: What is it? Why is it important?

Haekstrom: Why does he offer to help? What does he bring for the trip to Trump Card? What is the big reveal about Haekstrom at the end of Chapter IV?

Gregg Stacey: What does he do when they get to Trump Card? How do things not go according to plan? What is wrong with his rifle? What happens when he attempts to resist at the end of today's reading?

Mark Devore: What is his plan for Gregg Stacey, Norma Reddick, and Norma Reddick's father?

Norma Reddick: What does she give Mark Devore?

Task 2

DIRECTIONS: For each days reading, summarize the action in no more than a paragraph. Remember: a summary only includes the most IMPORTANT events. Do NOT rewrite the story.

DAY 6

Reading Assignment

middle of p. 28 (paragraph beginning "Rough hands slapped Stacey awake") - end

Task 1

DIRECTIONS: As you read, make note of the following characters as they are introduced in the story. For each of the character, answer the clarifying question or questions following their name in complete sentences. You will use this activity to help you for a later assignment.

Mark Devore: What does he do to Haekstrom and why? What interrupts his plans for the rest of the party?

Gregg Stacey: How is he in a position to resist Devore? What does Stacey do to Devore?

Chinook Vervain: How does he help resolve the complications of the story? How had he fooled Devore?

Norma Reddick: How have her plans changed by the end of the story?

Task 2

DIRECTIONS: For each days reading, summarize the action in no more than a paragraph. Remember: a summary only includes the most IMPORTANT events. Do NOT rewrite the story.