

Study Guide for *Z for Zachariah*

You may attach additional paper if you need more space to answer any question.

Chapters 1-3, pp. 1-31

1. What is the setting- time and place- on which the story opens?
2. How long has Ann been alone- and why?
3. Why is Ann afraid when she sees smoke?
4. Why is Ann keeping a journal?
5. How does Ann know that everything and everyone around her is dead?
6. What signs of life does Ann erase before the stranger's arrival?
7. How does Ann keep warm, heat food, and get water?
8. Where does Ann get items such as jeans and canned food?
9. What mistake does Ann see the man make and why doesn't she warn him?

Chapters 4-6, pp. 32-66

1. Why doesn't Ann hug Faro when he bounds into the cave?
2. Why does Ann decide to go into the man's tent?
3. How does Ann tend to the man while he is sick?
4. Who is the stranger and where is he from?
5. How did the valley escape the radiation poisoning?
6. How was Loomis able to get all the way to the valley safely?
7. Why wasn't Loomis killed when the bombing began?
8. Why did Loomis go to Chicago and what did he find?

Chapters 7-9, pp. 67-97

1. Why has Ann been using the shovel on the garden instead of a tractor?
2. Why does Ann offer to play the piano?
3. Why did Ann assume when she was small that Zachariah was the last man?
4. How does Ann make a salad?

5. Why does Loomis decide to make the dam higher than it is ?
6. Why doesn't Ann take the stove apart?
7. What sorts of books interest Loomis?
8. How does Ann get the tractor going?

Chapters 10-12, pp. 98-129

1. What steps does Ann take to care for Loomis when his fever soars?
2. Why does Ann hold the safe suit out and put it by Loomis's bed?
3. Why does Ann hold the safe suit up to the light, and what does she see?
4. How does Ann figure out what happened between Edward and Loomis?
5. What good omen does Ann find in the church?
6. What does Ann read to Loomis to soothe him?
7. How might the killing of Edward be seen as self- defense?
8. Why does Ann play the piano as Loomis lies unconscious?

Chapters 13-16, pp. 130-162

1. Why does Ann think of making a trip to Ogdentown?
2. How does Ann get the stove into the kitchen?
3. How old is Ann on her birthday and how does she celebrate?
4. Why does Loomis get angry when Ann suggests she go to the library?
5. How does Loomis get to the porch and what does he watch?
6. Why does Ann sit next to Loomis and why does she decide this is a mistake?
7. Ann feels that there is a big difference between the way Loomis tried to hold her hand and the way she once held his. What is the difference?

Chapters 17-19, pp. 163-184

1. Why is Ann frightened to realize Loomis is not listening to her read?
2. What startles Ann while she is playing the piano for Loomis?
3. Why does Faro growl and wake Ann up?
4. Why is Ann glad that she didn't run straight to the cave?

5. Why does Loomis feed Faro and tie him up?
6. What does Ann pick up at the store?
7. Why does Ann plan to continue bringing Loomis supplies?
8. When does Ann plan to build her fire and why?

Chapters 20-23, pp. 185-225

1. How does Ann hide her fire?
2. Why does Ann return to the house?
3. Why does Loomis take out the tractor?
4. Why does Ann stop writing in her journal for several weeks?
5. Why does Loomis take the keys to the tractor?
6. Why does Loomis shoot Ann?
7. Where does Ann hide after she is shot?
 8. How does Ann plan to kill Faro and why doesn't she run?

Chapters 24-26, pp. 226-249

1. Where does Ann find shelter after leaving the cave?
2. What dream does Ann have over and over?
3. What does Ann decide to take on her trip?
4. How has Ann survived since leaving the cave?
5. What memory makes Ann want to hurt Loomis?
6. How does Faro die?
7. How does Loomis know where to find Ann?
8. Why does Loomis choose not to shoot Ann and to tell her about the birds?