



## TEACHER RESOURCES

~ *The Hound of Rowan* ~

Reading & Discussion Questions



This packet contains reading and discussion questions for each chapter in *The Hound of Rowan: Book One of The Tapestry*. Reading questions are designed assess whether students have covered the material and absorbed essential details that are explicit in the text. Discussion questions are broader in scope and challenge students to think critically about various themes and questions. Consider using these to spark in-class discussions or as a prompt for essay questions.

### CHAPTER 1 – THE BOY, THE TRAIN, AND THE TAPESTRY

#### Reading Questions:

1. What is the name of the city that Max and his father visit? (Chicago)
2. List three adjectives that could be used to describe Max... (~ 12, dark hair/eyes, sharp features, artist)
3. What is the occasion for their visit to the museum? (Birthday of Bryn McDaniels, who is missing)
4. What kind of work does Mr. McDaniels do? (Advertising)
5. What unusual facial feature does Max notice about the mysterious man on the train? (A dead white eye)
6. What has been happening at museums around the world? (Thefts of famous paintings)
7. Why does Max hide behind the armor display? (Because the man from the train is following him)
8. What does Max discover in the dusty gallery? (An old tapestry hanging on the wall)
9. What happens when Max touches the object in the gallery? (It comes to life and reveals a scene)
10. What does Max find in his pocket during the train ride home? (A letter saying that he was a “Potential”)

#### Discussion Question:

- Max initially judges the man on the train by his appearance. Was this morally wrong or merely rude?

### CHAPTER 2 – THREE SOFT KNOCKS

#### Reading Questions:

1. Why has Max’s father grounded him? (For disappearing at the museum and presumably lying)
2. Who is the first visitor that Max receives while his father is away? (Mrs. Millen)
3. What does this visitor want Max to share with her? (His vision of the tapestry)
4. Where does Max flee when his visitor tries to snatch him? (The fort in his backyard)
5. Who is the second visitor – the one that Max was *intended* to receive? (Nigel Bristow)
6. What school or organization does this individual represent? (Rowan Academy)
7. What is the first test that the Recruiter administers to Max? (Physical aptitude as measure by a device)
8. How does Max perform on the first Potentials test? (Nigel has never seen such a high score)
9. What does Max have to do during the second Potentials test? (Kindle and extinguish a fire)
10. Who makes an unexpected reappearance during the Potentials third test? (Mrs. Millen)

#### Discussion Question:

- What techniques does the author use to build tension and fear during Mrs. Millen’s visit?

## CHAPTER 3 – A TIME TO CHOOSE

### Reading Questions:

1. Where is Rowan Academy located? (New England)
2. What happened to Max's mother? (She disappeared year ago; Max thinks she is dead)
3. Why is Max uncertain whether to accept a scholarship? (He worries his dad will be left all alone)
4. Who does Nigel leave with Max as a guardian? (A piglet named Lucy)
5. Who arrives to speak with Max and his father? (Miss Awolowo)
6. What magical ability does Miss Awolowo demonstrate on her walk with Max? (She can fly)
7. Why does Rowan Academy train people like Max? (Because there is an Enemy that threatens mankind)
8. What does Miss Awolowo believe is especially unusual about Max? (He has the "Old Magic" in him)
9. Why does Miss Awolowo believe Max is in danger? (The Enemy has seen him and knows he is special)
10. What does Max decide to do regarding his scholarship offer? (Accept and attend Rowan)

### Discussion Question:

- Why is Mr. McDaniels conflicted after hearing Miss Awolowo's story of her own childhood and her father's decision to let her attend Rowan? What feelings do you think he is experiencing?

## CHAPTER 4 – THE FLIGHT TO ROWAN

### Reading Questions:

1. What kind of animal appears in Max's dream? (A wolfhound)
2. Who meets Max and Mr. McDaniels at the airport? (Nigel Bristow)
3. What trick does Rowan use to put the Enemy off of Max's trail? (They created many duplicates of him)
4. Who does Max see waiting for them when they land in Boston? (The man from the train)
5. What is the name of Max's roommate? (David Menlo)
6. What does David Menlo look like? (Pale, blond, dark circles beneath eyes, unhealthy)
7. What is unusual about the dorm rooms at Rowan Academy? (They magically change to suit their owner)
8. What sort of room do Max and David configure? (A glass-domed observatory)
9. What can the teachers do if the students don't like their rooms? (Nothing)
10. What is the name of the Irish boy who lives across the hall? (Connor Lynch)

### Discussion Question:

- What kind of room do you think you would configure at Rowan? How would that room reflect your strengths and personality? (Note: you can supplement this exercise online at [www.henryhneff.com](http://www.henryhneff.com) in the "Find Your Room" game. Students can print certificates with their name and assigned room.)

## CHAPTER 5 – EVILS OLD AND NEW

### Reading Questions:

1. What is unusual about Rowan's apple orchard? (Its apples are made of gold)
2. What does a golden apple signify upon a tree? (That a member of that tree's Rowan class has died)
3. What does David Menlo inexplicably bury near a path in the woods? (A coin)
4. Who is the Director of Rowan Academy? (Gabrielle Richter)
5. What are the names of Rowan's chefs? (Bob and Mum)
6. What kind of creatures are Mum and Bob respectively? (A hag and an ogre)
7. What sort of ceremony is required so that Mum knows not to eat the students? (A sniffing ceremony)
8. What was the name of the great school of magic that was destroyed? (Solas)
9. What is the name of the powerful demon that destroyed Solas? (Astaroth)
10. What is the name of the ship on which the refugees sailed to America? (The Kestrel)

### Discussion Question:

- How does the author use actual historical events to create his own fantasy world and mythology? What effect does this have upon the believability of Rowan, Solas, Elias Bram, and Astaroth?

## CHAPTER 6 – THE LAST LYMRILL

### Reading Questions:

1. What is the name of the little man who attends to the boys' bathroom? (**Jimmy**)
2. What is the name of the special area of campus that exists beyond a hedge tunnel? (**The Sanctuary**)
3. What is the name of the man who is Rowan's Head of Grounds? (**Nolan**)
4. What kind of creature is YaYa? (**She is an ancient ki-rin**)
5. What must each Rowan student care for? (**A magical creature**)
6. What kind of creature chooses Max and what is his name? (**Nick, a Black Forest lymrill**)
7. How would you describe a lymrill? (**Compact, muscular, copper-colored quills, big claws, fox-like tail**)
8. What kind of creature chooses David Menlo and what is her name? (**Maya, an ulu**)
9. Why have humans hunted lymrills to near extinction? (**Their quills and claws are very valuable**)
10. Who has gone missing according to a conversation overheard by Max? (**A Potential named Mickey Lees**)

### Discussion Question:

- What kind of creature would you like to care for in the Sanctuary? Describe this creature and discuss why you think it would be drawn to you as its steward? (*Note: you can supplement this exercise online at [www.henryhneff.com](http://www.henryhneff.com) in the "Find Your Charge" game. Students can print certificates with their name and assigned creature*)

## CHAPTER 7 – A FULL HOUSE

### Reading Questions:

1. Who are the class advisers for the First Year students? (**Joseph Vincenti and Hazel Boon**)
2. Why is Jimmy so upset at the First Years? (**They did not bring him a present for his services**)
3. Who are the large, seal-like creatures that bask next to Max? (**Frigga and Helga, a pair of selkie sisters**)
4. Who surprises Max and takes his photograph? (**Julie Teller**)
5. Who asks Max to babysit her many children while she gets beautified? (**Hannah the Goose**)
6. What is the name of the mysterious man from the train? (**Peter Varga**)
7. Who suggests that the First Years camp aboard the *Kestrel*? (**A Second Year named Alex Munoz**)
8. What physical ability does Max demonstrate to get aboard the *Kestrel*? (**He can jump very far**)
9. What happens to the ship while the students are aboard her? (**It shakes and they hear a wailing sound**)
10. How do Max and the other First Years escape from the ship? (**They jump into the sea and swim ashore**)

### Discussion Question:

- To what extent do you find Rowan a magical place, a frightening place, or both?

## CHAPTER 8 – THE NEW AND WEIRD

### Reading Questions:

1. What punishment did the First Years receive for camping out on the *Kestrel*? (**Cleaned the stables**)
2. What is Nick the lymrill like to eat? (**Rodents and metal ingots**)
3. Who teaches Physical Training? (**Monsieur Renard**)
4. What habit of Mr. Morrow's does Lucia object to in Humanities? (**Pipe smoking**)
5. What is unusual about Mrs. Babel's speech? (**She was cursed to speak all languages at once**)
6. Who picks a fight with the other First Years and gives Max a black eye? (**Alex Munoz**)
7. What does Rowan call the class in which magic is taught? (**Mystics**)
8. Who demonstrates unusual "horsepower" during their first class with Miss Boon? (**David Menlo**)
9. What is Max asked to do during his first Etiquette class? (**Demonstrate a winning entry into a room**)
10. What is the name of the sport that Rowan students play? (**Euclidean Soccer**)

### Discussion Question:

- Why do you think Alex Munoz tries to bully the First Years or get them into trouble? What forms can bullying take and what do most bullies have in common?

## CHAPTER 9 – A GOLDEN APPLE IN THE ORCHARD

### Reading Questions:

1. Who is now teaching Mystics to David Menlo? (*Ms. Kraken*)
2. What does Connor do outside the window of the Patisserie? (*He moons the patrons!*)
3. What expensive item does Max purchase in one of the Rowan Township shops? (*A set of paints*)
4. What does Alex Munoz and his friends do to Max purchase? (*They squash them*)
5. Who expresses a particular interest in Max's vision during dinner at The Grove? (*Miss Boon*)
6. What is the name of the Irish hero in the Cattle Raid of Cooley? (*Cúchulain*)
7. Who hurries the students out of The Grove and back to Rowan's campus? (*Mr. Vincenti*)
8. What are the students told to do when they get back to their rooms? (*Lock themselves inside*)
9. What does Max see momentarily illuminated on the grounds? (*A huge, wolfish shape*)
10. How does Ms. Richter know that a member of Rowan has died? (*Isabelle's apple turned to gold*)

### Discussion Question:

- What role does Connor Lynch play in the story and how does his presence impact the other characters?

## CHAPTER 10 – THE COURSE

### Reading Questions:

1. What is the name of the Agent with the badly burned face who frightens Max? (*Cooper*)
2. Who accompanies Max when he goes to feed Nick in the Sanctuary? (*Sarah Amankwe*)
3. Where is Sarah from? (*Nigeria*)
4. Who will be Connor Lynch's date for the All Hallow's Eve dance? (*Mum*)
5. Who does not approve of how Max asks Sarah to the dance? (*Lucia*)
6. What is the Course? (*A training facility where students tackle a variety of scenarios*)
7. Where is the Course located? (*Beneath the Smithy?*)
8. Who was the last Ascendant? (*Elias Bram*)
9. What award is did Miss Boon receive twice? (*Macon's Quill for outstanding scholarship*)
10. What is the highest score that one can earn on a Course scenario? (*100*)

### Discussion Question:

- A 10-digit PIN is required to access the Course and, even then, access to various levels is restricted. Why do you think Rowan guards access to the Course and monitors/tracks scenarios so closely?

## CHAPTER 11 – ALL HALLOW'S EVE

### Reading Questions:

1. What do the First Years traditionally do on All Hallow's Eve? (*Play Euclidean Soccer vs. the 2nd Years*)
2. Why is Max picked to be on the First Years team? (*His uncanny speed*)
3. Who is chosen to be captain of the First Year team? (*Rolf Luger*)
4. Who is announced as Player of the Game? (*Max McDaniels*)
5. Who is particularly noisy and skeptical of Monsieur Renard's officiating? (*Hannah the Goose*)
6. In what skill does Julie Teller suggest that Max is naturally gifted? (*Body Amplification or Amplification*)
7. Who does Mum ambush in the kitchens during the feast? (*David Menlo*)
8. Why does Mum ambush this particular student? (*He was never sniffed during the Sniffing Ceremony*)
9. Who surprises Max when he is walking in the woods? (*The man from the train - Ronin*)
10. What surprising fact does Max learn about Ronin's background? (*He attended Rowan*)

### Discussion Question:

- Should Max have lied to Cooper after speaking with Ronin? Why or why not?

## CHAPTER 12 – SECRET PRISONS

### Reading Questions:

1. What is Max forced to do over the winter holidays? (Remain at Rowan)
2. Why does Ms. Richter insist that Max change his travel plans? (She is worried the Enemy is after him)
3. Why is Max upset that his father puts out a stocking for his mother? (He believes she is dead)
4. Who also has to remain at Rowan over the holidays? (David Menlo)
5. Why does David have to remain at Rowan? (His mother has moved and is unable to care for him)
6. Who does David seek out in the Sanctuary? (YaYa)
7. How was YaYa's horn broken? (It broke against Astaroth during the Siege of Solas)
8. What does David intend to borrow from Rowan's secret Archives? (A forbidden book; a Grimoire)
9. What happens when Cooper almost catches David upon the lawns? (David disappears)
10. What unsettling fact does David learn from the Grimoire? (Astaroth is imprisoned in a painting)

### Discussion Question:

- To what extent can the words “strong” “mysterious” or “bold” be applied to David Menlo?

## CHAPTER 13 – FIBS AND A FIDDLE

### Reading Questions:

1. Who lives out beyond the Sanctuary Dunes? (Mr. Morrow)
2. Why do Max, David, Connor, and Cynthia set out to visit him? (He has been sick and unable to teach)
3. Who chaperones them on their journey? (Bob)
4. What potentially dangerous creatures inhabit the far reaches of the Sanctuary? (Wild charges)
5. What does David Menlo remember during their visit to Mr. Morrow? (That he was once attacked by vyes)
6. Who does Mr. Morrow blame for many of Rowan's current problems? (Ms. Richter)
7. What spell does Mr. Morrow teach the students to use against vyes? (A light spell called “Solas”)
8. Who is playing the fiddle for students by the Warming Lodge? (Nolan)
9. Whose sudden singing inflames the passions of his audience? (Kettlemouth)
10. Who does Max kiss as a result of the singer's enchantment? (Julie Teller)

### Discussion Question:

- Why do you believe Tweedy was particularly embarrassed by his behavior during Kettlemouth's song?

## CHAPTER 14 – MEETING THE VYES

### Reading Questions:

1. What unexpected occupant is sitting in Ms. Richter's office? (A vye)
2. Who has caught the creature and what did he use to subdue it? (Cooper, using a passive tether)
3. Why must Cooper have an antidote administered? (He was scratched by the vye's talons)
4. Who cheerfully offers to eat the vye for Ms. Richter? (Mum)
5. What is shown on the map behind Ms. Richter's desk? (Agent missions involving the missing Potentials)
6. At what famous site does Ms. Richter believe the Potentials are held? (Topkapi Palace)
7. Which artists does David believe are likely to have painted Astaroth's prison? (Rembrandt and Vermeer)
8. What is Ronin's real name according to Ms. Richter? (Peter Varga)
9. Why is it dangerous to converse with a vye? (Their voices are wound with spells)
10. What unpleasant surprise awaits students in their Course scenarios? (Vyes will be inserted at random)

### Discussion Question:

- Do you believe Ms. Richter should have shared information regarding the missing Potentials earlier? Should she have shared the information with the entire school? Why or why not?

## CHAPTER 15 – UNEXPECTED GUESTS

### Reading Questions:

1. What do Max, Sarah, and Rolf try to capture in their latest Course Scenario? (A golden fawn)
2. What kinds of creatures are attempting to bind Sarah with tree trunks? (Hampersprites)
3. What is lurking behind Max while his attention is upon the vye below him? (Another vye)
4. Why has Nigel interrupted the Scenario? (Max's father and Mr. Lukens have arrived unexpectedly)
5. What do Rowan's visitor badges do? (They prevent the wearer from noticing anything magical)
6. What does Mr. McDaniels give Max for his birthday? (A grill and meat shipments)
7. What does Mr. Lukens do that upsets Nigel? (He continues taking photographs)
8. What about Mr. McDaniels makes him an easy target for ridicule by Alex Munoz? (His weight)
9. What does Mr. Lukens give Max as a birthday present? (A dagger)
10. How does Nigel react upon seeing the gift? (He makes a phone call to intercept them/abort a mission)

### Discussion Question:

- How does Mr. Lukens's behavior and use of language suggest give insight into his personality? What three adjectives would you use to describe him?

## CHAPTER 16 – ROWAN'S NEW RESIDENT

### Reading Questions:

1. What is Mr. McDaniels's condition when Rowan's Agents return with him? (He is unconscious)
2. Which Agent does Max attack upon seeing his father? (Cooper)
3. How does this Agent defend himself? (He uses the fountain's waters as a shield)
4. Who crumples the Agent "like an aluminum can"? (David Menlo)
5. Who is suspiciously eager to meet Mr. McDaniels and visit him in person? (Mum)
6. Where will Mr. McDaniels live from now on? (At Rowan)
7. Who challenges Max in a race to reach a high branch in a tree? (Alex Munoz)
8. Which teacher catches the boys fighting? (Miss Boon)
9. What unusual event happens in the patisserie? (All of the chocolate melts and spills out the door)
10. Who used the commotion to slip a note in one of Max's books? (Ronin – aka Peter Varga)

### Discussion Question:

- Max has difficulty controlling his temper – particularly where his family is concerned. What makes you angry and why? How do you channel your feelings when you are angry? Is this productive or are there things that you could do differently?

## CHAPTER 17 – THE HOUND OF ULSTER

### Reading Questions:

1. Where is Rattlerafters located? (Beneath Old Tom's chimes)
2. According to Ronin's note, what danger exists at Rowan? (There is a traitor upon campus)
3. According to Ronin's note, what kind of child is the Enemy seeking? (A child with the Old Magic)
4. Who visits Max while he is up in Rattlerafters? (Miss Boon)
5. What topic does she bring up that Max is reluctant to discuss? (His vision in the tapestry)
6. Why does Miss Boon want Max to learn about Cúchulain? (She thinks he might be Cúchulain)
7. According to Irish folklore, who is Cúchulain's father? (A sun god named Lugh)
8. From slaying what kind creature did the boy Setanta gain his reputation and later name? (A wolfhound)
9. What treasure did the Queen Maeve of Connacht steal from the kingdom of Ulster? (A magical bull)
10. What is Brigit's Vigil? (A prominent rock off Rowan's coast; rumored to be Brigit Bram)

### Discussion Question:

- In the Irish folktale, the boy Cúchulain chooses a short life in exchange for greatness and glory. Was this a brave and noble decision or a vain and foolish one?

## CHAPTER 18 – SMUGGLERS ON THE NORTH ATLANTIC

### Reading Questions:

1. What sort of Rowan records is Max on the cusp of breaking? (Physical achievements)
2. Who arrives to escort Max to his tests? (Mum and Bob)
3. What does Mum attempt to sneak into Max's possession? (A nutrition bar)
4. Who hosts a party for Max after he breaks the records? (Jason Barrett)
5. What punishment does Max receive for fighting with Alex? (They must scrub the Kestrel)
6. What kind of weapon does Alex try to use on Max? (A knife)
7. What mistake does Max make when he sees a vye upon the dock? (He fails to look for a second one)
8. Why does Cyrus inject Max with a syringe? (They don't want him to become a vye)
9. By what other name did Max know the vye named Peg? ("Mrs. Millen")
10. What is Peg making on deck? (She is knitting mysterious black shrouds)

### Discussion Question:

- Was scrubbing the Kestrel an effective punishment for Max and Alex. What lessons would such a task impart? What sort of punishment would you have imposed upon them and why?

## CHAPTER 19 – THE CRYPT OF MARLEY AUGUR

### Reading Questions:

1. To what country have Max and Alex been taken? (Ireland)
2. What does Marley Augur want Max and Alex to share? (Their visions)
3. Who was Marley Augur while he was a living man? (He was the blacksmith at Solas)
4. Why does Augur have such hatred for Elias Bram (He believes Bram stole his legacy and is not a hero)
5. What does Marley Augur need from Max to complete his elixir? (Max's blood containing Old Magic)
6. In which painting is Astaroth imprisoned? (Rembrandt's painting of Abraham sacrificing Isaac)
7. How does Max defeat the vye named Cyrus? (He stuffs Augur's apple down its throat)
8. Why does Max go back down into the crypt? (He is determined to rescue Alex and the Potentials)
9. Who arrives to help Max in his battle with Marley Augur? (Ronin ~ Peter Varga)
10. Who is Max unable to rescue from Marley Augur's crypt? (Alex Munoz –Augur pulls him below)

### Discussion Question:

- To what extent is Marley Augur a sympathetic figure?

## CHAPTER 20 – FATHER AND SON

### Reading Questions:

1. What is the special material that Rowan uses to make armor for its Agents? (Nanomail)
2. Who did Max believe was the traitor at Rowan? (Miss Boon)
3. Who was the actual traitor at Rowan? (Mr. Morrow)
4. Why did the traitor help the Enemy kidnap Potentials (He thought he would be reunited with his son)
5. How many Potentials did Max rescue? (Forty-two)
6. What kinds of creatures serve as Rowan's healers? (Moomenhovens)
7. What is Ronin's condition following his battle with Marley Augur? (His back is broken/paralyzed)
8. What award does Max receive during Rowan's graduation ceremonies? (The Gauntlet of Beowulf)
9. Who gives a note to Max while he is playing catch with his father in the Sanctuary? (Julie Teller)
10. What book provided the quotation in Max's note? (Moby Dick by Herman Melville)

### Discussion Question:

- Why did Julie Teller choose that quotation for Max? In what ways is Max like the Catskills Eagle and what is bittersweet about that fate?