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THE GHOST OF GOSSWATER

Lucy Strange

CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER RESOURCES

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| Chapter | Comprehension Questions | Writing Opportunities | Cross Curricular Opportunities |
|---------|--|---|--|
| 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does the chapter introduction line tell us about what the mood might be? • What does Agatha feel about her cousin? Where can we find evidence for this? • Why is Clarence making her leave? | Write a diary entry from the point of view of Agatha, once she has been told the news. | Carry out research about 1899 – what was life like at this time? |
| 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why did she change her mind about burning the sampler? • Why is choosing to be alone different? • What do you think the King Stone is? | Create an advert for Clarence to find a wife. Use the information from the chapter, and the view he has about himself, to help you. | |
| 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you think Agatha was right to take the King Stone? • Will Clarence notice that it has gone missing? Why do you think this? | | Research opals and create a fact file. |
| 4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why is Agatha surprised at the man who has turned up to collect her? • What is your first impression of Thomas Walters? • How does Agatha feel about having to go and live on a farm? | Write a character description of Thomas Walters using both evidence and inferences. | |
| 5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How is the relationship between Thomas and Agatha likely to develop? • Why has Thomas made an effort to make Agatha's room cosy? | | Create a watercolour of what you think the cottage looks like. |



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| 6 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What relevance have geese already had to the story? • What does Thomas' relationship with Susan the goose tell you about him? • How is the way Agatha feels 'alone' different to how she chose to be alone before? | Write a setting description of the cottage and surrounding land (which can go with your picture!) | |
| 7 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do you think they will celebrate Christmas? • Do you agree that cousin Clarence is lying? • Why do you think Thomas is unhappy with Agatha's family? | Write a script of the conversation between Thomas and Agatha. Use stage descriptions to display emotion of the characters. | |
| 8 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who do you think the woman who died is? • What importance will it have to the story? | | |
| 9 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What might the curse of the Queen Stone have been? • Why is Odelia interested in Clarence? • What made Agatha run? | | What is the Black Death? Create a non-chronological report about this period of history. |
| 10 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What darkness is the gravedigger alluding to? • Do you think 'Goss' means goose or ghost? Why? • Is Agatha offended at being mistaken for a servant? How do you know this? | Write an opening for a ghost story inspired by this chapter. | Create an advert for a Victorian servant in a large house like Gosswater. |



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| 11 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why does Thomas not celebrate Christmas? Why does Agatha think he doesn't want to be her father? What could Thomas do to show her he does? How do the apologies change their relationship? | Write a Christmas card that Agatha could send to Thomas. Remember to think about their relationship and what she might want to say to him. | <p>Create a double page spread about Victorian Christmases.</p> <p>Read extracts of 'A Christmas Carol' to help compare modern and Victorian Christmases.</p> |
| 12 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What does a solicitor do? What do you think the solicitor is questioning? Why does Thomas not trust anyone? Should Agatha trust him? | Write a balanced argument: should Agatha trust Thomas? | |
| 13 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why did Agatha decide to see Bryn? Do you think she believes in ghosts? What evidence is there to prove this? How does Aggie feel about having a friend? | Create a 'similarities and differences' table about Aggie and Agatha. | |
| 14 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Did Bryn expect them to find any ghosts? Will Aggie tell him the truth about her past? Why is Bryn's grandfather so unkind to him? | | |



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| 15 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What similarities do Bryn and Aggie have? • Pick out the language used to create atmosphere within this chapter. | | Using Aggie's description, create a charcoal drawing of what she sees. |
| 16 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who do you think the ghost girl may be? • What is your opinion of Clarence's treatment of Agatha? • Should she give the King Stone back? • What does the will show about what her father felt for her? | Write a letter from Agatha's father to her that he wrote before he died. | Design a dress for Clarence to offer Agatha – think about the styles at the times, and what colours you could use. |
| 17 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do you think Thomas stopped being a carpenter? • Why does he not want to talk about the mother yet? | | Design a wood carving. Try whittling – forest-based school activity. |
| 18 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you think Aggie should be staying on her own? • Is Aggie happy with how she has changed? What makes you think so? • Is it right that she is keeping her past a secret from Bryn? | Research stews and write a recipe for the one you think sounds the tastiest. | Cook a stew and share it as a class! |
| 19 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What information does Aggie want from Old Moll? • What do you think Thomas' reaction will be to Bryn staying? • Who do you think is trying to get in? | | |



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| 20 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why has Clarence turned up now? How is Bryn feeling now he knows the truth? Does Aggie know how to answer Bryn's final question before he left? | Write a letter to Bryn explaining why Agatha hid her past. | |
| 21 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should Agatha go without Bryn? Do you think the information she finds out from Old Moll will change her life? Why? Why not? | | |
| 22 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is your first impression of Old Moll? Why would Old Moll lose what she has, if she tells Aggie who her mother is? Do you think she should tell her anyway? | Write a persuasive speech to Old Moll, asking her to reveal the identity of Aggie's mother. | Design your dream home as it would look if you came into a lot of money. What would be important to you? |
| 23 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What does Aggie mean by saying that the Queen Stone was a 'hollow gift'? Do you agree it is possible to be more than one thing at once? | | Create a timeline – using evidence from the book – about how Thomas and Aggie's relationship has developed. (Keep updating this as you read on!) |
| 24 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How did Agatha know to look behind the tapestry? Why would someone ransack the Ghost Girl's room? Who is behind the door? | Write a persuasive speech to Old Moll, asking her to reveal the identity of Aggie's mother. | Design a tapestry drawing to go alongside your story. |



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| 25 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why would the servants be disrespectful to Clarence? Why did Agatha tell him the Earl's last words? What was it about the fox that jogged Agatha's memory? | | |
| 26 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why has Clarence not honoured the will? Agatha's father left her more items than Clarence let on. What does this show about the Earl's feelings towards her? Do you agree with Clarence's decision not to give her the jewels, letter and Queen Stone? | Agatha has been left a letter by her father. Imagine what it says and write it. | |
| 27 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why did Sexton Black lie to Aggie about having tea? Where has Bryn run to? What will Aggie do now she is stuck on the island? | | |
| 28 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why did Aggie fill the stove with 'as much firewood as she could cram in'? What made her go back to the tomb? | Write a prediction: what is Aggie's plan? | Research roses and create Top Trumps cards for them. |
| 29 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look up 'marooned' and 'mutiny' – what do these words mean? Do they relate to what happened to Aggie? Do you think Ivy and Aggie could be friends? Is it worth being rich if you're lonely? | Summarise the 3 main points of the book so far. What do you think has been most important to the story? | Do a tasting session of different chocolates! |



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| 30 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do you remember about the ramskull? • Would you stay in the sheep shelter? • Who has answered Aggie? | | Design and build a sheep shelter using natural materials. |
| 31 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will Bryn forgive Aggie? • Do you think Bryn is right to focus on the present and future and not the past? • Why do they find the King Stone's location funny? | Create a wanted poster for the Queen and King stone. | |
| 32 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do you think the ghost wants? • Do you agree with Bryn's idea of what the ghost may want? | | Watch a child-friendly video of <i>Hamlet</i> . |
| 33 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should Bryn and Aggie split up? • What inferences did Bryn make to know Aggie had a plan? • Are you pleased Bryn has forgiven Sexton Black? • Could you have forgiven him? | Write a story inspired by the giant Aggie has discussed with Bryn. | |
| 34 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do you think makes people think Thomas is a thief? • Is it fair he has someone watching him work? • Will Aggie be happy with the information she finds in the book? | | |



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| 35 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are you surprised about the real identity of Aggie's mother? • If Thomas isn't a thief, why did he go to jail? • Did Aggie want to leave? | Write a diary entry from the point of view of Aggie. Think about how she has changed since the last entry; will she speak differently? | What do birth registers look like? Have a look at examples from the past and present. (If suitable for your class, can some of them discover their own in the local church?) |
| 36 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will Clarence make the trade for the Queen Stone? • How will Agatha feel about the way Clarence has reacted? | | |
| 37 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does 'like a bad penny' mean? • Will Agatha ever know what was said in the letter? • Is this part of Agatha's plan? | | Create a list of idioms as a class and find out what they mean. |
| 38 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did Bryn know where Aggie was? • Why is Ivy in excellent hands with Moll? • What made Moll change her mind? • Are you surprised at the end-of-chapter twist? | | |
| 39 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you believe Thomas stole the stone? • Why does Agatha now understand how her adoptive parents treated her? • Does Moll know about the ghost girl too? | Knowing what you do now, can you write the letter from the Earl to Agatha that came with the will? | Create Agatha's family tree. |



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| 40 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why is the solicitor giving Agatha a copy of the letter? Does he sound surprised Lord Clarence has not done what was asked of him in the will? Does Thomas suspect what is in the safe? | Write an opening of the next chapter, describing what you think is inside the safe. Use lots of description! | |
| 41 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will Thomas forgive the Earl? What do you think made Clarence so mean? What has made the hounds act this way? | | Use drama to act out the chapter you just read as a scene. Choose the part you think is most important to focus on. |
| 42 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How do you think this chase will end? Do you want Agatha to get away? | | |
| 43 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you think the opals are just 'things'? Would you be disappointed if you were in Agatha's position? Why has Thomas' attitude towards her changed now? | | |
| 44 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greed changed Clarence. Why do you think this can happen? Do you think Thomas will love Agatha? What do you think is a lesson you can learn from this chapter? | Write a response from either Thomas or Agatha to the Earl's letter. It can be as a speech they might read to the Earl at his graveside. | |



Chapter

Comprehension Questions

Writing Opportunities

Cross Curricular Opportunities

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- Why did Susan follow Thomas?
- What is Susan nuzzling?
- Who do the jewels belong to?

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- How does Bryn feel when Thomas offers him a home?
- Has Aggie made a good plan for the jewels?
- Are you happy with the ending?

Write a book review!

